
Circular Letter to the Members of the Communist Party of America from C.E. Ruthenberg, Executive Secretary, Oct. 15, 1919.

A mimeographed letter on party letterhead, copy in the Davenport collection.

October 15th, 1919.

Dear Comrade:—

The program of the Communist Party declares it to be a party of action. We must prove by our deeds that this is no idle boast.

The party is proving that it is alive to the present struggles of the workers. It is and will aim to enter actively into every struggle of the workers. It has already issued a proclamation in regard to the Military Invasion of Gary, which is being circulated in all the steel centres of the country. This leaflet can be purchased at \$1.50 per thousand.

The party is also issuing a call to all organizations to celebrate the completion of the second year of the Russian Federated Socialist Soviet Republic† by widespread agitation for “Raise the Blockade” and “Withdraw from Russia.” The party is printing many hundreds of thousands of leaflets on this subject. Your order will be filled at \$1.50 per thousand. A third leaflet on shop organizations for shop agitation is in preparation and will sell at the same price.

Every party organization is urged to act at once to place its order for these leaflets. Take up a collection or vote the amount needed out of your treasury and order the number you can distribute through your organization. Mass meetings should also be arranged from Nov. 7th to Nov. 9th to make the same demand. The distribution should be carried on simultaneously

everywhere. This is the program that should be followed by all branches.

For immediate distribution order:

“The Capitalists Challenge You, Workingmen!”

For general distribution from Nov. 1st to Nov. 9th:

“Declaration of the Communist Party on the Blockade of Russia.”

For general distribution in the shops and factories during the balance of November:

“Your Shop” — a leaflet on the function of the shop organization.

Action, and more action, comrades, that must be our goal. Begin a widespread distribution of these Communist Party leaflets. Each one, while dealing with specific problems contains the argument for Communist principles.

Our party will grow strong and powerful as we show ourselves worthy of support of the workers. Make the party what it should be by active participation in this literature campaign.

Fraternally yours,

C.E. Ruthenberg,
Executive Secretary.

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†- The first name of Soviet Russia was actually “*Rossiiskaia Sotsialisticheskaia Federativnaia Sovetskaia Respublika*” — Russian Socialist Federated Soviet Republic.

Edited with a footnote by Tim Davenport.

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