

The American Proletariat Turns Toward the Revolutionary Path

By JOSEPH ZACK.

In the first half of this article the author points to the March 6 demonstrations in U. S. as proof of the radicalization of American workers. He shows by a historical review that previously the American worker was conservative because it used to be possible to escape into farming or small business. This is no longer true, there has never been a really large social democratic or reformist movement here, so when the American proletarian decides he must fight or starve, he turns not to the socialists or the A. F. of L. but directly to the Communist Party.

PART 2.

The fact that our Party only 16,000 strong could mobilize such great masses is due not only to the favorable objective situation but also to the big concentration of big masses of workers in certain areas and huge plants, under such conditions small units are capable of drawing big masses. Thus far the movement is primarily amongst the unemployed; there is as yet altogether too weak a contact with the employed; the success of the demonstrations will, however, inspire confidence in the working class as a whole and make them realize their own strength, surmounting on the Party to double and quadruple its efforts. Although the Party almost doubled its membership in the last few months, its growth into a mass Party can now proceed at a far more rapid pace. The weakest link at the present is the new union center. It is clear that now is the time to make the masses stream into the new unions, to build up powerful factory organizations and thus to rouse and organize the entire working class for struggle against unemployment and for the overthrow of the bourgeoisie. Only thus can the struggle of the unemployed be effectively linked with the employed, those developing into an offensive of the entire working class. Revolutionary competition to catch up with Europe is not too bold a task.

March 6 has smashed into smithereens the opportunist tales about the backwardness of the American working class. It has put into the museum the Pepper-Lovestone prosperity perspectives. These gentlemen cry about the Comintern having now cast off Pencer's petty-theory about the Communists building a labor party in the U.S.A. which he said must serve as a bridge to the masses. Lovestone points out in his counter-revolutionary sheet that "now is the time to build such a labor party." No doubt had these gentlemen remained at the head of our Party they would have canalized this revolutionary wave into safe orderly labor party channels, they would have distorted this revolutionary clan by making "revolutionary" united fronts with "progressive" bureaucrats of the A. F. of L. The Comintern has been proven correct a hundred times by the very events in cleaning out these renegades. March 6 has shown that the Communist Party of the U.S.A. can rally the broad masses under its own banner, without any reformist bribes.

Lovestone and Co. speak about the crisis in the Comintern, the crisis in the Communist Party of U.S.A.; they mistake their own crisis for the crisis of the Comintern; they have lost all sense of reality; they speak about the de-

cline of the Comintern like the social-fascists and this at a time when even the latter are compelled to grudgingly admit its rising strength. Lovestone and Wolfe say in one of the scurrilous pamphlets issued in February, 1930: "Instead of ushering in a new period of constructive growth, the conclusion of the tenth year of its development brings the Party face to face with general political chaos, pronounced organizational decline, and rapidly increasing isolation. The Party is in a deep crisis." ... Could there be anything more bankrupt, more stupid? Translate "constructive" into reformist and "isolation" into the divorcing of Pepper and Lovestone from the Party and the truth is here. The cleaning out of these opportunist was a pre-requisite for the rise of the Party; had it not been done then it might have been too late. ...

Vain Promises and Threats.

The bourgeoisie in its consternation talks about relief on one hand and repression on the other. Meanwhile the masses of unemployed are pawning, selling their last possessions in order to somehow still buy something; when the bottom of the crisis will be reached no one knows. In the past a crisis used to be liquidated in a large part by the reserves the masses had accumulated during prosperity, the fact that now there are already lines of thousands of hungry before the charity missions shows that the reserves are gone already now. But the crisis seems to be only beginning. Wages are being slashed into half by firing and re-hiring workers. Who will buy the goods on hand, who will pay for the billions worth of merchandise sold on installment plan? Already we see masses of even skilled workers and bankrupt petty-bourgeoisie in the hunger lines. The agrarian crisis is setting in with a renewed vigor. The crisis in Latin America and the revolutionary rise there tends to amalgamate the revolutionary rise in the U.S.A. and the rising revolutionary tide in Latin America. The outlet for American imperialism beyond the American continent, China, India, etc. is narrower than ever.

