

Welcome Home!

SOLDIER WORKERS!

For a year and a half you have been under arms—either on the battle-line in France, or in camp over here.

Some of you volunteered. The great majority of you were conscripted without being asked whether or not you wanted to go. But as free men and citizens, you would have refused to go if you had not believed that this was a War for Democracy, a War against Tyranny and Oppression, a War to Make the World a Better Place to Live In.

The War is over. You come home flushed with victory, eager for that increased measure of freedom that was promised you. As you sailed up the harbor, wild with the joy of home-coming—as you paraded the city streets, hung with banners and thunderous with cheering crowds—eagerly you looked around to see the signs of that new world which you believed you had hammered into shape with your cannon, and cemented with the blood of your fallen comrades.

Well, now that you have had time to look around, how does it strike you? Is there more democracy than before you went away? Although the War is over, workingmen are still being sent to prison for speaking what they believe, while *not one single profiteer has been punished with a day in jail.* 'Gene Debs and Kate O'Hare go to the penitentiary for defending the rights of the workers, while the charges against the Phelps-Dodge thugs who deported workers from Bisbee, Arizona, into the desert, have been dropped by the Government. Working class papers are denied the mails, and suppressed, while the capitalist papers openly incite to violence and lynch law against working-class organizations, and get off scot-free.

The National Security League and other capitalist spy societies and White Guard organizations carry on, under the pretext of "fighting Bolshevism," an almost open fight against the working-class, but if a foreign-born worker dares to join the I. W. W. he is deported without trial—if they can get away with it. Root, Lodge and other defenders of the tyranny of the great trusts attack our Government without scruple, but there are fifteen hundred champions of the working-class in prison right now for daring to think differently about the Government than the ruling class permits.

The City of New York appropriates \$250,000 for decorations to welcome you home, and there are innumerable Victory Dinners at six dollars a plate, but you can't get jobs, not even the jobs you held before you went away—unless you'll reduce your former salaries.

WON A WAR—LOST A JOB!

You return to find industry closing down, bread-lines everywhere, prices of everything out of sight, and a lot of new millionaires who got rich manufacturing war materials. You find no plan of reconstruction, either on the part of the Government, or private employers. Everybody cheered you when you went away; everybody cheers you coming back; but a man can't live on cheers.

Your comrades in Siberia and North Russia are still at war, without a declaration of war, against the only Workingmen's Government in the world. In North Russia they are under English command, and in Siberia they are commanded by the Japanese. The Government will not tell them why they are fighting—the Government does not dare to tell them why they are fighting. They are sick at heart, enduring untold hardships.

Look abroad, to Paris, where our noble Allies squabble over annexations and indemnities, and plot to prevent the workers from taking over their own Governments.

The capitalist press, and the White Guards of the National Security League, incite you against the workers and their organizations. They tell you that "Bolshevism" is attempting to destroy our

ers; their condition is worse than it was before the war; their Unions are being broken up, and industry is closing down in order to reduce these wages to a point below the living wage before the war.

Every effort of the workers to improve their condition was an effort for you, every demand of the workers for industrial democracy is your demand. The revolutionary Labor movement is your movement. You belong to the working-class. You are workers—not soldiers. You are crushing yourselves when you help to crush the working-class revolution.

Be men. Join hands with the workers of Russia, of Hungary, of Italy, of England. Fall in! The iron battalions of the proletariat are forming.

The Left Wing and the Revolution

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its practice to the new requirements; and it broke down miserably under the test of the war and of the proletarian revolution.

The war was the expression of the economic contradictions of Capitalism, of the insoluble problems of Imperialism. It is clear that Capitalism is breaking down; that the proletarian revolution is conquering. Capitalism cannot adjust itself to the new conditions, cannot solve its enormous economic problems. The world of Capitalism is in a revolutionary crisis,—more acute in Europe, less acute in the United States, but still a crisis. This crisis, which is a consequence of the economic collapse of Capitalism, provides the opportunity for Socialism to marshal the iron battalions of the proletariat for action and the conquest of power.

