

# WORKING WOMAN

The Voice of Women Workers

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21

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## COMMUNIST CONVENTION CLOSES WITH CALL TO ACTION

The 7th convention of the Communist Party of the U. S. A. closed with a ringing call to action. Build the Trade Union Unity League! Organize committees in the shops and factories! Build the Communist Party and the Young Communist League! Organize for struggle against imperialist war, and in defense of the Soviet Union. Into the shops and factories! Such were the slogans with which the delegates returned to their districts.

106 regular delegates and 160 consultative delegates from all important industrial centers, from mines and factories, farms and mills met in session in New York City for 5 days to discuss the effects of the economic crisis on the working class in the U. S. A., to correct the shortcomings of the Party's work in the past, and to work out plans and prepare the party to lead the workers in the coming struggle. In addition to the report of the Central Committee presented by Comrade Bedacht, special reports on Negro and agrarian work were submitted. The keynote of the convention was the mobilization of the party for more concentrated work in the shops and factories especially among the Negro workers, women workers and young workers who are hardest hit by rationalization.

A number of women workers were among the delegates and a resolution on Women's Work was introduced, which deals with the increasingly important role of women workers in the present period, and the tasks confronting party in organizing and winning these masses of exploited working women for the class struggle.

## FOOD DUMPED INTO EAST RIVER

### Jobless Workers Starve

NEW YORK—Hundreds of truckloads of fresh vegetables and fruit were dumped into the East River for several days, so that the prices could be kept high enough to make big profits for the bosses.

While millions of jobless workers are starving, while thousands of mothers do not have a drop of milk or food to give to their babies, about 2,000.00 lbs. of fresh vegetables such as string beans, lettuce, tomatoes, Spinach, corn, etc., are thrown into the garbage heaps and dumping grounds of New York every week.

In addition to this hundreds of tons of fresh vegetables are dumped by railway and shipping companies. In California oranges are rotting on the trees, while in New York the workers must pay 60 or 70c a dozen for oranges if they buy them at all.

This is an example of the rottenness of the capitalist system, which permits farmers to starve on their farms, and workers' families to cry for food while the bosses are dumping carloads of food, and permitting the wood to rot, rather than give it to workers at prices which they can afford to pay.

Women and men workers must realize that only a militant struggle under the leadership of the Communist Party will do away with a system which permits such inexcusable waste, which permits workers to starve amidst plenty.

## Delegates Reaching Chicago for the Jobless Convention



### MANY WOMEN AMONG THE UNEMPLOYED

## ON WITH THE FIGHT FOR "WORK OR WAGES!" Working Women! Fight; Don't Starve—Forward to the Unemployment Conference in Chicago July 4th!

Many women are among the delegates to the National Unemployment Convention in Chicago, July 4. District conferences of unions and affiliated organizations have elected representatives who are journeying to Chicago in buses, old Fords or by hitchhiking.

The National offices of the Trade Union Unity League and the Councils of the Unemployed have called for unemployment demonstrations in all industrial cities, by the thousands of jobless and the exploited workers who still have jobs but may lose them at any time. These demonstrations are taking place on July 4, the date of the opening of the great national convention in Chicago. Union Park, Chicago, will see the giant demonstration of the convention itself, on July 4.

In Gary, Indiana, jobless steel workers marched to the Workers' Hall, discussed the conditions and elected delegates to the convention in Chicago. Among the delegates from Gary are a Negro steel worker, elected as secretary of the delegation, and another Negro worker, elected at financial secretary.

"This is what I've been waiting for all my life," said one steel worker, who has a wife and 12 children and has been out of work for 10 months. He is to be evicted from his house. "Once we push aside all

kinds of fake dividing lines between various sections of the working class and unite the black and white, American and foreign-born, skilled and unskilled workers into the same organizations, as the Trade Union Unity League is doing, it will be no time at all before we will push these lousy bosses off the face of the earth."

In Camden, N. J., twenty-five thousand men and women, jobless workers, stormed the offices of the R.C.A.-Victor Company for jobs which had been announced in the papers. After waiting in line all night, only to find there were no jobs to be had, the great crowd gladly listened to speakers of the Trade Union Unity League and the Workers' International Relief, who urged them to organize into Councils of the Unemployed.

Six big buses, secured by the Pittsburgh Councils of the Unemployed, are carrying the delegation of about 200 from this important coal and steel center to the Chicago Convention.

On to Chicago! Continue the vigorous struggle for Work or Wages, for unemployment relief and insurance, paid for by the government through taxes on profits and on inheritances and administered by the workers' organizations. Demand the 7-hour day. 5-day week! Work or Wages!

Demonstrate July 4!

## Anna Burlak Tells of Atlanta Prisoners

### Calls to Organize Women in the South

"Comrades, the prisoners in Fulton County Towers at Atlanta, Georgia, send you their greetings. Organize the South. Organize women workers throughout the South."



Anna Burlak, spirited young organizer of the International Labor Defense and the National Textile Workers Union, just released on bail from the Atlanta prison, spoke through *The Working Woman* to women workers throughout the United States. Half of the 1,100,000 textile workers of the country are women, she explained, and thousands are in the South, eager for a strong, militant, left wing union.

For the "crime" of holding meeting in Atlanta at which Negro and white, men and women, workers met together, Anna Burlak and three other organizers, Mary Dalton, Herbert Newton and Henry Storey were arrested and charged with insurrection. Conviction means electrocution. Two other organizers, M. H. Powers of the Communist Party and Joe Carr of the Young Communist League, were arrested in March, and held in the same jail on the same charge. The death penalty looms over them all unless a mighty protest of the workers is raised to release them.

Organization of women workers must go along with organization of the men, Burlak stated. Women workers in Gastonia were especially militant on the picket line and showed even better fighting spirit than the men. The name of Ella May Wiggins, shot down by mill-owners' thugs on her way to a union meeting, will always be remembered by women workers, both North and South.

But *The Working Woman* is not known as it should be in the South, Burlak continued. Only a few copies are distributed. Southern workers cannot afford to buy many papers, for wages are so low, but workers in the North should contribute bundle orders of *The Working Woman* to be distributed through the southern industrial centers.

"Build the National Textile Workers Union in the South!" was Anna Burlak's appeal to women workers. "Stand by our comrades in the Atlanta cases. Organize to demand their release. Solidarity forever!"

### SOVIET UNION

MOSCOW, Soviet Union. — The governmental committee for the introduction of the seven hour day in the Soviet Union has decided to introduce the seven hour day in thirty-six large textile factories in Moscow, Leningrad and Ivanovo-Vosnessensk during the third and fourth quarter of the current economic year, 1929-1930. One hundred and twenty thousand textile workers are affected.



# AMTER WRITES FROM PRISON

## On to the Election Drive!

Tammany judges have thrown into jail the New York delegation representing 110,000 unemployed workers who demonstrated at Union Square on March 6; but jails cannot stop their voices from making ringing calls to the workers. From his prison cell, I. Amter, organizer of the Communist Party, has sent a letter to the workers urging them to throw themselves into the work of organization with redoubled vigor. Parts of the letter follow:



"Never in recent decades did the workers face such acute conditions as today. Unemployment, wage cuts, sharper speed-up, war preparations, danger of armed attack on the SOVIET UNION, these are the problems facing the workers all over the world.

Wage cutting is the daily practice of the bosses. Every class of worker is affected by it. Speed-up is being keyed-up which means more unemployed! The bosses 'pledged' Hoover they would not reduce wages—this is how they carry it out!

On top of it, Congress has just passed a tariff that will add hundreds of millions to the workers' cost of living, cut down the standard of living, and stuff the pockets of the capitalists still more.

The American workers will fight—they are joining the Trade Union Unity League and the Communist Party in large numbers as the answer to these attacks of the bosses. They are beginning to see the sham of the "disarmament conferences," etc. They know that preparations for war are being made, in factories, thru movies, propaganda, etc.

In the latest decisions of the state department forbidding the exportation of airplanes which were ordered of the Glen Martin Co. by the Soviet Government, although they are sold to all other governments except China and Mexico, it is clear that the U. S. government is preparing for war against the Soviet Union.

These are the issues facing the working class and not booze, which the capitalist class through their parties is raising, to the plane of the first-rate issue to hide the real issues.

The workers must make these the issues of the election campaign. Now is the time to mobilize and organize the workers around these issues. Now is the time to form united front election campaign committees, in the shops, unions, fraternal organizations. Now is the time to reach millions of workers with the facts of their situation and to interpret them in terms of the class struggle.

