

Soviet Russia Observes Women's Day

By ALEXANDER TRACHTENBERG

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY, March 8th—a heritage of the pro-war International Women's Day movement—has been utilized every year for revolutionary and organization work among working and peasant women. Extensive propaganda material made each year by the Communist Party and the trade unions to reach every woman worker in the United States, on the land and in the home, will be utilized for the celebration of women workers in the struggle for a better world.

As soon as the Communist International issued its manifesto on the International Women's Day, the Communist Party of the United States issued its own manifesto on Women's Day and called upon all its 83 sections to act with March 8, for concentrated and systematic work among working women workers, the Russian Communist Party and the trade unions began immediately to make preparations to highlight observe the day in the United States.

Relations between working women and peasant women's organizations on that day. The significance of the present International Women's Day will be discussed at all gatherings, in the status of the present international conditions of the working class in capitalist countries and in the reference to the need of aiding the German workers in their revolutionary struggle.

The Government Program of the Communist Party of the United States is being distributed to all sections. The Communist Party of the United States issued on February 10, under the name of Secretary Dogoyev, leaflets of the Cultural Department; Senilshkin, and all heads of the organizations Department of the Communist Party of the United States to observe International Women's Day under the general slogans prepared by the Com-

New York City POUND

By EZRA POUND

My City, my beloved, my white! Ah, slender,
 Listen to me! Breathe into thee a soul.
 Delicately upon the reed, attend me!

Now do I know that I am mad,
 For here are a million people surly with traffic;
 Neither could I play upon any reed if I had one.

My City, my beloved,
 There are a maid with no breasts,
 Thou art slender as a silver reed,
 Listen to me, attend me!
 And I will breathe into thee a soul,
 And thou shalt live forever.

Instructions sent out by V. Schmidt, Labor Commissar of U. S. S. R., on February 12th.

According to this order all March 8th two hours earlier than usual, provided that such release would not be a hindrance to the work of the establishment. In establishments, where women are in the majority and where their services are essential to the complete cessation of work, the establishments were to be closed two hours earlier than usual. In establishments where the release of women workers may cause injury or inconvenience to the public, such as hospitals, public restaurants and food supply stations, etc., the working women were in lieu of their release, to receive for the two hours of work one and half their regular pay.

This is how the government, the Communist Party and Trade Unions cooperate in celebrating a labor holiday—International Women's Day. The day is utilized not only for propaganda purposes but also to improve the conditions of women workers. Only in a country where the aims of the labor movement are of the state can a labor holiday be celebrated in a manner as it is now celebrated in Soviet Russia—Workers' Russia.

Unemployment and Labor Aristocracy

mechanics (occupying present. The city are all employed, but there is a large number of transients looking for employment. Shortage of skilled labor in the building trades, particularly in the "Bottle Creek. Surplus of unskilled labor and shortage of skilled labor in the building trades.

"Wisconsin, Milwaukee Industrial District. A slight shortage of machine molders for machine shops, diecast, pattern makers and skilled mechanics. Surplus of employment in the building trades.

"Ohio, Canton Industrial District. "Workers are all employed. Shortage of employment in the building trades.

"Indiana. While the employment situation in this state is not bad, the call for labor (except skilled) are all labor. Building mechanics are all employed.

"New Jersey. Release of large number of unskilled mechanics are all labor. Building mechanics are all employed.

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Special Magazine Supplement THE DAILY WORKER

Unemployment and Labor Aristocracy

By JOHN PEPPER

THE well-paid operators of the capitalist are trying to get the worker to believe that we are having a great economic prospect at the present time. The facts gainay these official and semi-official fairy tales.

The general economic situation as a whole is continuing to deteriorate. Partial improvements cannot change the situation permanently. In production, pig iron and steel is the only branch of production which increased on a national scale in January and February. The number of employed workers increased in February in New York state and in Illinois. The report of the New York State Department of Labor says:

"Factory employment made a good recovery in February from the dullness of January. The advance amounts to about 1 per cent and brings the level back to that of December. There has been no evidence thus far, however, of a repetition of the upward swing of a year ago."

In Illinois the number of employed workers increased 2.2 per cent during February. Nevertheless there were in February 148 registered with the Illinois Free Employment Office for every 100 jobs registered in the office.