The final struggle against Capitalism is on; it may last months, or years, or tens of years, but this is a revolutionary epoch imposing revolutionary tactics. And revolutionary agitation is itself an act of revolution.

It is not our job to "hasten" a revolutionary crisis. Capitalism itself takes care of that. Our job is to prepare. Our job is to act on the immediate problems—unemployment, the soldiers, strikes, class war prisoners—in the spirit of revolutionary Socialism, in this way preparing the final action.

The Left Wing Program is a program of action, not a program of wishing for the moon. Sophistry can't annihilate it. Life itself is with us.

The Machinists on Unemployment

We, the machinists and metal workers in mass meeting assembled at Labor Temple, 14th Street and 2nd Avenue, New York City, on March 18th, 1919, do hereby adopt the following:

MANIFESTO!

Through the devoted service of the workers in industry and the workers on the battlefields, the war has been brought to a happy conclusion. The bitter strife between capital and labor was for a brief subordinated to what the American President called a war "to make the world safe for democracy." But now, when the struggle among the nations of the world is for the present at an end, the fight between the classes is once more being waged with unabated ferociousness.

Vast numbers of war workers and fighters who are anxious to toil walk the streets in hopeless quest of a job. Those who are still at their benches and machines must submit to unspeakable reductions in the standards of working conditions. The employed and the unemployed are being played off against each other with the result that the solidarity of the workers is impaired.

At this time it is therefore necessary for the producers in every industry to recognize and proclaim their essential unity. One worker must not, and as a matter of sheer economic necessity cannot, thrive at the expense of another. The unemployed constitute the whip over the heads of those who are working, so that the interests of both are really identical. Any necessary reductions in the cost of commodities must be made by cutting profits rather than wages. In a word, we believe that the workers constitute one class, with one set of interests to fight for, and one enemy to fight against.

The one thing that stands out most clearly in regard to the unemployment problem is the utter hopelessness of finding a solution to it under the present capitalistic system of production. So long as men produce for profit and not for use, there will be an army of unemployed—an army which periodically swells to enormous numbers. To-day we are passing through one of these periodic unemployment crises.

We affirm the responsibility of eliminating unemployment by any means short of the overthrow of the present economic scheme and the substitution in its place of a system where the workers themselves own and control their industries and administer them through managers of their own choice. The utmost we can hope to accomplish under the present economic arrangement is to alleviate conditions, to ease the suffering, to reduce unemployment. For that purpose we urge our fellow workers everywhere, regardless of their individual affiliations, to join us in our pledge for concerted action to win the following demands:

1. We demand a substantial reduction in the hours of labor, without a reduction in wages.
 2. We demand the elimination of overtime.
 3. We demand the abolition of the piece-work system in the metal industry.
 4. We call upon our municipal, state and federal authorities to undertake necessary engineering projects, providing high standards of wages and working conditions to the workers on such projects.
 5. We demand the elimination in industry of children below 16.
 6. We ask that a conference be called of the various metal unions, such union representatives not to include officials of the organizations.
- Resolved, That copies of this Manifesto be sent to the press and to labor organizations.
Unanimously adopted.

"free institutions." They finance soldier-papers like *Treat 'Em Rough*, which is backed by James Farrell of the United States Steel Corporation and other capitalists who hate the workers, to urge you to attack Socialist meetings. They whisper that while you were suffering and risking your lives in sinking trenches for thirty dollars a month, the workers at home were on strike for enormous wages.

This is a lie. The fabulous wages reported in the newspapers only applied to a small fraction of the skilled workers. The high cost of living has wiped out that increase for the great body of work-

LECTURE AND CONCERT

Given by the 5th A. D. Branch

AT

BURLAND CASINO

Westchester & Prospect Aves.

TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 1919, at 8 P. M.

FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE

LAWRENCE STRIKERS

Speakers:

JIM LARKIN
ELIZ. GURLEY FLYNN
BENJ. GITLOW

VLADIMIR DUBINSKY, Conductor
Russian Symphony Orchestra

ADMISSION 15 CENTS