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# The Workers Party and May Day.

by C.E. Ruthenberg

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May Day, the day which inspires fear in the hearts of the capitalists and hope in the workers — the workers the world over — will find the communist movement this year stronger in the United States than at any time in its history.

Three years ago the communists of the United States were driven underground, their organization destroyed. They were outcasts, despised and ignored.

May Day of 1923 will find all this changed. The communist movement, which Palmer and the various state governments which participated in the 1920 persecution thought they had destroyed, is again carrying out its work in the open. Through the Workers' Party it is publicly advocating the principles of communism and winning the support of the workers for these principles.

The communists organized in the Workers' Party are no longer the outcasts of the labor movement. Through their work in the everyday struggles of the workers, through their programs of action and leadership they have won the confidence and support of an ever-widening circle of sympathizers.

Today the communist movement is on the road to becoming that powerful influence in the labor movement of this country which will influ-

ence the millions of workers and give them leadership and direction in the struggle against capitalism.

The inner changes which have taken place in the party have been a vital factor in achieving this result. The communist movement in this country is no longer satisfied with dogmatic reiteration of fundamental communist principles. It holds fast to this principle: it will never compromise on the question of publicly advocating these principles. But it has learned to apply them. It has learned to make its beginning with the present mental attitude of the workers of the United States. It has learned to realistically study the workers of this country and the facts of their life and to base its policy and tactics, its methods of teaching the American workers that their road to freedom from exploitation and oppression lies through communism, on the conditions as they exist in the United States.

Every worker who is a communist can celebrate May Day this year secure in the confidence that the movement he supports has made great strides forward, that the road is clear for greater achievements, that in the United States as elsewhere in the world the future belongs to communism.

*Edited by Mitch Abidor.*

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