

Special Number.

English Edition.

Unpublished Manuscripts - Please reprint.

- INTERNATIONAL - PRESS CORRESPONDENCE

Vol. 4 No. 6

28th January 1924

Editorial Offices: Langlegasse 26/12, Vienna VIII. — Central Despatching Department: Berggasse 31, Vienna IX.
— Postal Address, to which all remittances should be sent by registered mail: Postamt 64, Schliessfach 29, Vienna VIII.
— Telegraphic Address: Inprecorr, Vienna.

To the Proletarians of all Countries!

Appeal of the Communist International and of the Red International of Labour Unions.

The broad masses of the revolutionary workers of the entire world are depressed by the loss of Lenin, the most eminent Guide of the Labour Movement. But Comrades, this loss must not cause us to lose heart. We shall remember with gratitude the immortal service he has rendered to the International Labour Movement and, inspired by his shining example, we shall strive to realize his historic teachings.

Lenin will for ever remain our Guide,

just the same as Marx. It was Marx who gave us the teaching of the Emancipation of the Proletariat, while Lenin led the proletariat on the path to the victorious realization of this teaching.

Lenin created the victorious revolutionary workers' party, the Communist Party of Russia. With unshakable confidence in the revolutionary force and in the future of the working class, he proceeded to form the Party. He created it under conditions of unexampled difficulties, under persecutions and continual struggles against Tsarist despotism against deeply-rooted prejudices, against the treacherous leaders of the working class. In these long years of struggle he succeeded in developing

a Victorious Strategy:

the tactics of revolutionary Marxism, and the party organization of the Communist movement.

In the history of the international workers' movement, the emergence of Lenin opened up

a New Chapter.

From the very outset of his activity, Lenin led a heroic struggle against the spirit, thoroughly infected with Capitalism, which prevailed within the parties of the Second International. And when, at the outbreak of the imperialist war, these parties voluntarily entered the services of their robber capitalist governments, Lenin, with penetrating genius, issued the historic slogan of the proletarian world revolution:

"The Imperialist War must be converted into a Civil War!"

Armed with an unbounded revolutionary courage and equipped with an iron will to victory, in 1917 he led the Russian proletariat into the fight for the destruction of the capitalist state. Of all the leaders of the modern labour movement he was the first to perceive the historic significance of the political awakening of the peasantry and the

Necessity of the Creation of a close Fighting Alliance between the Peasantry and the Industrial Proletariat

under the predominance of the latter. He was the first to recognize in the Workers' and Peasants' Councils the most exquisite form of state for the proletarian dictatorship. He rallied the proletariat with the slogan:

"All Power to the Soviets!"

He created and consolidated the Soviet power and liberated the Russian working masses from the terrible pressure of the capitalist mercenaries encompassing Russia.

None of us will ever forget the terrible consternation aroused in every one of us by the attempt upon Lenin in 1918. Never for a moment will we forget that the betrayers of the working class desired to assassinate our beloved leader by means of a poisoned bullet.

Five years ago Lenin founded the Communist International.

At that time he pointed out to us what constitutes the task of our International: the realization of the eternal ideals of Socialism and of the Workers' Movement. And this constituted his own life's task. History has never before witnessed a greater example of profound devotion to the world ideal of the emancipatory struggle of the working masses. Nobody has contributed so much to the realization of this ideal as Lenin.

By his leadership of the Communist International he created a firm basis for the revolutionary workers' movement of all countries. This basis before all consists of the theoretical widening and of the practical carrying out of the Marxist teaching regarding the State and of the clear analysis of the essence of bourgeois democracy. His teaching on democratic centralism and his instructions for the organization of revolutionary activity, which were already conceived in a masterly manner in the year 1903, still constitutes today a most valuable instrument for our work in this sphere. An equally valuable treasure for us are the prophetic words of his last speech at the 4th World Congress and his last treatise on the prospectives of world revolution.

He attributed great importance to the knitting together of all truly revolutionary forces from various camps and tendencies of the old workers' movement under the flag of the Communist International. At one of the most important junctures he leaves us the dictum: The winning over of the masses is the

indispensable pre-condition for the conquest of power and for the setting up of a proletarian dictatorship.

Up to the last he devoted special attention to the revolutionary development of Germany, where — as we all believed — the proletarian revolution would soon raise its head.

Lenin was and remains for all time the immortal leader of the proletarian revolution.

With his clear, penetrating genius he perceived the national awakening and the

Revolutionary Rise of the Peoples of the East

who are leading the fight against the suppressing power of capitalist imperialism. He took full cognizance of the world importance of the peoples of the East and he worked unceasingly to attract them to the Communist International.

To him in the first place remains the eternal credit that the Communist International realized the slogan:

"The International unites the Human Race!"

A similar understanding was shown by Lenin in dealing with the

Communist Youth and the Women's Movement.

He saw clearly, that the uprising of the Youth and Women's Movement means the last blow against the principal foe of the proletarian revolution, against the laxity and apathy of the masses.

With gigantic steps — as Lenin foresaw — the proletarian world revolution is striding forwards.

With the thoughts of Lenin in our mind, we must assemble all our forces for the struggle against the yoke of capital. Prepare yourselves for the struggle, revolutionary proletarians of all countries! May the hate against the enemies of Communism flame and glow eternally in our hearts as does our love for Lenin.

To this struggle the Executive of the Communist International summons all its sections. We address ourselves to the millions of our comrades in arms throughout the world with the appeal: Follow the teaching of Lenin, which will live in our Party for ever.

Fight as Lenin fought and you will be victorious!

The Executive of the Communist International

President Zinoviev.

Zetkin (Germany), Kolaroff (Bulgaria), Terracini (Italy), Steward (England), Stirner (South Africa), Schueller, Unger (Communist Youth International), Bucharin, Radek (Union of Soviet Republics), Pruchniak (Poland), Amter (America), Kuusinen (Finland).

The Executive of the Red International of Labour Unions:

Lozovsky, Johnson, Hammer, Germanetto.