The Congress of the Egyptian CP.

Cairo. February.

The ex-socialist party, which had already applied for admission to the Communist International, unanonymously accepted the 21 conditions at its recently held congress, and definitely joined the Communist International. By this step, the Egyptian proletariat has constituted its revolutionary class party and the Egyptian people is confronted with some of the most important tasks of its history. It has not only to fight for its national independence, but also to emancipate itself from the yoke of European and native imperialism. The Egyptian government took advantage of the martial law proclaimed in our country, and hand in hand with the English military authorities declared our party to be outlawed; it attempted to prevent the constitution of our party as a legal party and to deprive our people of our legal existence and the publication of our own legal newspaper.

All in vain! The government had even prohibited the congress. But the Egyptian comrades held it despite the prohibitions of the government and the threats of the Anglo-Egyptian police.

The congress was held secretly out in the country, in Upper Egypt, in the open air, beneath the sun and sky, while the "Fellahs" were toiling all around in the fields. The congress thus received so to speak, a symbolic consecration. In the brightest sunshine the Comintern, who had gathered together inaugurated the party, the party whose task is to restore freedom to the millions of Egyptian peasants oppressed by feudal serfdom.

Representatives from various sections were present. Several Europeans, Greeks, Italians, and Russians, mingled with the natives.

After comrades' opening speech, the party secretary read and explained the 21 points.

Comrades Arié, representatives of the Communist International, then rose to speak.

The representative of the Comintern.

Comrade Arié greeted the congress on behalf of the Comintern, and in the name of the Italian CP.

He then proceeded to point out that by the acceptance of the 21 conditions, and by the alteration of the name, the congress definitively made the Egyptian party into a section of the Communist International.

He showed the importance of the Egyptian CP. in the International. The International will grant its utmost moral and material support to the Egyptian CP. In order to be able to enter the International, the party has freed itself from all the conditions of the old CP. and is an International CP.

The party has now to gather together all the revolutionists scattered over the Nile valley, to organize them, and transform them into good and disciplined communists.

The Party is young. As yet it is unknown to the masses. It is therefore necessary that the Comintern claim a share in Egyptian political life and that it makes its power and initiative felt in directing the course of events. The Party must draw the attention of the "Fellahs", and of the hand and brain workers, to its activity.

How will the Egyptian CP. realize the slogan: "Go to the masses"?

1. by trade union activity;

2. by a suitable agrarian program, taking into account the requirements of the peasants, so that the millions of "Fellahs", who form the main labor and revolutionary force of Egypt, may be gathered beneath the flag of the Egyptian CP.;

3. by intensive propaganda, among the masses, for a program demanding absolute national independence from foreign domination. The Egyptian CP. will issue the slogan of the revolutionary united front against English imperialism, and this slogan will enable the Party to gather together every national force for the struggle.

Comrade Arié then explained in detail the three points forming the fundamental basis for the activity of the Egyptian CP.: the trade union movement, the agrarian question, and the question of national independence.

Regarding the first three points, comrade Arié examined the phases of the Egyptian national movement, and demonstrated the "waft" to be a fundamentally capitalist and conservative party, founded by the upper strata of the Egyptian bourgeoisie. Despite all appearances, Zaguis" party will not be able to give Egypt national independence because of the common interests between Egyptian and English capitalism, and the dependence of Egyptian capitalism on English high finance, letter any actual realization of independence.

Said, which was forced further to the extreme Left by the pressure of the revolutionary masses of Egypt, is now seeking the possibility of a permanent understanding between Egypt and England. This party has always been anxious for such an understanding, and its leading men have themselves declared that they recognize England's predominant interest in Egypt.

The Egyptian CP., however, is sincerely and earnestly opposed to any compromise with English imperialism against which it is fighting. And it will not fail to reveal the truth about any deceptive or deceptive in which the "waft" attempts to force upon the people of Egypt.

Comrade Arié showed with the utmost clearness that Egypt can only be freed by a revolution, a revolution at one and the same time political, economic, and social. National independence and emancipation of the proletariat are closely bound up with one another.

Comrade Arié then gave a general survey of the European and world situations, and pointed out the tasks awaiting the peoples of the East in their struggle against capitalism.

In conclusion, he expressed his full confidence that the young CP. of Egypt, and every individual comrade, will always be found in the front ranks of the fighting Egyptian proletariat, beneath the flag of the Communist International.

After comrade Arié's speech, the congress enthusiastically accepted the 21 conditions without any opposition whatever, and resolved on altering the name of the old party.

The Party program.

Comrade O. gave the report on the Party program, and submitted this to the central committee of the congress.

A task of the Party is the emancipation of Egypt and the Soudan, and the union of these two countries, so that the two united peoples may secure for themselves the natural wealth of their country, and fight in union against their native and foreign oppressors and exploiters.

With regard to the Suez Canal, the Egyptian CP. will demand its nationalization, not because the realization of this demand would be of any immediate advantage to the working class, but because it could strike a death blow at the whole of English imperialism's plans.

