

The Workers Party—A Communist Party

By ISRAEL AMTER

When the Workers Party was organized in December, 1921, no one had any realization of the activity that the Workers Party would be capable of. As the experiment of a militant, revolutionary party entering the political field to direct the workers in their struggles, it was not presumed that the tasks imposed upon the Workers Party would be so extensive within a period of one year, or that the Party would be capable of fulfilling them.

Conditions, however, forced the Workers Party to plunge into the fight. The developments of the past year, with the huge labor struggles—the miners, railroad workers, and the textile workers' strikes; the open-shop drive of the employers with the open assistance of the Government; the tremendous drive of the unions towards amalgamation; the relief work for Soviet Russia; the raids which resulted in the arrest of twenty Party members and brought the Party into close relation with the trade unions, which protested against the arrests and today are aiding in the defense of the accused men; the campaign for the Labor Party, culminating in the Cleveland Conference, where the militants in the trade union movement were ready to fight for the Workers Party and which has brought the Workers Party close to the labor movement of the country—all of these events evoked action from the young Workers Party.

Despite its youthfulness, the Workers Party has proven equal to its task. It has met the issues; it has mobilized its forces. It supported the miners and railroad workers. It gathered funds for the relief of the miners starving in Western Pennsylvania. Workers Party members have played a prominent part in the amalgamation drive that is capturing the trade union movement. Workers Party members have done their utmost in the relief of Soviet Russia. The Workers Party was the only party that made a real campaign for the Labor Party and today is continuing this drive.

The Workers Party today is the leader of the American militants! One federation after the other which formerly adhered to the Socialist Party, but since the treacherous days of 1919 has been outside the S. P., has joined the Workers Party. The I. W. W., former stronghold of the militants in the labor movement, has succumbed to the attacks of the Communists. Its best elements are now to be found in the Workers Party. One year of activity has stamped the Workers Party as the bearer of the Communist, the revolutionary, work among the trade unions and the fighting workers of the country.

The Government of the United States and the capitalist press of the country, also have not failed to note the position of leadership occupied by the Workers Party. The second convention of the Party was an occasion for many expressions of opinion on their part. The convention went on record advocating a proletarian dictatorship operating thru a Soviet Government; it pronounced itself in sympathy with the Communist International and it closed with a message of felicitation to the Communist International. The whole capitalist press proclaimed the Workers Party a Communist party. To be sure, the principles and the tactics underlying all its activities are Communist in the strictest sense of the word.

The Workers Party is guided by the decisions of the Third International. The United Front—the appeal to workers of all classes and shades to unite in a solid front against the capitalists; the call to the revolutionary workers of America to unite under the banner of the Workers Party to fight against American imperialism; the protection of the oppressed foreign-born workers, and the support of the negro workers; the fight against the American Fascist—the Ku Klux Klan, the American Legion and the American Defense Society—the militant struggle against the exploiters and the sham "democratic" government that crushes the great mass of the workers in this country; the revolutionizing of the trade unions—all of these activities are in accord with the decisions

of the revolutionary workers of the world, who are gathered together under the aegis of the Third, the Communist, International.

The membership of the Workers Party is the same as that of the other Communist parties of the world. Perhaps in many respects it is superior: thru the past three years, it has suffered from the brutal persecutions of the Government and the extra-legal agencies operating in the interests of the capitalist class. The membership of the Workers Party has made untold sacrifices for the Communist movement of America. It is composed of elements ready to make the supreme sacrifice for the cause. In conformity with the situation in this country, the Workers Party has worked with the same revolutionary zeal as the Communist parties in other countries.

In all respects but one, therefore, the Workers Party is a Communist Party. It is not yet directly affiliated with the Communist International. It still has to feel its way into the revolutionary channels. Economic and political conditions, the ever greater oppression of the Government, the greater cohesion and solidarity of the working class, and the growth of the revolutionary spirit of the American workers, under the leadership of the Workers Party, will result in ever greater clarification of methods of work.

The rising class struggle will demand ever clearer definition: what distinguishes the Workers Party from the other Communist parties will one day be obliterated and the Party will take its place beside the other Communist Parties, squarely, fearlessly, directly and clearly flying the banner of the Communist International.

TEN WORKERS SHOULD READ THIS COPY OF THE WORKER; KEEP IT IN CIRCULATION

NOTICE!

Annual membership meeting of the
Finnish Progressive Society

Incorporated,
shall be held on **MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 1923, 8:30 o'clock p. m.** at 2042 Fifth Ave., New York City. Order of business shall be as designated by the annual meeting.

FINNISH PROGRESSIVE SOCIETY, INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
By August Kannel, Secretary

SOLON DE LEON

Will conduct the Study Class
Work of the Brownsville English
Branch, W. P.

Each Friday Eve., 8:30 P. M.
1834 Pitkin Ave.

This Friday's subject will be:

**"THE WORKERS
AND ECONOMICS"**

Party members and non-party
workers are urged to attend.

WILLIAMSBURG

**ENGLISH-JEWISH FORUM
ROYAL PALACE**

Manhattan Avenue & Varot St.
Brooklyn, **SUNDAY, JAN. 14th,
10:30 A. M.**—**LUDWIG LORE**
on "History of European Labor
Movement."