

FROM
Behind
THE
BARS
*by the jailed
Communist Candidates*

Who Bears the Burden of the Crisis?

By WILLIAM Z. FOSTER.

Communist Candidate for Governor of New York State.

LET me say at the outset I shall do whatever I can in spite of my present position, to be worthy of the confidence reposed on me by the Party by nominating me to head its New York state ticket in the fall elections.

The worsening economic situation in the U. S. rapidly radicalizing vast millions of workers in spite of growing boss terror, the capitalist class can't succeed in crushing militant fighting spirit of the American workers. The jailing of militant workers can't halt the determination of the masses to resist the bosses' wage cuts, increasing speed up and exploitation.

On the contrary, the coming elections offer a splendid opportunity to organize the masses of discontented workers, to awaken their class consciousness, to unite them under the leadership of the Communist Party for struggle against capitalism. For the first time our Party must enter the present election campaign with the utmost vigor.

American and world capitalism today, is in a deep crisis which capitalism can't solve. Over 7,000,000 workers are now unemployed and the number is increasing. Millions of men, women and children are forced to starve. New York State has its full share of these—over one million. The lies of Hoover and his agents can't conceal this crisis. With the approach of next fall and the shutting down of outside work undoubtedly industry will drop into a far deeper sag than that of last winter.

The bosses are putting the burden of the crisis on the workers. Unemployed are led to starve, speed up is increasing, wages are slashed. The tax burden is more and more shifted by direct and indirect means upon the backs of the workers and poor farmers. To break the resistance and militancy of the workers, to destroy their spirit of struggle for better conditions, the bosses are resorting more and more to fascist means of terror and suppression. A wide campaign of terror and lynching was initiated by the bosses against the Negro workers. To the demands of the millions of unemployed fighting under the leadership of the Communist Party and the revolutionary trade unions for work or wages and social insurance, the bosses have answered with an "investigation" of the Communist activities in the United States. This is only a part of the general campaign of the bosses to defeat the workers by crushing the revolutionary leader of the working class, the Trade Union Unity League and particularly the Communist Party.

(From Foster's Acceptance Speech delivered at New York County Penitentiary, Hart's Island, N. Y.)