

Steel Workers! Join Communists in Fight to Realize Labor's Goal



More than once the steel workers have shown that they know how to fight militantly for their class interests and understand the need of class solidarity.

Your conditions in the mills, however, have continually become worse. Working for the richest corporation in the world, nothing but misery has become your lot.

While the United States Steel corporation last year made a total net profit of \$179,650,910, your wages average 44c per hour, in other words from \$21.00 to \$25.00 per week. The eight-hour day boasted of by Gary has only been partially established. Haunted by an ever-present fear of unemployment and by spies, who are paid to divide your ranks, you are driven to a terrific speed-up system of work.

Steel production has been greatly reduced, which means that many steel workers have been compelled to walk the street without any means of support for themselves and their families, many working only half time. The profits of the steel trust, however, continue to pile up.

The country is facing a great industrial depression with mass unemployment. It will particularly hit the steel industry and you must prepare to meet that crisis. You must organize and demand the right to live.

Judge Gary, Morgan, and the heads of the United States Steel corporation are the modern capitalist autocrats who rule and control the lives of millions of workers. The power and influence of these men express the system of capitalist exploitation under which we live, it dominates completely and decides the policy of the government. Garyism is the curse of the steel workers. In the last analysis Garyism and capitalism is synonymous.

The steel industry must be compelled to maintain its employes during times of enforced idleness. This can only be done thru a tax on profits placed in a fund under complete control of competent steel workers.

The eight-hour day must be established.

The standard of living of the steel workers must be raised.

The lives and limbs of the workers must be protected.

These elementary demands of the everyday struggle can only be won by strong organization, political and industrial, of the steel workers together with the entire working class. These organizations must be guided by leaders with a consciousness that the everyday struggle is a part of the class struggle, and that the interest of the employers and the workers are diametrically opposed and that it is only thru struggle that the workers are able to advance their class interest.

The demands of the steel workers have always been very moderate, yet each time they have met with ferocious assaults from every department of the government. The courts, the cossacks, soldiers, hired gunmen, have been used to crush every attempt of the steel workers to better their conditions. This should prove to the steel workers the class nature of the struggle, and the need for class action both industrially and politically by the workers.

The giant corporataion which dominates the steel industry is a principal part of the capitalists' control of the United States government. Elbert H. Gary is an ardent supporter of Calvin Coolidge and the republican party. When Wilson and the democratic party held office in the government, the great steel strike was ruthlessly suppressed. It makes no difference to the steel workers of America whether republicans or democrats hold office in the government. Robert M. LaFollette, the independent capitalist candidate for president, represents the same system of capitalism which has developed the United States Steel corporation. He is just as ardent a supporter of capitalism as Coolidge or Davis, and his talk of "busting the trusts" will have no more effect than Roosevelt's trust-busting slogan of 1908.

Coolidge, Davis and LaFollette propose nothing that will relieve the situation in the steel industry. The only permanent solution of the problem is the abolition of the present system of exploitation and the establishment of a workers' government.

Only the Workers Party proposes to organize the workers for a militant struggle to better their own conditions. We propose the steel workers organize themselves into industrial unions; that they organize in the shops to protect their interests there; and that they organize politically to establish the working class power—the workers' government.

This can only be done by the conscious revolutionary will of the workers; by the building of a mass Communist Party.

Steel workers! Join the Communists in the struggle for the realization of this program.

A vote for Coolidge, Davis or LaFollette is a vote for the system which enslaves you. A vote for the Communist candidates is a vote for the workers' government.

J. Foster

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