In January the proportion of workers to jobs was 166 to 100, a year ago it was 104 to 100, and during the worst period, during 1920 it was 209 to 100.

The unemployment increased in February. Applicants for work at the thirteen employment bureaus maintained by the state numbered 9,919 for the week ending February 23, and only 2,982 for jobs. In Iowa the State Welfare Bureau was forced to raise the unemployment figure to 10.5 per cent against the ever-growing unemployment in January and February.

The surprising and sudden increase of pig iron and steel production is likely only of a temporary nature. The causes of the increase are probably the concentrated railroad orders, and work for Japanese reconstruction. The New York Times of March 2 reports on March 1 from market that: "There is, however, practically no disposition to buy at this time."

And about the steel market: "General buying of finished steel products by jobbers and ordinary manufacturing consumers has been running distinctly lighter in the last fortnight than in January. A fair volume of business is being placed, but the market is distinctly less active. By present, if there is any change in the volume of activity at this time of year it should be in the other direction. The steel mills are much less sold up than they usually are when as active as at present."

On the front page an editorial in the capitalist papers content to spread professional optimism about the economic situation. Their financial columns they are forced to tell at least a part of the truth. The Wall Street Journal of February 25 writes: "Leading mining interests in Illinois and Indiana are preparing to operate more economically and work the most valuable mines closing the others, thus keeping the supply of coal more adjusted to requirements." Says the Associated Press of the New York Times of March 3: "Business conditions throughout the West, in Minnesota and in the Dakotas it is poor because of the small returns from the factories. The Review says about the first week of March: "With conservatism still the predominant feature of the market, growth of business is not to be expected."

"Trade and industry present a general appearance, and caution for buying for anything but the most immediate need is still the central feature. . . . Nowhere except possibly in the automobile trade does there appear to be a clear upward sweep visible at this time a year ago."

March 9 admits in its Business Outlook the same tendency: "Nevertheless, instead of growing more liberal buying policies have become more

restricted in many lines. Inflated costs supply one explanation for the restraint, but loss of confidence must be the foremost position, as a result for the present, hesitation which covers all forward operations. This lack of confidence is not only the average business man's feelings in regard to his markets, but it also grows out of his reaction to the present political discussion. The Chicago Tribune of March 12 gives the attitude of business men highly alarmed over the economic situation: "The pessimistic look for a summertime slump. . . . Expansions of mills, factories and shops already are being held back. . . . Already there are indications that expansion is being curtailed in some lines."

The situation summed up shows that the increase in pig iron and steel production and the increase of

The Unequal Struggle

Wilford I. King, "Employment Hours and Earnings in Prosperity and Depression," United States 1920-22," says: "6,035,000 fewer workers were on the pay rolls in the early part of 1922 than were employed in the third quarter of 1920. However, part of this decline was covered if we compare the third quarters. We discover that there were 4,102,000 fewer people at work in 1921 than in 1920, or about one-seventh of all who had been employed at the earlier date." The maximum decline of employment during the great crisis when 4,100,000 workers were out of jobs was 14 per cent. Today on the same depression we have no figures which we can compare with this general figure. But we have two partial figures: the volume of factory employment and the volume of railroad employment. The March



employment in the state of New York and Illinois during February does not mean at all that the economic depression which began in the middle of 1921 is passing over. On the contrary the general outlook is of aggravation.

The Value of Unemployment. It is an unquestionable fact that there exists a heavy unemployment throughout the country. The "Industrial Information Employment Bulletin" of January, 1924, of the United States Department of Labor is an absolute and complete proof of this. It gives a description of the employment situation not only for every state of the country, but for the most important industrial centers within the state. This very important report is so detailed that we cannot repeat it here. But it gives the best basis for judging the situation to overcome the depression. It is possible to study the report carefully. This Bulletin gives a description of the employment situation in the middle of 1923 was almost the same as in 1922, therefore, a decline of 5 per cent means a decline of about 910,000 workers.

