

# WORKERS! UNITE!

## CONVENTION CALL TO ORGANIZE THE WORKERS' PARTY OF AMERICA

**A** FIERCE class war is raging thruout the world. All capitalist governments are openly fighting the battles of the exploiters.

The struggle of the workers, even for the most elementary needs, is to-day met with merciless suppression, and develops into a fight for political power.

Inspired by the proletarian revolution in Russia, and impelled by the cowardly and traitorous conduct of their leaders, the workers of the world have organized the Communist International, as an answer to the unholy alliance of their capitalist oppressors. Despite the bitter opposition of the capitalists and their labor lieutenants, the Communist International is growing rapidly. It has become a world power.

The American capitalists are using the present economic crisis to increase their power of exploitation and oppression. The whole working class is being crushed under the iron heel of a brutal capitalist dictatorship.

At this critical moment we must have an organization that will not only valiantly defend the workers, but will also wage an aggressive struggle for the abolition of capitalism. Only a revolutionary workers' political party can fulfill this task.

Such a party will and must grow out of all political groups which stand on the platform of the militant class struggle. It is not necessary to create this desire for unity. It is already a living reality, grown out of the very struggle of the masses during the years since the ending of the world war and the inauguration of Soviet Rule in Russia.

With a full realization of these facts, the undersigned join in issuing this call for the organization of the Workers' Party of America, pledged to the following principles:

1. **THE WORKERS' REPUBLIC:** To lead the working masses in the struggle for the abolition of

capitalism, thru the establishment of a government by the working class and for the working class—**A WORKERS' REPUBLIC IN AMERICA.**

2. **POLITICAL ACTION:** To participate in all political activities, including electoral campaigns, in order to utilize them for the purpose of carrying our message to the masses. The elected representatives of the Workers' Party will unmask the fraudulent capitalist democracy and help mobilize the workers for the final struggle against their common enemy.

3. **THE LABOR UNIONS:** To develop the labor organizations into organs of militant struggle against capitalism, expose the reactionary labor bureaucrats, and educate the workers to militant unionism.

4. **A FIGHTING PARTY:** It shall be a party of militant, class-conscious workers, bound by discipline and organized on the basis of democratic centralization, with full power in the hands of the Central Executive Committee between Conventions. The Central Executive Committee of the party shall have control over all activities of public officials. It shall also co-ordinate and direct the work of the party members in trade unions.

5. **PARTY PRESS:** The party's press shall be owned by the party, and all of its activities shall be under the control of the Central Executive Committee.

All working-class bodies that accept the above program are invited to join in the first National Convention of the Workers' Party to be held in New York City, December 23-26, 1921.

Working men and women! Help build the political party that will lead the oppressed masses to achieve their own complete emancipation! Let us raise the banner of the militant workers of the world with the immortal rallying cry of—

**"WORKERS OF THE WORLD, UNITE! YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE BUT YOUR CHAINS! YOU HAVE A WORLD TO GAIN!"**

Signed by—

**AMERICAN LABOR ALLIANCE**

**Affiliated Organizations:**

Finnish Socialist Federation,  
Hungarian Workers' Federation

Italian Workers' Federation  
Jewish Workers' Federation

**THE WORKERS' COUNCIL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
THE JEWISH SOCIALIST FEDERATION  
WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION (ARBEITER BILDUNGS-VEREINE)**

## Advance Work of Organization

**T**HE time to begin the work of organization for the WORKERS' PARTY, that will be launched with the New York Convention, December 23-26, is not after the convention has been held. That time is NOW!

Everyone is talking about the WORKERS' PARTY! Everyone is thinking about it. Take advantage of this interest by getting everyone to join with The Workers' Council, one of the organizations having most to do with the calling of the Christmas Convention.

An application for a charter from a small group in your town, or from bigger groups in larger cities, will be an urge to bigger convention preparations. Such an application received, even while the convention is being held, will be an inspiration in itself.

If you are not able to rally others about you, then join as a member-at-large. But do not fail, for any reason, to become a part of the swelling hosts of the Workers' Party, the hope of the toiling masses of America.

### Plan Convention Manifesto

Perhaps the biggest document to come out of the Workers' Party Convention will be the manifesto and program of the new organization.

Work on this declaration was started early by a sub-committee of the Joint Convention Committee of 17. This sub-committee consists of James P. Cannon, A. Bittleman, Dr. B. Wilenkin, J. B. Salutsky, Ludwig Lore, Alexander Trachtenberg, Jay Lovestone and Benjamin Glassberg.

