**Important notes concerning the nature of and making of this digital archive of 1932 The Communist International:**

It wasn't until 1934 (starting with February issue of 1934, I think) that The Communist International started being regularly published in two English versions. A printed by the CP GB in Great Britain (London) version for consumption in Great Britain, and a printed in the USA (New York City) by the CP USA version. The two versions differed in cover art and page size, and also somewhat in content: About perhaps 30% of the time one version would have articles in it the other did not, and vice versa. Also, where the same article appeared in both, it sometimes appeared in a different numbered issue among the two English Language variants. And sometimes one run published combined number issues where the other did not.

But prior to that, I've seen evidence the CP GB may have published otherwise identical versions of issues of The Communist International with minor variation, intended for sale in the USA, such as bearing a price stated in cents, not pence.

Here, with regard to 1932, issues number 8 thru 12, we encounter a closely related issue:

It seems that throughout some of the first half of 1932, US Customs seized incoming issues of The Communist International. In some cases (that of issues 4-5, 6, and 7) the seized issues were later released and distributed in the US. But seized imported batches of numbers 8, 9, 10 and combined number issue 11-12 coming in from Great Britain may never have been released.

So the CP USA got hold of the text that was printed in them, and printed them up in New York City... or in some cases printed PART of that text... themselves for distribution in the USA. For issues 8 thru 12 my sources were limited to a microfilm made by Greenwood Press of its 1932 volume physical paper reprint made in 1968... one of Greenwood Press' 31 volume set of reprints of The Communist International. Note that where there were printed two versions of The Communist International at any time (one in the USA and one in Great Britain... this for some of 1932 and all of 1934 thru 1939), Greenwood Press ONLY presented the version printed in the USA!

The contents of British-printed issues 8, 9, 10, and [11-12] were presented by the CP USA in American printed in a dual number issue numbered [8-9] and a triple numbered issue [10-11-12]. It appears as if essentially all of the content of numbers 8 and 9 was reproduced in USA-published issue [8-9]. But looking at the page numbering, and the comment made about this matter printed IN USA issue number [8-9], it seems to be the case that only a fraction of the material in British-published issues 10 and [11-12] was able to be reprinted in the USA in the "Special USA Edition" numbered [10-11-12]. The USA-published issue is 36 pages long. It ends on page 344. But the next issue presented by Greenwood Press in its reprint, issue number 13, published in Great Britain, begins on page 423. 78 pages would seem to be missing.

Below are my notes made at the time I discovered this matter:

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BELOW is a notice printed in a box on top of page 251 of the number 8-9 1932 issue

of The Communist International presented in the Greenwood Press 1968

reprint (obtained from the microfilm of that issue that Greenwood Press

made).

Issues 8-9 and 10-11-12... the AMERICAN versions of CI for those issues...

the versions presented by the 1968 Greenwood Press reprint of CI...

have, at the top of their table of contents page, "Special Edition for USA",

and at the bottom of their table of contents page the following publication address:

"Published by Workers Library P.O. Box 148 Sta. D, New York City"

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Due to the seizure by joint action of the United States Customs

Service and State Department of Numbers 4-5, 6 and 7 of

the Communist International, upon which release was later

secured, there has been delay in receiving subsequent numbers.

Aa a reault, Numbers 8, 9, 10 and 11-12 have thus far not appeared

in the United States. We are therefore printing selected

articles from the above issues in two special issues for the United

States, which appear as Numbers 8-9 and 10-11-12 respectively.

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Notes on 1932 issues of The Communist International numbers and page numbering for issues 7 thru 19

n 7 213-248 [36 pages] Ordinary printed in Great Britain edition.

(Source: Greenwood reprint microfilm)

n [8-9] Special USA edition 249 - 296 [48 pages] [missing 297 pages and 298 ??]

(tho a "special USA edition", it would seem THIS number has all of the material that

was in the siezed by customs British issue number [8-9] of CI.)

(Source: Greenwood reprint microfilm.)

n [10-11-12] Special USA edition 297 - 344 [48 pages]

>>> missing 78 pages 345 - 422 <<<

This is a USA printed issue, with only some of the material published in the British issues 10 and [11-12] [Issues 8, 9, 10, and [11-12] coming in from Great Britain were seized by US Customs!] (Source: Greenwood reprint microfilm.)

n13 421 - 452 [32 pages] Published in Great Britain.