But if we wanted to size up the situation we would have to compare it with the unemployment of other periods. If we should want to form a judgment as to whether the present unemployment is a mass unemployment or not, we could do so by comparing it with the last great mass unemployment in the last great economic crisis of 1922-23. Never in its history has there been a mass unemployment that is greater and deeper unemployment than in the crisis of 1922-23. The best study, the work of

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peak month, August, 1923, was 1,973,565. From then till the end of year 1923, 1,757,720 railroad workers were laid off, which means a decline means if we bear in mind that during the greatest crisis of our economic history, maximum decline of employment of the railroad workers was not more than 22.2 per cent.

But the decrease of the number of employed railroad workers does not give the complete picture of the economic situation of the railroad workers. An ever growing number of full time employed railroad workers was 1,718,000. In December only 1,200,000 full time number of those working part time increased no less than 195,000.

We have still a third figure which is not as fully significant as the first because it is not a national figure, but it illustrates the mass character of present unemployment. To Massachusetts, according to the January report of the State Department of Labor, the reductions of employment between October and January show that almost one-tenth of the State of Massachusetts had its chisels whetted off during that period.

Unemployment and Labor Aristocracy.

The fact analyzed above shows clearly that the working masses of the United States is facing a heavy unemployment. Almost one million factory workers are employed today than in the middle of 1923. And in addition to that about 180,000 railroad workers are employed today than in the middle of 1923. In addition to that, we must add the increasing number of unemployed coal miners. But all these figures are shown in my previous article, still they do not give a complete picture of unemployed workers. The number of unemployed workers is not only increased, but these workers whom the capitalists drive out of the factories and mines is being constantly a part of the growing industrial reserve army which is being constantly increased thru hundreds of thousands of dismissed farmers, and new immigrants.

The unemployment is very heavy and has a mass character, but it is not as heavy as during the great economic crisis of 1921-22. The greatest difference between the two periods is the condition of the metal industry. In the previous period the metal industry was most heavily affected. Today the metal industry does not yet show the full effects of depression.

The present unemployment has a mass character, but the working class suffers greatly from it. Part of the work was cut and a general phenomenon today. It is in sharp contradiction to these facts that official labor figures show that the press of the American Federation of Labor makes no recognition of this unemployment. It is possible, and what is the solution of the unemployment?

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Year	Factory Employment
1919	100
1920	104
1921	90
1922 (June)	103
1924 (January)	98

The year 1920 has the largest number of factory employment, 104. The year 1922 shows 90. That means a decline of 14 per cent. The figures of King's book show that the maximum number of factory workers in 1920 was 11,370,000 and in 1922, 8,621,000. That's a decline of 24 per cent was a decline of 2,749,000 employed workers.

The volume of factory employment declined from June, 1923, to January, 1924, shows a decline of about 910,000 per cent. As the number of employed workers in the industry in 1923 was almost the same as in 1922, therefore, a decline of 5 per cent means a decline of about 910,000 workers.

The heaviest unemployment ever experienced in the economic history of the United States showed during the crisis in 1921-22 the maximum decline of 2,749,000 factory workers. The amount of decrease of examples proving that fundamental fact, we will present here only a few selected figures that we can compare with the figures on the accompanying table.

New York. There is a surplus of employment situation. The number of employed railroad workers in the

Shop Nuclei: Only Road to a Mass Communist Party

By JOHN EDWARDS.

FORWARD to a revolutionary mass organization, the Workers Party of America, is the only road to the overthrow of our party, the Workers Party of America.

Within the past year, we have made mighty strides towards our goal. Our work was organized into shop nuclei for amalgamation into industrial unions, our campaign for labor party, our work in the daily paper, has connected us daily with the masses. This has been done principally by getting up shop nuclei (especially by the aid of the Communist Party). Since then, every forward step we have made on our economic field—all our campaigns towards the end enumerated, have been advanced and furthered among that section of the workers which we have reached, by our union sections (especially by the aid of the party committees, city, district and central assemblies).

The greater proportion of our membership, which has no union affiliation, is in the shop nuclei, the way of mass activities, outside of distributing and selling literature. Our success in the past have been, for the most part, among the workers in the shop nuclei. It is only the workers in the shop nuclei that the great mass, the vast majority of the workers, are not organized, not in industry or politically. For example, the real mass of workers, steel workers, machinists, electrical workers, metal miners—have practically no union affiliation. The workers in the shop nuclei, the vast majority of the workers, are the most revolutionary stratum of the modern capitalist system.

