

Speakers

The A. F. of L. and the Unions in California

California, 7,825 workers struck industries, three of these being in agriculture. For the year of 1933 the number of strikers increased to 63,350 with a total of 18, which in all industries amounting to 71. In 1933, 34 were led by the Trade Union A. F. of L. and the bosses, and the preparations for war. Every worker who is being dragged down by the damnable code should read this pamphlet and learn the correct way out.

1. strikes in 1933, 48 of them gained concessions or recognition of the union. Of only one of them gained concessions. 500 workers on strike were actually organized by direct TUUL leadership. During this A. F. of L. led 740 workers in strikes. In workers under TUUL leadership while the number that number, or 11,208. by the TUUL not only directly through TUUL participation of TUUL members in the leadership of independent union strikes. es were of longer duration and undoubtedly more militant. The weakness lay at out of the four main industries in California, railroad, oil and agriculture, only in agriculture appreciable growth in mass strike movement. 35- of workers taking part in strikes under independent or unknown leadership, amounted to 8132 which strikes out of which 33 won gains, proves that the y for struggle even when not properly organized, fight under the leadership of the TUUL, both to banks and to give them the correct leadership. figures clearly prove that the workers stand to gain y through struggle under revolutionary leadership nt tactics. This is so despite the larger organization at the command of the A. F. of L. leadership.

Against Imperialist War

ext imperialist war, air raids will be the rule. There attacks against German towns in 1918. The allies ng a spring bombing offensive against Berlin for the 19. Lewisite gas was manufactured for this offensive. It be used in the next war.

INE, the first gas used during the World War, killed at the battle of Ypres, which was only in the beginning experiment of the capitalist rulers in mass murder ing class. Those who breathed it commenced coughing soon after they coughed blood, they died.

ENE, the next gas, ate away the walls of the capil- lungs. Blood flooded in. Thus the victims of phos- drowning in their own blood. The English soldiers land-drowning.

N coagulates the blood—thickens it. The is slowly paralyzed.

GAS is heavy and falls to the ground. It is e dug-outs or the house on the soles of one's air inside vaporizes it. The first symptoms ap- ears afterwards. It blisters the skin and eats e eyelids, the lungs, etc. The bronchial tubes d and the victim is strangled to death over a cent convulsions setting in during the later

ARSINE causes unbearable pain. The first gait, swaying and inability to walk. The bearably until the victim falls and lapses

by Prof. Lewis of Northwestern University called "Death Dew". It is an arsenide 1,000 will kill a man in 1 minute. It is ers. 600 of these form a complete load ne. 1,000 generators can gas 50 square

the most terrible gas of all. It pene- trating it, and is perhaps a hundred chine. Its effect consists in the ing to immediate death. A man ex- centuations of it, as thereafter sub- of the brain.

yl (which took the lives of all the factory) and diethyl telluride. The oduction of such substances into uture for highly dangerous mater- in the con- use.

EDITORIAL

We hope to make this section a source of information which can be used by writers, speakers, teachers, and all who are interested in the scientific study of the dynamic social life about us.

The struggle between the two world systems, decaying capitalism and growing socialism, is absorbing the attention of new millions of intelligent workers, farmers, professionals, and middle-class people, who are becoming aware of the importance of the great historic moment that we are living in. Send in your questions or topics on which you would like explanation

or information, and we will do everything we can to supply your needs. Also, if you have facts or other material that you think will be of interest to the readers of this section, we will be glad to have them. However, please send your authority so that if anything we publish is challenged, we are able to produce the necessary proof.

We will publish this section every two weeks regularly, barring accidents, and we would suggest that you organize your classes, lectures, etc. on a similar calendar. This will insure a regular source of material.

Fundamentals of a Communist Political Education

EXPLANATORY NOTE: Beginning with this issue, we will publish in this section regularly every two weeks, a lesson in fundamental political education as taught by Marx and Lenin. This week we are publishing the introductory lesson.

1st Lecture

THE FUNCTION OF POLITICAL PARTIES

Every party pursues definite aims, whether it be a party of landowners or capitalists, on the one hand, or a party of workers or peasants, on the other. Every party must have definite aims, for otherwise it is not a party. If it be a party representing the interests of landowners, it will pursue the aims of landowners; it will endeavor to obtain conditions which will tighten the grasp of the owners upon the soil; to hold the poor farmers in bondage; to secure a high price for the produce of the landowners' estates; to hire labor cheaply. If it be a party of capitalists and factory owners, it will likewise have its own aims: to procure cheap labor; to keep the workers well in hand; to turn customers to whom the wares can be sold at the highest possible price; to obtain ever larger profits; for this purpose to compel the workers to toil harder—but above all, so to arrange matters that the workers will have no tendency to allow their thoughts to turn towards ideas of a new social order; let the workers think that there always have been masters and always will be masters. Such are the aims of the factory owners.