One of the main activities of the Party consists of communist penetration into the trade unions.

Conciliation of public debts, abolition of captivities, introduction of compulsory education, sex equality, separation of church and state—these are the other main points of the Party program.

For freeing the agricultural proletariat, the Egyptian CP. will not only endeavor to have the communist theories realized, but will stand for the following immediate demands:

1. Annulment of the debts of the poor Fellahs;

2. Abolition of taxation of the small-holding Fellahs;

3. Expropriation of large landowners, and distribution of the land among the Fellahs; formation of communist agricultural cooperative societies;

4. Formation of banks upon a cooperative basis, for supporting the poor Fellahs.
The Provisional International Committee for Combating Fascism, 

Clara Zetkin, (Chairman).

IN THE INTERNATIONAL

The Congress of the Egyptian CP.

Cairo. February.

The ex-socialist party, which had already applied for admission to the Communist International, unanimously accepted the 21 conditions at its recently held congress, and definitely joined the Communist International. By this step, the Egyptian proletariat has constituted its revolutionary class party and the Egyptian people is confronted with some of the most important tasks of its history. For it has not only to fight for its national independence, but at the same time, to emancipate itself from the yoke of European and native imperialism. The Egyptian government took advantage of the martial law proclaimed in our country, and hand in hand with the English military authorities declared our party to be outlawed; it attempted to prevent the constitution of our party as a legal body and persecutes our legal existence and the publication of our own legal newspaper.

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The congress was held secretly out in the country, in Upper Egypt, in the open air, beneath the free sun and sky, while the "Felhahs" were toiling all around in the fields. The congress thus received so to speak, a symbolic consecration. In the brightest sunshine the Egyptian proletariat, who had gathered together inaugurated the party, the party whose task it is to restore freedom to the millions of Egyptian peasants oppressed by feudal serfdom.

Before representatives from previous sections were present. Several Europeans, Greeks, Italians, and Russians, mingled with the natives. After comrades Na opening speech, the party secretary read and explained the 21 points.

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The Party is young. As yet it is unknown to the masses. It is therefore necessary that the party claim a share in Egyptian political life and that it makes its power and initiative felt in directing the course of events. The Party must draw the attention of the "Felhahs", and of the hand and brain workers, to its activity. 

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Comrade Ariel then explained in detail the three points forming the fundamental basis for the activity of the Egyptian CP.: the trade union movement, the agrarian question, and the question of national independence.

With regard to the last three points, comrade Ariel examined the phases of the Egyptian national movement, and demonstrated the "waft" to be a fundamentally capitalist and conservative party, founded by the upper strata of the Egyptian bourgeoisie. Despite all appearance, Zagulis party will not be able to give to Egypt true political independence, because that the common interests between Egyptian and English capitalism, and the dependence of Egyptian capitalism on English high finance, let any actual realization of independence. Zagulis party, which was forced further to the extreme Left by the pressure of the revolutionary movement of Egypt, is now seeking the possibility of a permanent understanding between Egypt and England. This party has always been anxious for such an understanding, and its leading men have themselves declared that they recognize England's predominant interest in Egypt.

The Egyptian CP., however, is sincerely and earnestly opposed to any compromise with English imperialism against which it is fighting. And it will not fail to reveal the truth about any deceptive glimmering of the "waft" attempts to force upon the people of Egypt.

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3. Expropriation of large landowners, and distribution of the land among the Felhahs; formation of communist agricultural cooperative societies;  
4. Formation of banks upon a cooperative basis, for supporting the poor Felhahs.
The resolution.

The congress unanimously accepted the following: The
4. congress of the Communist Party of Egypt resolves:
1. after having accepted the 21. conditions of the 3. Inter-
national, to adopt the name of "Communist Party of
Egypt, section of the Communist International!", in place of
the old name of "Socialist Party".
2. to express the solidarity of the Egyptian CP. with Soviet
Russia in its struggle against world capitalism; and
3. to inform the brother parties of all countries regarding
the resolutions.

After this resolution had been passed, the congress closed
with the singing of the "International".

THE LABOR MOVEMENT

Proletarian Forces in the United States

By Israel Amsel

Our analysis of the political forces in the United States, we
did not lay any stress on the political power of the working
class. This is due to the fact that the American working class is
not an organized power, either economically or politically. This
do not mean that the workers do not exert any influence
what ever. On the contrary, in many sections they are a factor
to be reckoned with. But the American worker is possessed of
little class consciousness, and is preyed upon by emotions of other
nature. The Labor Movement, both politically and economically,
in America is still in the making.

The backwardness of the American working-class is most
evident in the frivolity with which an American worker casts his
vote on election day, looks for another for the next day for the
results, rejoices if "this" party has won and swears if it has lost.
And whether it has won or lost, he forgets the whole procedure
until the next election day comes round and warns him that he must
vote again.