For a Mass Party. This is our main task. Our main task, in the true sense of the word, we must press the slogan of the mass party, rather than the Workers Party must definitely connect itself with the masses, by mass activities, outside of the working class. Our party must lead the masses in the shop nuclei, to better living conditions, and thereby gain their confidence. We have to prove by deed and action, that our slogans and revolutionary words are not empty phrases. We must show the masses that we can lead up the working class, which must transform itself into a revolutionary class, to establish the progress of our activity.

How we are to go about a systematic work among the unorganized workers, we must first determine where there is no working class organization. In our present class of unorganized workers, we must first determine where there is no working class organization. In our present class of unorganized workers, we must first determine where there is no working class organization.

Method to Reach Workers. The advantage of the nucleus over the territorial branch is this: Modern capitalism has brought together thousands of workers under the same roof. The class struggle finds its sharpest content right in the shop where the worker reduces to the position of a machine and where he feels most his exploitation and can be reached on the basis of the misery of his conditions, while in the shop after work, when he is trying to rest from his bitter exploitation, he meets his fellow workers. The minute the white blouse of the worker beyond him, either to do his little job or to go to the job agitator meets his fellow worker and the worker is more sympathetic; the workers feel they have something in common; they are inclined to listen to a shop mate. Whereas if he meets a Communist in a street, he is suspicious of him and thinks him at best some poor misguided fool. The worker outside of the shop is hard to propagandize.

No Mass Job Agitation. Mass job agitation effective it must be organized and systematic; it must deal with the every day life of the worker. The nucleus, using the shop conditions to point out the nature of capitalist exploitation. The agitator must point out the necessity of the mass being organized, and to carry on the every day struggle for the betterment of the worker. The nucleus is the only way of reaching the masses, the only way of reaching the masses, the only way of reaching the masses.

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should consider the matter of actually forming a shop nucleus. They should rest together and work out a systematic course of shop agitation based on the above outline. When they are making a mass party, they should succeed in getting new adherents to their ideas, they should meet and after the election, the members within the shop, and form the shop nucleus, which becomes a nucleus for the masses.

No Time Wasted. Not only does the nucleus take up the problems of the shop, but it also acts as the lower party unit receiving orders and instructions from higher bodies in carrying out the campaign and work of the party. It affirms itself to the rest of the territorial branch, reports regularly to that branch, receives orders and instructions from the branch. This has another effect, it stimulates the interest of the territorial branch in the problem of building more shop units. It makes the branch a live and driving force in the labor movement. Especially in the shop nuclei, this advantage over the branch; it is an end in itself, it is the nucleus, instead of putting nights into seven branch meetings, the members have more time for party work, they confine most of their activities directly on the job where they come in contact not only with a few workers, but thousands whose conditions and psychology they understand.

In the territory of the shop where the first nucleus is formed, when one or more nuclei are created, the nuclei come together as a nucleus branch; that is, about twenty nuclei consolidate themselves into a larger form of organization, the nucleus branch which is a higher unit than the party than the nucleus itself. Comrades who are not in large industry, for instance, building trades workers, small office workers, who live in the territory of the nucleus branch, shall belong to the nucleus branch. The branch composed of nuclei does not usually comprise only members working in the same industry.

The new form of nucleus organization means that we have our roots buried among the masses of the workers and have a continuous, strongly-linked chain to the highest unit of the party. It does not require a very vivid imagination to see what this would mean to us as a Communist organization. We could rapidly mobilize our units for any branch of the party, and could better meet the immediate needs of the masses. The nucleus party, for the most part, becomes a mass organization, it becomes a mass organization, it becomes a mass organization.

No Harsh to Federations. To those comrades who have raised the burdock in their minds that to start the formation of nuclei will hamper the federations and weaken the branches, the writer would like to point out that the opposite would be fact. In no case will we find any branch which is not made up of two or more workers who work in the same shop. In most cases, not even

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The Ku Klux Klan and the Miners - By J. W. JOHNSTONE

IN the mining industry the Ku Klux Klan is becoming a menace. It is a force that is being organized in the very near future. It is a force that is being organized in the very near future. It is a force that is being organized in the very near future.

