

WORKING WOMEN RALLY TO MAY FIRST STRIKES, DEMONSTRATIONS!

By ANNA DAMON.

May Day, 1930, finds capitalism in the United States and the world over in a very serious crisis. It is no longer able to provide a living for the workers.

In the United States there are over 7,000,000 unemployed workers, of which 2,000,000 are women, walking the streets daily in search for work and unable to find it. With their dependents, these jobless millions make a total of at least 20,000,000 starving workers, thrown out of their homes into the streets, dependent on charity, crumbs thrown to them by the ruling class to keep them alive. This so-called country of "prosperity" has not even got the meagre government unemployment insurance that other capitalist countries like England and Germany have. The American working class, especially the Negro workers, among whom the percentage of unemployed is almost double that among the white workers, is today facing misery and starvation imposed upon them by the capitalist boss class.

The capitalists are attempting to solve the economic crisis at the expense of the working class. The conditions and standard of living of the American workers are becoming worse daily. Wages are being cut, hours being increased; the vicious stretch-out, speed-up system is being used to the breaking point.

In the United States we find the largest number of industrial women workers in the world. Over 2,000,000 are married women

with families to support, slaving for the starvation wages of \$8 to \$12 a week and in constant fear of losing their jobs.

Latin-American and Negro women receive even lower wages than the white women and work under conditions of slavery.

Older Women Thrown Out.

While thousands of older women, 30 to 35 years of age, are thrown out of their jobs as useless to production, being unable to keep up with the inhuman speed-up, young girls from 14 years of age are taking their places at the machines for even lower wages.

Capitalist rationalization is shaking the very foundation of the past habits and traditions of the workers. Machinery is rapidly doing away with skilled and semi-skilled workers. The factories are being filled with unskilled women and young workers who work for half and less the wages paid to the skilled men workers. We see the Ford and other auto factories, the steel mills, firing skilled workers and replacing them with the cheap labor of women. Of the total number gainfully employed women workers, according to the United States census, 92 per cent are unskilled and semi-skilled; 3 per cent are laborers and only 4 per cent are skilled. Thus, as unskilled workers, they are the cheapest labor source and do not receive even the low wage of the men workers.

Many Are Sole Breadwinners.

In many families the women are now the sole breadwinners, forced into the factories by the

Women Workers Defend U.S.S.R.!



capitalist system to slave for starvation wages to keep them alive. The low wages of women workers effect the position of the entire family

and lower the standard of living of the working class.

The change of composition of the labor power

in production has still another angle. While in the past women's wages, especially married women's, have been considered more or less as a supplementary income to the husbands' low earnings in order to help cover the family expenses, today women's wages frequently become the main income and the husbands' part-time earnings and such benefits as he derives from private and fraternal organizations become the supplementary income.

Therefore, on this May Day, as never before, the fight for work or wages, the seven-hour day and equal pay for equal work becomes of great significance, not only to the women workers, but to the entire working class. It is the fighting demands of the Communist Party and the Trade Union Unity League against capitalist exploitation.

Women in Soviet Union.

While conditions in capitalist U. S. are steadily getting worse, in the Soviet Union, where the workers rule, the conditions of the working class, and especially the working women, are steadily improving. The Soviet women have a 7-hour day and 4-day week. They have all the political, social and economic rights of the men workers. Equal pay for equal work is a living reality. Women workers are given two months' leave before and after childbirth; full-pay nurseries are established in all factories; work in dangerous industries and night work for women have been abolished. The Five Year Plan will improve even to a greater

extent the conditions of the workers in the Soviet Union.

Because of the success of the Five Year Plan, and the building of Socialism in the Soviet Union, which is shaking the very foundation of capitalism and which is cementing the forces of the entire working class, the imperialist powers are actively preparing for a war against the Soviet Union. The London naval conference has laid plans for the capitalist attack against the Soviet Union. The United States is leading the attack. The American workers will on May Day, through the mass political strike, show their increasing solidarity with the workers of the Soviet Union.

Working women, Negro and white! Answer the increased exploitation of the workers, the brutal attacks by the bosses against the revolutionary organizations of the workers, the Communist Party and the Trade Union Unity League by increased mass struggle. Stand shoulder to shoulder in the fight with your fellowworkers, come out into the streets even in greater numbers than on March 6.

Don't be submissive any longer. Mobilize for struggle. Answer the call of the Communist Party. Join the mass political strike! Down tools. Demonstrate with the fellowworkers from your shop. Out of the factories. Out into the streets! Fight for work or wages! For the 7-hour day, 5-day week! Equal pay for equal work! Against imperialist war! In defense of the Soviet Union! For a Workers' and Farmers' Government in the United States!