"Reference Library" for those accessing our digital archive of The Communist International

Books and Pamphlets advertised in / recommended by The Communist International numbers

 For the period of 1919 - 1928

While scanning the issues of Communist International 1919 - 1928 to create the digital archive we offer here on Marxists.org, I kept running into (often but not exclusively on the inside front and back covers of issues) advertisements for recommended reading. Some of the items were classics of Marxist / revolutionary literature, familiar to many and widely available both in print and digitally. But many were works I was not familiar with. Attempting to access them on line, I found some were not present at all. Others were hard to find, and/or presented behind a paywall or "offered" one page at a time for works of a hundred or more pages by libraries who appeared to deliberately thwart people obtaining digital copies of the material.

At some point it came to me that it would be of value to present here on Marxists.org as complete a collection of this material as I could, in one place, for the convenience of those using the digital archive of The Communist International. I further decided that I wanted, where at all possible, to provide digital images of the particular specific printing (by the press of the Communist Party of Great Britain) done at the same time the issues of CI in question were printed. That is, the actual physical publications that were advertised.

Some items are in this collection because I bought them from rare book dealers overseas, disassembled them, and scanned them. Some were obtained from the Internet, from Hathitrust (scanned by Google), and others from assorted other sites. In some cases I spent hours cleaning up flawed Google (or other) scans, to provide a better digital copy.

There are a very few items included in this collection that were not advertised The Communist International in the 1919 - 1928 period. These include one trenchant criticism of The Communist International written by Trotsky in 1928, and a book published by the US State Department of translations of stories in the Soviet newspapers about the 2nd congress of the Communist International. In the case of John Reed's "Ten Days that Shook the World", I was unable to economically obtain the first printing of it in Great Britain (which is the particular version advertised in CI), so I include here a scan by Google of a first edition of "Ten Days", first printing, of the earlier (truly originally first) printing of this book, produced in the USA. I've fixed flaws in that scan, and substituted for the digital images of the 20 or so photos in that edition ultra high quality scans from photos in my personal first edition of "Ten Days".

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---marty

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