

Communists And Election

By Tom Johnson

We are approaching the elections this year at a time when unemployment, already over the 7 million mark, is rapidly increasing, at a time when the employing class has launched a vicious attack against the standards and conditions of workers all along the line.

Twenty-one Negro workers have met death at the hands of boss-led mobs the first six months of the year. The bloody clubbing of workers and mass arrests have accompanied every demonstration of the working class against intolerable conditions. In Atlanta the Southern boss men, with the aid of their henchmen in the leadership of the American Federation of Labor, are engaged in an attempt to fry six Communist organizers in the electric chair. The leaders of the March 6th demonstration of the New York unemployed are still in jail. In California nine farm workers and organizers of the Agricultural Workers' Industrial League have just been sentenced to 42 years in prison.

This year has already seen a tremendous sharpening of the danger of war. The American boss class is preparing for an attempt to solve the industrial crisis by means of a war for new markets and a new re-division of the world. At the same time the general attack of the capitalistic world against the first Workers' State, against the Soviet Union, is rapidly maturing. In this attack the United States takes an increasingly leading part. The capitalist class is again preparing to plunge the whole world into a new slaughter.

The boss-controlled Democratic and Republican parties have already held their Jim-Crow primaries. These primaries, which are responsible for the campaign of terror now unleashed against the workers, whose govern-

ment has answered the demands of the unemployed for unemployment insurance with the clubs of their police, now have the monumental guts to come before the workers and ask them for their votes in the coming elections.

Against these two big parties of capitalism, and their little brother, the Socialist party, the Communist Party stands forth as the class party of the workers. The Communist Party represents and fights for the interests of the working class and the poor farmers alone.

The Communist Party calls for the immediate enactment of its Bill for Social Insurance, which would appropriate the billions spent in war preparations for Unemployment Insurance. It stands for the 7-hour day, and 5-day week as a measure of fighting unemployment. It organizes the white and colored workers in fighting unions which will be able to lead them into the struggle.

At the same time the Communist Party raises in the elections the vital issue of state power—the issue of who shall rule. Today the government of the United States and all state and local governments are class government. They are governments of our enemy class, the capitalist class. As long as the capitalist class continues its rule the problems of unemployment, of oppression of the workers, of imperialistic wars in which millions of workers are killed like flies, cannot be finally and completely solved in the interest of the working class. This can only take place when the working class, under the leadership of the Communist Party, has smashed the rule of our enemy, the capitalist class and has set up in its place our own class rule, thru a Workers' and Farmers' Government in the United States.