

Forward to National Hunger March to Washington!

"Unemployment Insurance Can Be Won Only Thru the Mass Fight of the Workers of the U.S."

By I. AMTER

THE elections are over and the program of the capitalist class, as far as unemployed relief and insurance and wage-cuts are concerned, remains the same. Roosevelt has no different policy from that of Hoover, and both are determined, on the orders of Wall Street, to "economize" at the expense of the working class.

That this is true is clear from the fact that in the railroad industry, there sit at the head of a federal commission, Al Smith and Calvin Coolidge, thus showing the unity of the two big capitalist parties.

THE THREAT—AND THE ANSWER!

This unanimity was further expressed by Hoover broadcasting from Washington for winter relief to be taken out of the pockets of the workers, and Owen D. Young, the Democrat, broadcasting from Cleveland.

The statement by Mr. O'Brien, mayor-elect of New York, as to terror against "rioters", Hoover's talk about "mob rule" in Washington (referring to the driving of the veterans out of Washington by fire and sword), show clearly that the boss class is determined not only to starve the unemployed but mercilessly to shoot them down.

The answer of the unemployed and the employed workers, the greater majority of whom are working part time, will be more intense struggle against starvation and the imminent world war against the Soviet Union. This struggle against starvation, Norman Thomas and the Socialist Party call "incitement to fascism", thus showing that the Socialist Party allies itself with the capitalist class in crushing the struggle of the workers for unemployment relief and insurance and against wage cuts.

THE crisis is becoming deeper, in spite of Hoover's talk of "one million workers having returned to work in four months". Henry Ford gives the proper answer. Ford is closing down 26 of 52 assembly plants in the country, thus showing clearly the crisis is deepening.

Floyd L. Carlisle, chairman of the Board of the New York Edison, Consolidated Gas and Niagara-Hudson Power companies, declared that unless the so-called Young Committee for Relief raises more relief this winter, "we will come very near indeed to the breakdown of the capitalist system." The steel industry is only operating at 19 per cent capacity. Corn and wheat are down to the lowest level in 300 years, which does not mean cheaper bread for the workers but increasing misery for the small farmers.

THE CAPITALIST STARVATION PROGRAM

Herbert Hoover and Franklin D. Roosevelt are both against the bonus, although Roosevelt covers his rejection with a maze of hazy promises. Already proposals are before the United States Congress to cut down the disability allowances of the veterans by 400 million dollars.

Thus it is clear that the program of the capitalist class is starvation to the workers.

The workers of this country, particularly of the most industrial state of the country, New York, will refuse to accept this program. Mass struggle, rising out of the hunger of the workers and of their children, millions of whom are starving in this country, will be the answer.

THE Communist Party put forward as the central demand of the Election Campaign and of the struggle at this time, the demand for adequate unemployment relief

and unemployment and social insurance at the expense of the employers and the government. This was not an election slogan. This is a basic demand of the working class today. The elections are over, the struggle goes on, and under the leadership of the Communist Party, the Unemployed Councils and the revolutionary unions, the fight will be intensified.

THE NATIONAL HUNGER MARCH

The National Hunger March to Washington, embracing 3,000 representatives of the 16 million unemployed and a like number of part-time workers in this country in the shops, factories, offices and stores, including the so-called white collar slaves and professionals who today are out on the bread line, with their families starving at home, is of fundamental national significance.

The "lame-duck" Congress, Hoover at its head, will continue to "save the country"—at the expense of the workers and small farmers.

The answer will be mass struggle for relief, the election of delegates in the blocks, fighting for relief, against evictions, the shutting off of gas, electricity, etc.; delegates from all unions and especially of the American Federation of Labor, whose bureaucrats are throwing hundreds of thousands out of their ranks because they are unable to pay dues and assessments, being unemployed, while the officials still rake in their salaries and graft; delegates from all the mass organizations, fraternal lodges, clubs, etc.—the great bulk of whose membership is unemployed; from the seamen, etc. etc.