On with the election campaign, every member of the party and the Young Communist League, ever militant workers, man and woman, in the revolutionary unions, left-wing TUUL groups and the A. F. of L. giving his energy to the organization and mobilization of workers under the banner of the Communist Party."

Forward to the Election Campaign!

Demand the release of Foster, Minor, Amter and Raymond, in prison for fighting for unemployment insurance.

# Chicago Unemployed Workers in Demonstration for Work or Wages



## Jobless, Starving Is Forced To Eat Garbage

Milwaukee, Wis.

Dear Comrades:

Enclosed find two clippings from the Wisconsin News and Milwaukee Journal which might be used.

"William Hoskinson, 38, of 3528 Villard Avenue, went to jail for three months at



his own request, simply because he wants three meals a day.

"Hoskinson was found by a policeman last night eating out of a garbage can at Thirty-sixth Street and Villard Avenue. He explained that he was hungry and had to have something to eat."

—D. M.

## 55 Laid Off at Underwood

HARTFORD, Conn. — Just heard that fifty-nine workers were laid off in the Underwood Typewriter plant here in Department Fourteen. One was fired instantly when he was heard talking about the arrests of Communist speakers before the shop gates.

—N. R.



# ON TO UNEMPLOYMENT CONVENTION, JULY 4th!

At factory gate meetings, in unions, unemployed councils, at meetings of the unorganized, preparations are being made for the National Unemployment Convention, to be held in Chicago July 4th and 5th.

The call of the Trade Union Unity League is being answered by delegates from the textile mills of New Bedford, from the auto plants of Detroit, from the metal plants of Youngstown, and from all the industrial centers of the U. S. A. Even child laborers from New York have been elected to the conference.

This conference comes at a time when unemployment is increasing. Between 7 and 8 million workers (1-3 of whom are women) are jobless and are turned out on the streets to starve. The answer of the bosses is more unemployment, speed-up and wage-cuts.

Only the T.U.U.L. and its militant industrial unions organizes and leads the economic battles of the workers against speed-up, wage cuts, for the organization of the unorganized—especially the most exploited sections of the working class, Negro, women and young workers.

The Chicago convention must be the symbol of class solidarity under the leadership of the T.U.U.L.; it must build a mighty movement of unemployed and employed workers to struggle against unemployment.

The National Unemployment Convention is called on the basis of the following demands—WORK OR WAGES, unemployment relief from the city, unemployment insurance, the 7-hour day, 5-day week, no speed-up.

On to Chicago July 4th!

## JAPAN

Eight hundred and twenty-five Communists are in the jails of Japan suffering from terrible sentences and tortures. On March Sixth, 1928, following the general elections in which the Japanese Communist Party figured prominently, mass arrests of over one thousand fighters took place.

Of these five hundred were recently sentenced to two to ten years. On April 16, 1929, another six hundred were arrested, three hundred and seven of whom were placed in jail on charges of "sabotage."

# INDIAN MASSES DEFY McDONALD

## N.Y. Workers Demonstrate Solidarity

Workers of New York demonstrated their solidarity with Indian workers and peasants in the great struggle against imperialist murder and exploitation, while news arrived of fresh murders in India by the army and police of the McDonald "labor" government in London.

The Communist Party, New York district, held a mass demonstration in front of the British consulate, to express the solidarity of American workers with the heroic revolts of Indian workers and peasants against the regime of mass murder, against the Indian bourgeoisie and against the native lords and landlords, allies of the British imperialists.

Meanwhile capitalist news agencies report seven more Indian peasants shot down when the police fired into a crowd demanding independence, at Ellore in the Madras presidency, southern India.

Another seven are reported wounded by the Bombay police. They were among the groups of workers picketing shops where British cloth is sold. At Calcutta, when the police attacked a crowd, the workers answered with stones. Hindus, Mohammedans and Sikhs have picketed together in the Indian capital, Delhi, in northern India.

American workers declare their solidarity with the Indian masses. Under the leadership of the Communist Party, workers are rallying to demonstrate against the bloody MacDonald "labor" government, and its brother, the American socialist party. We also demand immediate independence of all American colonies and the withdrawal of all marines and battleships from China and all colonial countries.

Hail the Indian Revolution! Hail the Chinese Soviets! Fight against American imperialism! Fight imperialist war preparations!

# BLOOR ON TOUR FOR DAKOTA VOTE

## Communist Campaign In Farming Regions

A letter received from Ella Reeves ("Mother") Bloor, on tour for election campaign of the Communist Party through North and South Dakota and into Montana, states:



"Farmers appreciate Communist meetings more than any other workers except miners. Our first task here in building the Communist Party and strengthening the farmers' press, 'The United Farmer.' Full tickets will be in the field from all three states."

Several women comrades are on the Communist Party ticket.

Sophie Husa of Belden is running for the state legislature.

Mrs. O. Lottio, of Frederick, South Dakota is running for state senate.





**Write to the Working Woman**

Write and tell us what is going on in your factory, or shop. Is your boss cutting your wages? Do you have to work long hours? Are you fined for Do they drive you, and make you speed-up? Do you have to work overtime, without extra pay? Write and tell the Working Woman about it.

**Organize—Fight For Equal Pay for Equal Work**

(By a Worker Correspondent)

DAYTON, Ohio. — Thousands of workers are being laid off each week. The Frigidaire (General Motors owned) laid off 900 last week. The N. C. R. laid off 2,000 men and is bringing in workers from Louisiana to work for twenty-five cents an hour.

Even young boys looking for a job are told that "we hire girls only." The reason for it is very clear. The bosses pay the women one-half the wages. Women over thirty years of age can not hold the jobs. The speed-up is so terrific.

The thing for us to do is to organize under the revolutionary leadership of the Trade Union Unity League. Fight for equal pay for equal work, unemployment insurance; for the seven hour day, five day week.

—DAYTON SLAVE.

**Fire Woman Sick from Speed-up**

DETROIT, Mich.—The L. A. Young, an automobile accessories plant, infamous for its rotten conditions, speed up, unheard of low wages, piece rate and number of extremely young workers.

Workers are sped-up to the breaking point. When girl takes sick from overwork and begs to go home, the foreman, Barney, tells her to "get to work." She says she is unable to work any longer. He then shouts, "Go home and stay home." The girl is fired. Tomorrow there will be thousands on the unemployed line to take her place at half price.

There is supposed to be a hospital service. Workers refuse to use it. It has a reputation of making a worker more sick when he gets out than when he gets in.

More and more we are realizing the necessity of doing something about the rotten conditions.

Women workers! Organize and fight for the 7-hour day, 5-day week. Fight against speed-up and piece-rate! Join the Auto Workers' Union!



**Song of the Unemployed**

(Suggested by the Unemployed Council)

Tune: "Vagabond Lover"

Some jobs are just like soap bubbles;  
You never can tell when they'll break;  
For bankers and bosses, they don't care for workers,  
We only get what we take.

For I'm just an unemployed worker  
In search of a job every day;  
For I know that some day  
We'll find a way  
To drive unemployment away.

**Working Women— On to the Unemployed Convention, July 4**

At the preliminary conference of unemployed workers held on June 15, a delegation of twelve workers were elected to present the demands of the unemployed to the city council. The city council on judiciary was holding its meeting and they notified Comrade Steve Nelson, Secretary of the Unemployed Councils, that in reference to the demands sent to the city administration on March Sixth and prior to the Sixth of March, he could come to this meeting and present his demands. Therefore, a committee of twelve workers was elected and we went to the city hall on Tuesday, June 17.

The city council was sitting around a table when our delegation was ushered in. Oscar Nelson, big fat labor faker, and vice president of the Chicago Federation of Labor, told Kjar to sit down and he wasn't choicy with his words either. They finally questioned all of us and then asked Comrade Nelson to give his statement. Comrade Nelson proceeded by bringing before them the acute misery of the 450,000 unemployed workers in Chicago, and here one of the aldermen interrupted by saying that according to census figures there was not half that amount out of work. Then one of the delegates, Comrade Galossi, told

hearted" alderman did not refer to child labor.

The tricky city council then tried to bribe Comrades Kjar and Nelson by offering them jobs sweeping streets at thirty dollars per week and the comrades told them that they were elected by the unemployed conference to speak in behalf of the thousands of unemployed workers and not for themselves as individuals; that they were working for the Trade Union Unity League, and would keep their positions as such until the workers of this organization saw fit to remove them. When this failed they continued by bribing the Negro delegates.

