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# Hail the First of May

[leaflet of the United Toilers of America]

[c. April 25, 1922]

Specimen in Comintern Archive, RGASPI, f. 515, op. 1, d. 159, l. 1.

Again we have the annual review of the fighting ranks of the revolutionary Proletariat.

Our Workers' Holiday is not a day of rest and play; it is a day of struggle. The class-conscious worker greets this day with gladness and hope of victory, while the oppressors and exploiters of the workers await this day, grinding their teeth with rage and mortal fear.

For this Spring day of hope, to them is a fore-runner of their certain and near end.

On this day the wage slave raises his head, which was bowed under the capitalist yoke; boldly throws down his tools, stretches out his horny hand toward his brother proletarians who, just as he, throughout the world today raise their heads up high and gaze where threateningly and proudly flies the Red Flag, this holy emblem of workers' suffering, struggles, and victory.

May Day is the International holiday of the solidarity of the struggling proletariat.

Today throughout the world, the class-conscious workers form their ranks under this red flag and on it inscribe watchwords.

## **DOWN WITH WAR!**

This is the main watchword. We will not allow ourselves to be driven to slaughter in defense of a capitalist fatherland. We will not give our lives in defense of the interest of our exploiters and oppressors.

Down with preparations for war! Not a cent for Imperialistic armies or navies; not a cent for armaments!

**Down with the oppression of weaker peoples!**  
**Down with military occupations! Long live the free-**

**dom of the Colonial Peoples, conquered by the plundering capitalist powers!**

And above all:

**Down with conspiracies of war against Soviet Russia!**

**As one man the entire International working class will come to the defense of the first Workers' Republic in the world!**

**Long live the Red Army, which leads in this fight!**

We will not permit the crushing of Soviet Russia by armed attacks, hunger, or want!

We demand the full recognition of the Soviet Government. We demand the renewal of normal political and economic relations with Russia! We do not want to die of poverty and unemployment! We demand work for all, and as long as it cannot be had, **we demand compensation equal to normal union rates of pay for all the unemployed.**

**We will refuse to allow ourselves to be killed through overwork!**

**Long live the maximum eight-hour working day!**

**Down with all lengthening of the working day!**

We do not want to starve to death as a reward for our hard toil!

**Down with all wage cutting! Down with starvation wages!**

We will not allow the smashing of workers' organizations! We will defend the hard fought-for rights of our Unions!

**Down with the Open Shop!**

We will not allow the right to carry on a class

fight against capital to be taken away from us!

**Down with all emergency laws against the workers!**

**Down with injunctions!**

**Down with all so-called industrial courts!**

We will not look peacefully on, while our best comrades rot in jails.

**We demand freedom for all class war prisoners!**

**Down with all terror against the worker!**

**We will not permit the crushing of strikes!**

**We will not let them be lost through exhaustion!**

**Long live the active support of every single struggle by the working class!**

**Long live the Miners' Strike!**

With these watchwords to the fore, the revolutionary working class answers the roll call on the **First of May**, forming a united front of the proletariat, and preparing for the final struggle for emancipation.

**Through the workers' revolution, expropriation of capitalists, conquest of political power by the working class, establishment of Soviet Republics of Workers and Peasants throughout the whole world, and replacing the present system of exploitation and oppression with a just system of organized voluntary labor, and equal distribution of the necessities of life, in other words, by Communism.**

**Long live the struggle of the workers!**

**Long live the international solidarity of the proletariat!**

**Long live the mobilization day of the revolutionary working class of the whole world — Long Live the First of May!**

**Long live the Proletarian revolution!**

**Long live Communism!**

# CELEBRATION

**Don't Miss This — the Celebration  
of the Workers' Day**

**THE FIRST OF MAY**

Speakers Will be Russian, Polish,  
Lithuanian, English, at

**International Workers'  
Home**

**3014 Yeomans Street**

**MONDAY, MAY 1, 1922, AT 7:30 P.M.**

Held by  
**DETROIT CITY CENTRAL COMMITTEE  
OF UNITED TOILERS OF AMERICA**

Union Printing Co. • 274 High St. East

*Edited by Tim Davenport.*

*Published by 1000 Flowers Publishing, Corvallis, OR, 2007. • Non-commercial reproduction permitted.*