

# Swinging Into Presidential Elections

By WILLIAM Z. FOSTER.

THE presidential election campaign is on. What is the main worry of the capitalists in this election of the third year of the economic crisis? The answer is clear. To make use of all weapons to prevent the workers and poor farmers from uniting their forces during the elections in a struggle against hunger.

What is the task of the Party? The answer was given in the call of the Central Committee for the national nominating convention to be held on May 28 and 29 in Chicago. Merely to quote the opening sentence of the call is the guiding line. It said, "for working class unity, the election campaign, against the hunger and war offensive of the capitalists."

The bosses will raise all sorts of issues to blind the workers to the measures against their living conditions. Demagogy will be used by all parties to make the government, regardless as to whether we have a republican or democratic administration, appear as a people's government, a government above classes.

There is no worker today who believes in the Hoover prosperity. The Democratic Party, the party which is serving the interests of Wall St. and which plunged this country into the last world war, is at the present time a safer bet for

Wall St. than the Republican Party which is becoming discredited in the eyes of the world.

Is it not a fact that Norman Thomas, the presidential candidate of the Socialist Party, supports the so-called Block-Aid, the unemployed hunger scheme of the Tammany administration? And who else in addition to Norman Thomas made a radio speech and supported the Block-Aid System. None other than Morgan himself. Here we have it. Agreement between the head of Wall St. and the head of the Socialist Party. When the bosses expect serious resistance on the part of the workers to their measures of hunger and war they call upon the Socialists to put it over. **The chief enemy in the ranks of the workers is the socialist party, in the presidential elections we must concentrate our fire on the socialist Party.**

What are the main slogans which the Party is putting forward, slogans of struggle, in the election campaign. Here they are:

1. Unemployment and social insurance at the expense of the state and employer.

2. Against Hoover's wage-cutting policy.

3. Emergency relief without restrictions by the government and banks for the poor farmers; ex-

emption of poor farmers from taxes, and no forced collection of debts.

4. Equal rights for the Negroes, and self-determination for the Black Belt.

5. Against capitalist terror; against all forms of suppression of the political rights of the workers.

6. Against imperialist war; for the defense of the Chinese people and of the Soviet Union.

The above slogans can become immediate slogans of struggle. Only on this basis will we be able to unmask the social demagogy of the capitalist politicians and the Socialist Party.

The time to our National Nominating Convention is short. The bourgeois election campaign is already in full swing. The speeches of the various candidates for the presidential nomination are full of demagogy, already developing the campaign to divert to safer channels the growing ferment and radicalization among the masses.

Are we up to the mark in meeting the election challenge of the capitalists? Not by a long shot. The last plenum of our Party has in all seriousness taken up the election campaign. The entire Party must take up the key note given by the Plenum—**Comrades, with full swing, into the election campaign.**

WILLIAM Z. FOSTER



*Presidential candidate for the Communist Party in 1928  
Several organizations have already proposed him as Communist candidate for president in the coming campaign.*