CLASS CHARACTER OF PARTIES

It is self-evident that the workers and poor farmers will have utterly different aims from these, seeing that their interests are utterly different from those of the capitalists and landowners. We can say, "What is good for a worker or poor farmer is death to a rich landowner or capitalist." That is to say, out of the sum total produced, each class struggles for a larger share but can obtain it only at the expense of another class.

LEADING ROLE OF PARTIES

Not every landowner, however, thinks out logically what is the best way of getting the last cent out of the farmer or farm-laborer. Not every capitalist thinks out what happens in the case

I INTRODUCTION

1.—What is a Program. 2.—Party and Class. 3.—The Scientific Character of our Program.

of the poor farmers and of the workers. There are some who say: "Oh well, we farmers have always lived." Such persons never achieve anything, and do not even understand their own interests.

On the other hand, those who realize how they can best defend their own interests, organize themselves into a party. Of course the class as a whole does not enter the party, which is composed of the best and most energetic members of the class; thus those who enter the party lead the rest. To the workers' party (the Party of Communists) adhere the best of the workers and poor farmers; to the parties of various groups of capitalists adhere the most energetic among the landowners, the capitalists, and their hangers-on—lawyers, professors, military officers, etc. Consequently, every party is composed of the most intelligent elements in the class to which it corresponds. For this reason a landowner or capitalist who is a member of an organized party will combat the peasants and workers far more successfully than if he were not in such an organization.

In like manner an organized worker will be better able than an unorganized worker to strive against the capitalists and landowners; for the organized worker has well pondered the aims and interests of the working class.

knows how these interests are to be pursued, and has learned the shortest road.

THE PARTY PROGRAM

ALL THE AIMS WHICH A PARTY REPRESENTING THE INTERESTS OF ITS CLASS VIGOROUSLY PURSUES, CONSTITUTE THE PARTY PROGRAM. Thus in the program is specified that for which any particular class has to strive. In the program of the Communist Party is specified that for which the workers and the poorer peasants have to strive. The program is for every Party a matter of supreme importance. From the program we can always learn what interests the party represents.

THE SCIENTIFIC CHARACTER OF OUR PROGRAM

It is wrong to manufacture a program out of our own heads. Our program should be taken from life. Before the time of Marx, those who represented working-class interests were apt to draw fancy pictures of a future paradise, without troubling to ask themselves whether this paradise could ever be reached, and without seeing the right road for the workers and the peasants to follow.

Marx taught us another way. He examined the evil, unjust, barbaric, social order which still prevails throughout the world, and studied

its structure. Precisely after the manner in which we might study a machine, or, let us say, a clock, did Marx study the structure of capitalist society in which factory owners and landowners rule, while workers and peasants are oppressed.

Let us suppose we have noticed that two of the wheels of our clock are badly fitted, and that at each revolution they interfere more and more with one another's movements. Then we can foresee that the clock will break down and stop. In the same way Marx studied the capitalist society; he examined it thoroughly, examined life under the dominion of capital.

As the outcome of his researches Marx recognized very clearly that capitalism was digging its own grave; that the machine will break down; and that with the breakdown will be the inevitable uprising of the workers who will refashion the whole world to suit themselves.

Marx's chief instruction to all his followers was that they should study life as it actually is. Thus only can a practical program be drawn up. It is self-evident, therefore, why our program begins with a description of the capitalist regime.

The capitalist regime has now been overthrown in Russia. What Marx prophesied is being fulfilled under our very eyes. The old order is collapsing. The crowns are falling from the heads of kings and emperors. Everywhere the workers are advancing towards revolution, and towards the establishment of workers and farmers governments.

In order fully to understand how all this has come about, it is necessary to be thoroughly well acquainted with the nature of the capitalist system. Then we shall realize that its breakdown was inevitable. Once we grasp that there will be no return of the old system and that the victory of the workers is assured, we shall have full strength and confidence as we carry on the struggle on behalf of the new social order of workers.