The resistance against the Klan in these towns is led by miners, in spite of the passive attitude of their official. Senator Sneed, who is also an official of the miners' union in the Herrin sub-district, should be leading the fight in that town, but he is afraid of his political job. Frank Farrington and John H. Walker should be leading a state fight against this gang of hoodlums, but it is not considered good politics to take this fight up. The fact that the three of them are miners, and it is the members of their organization, that none of the committees reported on any question to the convention, without first consulting with Lewis.

The Klan is Not Molested. This is what has happened in the Klan a dangerous force in the mining industry, and explains why no real organized effort has been made by the miners' officials to combat the Klan. The Klan has been invaded by the Klan, and a veritable ring of terror is being created against the foreign born element in many states, reaching a high water mark in the mining areas in southern Illinois. The Klan and even the mildest of progressives are hounded by the Klan. Farrington machine, are boycotted in the mine, expelled from the union, because they want to make the United Mine Workers of America great militarily, and the Klan bills that are now pending before its work of terrorism and disintegration.

The domination of the Klan in Herrin, Johnson City, West Frankfort and other mining towns is a standing challenge to organized labor of the area, as yet less than accepted. It is an open insult to the miners of Illinois whose members are made of force and fear. The Klan is allowed unopposed license to do as they please, and it is difficult to tell just who composed its members, but the morose and unyielding attitude of the Klan is very easily exposed to the light of day. If an energetic public campaign were carried on against them, led by the miners' officials and the cause against the Klan be stricken from the constitution, the open support given to the Klan or Heiler, of Indiana, the fact that Lewis seemed willing to let it go over, forced many of the delegates to leave the convention firmly in the belief that the Lewis machine was either dead or dying of the influence of the Klan, or were actually members of it. This recommendation coming from the resolutions committee was made without consulting with Lewis' approval. It was his own hand picked committee, and every delegate knew that none of the committees reported on any question to the convention, without first consulting with Lewis.

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The young Alexis was placed in the Gymnasium (a school with a course of study equivalent to high school and two years of college) by his oldest sister, a teacher, who maintained him up to his sixteenth year. After that he was forced to earn his own livelihood and take care of his tuition fees.

Rikov's first contact with the revolutionary movement came during the attendance of the gymnasium, when he joined the secret study circles and participated in the issuance of an illegal journal. It was during this period that Rikov got acquainted with the works of Karl Marx and other studies of the socialist and labor movement of Western Europe. Suspicious of meetings in revolutionary circles, he was prohibited from entering the universities of the capital (Leningrad and Moscow).

Upon graduation from the gymnasium in 1900, Rikov entered the university of Kazan (now the capital of the Tatar Soviet Republic) and he immediately became active in the workers' organizations and was chosen to membership on the leading revolutionary committees. The underground Socialist-Revolutionary organization of Kazan, in which Rikov played an important role during his short stay there, was liquidated by the secret police in 1901 thru wholesale arrests of the party members.

After nine months of solitary confinement, Rikov was sent to Saratov, Moscow, where he was obliged to return to his own home town, Rikov engaged again in active revolutionary work among the railroad and metal workers. He organized the May Day Demonstration of 1902 and

regulation of their political and economic advancement. The effect of this attack upon the foreign born, instead of making dilatory laws, is no less forecast as shown in the election of delegates to the miners' state convention in Illinois. The issues were clear, the miners were either for the Lewis-Farrington machine, or for the Lewis-Farrington machine, and the progressive miners do not see any particular difference between the two. In one local union where two progressive candidates were badly defeated, and where the majority of the delegates elected were foreign born, the Lewis-Farrington machine, stating "that interpreters were wanted to go to the state convention," etc. A notice like this, appearing for the first time would have meant but little, but in the tense atmosphere of these southern Illinois towns, where everybody goes armed after dark, it took on a more significant aspect.

Trade Unions Oppose Knights. In those towns where the union is 100 per cent organized, the fiery cross of the Klan burns day and night in the hearts of the workers, a half dozen men are known publicly to be members of the Klan. The terrifying strength of the Klan upon the population is its secrecy and its ruthlessness. It is a force that is being organized in the very near future. It is a force that is being organized in the very near future. It is a force that is being organized in the very near future.