They said the Negro workers were honest working men. This was their scheme to divide the Negro delegates from the white. Then Comrade Nelson pointed out how they were trying to bribe the Negro workers by this sudden show of "brotherly love" and told them of lynchings, jim-crowism, and the previous attacks on the Negro workers, how they were most brutally beaten in the detective bureau when arrested, how they work long hours for low wages, etc.

In the midst of the meeting the city council took two Negro workers to give them jobs as street sweepers, but one



this smart alderman that census figures were incorrect, stating that there were six workers unemployed in the house where he lives, and none of them were registered.

**WOMEN-CHILDREN STARVING**

After which the capitalist pug-uglies quit asking such questions. When Kjar pointed out the fact that there were warehouses full of food and clothing, packing houses full of meat and the workers who had produced everything were going hungry and asked them if this was their ideal of a perfect democratic government, the answer that he received was: that this government ought to send all such foreigners back to where they came from and the American organizers or radicals should be locked up in prison, that Comrade Nelson should be thrown out through the window. They told Comrade Nelson the same thing, and he answered that even if they did send Kjar back to Denmark, and if they arrested, beat up or kill the leaders of the unemployed this would not stop the revolutionary movement of the workers, neither would it solve the unemployment situation.

Comrade Nelson spoke on child labor and demanded that child labor be abolished; they answered that Illinois law does not permit child labor and therefore this demand was unnecessary; that no one under sixteen years of age was working. Then Comrade Erlich, a woman delegate, pointed out how young school girls work every summer during vacation from school, in factories and stores. All they need is a permit from the board of education and they can be slaves for the bosses for as many hours as the bosses desire. She pointed out various factories and stores that employ young girls. After this the "kind

Negro worker stayed, saying that he would accept a job, but only after the meeting was over. This the council rejected.

**BOSSES PREPARE FOR WAR**

Comrade Kjar pointed out how millions of dollars are being spent on war preparations, but not a penny for the unemployed. The bosses will not give relief to the unemployed until we organize more solidly, Negro and white, men and women, and force the capitalists to give unemployment relief to the millions of unemployed workers.

This attempt of the Chicago city council, agents of the bosses, to divide the ranks of the workers unemployment delegation, failed dismally. The unemployed workers of Chicago recognize now, more than ever, the need of absolute unity of all workers, Negro and white, men and women, against their common enemy, the boss class.

The Trade Union Unity League is continuing the work of uniting the employed and the unemployed workers. The building of councils of unemployed and the organization of the millions of unemployed workers at the National Unemployment Conference to be held in Chicago must be sharpened.

Negro and white women workers! Join in the fight for work or wages! Join the revolutionary unions of the Trade Union Unity League. Fight for the 7-hour day, 5-day week. For unemployment and social insurance. Equal pay for equal work. Join the councils of unemployed.

Forward women workers to the National Unemployment Convention in Chicago on July 5th.

—KATHERINE ERLICH.  
A woman delegate  
Chicago Unemployed Delegation.

**INCREASE SPEED-UP FIRE WORKERS IN FIBRE BOX FACTORY**

**St. Louis Bosses Throw Burden of Crisis on Workers.**

**WORKERS GET NOTICE OF INCREASE IN SPEED-UP**

June 18, 1930.

To Our Employees:

Because of the depressed industrial conditions it is necessary for us to cut down our operating expenses.

We preferred not to reduce wages, realizing that you all have expenses that cannot very well be reduced.

The only way was to cut down the number of employees and get increased efficiency from those whom we are retaining. This means that each individual must give his best honest efforts and produce the extra output to make up for the shorter man and woman power.

We are going to ask you as your contribution toward reducing costs that you work up to five P. M. and clean up on your own time.

We expect your hearty co-operation during these times of industrial depression.

SCHARFF KOKEN MFG. CO.  
Signed R. B. Koken

Women Workers of Scharff Koken Manufacturing Company:

Our working conditions are getting worse and worse. The bosses are speeding us to the limit. In order to keep on making big profits, they fire some of us, and the rest of us they make to produce the same amount of work.

Just last Wednesday the bosses fired some women workers. Now they are making us work faster. That is not all, we can expect more speed-ups and more discharges. They will keep on doing it unless we fight and protest against such actions.

The men workers of Scharff Koken Company are beginning to organize. We must do likewise. Only when we realize and fight side by side with the men workers, can we better our condition.

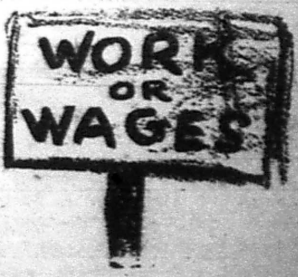
The time has passed to think that it is not worth while to fight for better conditions. We can no more have ideas that our work in the shops and factory is temporary, that some day a Prince Charming will come and we will marry and then we will live happily ever after.

We know that even when we will marry we will be forced to go to work sooner or later, because men workers do not get enough to support a family.

Now is the time for us women workers to organize and fight.

The fight of the men workers is our fight.

—WOMAN WORKER.





# Join the Communist Party of U.S.A.

Voice of Women Workers

THE WORKING WOMAN

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## THE PARTY CONVENTION

The Seventh National Convention of the Communist Party of the U. S. A. opened on June 20th with a tremendous mass demonstration at Madison Square Garden in New York City and met in session until June 25.

Men and women delegates representing all industries from every section of the country, brought before the convention the determination and readiness of the workers to struggle against the brutal speed-up, wage cuts, and growing unemployment.

For the first time in the history of the Party of the U. S. A., the convention met as a unified body, free from factional strife, having completely liquidated the right opportunist leadership.

This unity of the Party based on the correct political line laid down by the Communist International, made it possible to correctly analyze the economic crisis and its effects on the working class, to make a critical examination of our work and the shortcomings in the Party, and to mobilize the Party to lead the workers in the sharper struggles which are to come.

The convention met in a period of ever sharpening struggles in the U. S. A., with the workers rebelling against the vicious speed-up, the wage cuts and the severe unemployment, as shown in the numerous strikes throughout the country, where the women workers fought militantly together with the men.

The revolutionary struggles of the workers and peasants of China and India, where women are playing a prominent role, and the successful building of Socialism in the Soviet Union under the Five-Year Plan, led to still more feverish preparations by the imperialist powers for a war directed especially against the Soviet Union.

This convention is of great importance to women workers in that it has set itself the task of reaching into the shops and factories in order to organize and lead the unskilled and most exploited workers of whom women constitute a large majority.

With the tasks before it of building the Trade Union Unity League, of building shop nuclei in the basic industries, this convention has been a great factor in equipping the Party to lead the workers in the coming class struggle.

## "RED" INVESTIGATION

Eight million workers in the U. S. A. are unemployed and starving, and more are losing their jobs every day, due to the deepening economic crisis.

What is the answer to the bosses and their government to the demands of the workers for WORK OR WAGES? They answer the workers by the appointment of a Congressional Committee to investigate "Communist Activities." This committee headed by the Fascist Fish, has been granted \$25,000, to say nothing of the additional sums which it will receive to carry on its work.

The U. S. government has no money for the millions of starving workers and their children, but it has thousands of dollars to squander on graft, on forgeries, on vicious lies and attacks against the revolutionary working class!

A crew of detectives has been hired to break into the offices of all Communist organizations. Congressman Fish is "investigating" behind closed doors, in secret sessions, to make it easier to trump up evidence against the militant working class organizations.

This Anti-Communist Committee is getting its information from such traitors of the working class as Wm. Green, President of the A. F. of L., who wants all "Reds" deported, from the Daughters of the American Revolution, a fascist, red-baiting patriotic organization, which is now preparing to draw hundreds of thousands of women into the next war, from the Department of Justice and other enemies of the working class.

This "Red scare" is a trick on the part of the ruling class to keep the workers from militantly fighting against unemployment and starvation which faces them today. This is just another proof of the refusal of the government to do anything for the unemployed but club them and throw them into jails.

## No Fake Bosses' Charity, But Work or Wages



Some of the unemployed workers who are forced to take insults with the miserable slops doled out by the bosses' charity organizations.

## TWO WOMEN — SOVIET TEXTILE MANAGERS

Working their way up from the ranks, two women are now managers of textile plants in the Soviet Union, according to the Soviet Union Review, officially published in Washington.