THE basis of the Hunger March is the actual determined struggle for immediate relief, by the building up of block committees, neighborhood unemployed councils, and committees to work in the markets, Hoovervilles, bread lines, municipal lodging houses, etc.

This Hunger March will not be a mere duplication of the Hunger March of last year, nor a reflex of the British Hunger March. The crisis in the United States is far deeper than in any other capitalist country of the world. Unemployment in the United States is more than twice greater than that of the next country (Germany, which has about 7 million unem-

ployed). The workers have nothing to fall back upon—no savings, no unemployment insurance—and are in the midst of the worst catastrophe that the United States has ever experienced.

IMMEDIATE TASKS

Therefore, the whole Communist Party organization, revolutionary unions and fraternal organizations have no more basic task than the organization of struggles for immediate relief and the preparation for the Hunger March. This means:

1. Every Party unit in its territory must immediately become the organizer of a block committee in its territory, drawing in whole blocks and even neighborhoods in the building up of these committees and immediately tying them up with the Unemployed Council.

2. Communists in the revolutionary unions of the Trade Union Unity League must immediately take steps to organize committees in all the unions for carrying on the struggle for relief and insurance.

3. The Communists in the unions of the A. F. of L. and independent unions must immediately raise in a militant manner the whole question of unemployment in their local, get committees appointed. They must see to it that delegates are elected either officially from the local or from the left-wing to the Convention of the A. F. of L. in Cincinnati; at the same time tying up the locals or these committees with the Unemployed Council of the neighborhood.

4. Communists in the fraternal organizations must immediately see that committees are elected to carry on joint work in the blocks and the neighborhood councils for the struggle for relief, against evictions, etc.

Special attention must be given to drawing the Negro and Latin-American workers and their organizations into the struggle since they are by far the worst sufferers from the crisis. As indicated in official reports of New York City, these nationalities are the worst victims from the scourge of the crisis.

Particular attention must also be given to the young workers who are denied every form of relief and are the most militant fighters, both white and Negro. More attention must be given to work among the women workers, both single and married.

What Workers Will Find in October Issue of 'Communist'

"FIFTEEN Years of Victorious Proletarian Revolution" is the title of the leading editorial in the November issue of "The Communist," theoretical organ of the Communist Party of the U.S.A., just off the press.

Other articles include:

1. "Capitalist Stabilization Has Ended"—Thesis of the Twelfth Plenum of the E. C. C. I. on the Report of Comrade Kuusinen.

2. "The Great Divide—Fifteen Years of Bolshevism and Menshevism" by Moissaye J. Olgiv.

3. "Lenin's Writings Between the Two Revolutions of 1917," by Alexander Trachtenberg.

4. "Lenin on the Eve of October."

5. "The Capitalist Offensive and the Revolutionary Way Out of the Crisis," by Bill Dunne.

6. "Imperialism Dictates the Main Policy of the Kuomintang," by D. L. Han (Shanghai).

7. "The Lessons of the Illinois Miners' Strike," by S. Willner.

8. "How Many Unemployed?" by John Irving.

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THE preparations for the Hunger March mean in addition to struggle, the building up of organization, also the raising of sufficient funds. Trucks, gas, food, clothing for the marchers, etc., must be procured in large amounts. Wherever possible, trucks should be procured free, from sympathizers, care being taken that the trucks are in proper condition. The International Labor Defense must be prepared to meet mass assaults and arrests.

MUST EMERGE VICTORIOUS!

This is going to be the mightiest battle that the workers of this country have waged, and all the forces of the working class must be mobilized so that we may come out victorious from the struggle.

Unemployment relief will be granted in measure that the workers fight for it! Unemployment insurance can and will be won in the United States only through the mass pressure of the working class. We have saved the 9 Scottsboro boys thus far by mass pressure and mass demonstration. We will win unemployment insurance only in this way.

The time is short. The task is tremendous. All forces of the Communist Party and the revolutionary movement must get on the job once.