How could the Ku Klux Klan in cities like Herrin, Johnson City and West Frankfort, etc., create a reign of terrorism, raid the homes of miners, beat and burn the bodies of several hundreds of men and women, herd them into special cars at the point of machine gun, if they did not have at least the passive consent of union officials.

Lenin's Successor--A. I. Rikoff, Soviet Russia's New Premier

ALEXIS IVANOVICH RIKOV was born March 11, 1891, in the town of the Moscow district and was a member of the Russian Bureau of the Central Committee, to that of the C. G. whose members resided in the town of Rikoff visited the emigrant revolutionary centers--Paris, London, Geneva--only when important matters concerning the revolutionary movement were being dealt with by the leading party elements, compelled to live outside of Russia.

Retraced by Agent-Prosecutor. Rikov was arrested soon after the third London Congress at a secret meeting of the Leningrad Committee. Freed by the revolution of that year, Rikov was elected a delegate to the first Soviet Workers' Congress, where he served until that body was disbanded by the authorities. On May 1, 1907, Rikov is again arrested and after June 28, 1908 lives in the house of surveillance by the Minister of the Interior. Having been later sent out of Russia, Rikov returns to the province of Archangel on Feb. 1, 1910 in again arrested and sent to the province of Archangel for three years. He soon escapes from there and joins the Central Committee of the party at Paris. In the summer of 1910 Rikov returns to Russia and again to organize the work for the coming national congress of the party. He is turned over to the secret police by the agent-prosecutor Krasinski soon after his arrival. In August, 1911 Rikov falls into the hands of the authorities in Moscow and after serving nine months in the prison of the Archangel region where he remains till February, 1912.

When Russia was living thru her most critical year--counter-revolution and blockade--Rikov was charged with the provisioning of the Red Army and the re-establishing of Russian industry. With the illness of Lenin in 1923, when he was replaced by Stalin, Rikov was made assistant chairman of the Council of Ministers and that of the Council of Labor and Defense at the suggestion of Lenin in December, 1920. Rikov serves as a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

In October, 1913, Rikov is expelled by order of the Minister of the Interior for leading a strike in the far away region of Narin in Siberia, but he escapes from there Sept. 20, 1914 to live under police surveillance in Moscow. He is arrested in Moscow a month and sent back to his place of exile. Although he was arrested seven and one-half years in solitary confinement in prison and several years of his life were spent in the hands of the secret police, Rikov is not

Lenin's Successor



ALEXIS I. RYKOFF
ALEXIS IVANOVICH RIKOV.

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After nine months of solitary confinement, Rikov was sent to Saratov, Moscow, where he was obliged to return to his own home town, Rikov engaged again in active revolutionary work among the railroad and metal workers. He organized the May Day Demonstration of 1902 and

The Farmer-Laborites at Crossroads

By JAY LOVESTONE

NOT since the country was torn by the class conflicts over the question of chattel slavery over the Atlantic problem, have the rights versus national centralist government supremacy, the class struggle confronted with a political situation so fraught with the likelihood of so many fundamentalisms.

The two-party system, supposedly based on the grandest of principles, Americanism, is in a far more serious danger of being thrown overboard than ever before. The losses among the various layers of the employing class have not been as great as at any time in the last three years.

Class Farmer-Labor Party.
The chances for the organization of a national farmer-labor party along class lines; the probability of the launching of a third progressive party supported by the small business elements, the large numbers of the poor farmers, the aristocratic, skilled, upper crust of the working class and even a large number of the lower strata of the working and farming masses; all these factors are still vague, unclear, the steadily increasing; the serious deep-rooted dissatisfaction with the present political system in the government and all its subdivisions and ramifications; the loss of the present national ruling class in its recent national railway, steel and textile strikes; the shocking revelations of the Teapot Dome explosion—these are only some of the outstanding manifestations of the storm that is now hovering over the political horizon in this country.

Add to this veritable magazine the unstable economic and political conditions prevailing in Europe and the multiplying signs of a revival of dangerous colonial wars and revolts against the world capitalist imperialists in Korea, in Japan, in Mexico, in the Philippines, and elsewhere. It is clear that the American working masses are on the threshold of a period of critical and revolutionary change.