At the head of the big textile factory "Krasny Mayak" is Mrs. Bogdanova, once a cigarette sorter and now a factory efficiency expert. Directing the giant spinning mill "Sovetskaya Zvezda" is Mrs. Lozova, who began as an apprentice at eighteen cents a day.

## WORKING WOMEN! JOIN THE COMMUNIST PARTY

Communist Party, U. S. A. 43 East 125th Street, New York City.

I, the undersigned, want to join the Communist Party. Send me more information.

Name .....  
Address ..... City .....  
Occupation ..... Age .....

Mail this to the Women's Department, Communist Party, 43 East 125th St., New York City.

## The Position of the Chinese Working Woman

By A. RASUMOVA

Chinese industry has developed mostly in the last decade. The foundation of Chinese industry is the production of textiles. In China there are in all 122 textile mills, 49 of which belong to foreign capitalists.

The mill owners prefer to employ women and child labor, as this is cheaper than adult male labor. The number of women employed in the textile mills already amounts to seventy per cent of the total number of textile workers. In the Shanghai mills, where almost the whole of the textile and silk industry is concentrated, over six hundred thousand workers are employed, of whom 420,000 are women.

In the Japanese mills forty-nine per cent of the female workers are over sixteen years of age, and twenty-nine per cent are under sixteen, i. e. are children. In the Chinese mills fifty-three per cent are over sixteen years of age and twenty-three per cent are children. In the English undertakings the respective figures are fifty-eight per cent and sixteen per cent.

The position of the Chinese working woman is incomparably worse than that of the woman proletarian of other countries. Wages amount to ten to fifteen Mexican dollars (one Mexican dollar is equal to about two shillings) a month with a 12-hour working day and no Sunday or other rest day. There is no labor legislation, no protection of labor and no insurance. Girls under sixteen earn from five to six dollars a month, and likewise work twelve hours a day. That is the position in Shanghai, but in Canton and other towns wages are even lower.

Even with the extremely moderate demands of the Chinese worker in the way of the necessities of life, these miserable wages do not even suffice to insure them against hunger.

Wages in the tobacco factories of the English and American companies are somewhat higher. Here the working day is ten hours, and children under fourteen years are not employed. The women, of course, receive lower wages even when performing the same work as the men. In general, here also there is no weekly day of rest. In the whole year there are only three holidays, i. e. at the New Year, but for which no pay is granted.

An exceedingly strict regime prevails in the factories. Absence from work is punished with heavy fines, if not with dismissal. At the time of the Wuhan Government, it was proposed in the Hankow factories that every Sunday be declared free, and in addition, that there be seven holidays in the year with pay. At the time of the New Year the factories were closed from ten to fourteen days, but of course the workers did not receive any pay during this time. Chaing Kai-shek, however, restored the old state of affairs.

The miserable wages of the workers are further shortened by other means. They are paid in copper coins, the value of which is continually fluctuating. The foreman speculates with the money by paying wages according to the official rate of the currency, which is always lower than the commercial rate.

The unbounded exploitation of the Chinese working woman has of course, not failed to have an effect on her activity. At every time of the Chinese revolution and of mass movements of revolts, demonstrations and strikes, the working women have taken part in all actions. In the years of reaction, after the overthrow of the Canton Commune, the Chinese working women did not give way, but took part in the daily fights for improving their working and living conditions and participated in the class struggle of the Chinese proletariat against militarism, imperialism and against the Kuomintang government.

The Chinese working women are for the greater part unorganized. They do not enter the yellow government trade unions, as they see that these do not represent their interests. Also in the red trade unions there are very few women, as they are illegal, a circumstance which prevents a big influx of working women.

But the Chinese working women, who realize the necessity of organized leadership of the struggle, are creating their own organizations in the factories and supporting the red trade unions. The figures regarding the participation of women in the strike movement in China prove more than anything else that the Chinese working woman is conscious of her class position and has realized that the only path to the emancipation of the working class is that of struggle. In the year 1926, there were in Shanghai alone 169 strikes in 165 factories in which 202,297 workers, including 12,716 women participated.

In the year 1927 the working women of eighty-three silk spinning mills, one thousand women tobacco workers, three thousand working women in the Japanese textile mills, went on strike.

In the years 1920 to 1927 there took place in China over seven hundred strikes in which working women participated. In the year 1928, in Shanghai alone, one hundred and twenty strikes took place. In these strikes 213,966 workers, including 122,807 women, participated. These strikes had partly an economic, partly a political character. Twenty-five strikes can be regarded as purely political.

In the year 1929 strikes were no less frequent. From May to August there took place in Shanghai seventy-five strikes involving 57,757 working men and women! In September and October there occurred 14 strikes and seventy-five disputes involving 113,167 workers. In addition there is the strike of the workers in the match factory Tsingtau, which has already lasted for several months. The repeated attempts of the employers to enter into separate negotiations with individual groups, have proved abortive. In spite of unemployment the working women remain firm and united.

The party of the "reorganizationists" (left Kuomintang) has set up a program for the "women's movement," which contains among others, the following demands:

Elaboration of laws securing equality for women; guarantee of freedom of marriage; elaboration of a law on women's labor, stipulating equal pay for equal work and protection of mothers; improvement of the standard of living of working women, two months leave of working mothers after confinement; prohibition of trading in children, etc.

The Kuomintang adopted a similar program at its last Congress. The government trade unions likewise dealt with the question of women's labor, and the last government bill already states that women's work in factories injurious to health is forbidden, making, however, the reservation that the conditions injurious to health obtaining in the factory must be ascertained by the factory inspector. Also women's night work (from ten o'clock in the evening to six o'clock in the morning) is forbidden; the trade unions are instructed to organize kindergartens, etc.

Of course these laws do not bind anybody and their propagation among working women has not called forth the same illusions as formerly. The working women are gradually realizing the neither the Kuomintang nor its trade unions, neither the "left" nor the right are really doing anything for the emancipation of the working class and they are consequently going over to the side of the Communist Party.

The campaigns carried out under the slogans of the Communist Party and of the Young Communist League during the last year have resulted in winning a considerable number of working women. On the First of May, on the 30th of May (anniversary of the general strike of the Shanghai proletariat); and on the First of August, the working women participated in the demonstrations which were dispersed by the police. They distributed leaflets, and delivered speeches. Many of them were arrested or simply shot. But all that cannot keep back the Chinese working woman from determined struggle.



# Hail the FIFTH R.I.L.U. CONGRESS!

**FIGHT FOR**

Work or Wages  
 Equal Pay for Equal Work  
 The 7-hour Day, 5-day Week  
 Defense of the Soviet Union  
 A Workers' and Farmers' Government

**ON WITH THE FIGHT FOR "WORK OR WAGES"!**

**FIGHT AGAINST**

Unemployment  
 Wage Cuts—Speed-up  
 Racial Discrimination  
 Government attacks on the Revolutionary Workers  
 Against Imperialist War

**WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHED IN THE NEEDLE TRADES**

At the recent convention of the Needle Trades Workers Industrial Union, held in New York on June 6, 7 and 8, we had over one hundred and fifty women delegates out of a total number of four hundred delegates. A conference of women delegates was held to take up the problems of women workers in the industry, how to approach them and bring them into the National Textile Workers Union.

We established the fact at this conference of the necessity of doing special work in order to bring in the thousands of women in the industry who are not yet in the union. Although we had little time for this conference in view of the fact that the whole convention only had two days for its deliberations, still it did some good as the discussion at the conference clarified amongst the women delegates the necessity of establishing Women's Departments in the various localities in order to find ways and means to bring in the women to the union.

Comrade June Croll has been chosen as the head of the Women's Department of the Needle Trades Workers Industrial Union after the convention, and we are certain now that the various locals of the Needle Trades will go to work and begin to recruit the women workers into the union on the basis of full pay for equal work, and no discrimination against Negroes, etc.

**SWEAT SHOP GOING STRONG**

Sweatshops are going strong in American industry, admits the U. S. Women's Bureau, in a bulletin on Industrial Home Work. This government bureau is forced to acknowledge that no less than 11,516 workers took work home from 1,467 bosses in New York City alone, in the year ending June 1927.

These are the "registered" bosses. How many more in New York City take advantage of the poverty of the workers and give out home work at starvation rates, the government bureau does not report. States make no effort to regulate this sweating system, since capitalist papers now seldom call attention to its existence.