In 1916, the American workers voted overwhelmingly for
Wilson, being assured that the good man would "keep us out of
war". He spoke so sincerely and so frankly, man to man, that the
American worker believed him. And within two or three
months, the same president was talking of war. A revolutionist
understands what caused the change. He understands that
capital could best use an "anti-imperialist" to lead the way into
the imperialist crusade! But the workers did not see—and easily
acquiesced to the subtle propaganda that filled the press at the
expense of the Allies and of the pro-Aly confederates in the
United States.

So after voting against war, the American worker went
into war. He was ready to make the "most supreme" sacrifice.
He was ready to shoot down any one who still retained a spark of
reason. Wilson was ready to lead us into war, because of his
love for his country. He was ready to work harder than ever to
aid in the reconstruction of the world. When
in 1919, the steel workers went on strike against the inhuman
conditions that they had to work under and when the railroad
workers threatened strike, President Wilson, whom the American
workers had voted for, did not hesitate to send his favorite
General Leonard Wood with United States troops to shoot
respect for capitalism into their bodies.

And when the workers, for this reason, but more parti-
cularly, after getting us into war—about which we were
widely enthusiastic—kept us in Europe, in the League of Nations—when for these
various reasons, the workers turned out Wilson and put in
Harding, they were confronted with the same problem. Harding,
who on his 20,000,000 men and women to face the truth of themselves,
declaring that he would not "look with pleasure upon any un-
employment scheme that would touch the public treasury"—at
a time when he was recommending a subsidy of $500,000,000 for
the railroad magnates. He won his election against the miners
in Mingo County, West Virginia. In 1922, he sent them against
the miners and textile workers and shopmen. But most of all he
allowed a prohibition amendment to be ratified—and the
American worker rebelled. So in 1922, the American workers
aided the American farmer, who had his name gone down the
candidates of the Republican Party, of which Harding
is the leader. And the day after election, the American worker
went back to his work, convinced that he had performed a
public duty, and satisfied that he had helped to "save" the
country.

These are but manifestations of the backwardness of the
American working-class.

The backwardness is due to the influence of two elements:
the reactionary leaders of the American Federation of Labor and
the yellow leaders of the Socialist Party.

The American Labor movement should be one of the most
militant and revolutionary in the world. The objective condi-
tions of the development of capitalism, the concentration of wealth
and the terroristic methods applied by the imperialists, clearly
of these factors should have produced a revolutionary working-
class standing side by side with European workers in
their struggle against capitalism. But on the contrary, the American
workers are isolated and purely local. The political concept of the Socialists and
the political concept of Samuel Gompers, president of the American
Federation of Labor, is that the American working man
and women is the equal of any other citizen. The American worker
must not degrade himself by forming a party of workers. In
politics, he is not a worker—he is a citizen, with rights equal
to Rockefeller's as it is so aptly expressed. Gompers' method
is to select the party, and the candidate that offers or promises
to do most for labor, and to promote his election with the aid of
the A.F. of L. But what does that mean? It means simply that
the labor movement should be one of the most militant and
revolutionary in the world. The workers have no political party,
and are not organized politically. They are the working-class, and
they have the power to act. They should not be satisfied with
the political policies that are a part of the program of the A.F. of L.,
or the Socialists, or the Social democrats. They should demand
the political changes that are necessary for the progress of
labor, and the political changes that are necessary for the
wishes of the working-class. 1920, 1921, the same report
and the same complaint—and yet in 1922 Gompers advocated the
same policy.

In 1922, when the workers were embittered against the
administration because of the political promises, and particularly by the issuing
of the Daugherty injunction—in 1922, Gompers, who is a Democrat,
selected anti-administration men, whose election was sure because
of this fact. And when the election was over, he demonstrated
the merit of the A.F. of L. "non-partisan policy" by the
election of a large number of candidates approved by the
A.F. of L. He did not state that the 3,000,000 organized in the
A.F. of L. had no influence among the unorganized workers.
He did not state that the time appeared for a separate
organization of the A.F. of L. He did not state that, as a whole, where
the farmers had their own political organization, Gompers refused
to cooperate with them.

Nor did he narrate the amusing case of the election of
the Senator from Ohio, the A.F. of L. supported Senator Pomerene;
the Railroad Brotherhood, which is an independent organization, supported
Simon Fess. The A.F. of L. praised Pomerene as the friend of labor; the Railroad
Brotherhood called Fess the worker to vote for Fess, assailing Pomerene.
Fess was elected—where the political program was based on the
elegance of the Brotherhood speakers and press. But what was the
result? Neither one can represent the workers. Neither one will be responsible to the
workers. The workers must get the political power which is the
true working-class interests.

This is the policy of the A.F. of L., and there are other
organizations, which are among the aristocrats of American labor
and therefore very conservative.

The Socialist Party has pursued an analogous policy for
about the same length of time. When the S.P. split away from
the Socialist Labor Party, in 1905, the I.W.W. was organized, slowly and surely, the labor
organization, supported Simon Fess. The A.F. of L. praised Pomerene as the friend of labor; the Railroad
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