Farmers Stirred.

The results of March 6 in the U.S.A. will stir the poor farmers into more vigorous action. It will be an inspiration to the masses of Latin America and the whole world, meanwhile the attractive power of the victorious Soviet proletariat rises amongst the exploited in inverse proportion to the crisis of capitalism driving the masses to vaster and more intense revolutionary struggles in which the U.S. proletariat will play an increasingly leading role.

A factor which causes the American bourgeoisie no little loss of sleep is the manifestation already at this early stage of disaffection amongst its armed forces as manifested by the New Orleans police during the street car men's strike there and of the state troops (militia) during the Southern textile strike; the state troops are mostly composed of sons of poor farmers and the army and navy of workers and other poor stuffs that not being able to get work "volunteered" to join the army and the navy on the other hand, amongst the unemployed and amongst the workers generally are masses of ex-soldiers that know how to use arms and who have seen some fighting in the world war and have small arms either revol-

12. The national touch to the conference were the delegations from Minnesota and California.

The eastern delegations learned at the conference that they could get strong support from the West for the fight against unemployment, and that it was the duty of all the organizations to see to it that a large delegation of unemployed from the West attends the National Convention on July 4th and 5th. The western delegations learned that the movement among the unemployed had struck deep roots, and that the outlook was for a monster National Convention on July 4th-5th.

Build Jobless Councils.

Building a powerful National Convention of the Unemployed Councils requires immediate building up of the Unemployed Councils throughout the country. Such councils exist in the West, in Seattle, San Francisco, Oakland and Los Angeles. In San Francisco and Oakland, the Unemployed Councils rented halls on the skidroad, where meetings of the unemployed are held, where working class literature is read, where the unemployed are mobilized for distribution of leaflets, for factory and street meetings, etc. The Councils on the Coast are proceeding to build Committees of Action, linking up the workers of a shop, both employed and fired. Already, membership cards have been issued to the members of the Unemployed Councils in Oakland and San Francisco.

Already on March 1st, in San Francisco, in connection with the TUUL District Convention in California, a District Unemployment Conference was held, with representation from Los Angeles, 400 miles away. A conference of the Bay Cities was held March 23rd, in

vers or rifles. The American bourgeois regime is not prepared for the vast social contradictions now arising, and precisely those forces which during its upward development and class peace were reliable and supported the big bourgeoisie like for instance, the farmers, the labor aristocracy and urban petty-bourgeoisie, are now dissatisfied. The depth of this dissatisfaction will only come to the fore in the oncoming sharper struggles. The American workers are no pacifists once they are on the move, an intelligent organization of their resistance together with serious anti-militarist work is likely to give the American bourgeoisie many more shocking surprises.

The First of May.

There are already serious indications also of a political crisis, the debates in Washington are becoming hotter, all kinds of hoodlums and bourgeois elite are being recruited into the American Legion (fascist) which is already uttering threats about the first of May. Matthew Woll, the real leader of the A. F. of L. is demanding openly the suppression of the unemployed movement. The violent comments of the bourgeois press about the London "disarmament" conference, indicate the strivings towards a warlike solution of the present impasse. Part of the bourgeoisie is orientating upon the "Left" social-fascists in order to intercept the "Leftward" moving workers telling their labor lieutenants to be "progressive" supporting them through its press, etc. These are the straws in the wind indicating vast events ahead of us.

March 6 was an indication of the social consequences of the American crisis. It put upon the Communist Party greater tasks and responsibilities opening upon vast revolutionary perspectives of mass struggles in the fire of which our American Communist Party will grow into an experienced leader and mass organizer of the American working class.

Forward to the revolutionary competition with European workers for the first of May. Forward towards a mass Communist Party.