Home work "is a means by which employers are enabled to secure rapid expansion and contraction of the working force without providing overhead and without assuming full responsibility for a stable group of workers," the bulletin admits. It fails to point out, of course, that no group of workers are even stable under capitalism.

"Of the 21,573 home workers found in licensed houses in New York State...the clothing trades employed over 13,000, and embroidery and artificial flowers 4,000 more. Stringing tags; carding hooks and eyes, buttons or safety pins; making garters; knitting, and work on cheap jewelry, lamp shades, powder puffs, paper boxes and bags, carpet rags and toys—all are industries carried on to some extent by numerous industrial home-work employers, most of whom operate in a rather small way with a few factory employes."

Women doing home-work are urged to get in touch with the Trade Union Unity League, 96 Fifth Avenue, New York City, which will lead them in organization together with their fellow-workers in the factories.



**Struggle of Unemployed Women Workers in All Countries under RILU Leadership**

The unemployed women workers in all countries help in the preparations for the Fifth Red International of Labor Unions Congress and for the First International Women Workers' Conference. The congress will make important decisions on the organization of the united struggle of the workers in the shops and the unemployed. In all the committees of action for strikes and wage movements the unemployed women workers must be represented. Only then will it be possible to defeat the employers' infamous plans to use the unemployed to still further push down the wage level and to break strikes.

Unemployed women workers suffer the greatest misery. Often with hungry children at home, without warm food, without clothing, they are put off with charity of the worst kind. The Trade Union Unity League is organizing the unemployed workers in councils of unemployed.

The National Convention of Unemployed to be held in Chicago on July 4 and 5 will adopt a militant program of struggle based on unity of the employed and unemployed workers against the bosses and their agents, the fascist American Federation of Labor and the social-fascist Musteites.

Working Women! Employed and Unemployed: Join the Trade Union Unity League. Fight for the seven hour day, five day week; equal pay for equal work; unemployment insurance!

**Woman Metal Worker For R.I.L.U. Congress**

At the conference of metal workers held recently in Youngstown the importance of the coming Red International of Labor Unions' conference was stressed and delegates were elected. One of the four delegates elected was Edith Busker, a woman worker from Baltimore.

**Women Storm City Hall Polish Women Workers Break Police Terror**

At a demonstration of unemployed women workers in Lodz, Poland, serious disturbances occurred when the police prevented a delegation by brutal force from entering the city hall. The indignation of the women workers was so strong that they started an open fight with the police and forced them to retreat while the women stormed the city hall. They entered the offices and in their embitterment broke the furniture of several rooms. Even after police reinforcements had arrived, they resisted and left the city hall only after four hours of bitter fighting.

**Hunger March of English Unemployed Workers**

Among the unemployed from all parts of Great Britain who assembled in London after long hunger marches, there was a large number of women. The women succeeded, in spite of the police, in entering the houses of parliament and telling the truth to a few members of the treacherous "Labor" Party.

**Fifth Red International Congress Is Postponed**

The Fifth Congress of the Red International of Labor Unions has been postponed to August 15th so that greater preparations can be made for this congress as well as the International Working Women's Conference.

The postponement gives us in the U. S. another month to prepare and intensify our campaign, to popularize the program of the Red International of Labor Unions for work among women especially. It is important for the women workers to discuss the problems growing out of the daily struggle in the shops and factories against capitalist rationalization.

The time must be utilized to hold conferences of women workers in all the important industrial centers, to develop and intensify the campaign among women in the shops and factories.

The necessity for the organization of the militant women workers, and the need to build industrial unions of the Trade Union Unity League, to enroll great numbers of women workers, must be taken very seriously by the leading committees in the revolutionary unions.

In the present period of extreme rationalization women are being drawn more and more into industry by the bosses as a cheap labor source, thus lowering the wages of the entire working class.

The militancy of the working women in the strikes and struggles has become an outstanding factor. The time is now ripe for organization of the women workers into the Trade Union Unity League. Special efforts should be made to recruit women in the membership drive conducted by the Trade Union Unity League, and to bring before the women workers the revolutionary program of struggle of the Red International of Labor Unions and its American section, the Trade Union Unity League.

**WOMEN'S CONFERENCE IN CALIFORNIA**

The Trade Union Unity League of San Francisco has issued a call for a Working Women's Industrial Conference on July 11. Representatives of organized and unorganized shops of all industries should be elected to this important conference. Representatives from women's organizations have also been invited to attend.

The main problems to be dealt with will be Effects of Unemployment on Women Workers." Also, "The Fifth Congress of the Red International of Labor Unions," and the "International Working Women's Conference."

The necessity for women to organize into militant unions under Trade Union Unity League leadership is of the greatest importance to all workers. Women workers, together with the men, must join the industrial unions of the Trade Union Unity League and carry on a fight for equal pay for equal work, the seven hour day, the five day week and unemployment insurance.

It is only through militant fight in the revolutionary industrial unions of the Trade Union Unity League that the workers will be able to defeat the attacks of the bosses upon the American working class.

Forward, working women, to the Industrial Conference on July 11!  
 Join in the fight with the unemployed for Work or Wages!

Send delegates to the unemployment conference in Chicago on July 5!

**JOIN THE REVOLUTIONARY T.U.U.L. UNIONS**





CAIN AND ARTEM--- Sovkino Production

Dreariness, heaviness, and futility of a stagnant bit of life within a stifling corner of an old market place; a pile of dying gaping fish in a heap of dirt and flies; a withered, insensible face, of an old woman, with a witch-like nose, and a resigned expression in her faded eyes; a crude physiognomy of a butcher smelling a bloody torso; a pair of blind musicians turning their dead orbits in silent entreaty for alms; children, beggars, hooligans, gossips, — all lost in the stenching existence of the lower depths of the old society.

A woman is sitting in a market place watching the stagnation around her with suffering, despairing eyes. An instinct within her has stirred her to restlessness and misery. Is this life? she asks herself. With blind, impulsive movements she tries to create for herself an opening to freedom. But failing in that, she finds salvation from her hopelessness in renouncing life completely.

A little Jewish shoemaker, Cain, with sad intelligent eyes, is trotting through the market-place making living. A prey to every hooligan, a victim of the rich man's law, he, too, feels the horror of his present life. But his method of escape is not blind suicide. Cain represents the intelligence, not the bewilderment, of the oppressed masses. In the market place he

received knocks patiently, almost unconsciously; but at home, at night, he holds revolutionary meetings, paving the way for the great proletarian revolt.

If Cain is the enlightenment of the revolution, Artem, the longshoreman, is its strength. A giant of spirit any physical power, he roams through life instinctively hating its futility. His great unbridled energy turns towards channels of dissipation. When an unlucky accident brings him in touch with Cain's revolutionary meetings, he grasps eagerly the teachings of the revolution and becomes a mighty pillar of the proletarian cause. His friendship with Cain represents the revolutionary union of intelligence and strength. The picture ends with both friends greeting the dawn of historical tomorrow.

The picture is by no means a series of only personal incidents. It is a message of revolution recreated by a superbly directed movie. The thread of the action of the story are used to make this message more effective, more tangible. The whole production leaves an impression, the depth of which could not be recreated by any critic. It is reality in all its unhidden ugliness, and it is revolt with all its unlimited possibilities.

—VALENTINE V. KONIN.

V. I. Lenin

Great Leader of Russian Revolution—Fighter of the oppressed workers of the world.



Lenin said:

"It is the business of the bourgeoisie to drive women and children into the factories, to torture and debauch them to condemn them to dire need. We do not 'demand' such developments, we do not support it, we fight against it. But let us fight. We do not want to revert back to handicraft and to women's domestic work. We want to go forward through the trusts and onward towards socialism."

Jobless Demand Work or Wages

Congress Bills Only a Farce

In the face of an economic crisis and unemployment greater than ever before in the history of the United States, Congress of course, does nothing. This fact, important for all workers to realize, is well pointed out in a new pamphlet, Work or Wages. The Challenge of Unemployment, by Grace M. Burnham.

A Senate Committee, appointed in 1928, "to investigate the causes of unemployment and recommend such legislation as seems advisable," side-stepped every proposal which could have been of any advantage to workers. The committee dismissed the fundamental problem of shortening hours by saying it had "nothing to suggest at this time."

The three bills on unemployment, now introduced in Congress, are at best a mere gesture toward doing something, before the elections, about increasing unemployment. They have been still further weakened by the House Judiciary Committee and sent to die in a sub-committee.