Some may ask: Why draw Europe, the Far East, and Latin America into a consideration of our national political problems? The answer to this fact reply to this question is that the class conflicts and the various economic and political situations along the limits of the respective national frontiers and between the immediate local conditions at hand, yet the class struggle everywhere is fundamentally one and the same international. Our national economic and political conditions are inextricably intertwined with the prevailing economic and political situations in the other countries of the world.

The Economic Situation.
In order to comprehend the serious differentiation that has set in the Republican and Democratic parties, the rise of the Progressives and in consequence the spread of the Farmer-Labor movement, the problems confronting these groups and the tactics employed by them, it is necessary to consider first the economic situation of the country and the various problems which the impending political battles arise and which they are bound to be fought out.

For some time there has been a general feeling of depression all over the country that we are now enjoying the blessings of prosperity. But beneath the surface of these hollow boasts one can detect a strong undercurrent of lack of confidence on the part of our financiers and industrialists in the economic situation today. Financial observers will tell you that the country is in a "state of panic" in the language of their technicians. "The atmosphere of business is the strong spirit of caution." Buying today is on a hand to hand basis, a "small cash sale." Short time orders are in vogue. Breadstuffs in one of the most important commodities is being hoarded. The "staple" commodity that "something like a blackwater appearance is being presented." Neither trade nor industry appears equal to a year ago at this time.

Just now the car loading figures are impressively high. But so potent an authority as the New York Times Annals, declares that so much "unconformity" is impressive. There is a highly good reason for this feeling. The figures for car loadings are so much higher than the index of production that it is due to the careful observing by the freight-loadings reflect a self-clear-

ing process rather than the approach of a revival of industry. We have today a much bigger freight traffic than we have had in any year in the last year. Such a condition cannot properly be counted as a sign of improving economic prosperity.

Steel Production Waning.
Even the production of steel which is set out as the bright spot of the present situation, is beginning to wane. The steel industry of the last few months has seen a sharp decline from the steady fall in the summer and early winter months, largely because of the railway, construction and Japanese orders. Now steel is waning again. It is showing a positive trend of decline. The Iron Age finds that the orders for May and June delivery are far below the normal volume at this time of the year.

Some manufacturers of steel are thinking of lowering the price of steel in order to stimulate buying, because the advance orders are petering out.

The January figures of the Federal Reserve Board, it is true, do show an increase over the December production. But this must not be taken as the herald of prosperity. The trend of economic development can be judged with adequate accuracy only by basing conclusions on conditions prevailing over a long representative period and not over a brief period of a month. This is essential in order to allow for fluctuations in the economic development. Thus, the Annalist sums up the situation by saying that "taken as a whole, production is not extremely active, but the general tone of business according to this report, the field conditions to be heavily flooded with mechanized in nearly every trade."

And the latest findings of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor on the employment in selected industries in the United States show a decrease of 1.5 per cent in December over the previous month and of 1.1 per cent in the total payroll and of 0.2 per cent in the average weekly earnings. One phase of our present economic conditions cannot be overestimated.

The Rebel Miner
The writer refers to the economic crisis amongst the agricultural masses of the country. The writer would not avoid a crash while his economic structure was divided against him. The shadows of coming disaster fall across the path of Melvin A. Traylor, president of the Farmers and Savings Bank, of the warnings and bad omens. Overexpansion of business is one of his reasons. The building industry and railroad development are evidence of it. The railways have been buying equipment and the tonnage of a million cars a week have been incentive to the purchase and increasing money on the assumption that the tonnage will be further increased may lead to trouble and perhaps disaster.

This situation was well expressed to the writer the other day by Basil Manly, the noted economist, when he said: "The country cannot avoid an economic depression of the most serious proportions, as long as agriculture continues in its present state of bankruptcy." A wave of acute economic depression is sweeping East to the manufacturing centers. It will hit the industrial regions sooner than most people think it will. A strikingly similar view is taken by the conservative editor of the Annalist in his last weekly review of the country. He says: "The country is in a steady decline in average weekly earnings and the total payroll since August, 1928. The total of employment has been falling continuously since October, 1928."

The first half of February the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry has found "that the common labor market in the majority of the cities remains glutted, in the Philadelphia building trades, according to this report, the field conditions to be heavily flooded with mechanized in nearly every trade."