The program and manifesto will be divided into three parts. It will take up a survey of the economic and political conditions at home and abroad, and the lessons to be drawn therefrom. It will contain a criticism of the political and labor organizations in the United States. It will conclude with a working program outlining the position of the Workers' Party on the important matters concerning the labor struggle in this country to-day.

### Will Consider Many Resolutions

Proposed resolutions are being turned in by the affiliated organizations. The convention will no doubt deal with declarations on the class-war prisoners, a daily English paper, greetings to Soviet Russia, the Washington conference, Alexander Howatt and the struggle of the coal miners in Kansas, injunctions, the Sacco-Vanzetti Case, the Mooney Case, a Monthly Magazine and the Famine in Soviet Russia.

There is a sub-committee on arrangements that is making big preparations for the holding of mass-meetings, a banquet and other affairs.

One of the most important sub-committees of the convention will be that on merger. Problems have already arisen that are being considered by it. The policy adopted is to complete the merging of different organizations, especially the foreign language organizations, as much as possible before the convention.

### Bohemian Federation for New Party

The Bohemian Socialists who recently, by vote of ten to one, withdrew from the Socialist Party have just completed their national convention in Chicago in splendid unity and revolutionary spirit.

Twenty-eight delegates represented the 800 members of the regular branches and the 400 additional in kindred organizations.

Of these latter, two branches of the "Workers' Circles" announced their immediate amalgamation with the Federation before the end of the convention. The "Circles" had professed a policy further "left" than that of the Federation (while it was still in the S. P.).

The delegates representing several "Workers' Councils" of Czech workers also prophesied speedy affiliation of their groups.

The invitation to take part in the first national convention of the "Workers' Party," issued jointly by the Work-

ers' Council and the American Labor Alliance was enthusiastically accepted.

They favored a 35 cents dues rate whereas it is understood that the agenda committee proposes a 50 cents rate.

They have changed their name to "Czecho-Slovak Marxist Federation" and have altered their program so as to stress an educational program and activity in the industrial organizations, altho not neglecting political activity. The party seat remains in Chicago.

### Workers' Council in Milwaukee

One of the most recent groups to join the Workers' Council is that recently organized at Milwaukee, Wis. It has a great work to perform in Victor Berger's home town, and is setting out to accomplish it with spirit and energy.

The Milwaukee comrades will have a delegate at the National Convention. They hope to make a big contribution to the new party.

J. Louis Engdahl, secretary of the Workers' Council, spoke to an interested audience in Boston, December 2, on "The Workers' Party."

Comrades from all elements of the movement were present, but all were united in the demand for the open party.

### Italians Also Move Forward

Altho National Secretary Otto Branstetter, of the Socialist Party, reported to the recent National Executive Committee meeting at Cleveland, Ohio, that the members of the Italian Socialist Federation were solid for the party, the contrary is true.

Four branches of the Italian Federation in New York recently voted unanimously to withdraw from the party. Others are taking similar action. It is planned to have a conference of the withdrawing Italian branches just prior to the national convention of the Workers' Party this month.

The WORKERS' COUNCIL is also in touch with the elements that withdrew from the Polish Socialist Alliance at its recent Rochester Convention on the issue of the Third International.

It is expected that these comrades, who publish a weekly paper in Chicago, will have a delegate at the Workers' Party convention.

### Debs Gets Convention Call

The Convention Call was sent to 'Gene Debs at Atlanta, and according to a letter just received from his brother, Theodore, the letter containing the Call was delivered. Theodore writes as follows:

"Gene wishes me to say to you that he has read carefully your letter, and he appreciates very much your kindness in having presented so fully the matter of the proposed new party, but that in his present situation he cannot answer or make comment on account of prison rules. He sends you his cordial greetings and best wishes."

### Congratulations to Jewish Comrades

Our Jewish comrades are to be congratulated on the success of their drive for a daily paper in their language.

Enthusiastic mass meetings in behalf of this project are being held in all the large cities of the country. The response everywhere has been tremendous.

With all revolutionary elements in the Jewish labor movement uniting under the standards of the Workers' Party, the success of the daily is assured.

It is expected that immediately the open party is organized, there will be launched an effective drive for the establishment of an English daily championing in this country the position of the Third International.

So the big work goes on. Why hold back for a single second before putting your shoulder to the wheel that continually moves forward, never slips backward? The initiation fee in the Workers' Council is 25 cents, the dues are 50 cents per month.

If you are already a member, then get some sympathizer to sign the application blank that appears on another page. Organize a group in your town.