"Work or Wages" shows how the Senate Committee, supposed to "investigate," did not answer at all the question as to the need of unemployment insurance. The committee only stated that the witnesses it heard seemed to agree that private employers should adopt unemployment insurance. Of course it only heard witnesses who spoke for capitalism and who would protect the interests and promote the profits of private business.

"Organization is the only effective method of resisting attack," the pamphlet states. "Under the leadership of the Trade Union Unity League, the left wing trade union organizations, councils of the unemployed are rapidly developing locally and fused for common action on a national scale." The Chicago convention marks an important step in this organization of the unemployed on a national scale.

Every worker will want to have a copy of this pamphlet, "Work or Wages," published by International Pamphlets, 799 Broadway, New York City, and of the other four pamphlets now ready. Price 10 cents.

JOIN THE COUNCIL OF UNEMPLOYED

CEMENT

A Chapter from Feodor Gladkov's Novel of the Turbulent Years of the Russian Civil War and Reconstruction

"Comrade Gromada, you seem to have no idea of order. Comrade Chumalov has the floor."

The audience became silent. Well, let's see what Gleb Chumalov is going to say. The main strength is in him. Tomorrow depends on his words.

"Comrades, don't let us play around with words. We've played around enough already with pigs and pipe-lighters. Enough. The factory isn't a factory any more, but a cattle barn. We're a lot of fools. Is this business, Comrades? There's two sides to every man. You can either let the devil grab you, or you can swing him by the tail. It all depends on just how much of a fool you are. Our hands aren't meant for goats and pigs, but for something else. We know this: As our hands are so are our souls and our minds. To hell with all foolishness! As Comrade Ivagin said, there is now a new economic line. What is this new economic policy? It means hit the devil in the jaw with a great effort at reconstruction. Cement is a mighty binding material. With cement we're going to have a great building-up of the Republic. We are cement, Comrades: the working class. Let us keep that in mind. We've played the fool long enough: now we've got to start real work."

In the hullabaloo it was impossible to understand what the Group were trying to say. In flushed faces, white eyes grew bloodshot. Gromada jumped up, arms wildly waving; Savchuk sprang out from his corner howling.

Gleb raised his arm asking for attention. His jaw muscles quivered. Dasha rang the bell furiously for silence and shouted:

"Comrades! Communists! You're still a rabble! Keep discipline. I had not given you the floor, Savchuk!"

"Well, Comrades, let's consider it closely. Ask yourselves. What's lacking in the factory, Brothers? There's no fuel! And the workers have no fuel! We've come to the point where there's nothing left. Winter's coming and will give us hell. Let's set up a new ropeway on the mountain sides. And we'll bring wood to the town. Let's get at the Economic Council and tell them: Give us petrol and benzine, you hounds! What have you done with the oil reserves? We've got the orders for the stores. And if they try to trump us, we'll play our trump card, through the Cheka to the Revolutionary Tribunal. The ropeway—that's our first step. Through the Trade Unions we'll organize voluntary Sunday labor. We'll set our engineers at drawing up plans and to oversee the construction work. Let the damn goats go to the devil!"

Savchuk made his way to the table, and banged his fist upon the papers with which it was littered.

"Ah, the bloody idlers, swineherds!"

"Come to order, Comrade Savchuk!"

"Why are you shutting me up, woman? How can I keep quiet when there are swineherds here and makers of pipe-lighters?"

"Comrade Savchuk—for the last time!"

"Oh, you bitch! Comrade Gleb, give your wife a kick in the ribs. Ash, she's not my wife. . . . And you good-for-nothings. . . . Goat herds! Where are your hands and your throats? Say, what's the Cheka doing about Engineer Kleist? Gleb, what kind of friend is Engineer Kleist, who delivered you up to be killed? I can't stand for that! Let them bring Engineer Kleist here!"

"Right! The specialist . . . Engineer Kleist. . . . Have him arrested and sent to the Cheka! He's shut himself up like a rat in a hole. He sneaks around like a thief. . . . Didn't he try to have your blood?"

Engineer Kleist. This man had Gleb's life in his hands and he threw it to the executioners as though it were a dirty bit of waste, Engineer Kleist. Isn't Gleb's life worth that of Engineer Kleist? But this was bygone, and now their two lives met again.

The hunchback Loshak met Dasha's eye at that moment and silently raised his hand.

"Comrade Loshak has the floor."

All heads were turned to the corner where the humped mechanic sat. His words always hit like stones and did not spare his hearers.

"Yes, we want to do the work, but we've been yelling a lot of nonsense. It's my turn to speak now. We've been like a whole lot of bladders: we've swollen and burst. Put the right man on the job and things will move. That's where the point is, you idiots. And as for Engineer Kleist, he may be a louse, but—I want to say this: it's true that he turned Gleb over to them, but how did he treat Dasha? How did Engineer Kleist treat Dasha, when he rescued her from death—?"

Dasha suddenly leaned forward over the table and shoved Loshak by the hump. "Comrade Loshak, I'm not a subject of this discussion. Shut up, or keep to the subject of the report. If you've nothing to say get back to your place!"

Loshak glanced at her, made a gesture of discouragement and went back to his seat.

Dasha again! Again this mystery. . . .

Gleb contained himself with a strong effort. He pondered, wrestling with his own thoughts.

"Well, Comrades, if that is so, let me fight my own battle with the engineer face to face: and now let's leave that question."

The tired workmen were wiping the sweat from their foreheads with their shirt sleeves.

Dasha lifted a piece of paper to her eyes and glanced over it around the room.

"Comrades, we must seriously consider the question of the Party Committee. We are ordered to dispatch a certain number of members of the Group for work on the communal farm. It's a Party order."

Again it was as though a bomb had exploded amidst the Group.

"No, we won't let ourselves be ordered. Ordering us here and ordering us there! It's just throwing us as food to the bandits. This is not 'Order to dispatch,' it's sheer murder. We're not beasts to be sent to the slaughter house."

"But Comrades, you're a Group of the Party and not a bunch of speculators. I'm only a woman but I tell you: I have never even for an hour trembled for my fate. You all know that well."

"If you like, dispatch yourself by order and take all your damned hens with you."

"What a woman! She's trying to bridle the whole Group! Drive the women out of the Group!"

Then the voice of Savchuk. But even he could not dominate the

"Dispatch Gromada! He's buried himself in his Factory Committee"

"And Loshak, Brothers! The Factory Committee members have been at work all right."

Gleb walked calmly and with heavy steps from behind the table in the middle of the room. His face was drawn and the clenched muscles stood out.

"Choose me, Comrades—Communists; and choose my wife. She called you speculators, and she was right. I've been in far worse hornets' nests than the one you're speaking of. For three years I've looked death in the face. Those god-damn goats keep you glued to the spot!"





## Cement

By FEODOR GLADKOV

In "Cement," Gladkov is showing the construction of the new society. The old order has fallen leaving as its relics only a few ruined heaps. The country, ravaged by war, poverty, and famine, and reduced to a practically primitive mode of existence is trying to create within itself a Communist regime. The beginning breathes of destruction and hopelessness. At the end, the cement factory, the symbol of revolutionary progress, is triumphantly re-born, with the red flag waving over it.

This book is in every sense a post-October contribution to the world literature. Its main theme is an highly artistic reproduction of the early history of Russian Bolshevism. Its heroes are exclusively the members of the new risen society; and they represent faith, enthusiasm and energy that could belong only to the triumphant proletariat. Even the vitality and forcefulness of its style are decidedly revolutionary. Gladkov looks and speaks thru his characters and they all speak the Russian Revolution.

Another thread of more personal character is interwoven with the main theme. Represented in the novel by the peculiarity of relations between Dasha and Gleb, it is in reality the same problem that has troubled so keenly many writers of the post-war generation even in the bourgeois countries. "What will woman's love life going to be in future society?" asks Dasha. She is the heroine of the novel because she embodies all the ideals of a Communist woman. She sacrifices her personal life for the social cause but she does not renounce it completely. She is perpetually troubled by the

problem of sex life in the new society. The old standards have vanished, but where are the new?