Literature and Book Reviews

This little 10-cent library of five pamphlets includes a mint of information on fundamental questions that every worker should have. Get it through the Western Worker.

1.—"WHAT EVERY WORKER SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE NRA" by Earl Browder. Comrade Browder is an old Bolshevik and understands the struggles of the worker and in this pamphlet shows very clearly what the worker can expect. He deals with injunctions, higher prices, wage-cuts, illegalization of strikes, breaking up of revolutionary unions, the sell-out agreements between the A. F. of L. and the bosses, and the preparations for war. Every worker who is being dragged down by the damnable code should read this pamphlet and learn the correct way out.

2.—"INDUSTRIAL SLAVERY" by J. Amter. This pamphlet is a complete Communist analysis of the Industrial Slavery (Recovery) Act. Every worker should read this pamphlet, to see how this Slavery Act works and enslaves him.

3.—"WHAT WAR MEANS TO THE WORKERS" by Robert W. Dunn. This pamphlet is a very thorough analysis of wars, how they start, why they start, and who pays for them. It shows that contrary to general belief, workers who do not fight in the trenches pay as well as those who do the actual fighting. It clearly portrays ravages of the war upon the women and children also. Workers, read this pamphlet and learn how to end all wars forever.

4.—"THE SOCIALIST PARTY (Last Bulwark of Capitalism)" by M. J. Olgin. Comrade Olgin was for many years a member of the Socialist Party, and now for many years has been one of the leaders of the Communist Party. He is well qualified to show how the Socialist Party, by the demagogic use of left-wing phrases, deceived the workers and in reality is trying to lead them into Fascism. The Socialist Party is a party of the capitalists.

5.—"THE SOVIET UNION (Your Questions Answered)" by Margaret Cowl. Margaret Cowl has spent a number of years in the Soviet Union. She has studied conditions and the economic policies there and is well qualified to answer all questions pertaining to the Soviet Union. A very fine hard-book to carry with you at all times, so that you can intelligently answer questions about the Soviet Union.

—JEFF GOODMAN.

UPSURGE by Robert Gessner. Farrar & Rinehart, Inc., Pub. \$1.00.

"Belles unite. Black, brown, white; shriveled or swollen, kosher or catholic. Jews in sweatshops, Italians in street-stalls, Irish in shanties. We, the belly conscious, raid relief stations, kick out land lords, and sock the cops who throw us out."

With deadly passion this poet sings of the revolutionary upsurge of the workers of the nations, black, brown and white; conscious of the vast price, that is, with accelerated tempo fusing them into the mighty arm that will smash to powder this dying system of murder, exploitation, war and starvation.

From America where the wandering unemployed youth roam from town to town, to England where in the mouth of the world's empire the ship funnels stand rust-eaten by the teeth of the depression, "Upsurge" sings with the angry voice of the struggle itself. Oxford and Cambridge "poor-houses of thought" where the sons of the great murderers of the world drink bitter ale and talk. The revolt of the sailors at Invergordon. How "Gold Brads" dropped his jaw and never picked it up. "We'll give the admiral five minutes to say something about pay." That revolt shook the British Empire "from the Hebrides to the Cape, from Shanghai to Quebec; a tremor greater than the General Strike, more thunderous than

What? What? What? Give us back our farms! Give us back our tools! We'll use 'em! Give us back our factories! We'll make your God-damn coun-try!"

"A belly-thumping deutscher Hund smells A barber shop French poodle—Dogs feel no nationality. The French poodle kisses the deutscher hund Without Versailles formality. But man remembers."

Germany: "Once Hamburg was the harbor of the Continent. Now a cemetery of ships and the bodies of idle seamen. We the workers sit in these suffocating prison camps Unconquered—Suck our wounds And wait."

Russia: "See my will pulsating through my hands, My plan electric in these fingers; See peasant faces absorbed in work."

Among hot smells of charging machines, Child faces never lining with age."

Why this poet and other revolutionary poets? In realism they have had the cleansing transference of blood from the workers of the world, which is destroying the individualistic and morbid art forms of bourgeois society. Revolutionary poets such as Gessner give voice and form to the power and passion of the workers in their revolutionary upsurge. "Give us back the land! We'll run it! Give us back our farms! Give us back our tools! We'll use 'em! Give us back our factories! We'll make your God-damn coun-try!"

ANY QUESTIONS?

In this section any questions or discussion comment you may have on the previous lesson will be answered.