

COMMUNISTS CONDEMN STATE AMENDMENTS

The following is a statement of the Workers (Communist) Party of District 5 on the proposed amendments of the constitution of Pennsylvania:

A number of amendments to the constitution of the state of Pennsylvania have been submitted for a vote on November 6. These amendments are not aimed at the improvement of the conditions of the workers. The workers in this state will continue to be suppressed and exploited whether or not the state government is authorized to secure money for various appropriations, or whether the Metropolitan Plan is adopted or not.

The workers in New York and Chicago, for example, are not enjoying any better conditions than the workers of Pittsburgh or the smaller towns at present. The workers have nothing to say in government affairs in this or in any other state in this country and have no way of controlling the various appropriations and expenditures.

Some of the amendments are directly anti-labor, strike-breaking, militarist proposals, such as proposed amendment No. 4 to issue bonds to the amount of five million dollars for the purpose of erecting armories and equipping the state national guard; the proposed amendment No. 9 to authorize a loan of one million dollars "to suppress insurrections, to defend the state against war," etc., etc. Also proposed amendment No. 1-A aiming to increase the appointive power of the governor.

Party Fights Anti-Labor Laws.

The Workers (Communist) Party is absolutely opposed to all these dangerous anti-labor amendments and calls upon the workers of Pennsylvania to fight vigorously against their enactment into law. The state national guard is an instrument of the bosses to break strikes and to drive the workers into submission at the point of the bayonet whenever they dare to fight for their interests. The national guard broke the steel strike in 1919, the coal strike in 1922, it broke the strike of the Westinghouse workers. At the same time, the national guard is kept up for the purposes of war, for which the imperialists are ener-

getically preparing.

Likewise the measure against "insurrections" is an open challenge to the workers. The bosses know that the time is bound to come when the workers of this state will find themselves in such a miserable condition that they will be compelled to rise against their exploiters and oppressors. They are therefore preparing for this occasion. The governmental agents of big business are in addition in a position to declare any strike an insurrection and will use their power to crush the resistance of the workers. Even now they are using injunctions, jails and clubs against the strikers whenever they see fit.

New War Plans.

The bosses want more power, more state cossacks to club, trample and shoot down the workers any time they find it necessary. Proposal No. 9 is at the same time also part of the general mobilization of the ruling class for new bloody wars, which the workers must oppose by all means at their disposal. Any workers voting for those amendments votes for another bloody war and for approval of the strike-breaking role of the government.

The workers must organize and fight against wage cuts, for shorter work hours, for better sanitary conditions, adequate compensation in case of injury, for their rights of assembly, against injunctions, for complete emancipation from capitalist exploitation.

Support Workers Candidates.

The workers must oppose any attempt to give more power to the coal operators, steel magnates, bankers and their government agencies. We call upon the workers of this state to vote for the candidates and platform of the Workers (Communist) Party, as the only party that fights against the exploiters and for the workers.

We also call upon the workers to support the Labor Party candidates who have severed their connections with the old boss parties and who stand for the principle of the class struggle.

WORKERS (COMMUNIST) PARTY
District 5,

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