Victor Marguerite attempted to handle this problem in his companion book "La Garconne" and "Le Compagnon," published also shortly after the war. His Monique, in quest of the solution gave herself to every man that came along, until she reduced herself to a state of a cocotte. Dazzled by the moral background of the French Revolution she hurled herself against every object in which she sensed an opening to freedom. Dasha too gave herself to many men; but with her it was not the case of tearing her own chains in a passionate and awkward manner. With her it took the form of contribution toward a social struggle. "One can't always think of herself," she says to Gleb in a sort of a proud apology. She could not refuse her caresses to men who were going to fight for the revolution and begged her for a bit of her love. Her promiscuity in sexual relations cannot be held on the same level as that of individualistic Monique, or Lucy of "Point Counterpoint," who is the most perfect example of bourgeois degeneration or some neurotic Nina in "Strange Interlude." Dasha is not an individualist; Dasha does not trifle with things; Dasha is not a neurotic. Dasha is a responsible leader of the future generations, who looks at that intricate knot with wide opened puzzled eyes.

The past has been buried. The present is unstable and unsatisfactory. The future is a big question mark.

The book is not easy reading. It is as beautifully earnest and intense as the building of the revolutionary society.

Reviewed by  
VALENTINE KONIN.

## Working Four Days and Resting the Fifth Day

### What Russian Working Women Think of the Uninterrupted Working Week.

The uninterrupted working week in Soviet Russia means that in each factory where it has been adopted, while each worker works four days and has the fifth off, the factory as a whole is never idle, except on the Soviet holidays.

Dear Comrades:

In this letter I wish to tell you how the uninterrupted working week affects the life of a working family. When we first heard of it, our first thought was: "How will it work out?" Won't it be a regular mix up, one at home and another at work? And then, won't these frequent rests have a bad effect upon the workers?"

But when the uninterrupted week was put into practice it gave wonderful results. In our cultural development, Sunday was a great hindrance—making visits, receiving guests, drunkenness and useless talk, and, on the next day, absence from work.

The age-long habit that one must drink on Sunday is so strong that it prevails even now in spite of all our efforts in the cultural domin. Thanks to this, one sees frequently on Monday children playing at being drunk. When the teacher asks them where they have seen such a thing, the children answer: "We had visitors yesterday and everyone was drunk." We are justified in saying that the continuous week has dealt a blow to this relic of the past.

#### HUSBANDS AND WIVES

We are told that on the rest days husband and wife can hardly ever be together. But, comrades, you must not forget that we have a seven-hour day. There are branches of industry where work is over at 3 p. m. or 4 p. m. at the latest. Surely, from 3 or 4 p. m. and the whole evening should be enough for any husband and wife to be together. Moreover, arrangements can be made with the management for husband and wife to have the same rest day if they so wish it.

If we turn our attention to the theatres and concert halls, we find that throughout the winter season they were always well attended, and that the audience consisted

mostly of workers. Thus the continuous week has enabled us to develop considerably our cultural work by making it also continuous.

#### THE "SUNDAY" CIRCUS

I will give you an example to show to what extent the difference between Sundays and week-days has disappeared; I was going to a meeting in a tramcar, and when we were passing the circus we saw an enormous crowd streaming out of its doors. At first we could not understand what this meant, but then it dawned on us that it was Sunday and a children's matinee had taken place. We had a good laugh at this, saying: "Where has the old Sunday gone to?" It has left us altogether.

The working woman next to me said: "The continuous week is fine. After four days' work I can rest. This has done me no end of good, and I have been able to put my household in order."

In conclusion, I would like to say that you should watch the development of Socialist construction here, and that we are following with the greatest interest the development of the revolutionary movement in the western countries, and are hoping that the moment of your emancipation is not far distant.

Say what you like, this depends greatly on yourselves. Comrades, it is worth while not only to make efforts, but also to give one's life for the splendid, morally free life we are leading. Even if there be shortage of necessities of life, even if we have to go hungry, we are prepared to sacrifice our lives, to give every drop of blood to maintain our Soviet power, regardless of the hostility of the imperialists.

With Communist greetings,  
T. KARNEYEV.

## Women in the Soviet East

By LENA ROSENBERG

Of all the great achievements in the Soviet Union, the emancipation of the working and peasant women stands out as one of the greatest. Particularly is this noticeable among the women in the Eastern part of the Soviet Union. Even after the Soviet power has been victorious in these parts, the religious believes that made the woman and actual slave to either her husband or father remained. Which meant that even to kill a woman for refusal to carry out the orders of her husband or father was no crime up to the revolution.

It is true that the Soviet government passed laws against child marriage, against the buying and selling of women and other similar practices. But the problem was how to acquaint these women who never came out into the street without the paranja in Uzbekistan or a charda in Azarbadjan and Ajaristan (both of these forms of attire are so arranged that no part of the woman's body, including the face, can be seen. In some instances one eye is left open only), with the existing laws.

made upon the woman's club by the toiling masses of women, a new clothing factory is now being built. This factory will be the latest word in technique and when completed will employ 2,000 women workers. While the old factory will be turned into club rooms and in this manner increase the capacity of the club.

Besides the work now carried out by the club, every governmental institution as well as party and trade union, have a special women's apparatus. This apparatus is used for the drawing in of women into every phase of work as well as fitting them for carrying the work out properly.

There are still instances where men would not permit their wives to go out shopping even though they cover themselves. To overcome this and draw even these women out of the house, special women's cooperatives are organized, where all the workers as well as the administration are women. Special cooperative shops are started for women handicraft workers who receive special government aid, financial as well as administrative.



Organizers on Women's Club persuading Moslem Women to throw off her veil

It was under these conditions that the work among women in the Soviet East was started. At first one native woman was convinced and won over to this work in Baku in 1920. She went from house to house when the men were not around and finally succeeded in bringing a couple of women over the house of the woman-organizer of the Communist Party, and there they formed a secret woman's club.

It was, however, necessary to lay an economic foundation for the drawing of these most backward women into public life and activity, since there were no proletarian native women in this sections or in any of the Eastern republics.

To accomplish this, beside a circle for liquidating illiteracy among women, a sewing circle was organized with about 12 women, to teach them how to work. Later this sewing circle was broadened out into an artel. And today there is attached to the Baku women's club a clothing factory equipped with modern machinery embracing 1000 women workers, the overwhelming majority of whom are natives. The entire administration including the director of the factory are women.

The club is now housed in a beautiful large building, with a membership of about five thousand. There are special medical consultations daily for mothers and children. All kinds of technical, dramatic art as well as general schools and circles for women; a children's nursery and kindergarten where the women who work in the factory and these that participate in the various activities of the club bring their children usually in the morning and take them home in the evening. There is also a restaurant where the women can attend to the work of the club without having to go home for meals.

The successful work started about 10 years ago under the most difficult conditions, has spread the influence of the club to such an extent that it is now too small. The same is true of the factory which is housed in the club building.

In order to satisfy the growing demand

Special work is also carried on among the men workers and peasants against the old religion and traditions. The results of this work is that while at first women were beaten for joining the club, many native men now themselves bring the women to the club affairs and even get them to join it.

What is true of Baku, insofar as work of drawing women into public as well as political life is concerned, is true of every city in all of the eastern republics. Nor is this work confined to the cities only. Special work is carried on in the villages as well although not to the same extent.

#### WOMEN MEMBERS OF SOVIETS

Thus today only a few years after the Soviet government has been established in these most backward sections of the Soviet Union, being only five years in some places while in other 10 years is the highest, there are thousands of native women members of soviets. While many hundreds of native women are chairmen of village soviets, which is the highest ruling body in the village. Besides, there are many native women who are taking a leading part in economic, educational and other sections of public life.

In this manner the Dictatorship of the Proletariat not by words but by using every means at its disposal makes equality for women even in these most backward sections a reality. While even in the most advanced "democratic" capitalist countries equality for women remains a mere phrase under the cloak of which women workers are even more exploited than men workers. The above facts should prove to the most backward working woman that only under the Dictatorship of the Proletariat can there be such a thing as real equality between men and women. To believe that such a thing is possible under capitalism is a mere utopia which every working woman must understand and fight against in the ranks of the factory women as well as other toiling women, such as working-class housewives and women farmers.



# On With the Fight for Work or Wages

## BUILDING THE WORKING WOMAN

Many of our working class women's organizations are beginning to realize the importance of a revolutionary paper for women workers, and are rallying to the support of the WORKING WOMAN

The Women's Dept. of the Communist Party of Portland, Oregon, held a successful picnic and from the proceeds sent a donation of \$15 for our paper. This is the first district which has responded to our call for affairs or picnics for the WORKING WOMAN.