(Source: Greenwood reprint microfilm.)

n14 [scanned from original] 453 - 488 [36 pages] Published in Great Britain.

n15 [scanned from original] 489 - 528 [40 pages] Published in Great Britain.

n16 529 - 572 44 pages [Published in Great Britain,

scanned from Greenwood Press microfilm]

n17-18 573 - 636 [64 pages] [Published in Great Britain,

scanned from Greenwood Press microfilm]

n19 [scanned as an original] 637 - 692 [56 pages] Published in Great Britain

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**Notes on the Sources I used for creating this digital archive of 1932 The Communist International.**

At the time I created this digital archive, my sources for digitally providing 1932 issues of The Communist International consisted of a fragmentary (a bit less than half of all the issues) run of original 1932 issues in my personal collection, which I disassembled and scanned from original paper on a flat bed scanner. You will find these scans indicated by "orig" (meaning "original") in the file name, and to be of extremely high technical quality, including present restored color covers.

To fill the holes in that fragmentary run, I made as good scans as I reasonably could from a microfilm. That microfilm reel was made by Greenwood Press in 1968, and was filmed by them from some (the four volumes for 1931 thru 1934) of their physically-printed 31 volumes of reprints of The Communist International and was kindly made available to me by U C Irvine via an interlibrary loan arranged by the Oakland Public Library.

Normally, wherever possible, I avoid using microfilm as source material, given the resulting quality of the scans varies from marginal to execrable, and to get even marginally acceptably - appearing scans from microfilm, usually hours per issue of post processing is needed to clean up the scan. In contrast, superbly high quality scans made from original paper on a flat bed scanner can take 1/10 or less the time per page.

I had anticipated scanning all issues of The Communist International that I did not own or have access to as originals using the physically printed on paper 31-volume set of reprints of The Communist International made by Greenwood Press in 1968. And was able to do this for all years **EXCEPT** 1932.

[Some issues in the first ("old") series... Volume 1... 1919 - 1924... I present here as scans made by Google for Hathitrust, with photos and ultra poorly scanned pages fixed by me using scans from the physical reprint and some post processing.]

My source for physical reprinted issues of The Communist International was the main (Shields) library of University of California at Davis. They had on their general shelves what seemed to be a complete run of those 31 volumes. And as a California resident I am entitled to use the library and borrow books on its shelves (after paying $100 per year for this privilege).

When I pulled off the shelf the Greenwood Reprint of The Communist International volume that stated on the cloth cover over its spine that it was the volume for 1932, imagine my surprise when I found in those covers the pages for the year 1928. It seems U C Davis' library was given a **defective** set! I called this to the attention of library staff. There of course was nothing U C Davis' library could do: The material was printed, and I think acquired by U C Davis, over a half century ago, and the publisher is long out of existence. Used versions of this reprint series effectively never ever appear on the used book market.

I do find it curious that it appears NO ONE using the library noted this previously to U C Davis Shields library until I did in mid 2023.

I could not find any other U C Library (where I would have the ability to borrow the material and scan it at my leisure at my scanning facilities) that held even partially complete runs of this Greenwood Press reprint. U C Berkeley had 3 or 4 volumes from this 31 volume series at its Doe Library stacks, but none of those were 1932.

I then learned that Greenwood Press had made microfilm of its physically printed series. U C Irvine had a run of this. Unfortunately my paid library privileges at U C Berkeley and U C Davis did NOT give me privileges of requesting interlibrary loans.

However, it turns out that Oakland Public Library (which issued me a library card for free ... and frankly the most aesthetically attractive of all library cards I own, with lovely art work on it) **IS** able to request books and microfilm on interlibrary loan for its members.

With help from the librarians at U C Irvine pin pointing exactly how to specify the microfilm I needed (they gave me the library's identifying number) I arranged for the Oakland Public Library to secure the film for me for a month, on loan.

The good news was that, as microfilm goes, the quality of the filming was excellent. Greenwood Press was, after all, filming its own material here, and had the luxury of filming individual isolated physical pages laid out flat... something most of the clowns making microfilm cover the last 3/4 of a century had not the brains to realize is necessary in order to get even half decent images.

The bad news was that microfilm still IS microfilm... a technically lousy source of images, intrinsically. Other bad news was that, unlike the case with a BOOK loaned by interlibrary loan to me in the past from UCLA, I was not allowed to take the microfilm out of the library to scan on my own high quality microfilm scanner. Good news was that the Oakland Public Library had on site a Viewscan 4, a current state of the art microfilm scanner of high quality. The bad news was that although I have 10 years experience using the other model of high quality microfilm scanner (the ScanPro 3000 / 3500), and am a master of its use, having taught several university microforms staffs how to use one, I had never used any of the Viewscan line of machines made by ST Imaging. Thus I had to spend hours learning how to use an entirely different machine with an entirely different user interface on its software.

The worst news of all is that due to needing to do extensive post processing on each page to make the pages look even half decent... so that the images even remotely approach archival quality... an immense amount of post processing time is required. The inferior scans you see that I made from the microfilm here (indicated by "grn mfilm in the file name", meaning "Greenwood Press microfilm") took me 10 or more times longer to make than the high quality scans from original issues.

---marty

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