And the latest findings of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor on the employment in selected industries in the United States show a decrease of 1.5 per cent in December over the previous month and of 1.1 per cent in the total payroll and of 0.2 per cent in the average weekly earnings. One phase of our present economic conditions cannot be overestimated.

Depression to Continue.
The writer is not optimistic about a quick return to agricultural prosperity. The depression is likely to continue for many years; the inference is 10 or 15 years. If this analysis is in fact true it means that formation of a strong third or farmer-labor party is practically inevitable. He enumerates the economic conditions that must prevail before a renewal of good times can be hoped for, he offers no way out for the millions of men now in distress. His analysis, however, is solid proof that the farm planks of the Workers Party and the Federated Farmer-Labor Party, namely the land to the tiller and a 5-year moratorium on mortgages, are exactly suited to the needs and desires of the 4 million poor and mortgaged farmers to meet the country. It would seem, however, that the added demand for increase or suspension of tax payments for this group of farmers would strengthen our program.

The article includes a valuable array of statistics. W. K.

THE CANADIAN FARMER - - By P. ANTONIUK

SEVENTY-ONE cents a bushel for wheat has driven the Canadian farmer into the country against the existing capitalist system.

Being foreclosed by banks and loan companies, single power engaged in a desperate struggle to save their farms from the ravages of Western Canada are engaged in a desperate struggle to save their farms from the ravages of Western Canada are engaged in a desperate struggle to save their farms from the ravages of Western Canada.

The well-to-do farmers, organized in the United Farmers of Manitoba and Ontario the themselves greatly reduced in means, can still well afford to play petty politics, engage in sham battles against the Winnipeg grain exchange and wear out the floors of the lobby of the Dominion parliament in Ottawa.

Not so with the poor farmers, who as a rule are last to gain advantages and the first to lose them. In Saskatchewan (a province fairly representative of the plight of the poorer farmers) in the northeastern part of that province, practically 50 per cent of the farmers are facing ruin. In that section of the country every little town is fairly thick with notices of auction sales due to foreclosure.

Crisis in Canadian Agriculture.
The crisis in Canadian agriculture has lowered the material welfare of the farmer. The farmer has begun to kick and as a result his social-outcast status is being recognized.

"The Canadian farmer is no longer a baby capitalist," says the secretary of the Farmers' Union of Canada in addressing a meeting of farmers.

The Farmers' Union of Canada was organized in December, 1914. It has 178 local members in ten provinces of Saskatchewan and Manitoba. The formation of the Farmers' Union of Canada was a result of secession from the well-to-do United Farmers of Canada and the formation of six separate farmer unions in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. The Farmers' Union of Canada explicitly recognizes the class struggle as seen from the following quotations from their preamble:

"Modern industrial society is divided into two classes—those who possess and do not produce and those who produce, and although the main division all other classifications fade into insignificance. Between these two classes a continuous struggle takes place."

The activities of the Farmers' Union of Canada far from those of a political party, which it is not to have manifested the spirit of class consciousness and class solidarity.

Farmers Supremacy.

When in Spynie, Nova Scotia, the British Steel Sheet Company used government troops to crush the striking steel workers—the Farmers' Union of Canada along with the advanced workers of Canada raised its voice in protest. But the keynote of the Farmers' Union of Canada trend of mind was struck by one of its leaders in Sturgis, Saskatchewan. The resolution passed by that local unit was that the unemployment in the cities is also due to the policy of the Canadian government which in order to lower the standard of living, has imported a large number of workers from the cities.

Every year sees like a double decade. Even that means twenty.

There's scarcely a thing he can call his own.

Except his labor power.

But with each day he sells to the world his blood ebbs lower.

Yet when he asks for the things that are his by right, the power of might.

It is then he resolves to better his lot and escape the bitter oppression.

Only those who gave him the light.

Each battle he enters with increased vigor.

Emerging always with gains, the struggle against there's nothing to lose.

But misery plus the chains.

(Submitted by one of the Progressive Group.)

immediately relieve the misery of the farmers. There are plans for the formation of a wheat pool for the cancellation of interest on all debts, and the funding of the farmers' debts along the lines of the funding of the debt of the Canadian Pacific Railway by the Canadian government.

Solidarity With City Tailors.
The Farmers' Union of Canada is no far shaming the folk of the political action. But from its action so far—the Farmers' Union of Canada will

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