**FROM THE MASS ORGANIZATIONS**  
The United Council of Workingclass Women of Newark sent a donation of \$5, and has ordered a monthly bundle of 50 copies. A conference held by the Lithuania Working Women's Alliance of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, passed a resolution pledging their moral and material support to the WORKING WOMAN, the only organ for working women in the U. S. They sent a donation of \$3 with this resolution.

This spirit and support on the part of our mass organizations will help to really build a mass working women's paper in our country where it is so badly needed.

We want articles on your conditions, we need contributions and donations! We want to hear from at least ten more organizations this month!

## UNEMPLOYMENT OF BRITISH WOMEN

The figures for unemployment amongst women workers in Britain at the moment reveal with staggering intensity the effects of rationalization in Great Britain.

When the Labor Government took office in June, 1929, there were 197,906 women workers registered as unemployed at the various Labor Exchanges in Great Britain. The December, 1929, returns of the Ministry of Labor show that these figures had increased to 305,443, an increase of 107,537 in a period of seven months.

How does this compare with a similar period during the last year of the Baldwin Government? In June, 1928, there were 164,984 registered unemployed women; these figures rise to 235,419, an increase of 60,435.

These figures show quite clearly that the bosses in industry working behind the defensive shield of a labor government, during 1929, were able to intensify the process and double the increase in unemployment amongst women workers, because they realized that the Labor Government pledged to Mondism and Rationalization would more brutally bludgeon the women, if they displayed any militancy and attempted to resist the results of the rationalization process. This is amply borne out by the experience of women workers in the Saddleworth and Bradford disputes;

It cannot be argued that 305,443 represents the full extent of unemployment in women workers, as it has to be pointed out that there are many unemployed women workers amongst the un-insured trades, figures for which cannot be secured.

The figures of women recipients of Poor Law Relief are no use in this connection owing to the definite policy of all Boards of Guardians to adamantly refuse to grant Poor Law Relief to able bodied single unemployed women, and able bodied married unemployed women without dependents.

There is only one exception to this rule, and that is the Leeds Boards of Guardians, who some weeks ago laid down a scale for single women arising out of a mass demonstration organized by the Leeds N. U. W. M. Branch.

### BELGIUM

**BRUSSELS.** — The strike of the cooks in Brussels has extended. The strikers remain firm and demand wage increases. The metal workers of Ghent rejected a demand of the owners for wage cuts, and demanded wage increases to make up for the increase in rents.



## Poverty Widespread Thruout Rural Sections

**CHICAGO, Ill.** — As I have traveled through the country recently I noticed so many empty farm houses, and others inhabited by farmers that looked like a grave. A few pieces of rotten furniture and old dozens-of-times washed-out clothes — these were all they had. In some families I counted five to fifteen children. Many farmers had to leave with their skinny, hungry children on account of water pumps and other things they are not able to buy.

## Jobless Family Lived in Garage; Evicted

**DETROIT, Mich.** — Frank Pama, an unemployed worker, his wife and their four children, have been ordered evicted from their one-room shack, a former garage with a dirt floor.

Pama has been out of work for six months. He formerly worked for the Michigan Central Railroad. They have been eating garbage which the father has been able to beg from charity organizations.

## The International Struggle

### ENGLAND

**LONDON.** — The strike of the Yorkshire woolen workers is growing stronger in spite of the efforts of the reactionary union misleaders to jockey the strikers back to work by parleys with the woolen magnates. The ballot vote of the wool sorters has rejected by a thumping majority the union misleaders' proposals for returning to work at reduced wages.

The result is due to the fighting lead given from the very start of the struggle by the revolutionary Textile Minority Movement, and the fine work put in by the Central Rank and File Strike Committee.

Now in the eleventh week of the big strike the woolen workers are more determined than ever to stand out against reductions in wages.

While the misleaders of labor try to sell out the strike in treacherous parleys with the bosses, the Labor Government is using its police to break the strikers' heads.

### FINLAND

The government and fascist groups have united to stop all Communist activity.

All Communist newspapers have been forbidden. The bosses fear the growing strength of the Communists and are determined to use the most ruthless measures to destroy the Party.

### HUNGARY

**BUDAPEST.** — The mass trial of Hungarian workers has again been postponed. Amongst the one hundred and twelve accused are a number who have been in prison awaiting trial for over two years.

The continual postponements of the trial means that the prisoners are all serving indefinite sentences without trial, and in many cases without charges.

### CHINA

**SHANGHAI.** — Despite the white terror of the Chiang Kai-shek government,

108 strikes were called in 1929, admits the Chinese Bureau of Social Affairs.

The total number of workers affected was 75,000, half of whom were women workers. Fully twenty-five per cent of the strikers are still out. The largest strike of the year, the report says, was that of twelve thousand women, who struck for higher wages in a Shanghai silk mill.

### INDO-CHINA

Thirteen Annamite Communists, who led a rebellion of native riflemen at Yenbay in February, have been executed by the French government.

### GERMANY

**LEIPZIG.** — The supreme court sentenced the former responsible editor of Rote Fahne, Comrade Eva Altman, to 9 months imprisonment in a fortress on the charges of treason, based on a series of articles printed in the Rote Fahne.

### POLAND

**LEMBERG.** — Three young workers, all under the age of twenty-three, were sentenced to death by the court of Assizes here for belonging to the Young Communist League.

The three condemned comrades are Samuel Jugend, 22; Naftali Propper, 22; and Israel Hersch, 23.

## Int'l Harvester Lays Off 1700; Speed Up Rest

(By a Worker Correspondent)  
**CHICAGO, Ill.** — Last week there were between 1500 and 1700 workers laid off indefinitely at the Farmall plant of the International Harvester Company at Moline, Illinois. The workers who remained at the factory have now to produce more per day than formerly and for the same wages, which makes them feel very dissatisfied. —WORKER.

## JOBLESS LEADERS DENIED RETRIAL

## CHIEF JUSTICE REFUSES TO CONSIDER DEMAND OF UNEMPLOYED COMMITTEE

The chief justice of the last court of appeals in New York State refused even to consider the demand for a new trial for Foster, Minor, Amter and Raymond, the committee elected by thousands of unemployed workers in New York on March 6th. The four leaders of the jobless have been in prison already for more than three months and are sentenced to six months to three years.

In a legal way nothing is now possible but an appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court, made up of the same justices who refused to hear any appeal for Sacco and Vanzetti in 1927. But the unemployed will not wait for the long, slow legal steps. By a giant demonstration at the National Unemployment Convention, July 4 and 5, in Chicago and on the same days in other centers, the jobless demonstrate their demand for Work or Wages, and the unconditional release of William Z. Foster, Robert Minor, Robert Minor, Israel Amter and Harry Raymond.

The charge against these four leaders is simply "unlawful assembly," because they led the demonstration of 110,000 jobless workers in Union Square. After a mock trial before three judges of the capitalist state, without a jury, the leaders were condemned to jail for an indeterminate sentence up to three years.

Chief Judge Benjamin Cardozo of the Court of Appeals has now denied the application for appeal. Women workers will unite with men workers in protesting this denial of appeal and will work for the release of the leaders of the unemployed. Send in your protest to the International Labor Defense, 799 Broadway, New York City, which is conducting the campaign for the release of the delegation.

## Chicago Federation of Working Women Increase Activities

In spite of the summer months, which tend to paralyze all activities, the Chicago Federation of Working Women's Organizations is increasing their activities and have laid out plans for various campaigns in the nearest future.

The Chicago Federation of Working Women's Organizations has always participated in all campaigns conducted by the Communist Party, the International Labor Defense, the Workers International Relief and the left wing labor movement in general. It has always been a vital force in all these campaigns and has helped the revolutionary labor movement all the time, by participating in all demonstrations, mass meetings, raising of funds, etc.

At the present the Chicago Federation of Women's Organizations is making out detailed plans of involving all affiliated organizations in the campaign of getting food to feed the delegates to the unemployment convention, which will be held in Chicago July 4th and 5th.

The Women's Federation is also making elaborate plans to help the WIR to raise funds for the Children's camp, which will give a chance the children of the workers to spend two weeks in the camp, to be taken off the streets during the hot summer months and also to be saved from the poison of the Boy Scouts and other bourgeois institutions, where their minds are poisoned and they are converted into enemies of their parents—the workers.

The Federation is planning a "Shower" for the Children's Camp, on July 12th—right before the opening of the camp—at the Vilnis Hall, 3116 So. Halsted St. Admission to this "Shower Party" will be by package, containing some suitable present for the camp. A program is arranged, music, etc. Details about this Shower Party will be given later.