

Revolution Spreads Throughout China

(Ed. Note: This is the fourth installment of the report of Sou Chao-jen, chairman of the All-China Federation of Labor, on conditions in China. The report was delivered at the second meeting of the Pan-Pacific Secretariat in Shanghai, February 4, 1928. The DAILY WORKER will publish the report in full because it is an excellent survey of conditions prevailing in China.)

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By SOU CHAO-JEN.

The workers' struggle in China today cannot be confined to purely economic fights; the workers are compelled to rise in armed force to overthrow the militarists and establish their own power.

In Shanghai last March, the trade unions participated in and led three insurrections to assist the Nationalist government; now the Kuomintang is dominated by the new militarists and the same struggle is necessary against them. After the collapse of the Wuhan government in July-August, the workers in Kiukiang joined with 20,000 troops who revolted

against the counter-revolution, in an insurrection.

Recently, in December, the workers of Canton together with the peasants and a regiment of troops participated in a rising which held power for three days; this was the result of a long preparation of struggle ever since the coup d'etat of April 15; on April 23 was a general strike; then a campaign against the cancellation of the trade union agreements; on June 23, anniversary of the Shakee massacre, the workers demonstrated under the slogan "Down with Chiang Kai-shek"; on October 14, the seamen's one-day strike was joined by the whole labor movement, and a mass meeting was held, after which more than 10,000 workers paraded under red flags to the Seamen's Union Hall, in possession of the reactionaries, which was taken over again at the cost of the lives of four reactionary "Reorganizing Committee" members; all the unions followed this example, driving out the "Reorganizing Committee," demanding the release of their leaders from prison, etc.; this long line of struggles led straight to the uprising in December.

Peasants Rising.

The peasants are rising everywhere throughout China. The movement is especially strong in Kwangtung; peasant Soviets' rule in Nai-feng, Lu-feng, Hainan Island and several districts in north Kwangtung. Risings are spreading in Hunan and Hupeh; in some districts still being in power although not yet so strongly as in Kwangtung. In one Hupeh district a hundred thousand peasants rose but afterwards were crushed by the military. In western Kiangsi, the peasants rule several districts around Ping-hsiang. Even in Kiangsu risings have taken place in a number of districts. Not only the peasant movements in central and southern China, which are under our influence but also in the north and in the most remote places, have been rising; the recent Big Swords movement in Manchuria is an example.

The workers cannot tolerate present conditions. The peasants are in the same position. The struggle goes on always. The masses are now following the way shown by the Canton workers on December 11, the seizure of power by the workers and peasants.