

In the meantime, capitalism presents the shocking contrast of a huge surplus of goods, of full warehouses and bursting granaries, and on the other hand thousands of destitute unemployed workers dying of starvation or committing suicide, millions existing at a starvation level, and wage-cuts, speed-up and lengthening hours of labor further undermining the purchasing power of the toiling masses.

The capitalists are desperately trying to find a way out of the crisis at the expense of the masses. A conscious policy of inflation of the currency is proceeding in every capitalist country, including the United States. But inflation serves only to sharpen the crisis by further shaping the credit structure without supplying a sound basis for setting the wheels of industry in motion. Inflation, however, means another attack against the real wages of the working class, raising the price level and thus increasing the cost of living at the same time that wages are being slashed right and left and increasing numbers thrown on the streets to starve.

The world economic crisis of capitalism is now in its third year. The capitalists are no longer able to conceal from the toiling masses the fact of the decay of the capitalist system. In a single issue, Dec. 21st, the "New York Times" was forced to present the following gloomy, but incomplete, picture of the catastrophic operation of the crisis:

"Holiday Lull Adds to Steel's Decline." "4% Drop Due This Week. Magazine Finds Holiday Decline in Steel Output Rapid." "Steel Production at 30 percent." "34 Year Low in Hogs as Live Stock Dips." "Decline in Building Shown Last Month." "London Market Depressed." "Feeling at Paris More Unfavourable." "French Export Trade Continues to Decline." "A Week of Decline in Stocks in Berlin." "Germany's Retail Trade Off 12-1/8 Percent." "London Stock Market Prices Lower." "Last Week's Scare Over Dutch Position."

No Crisis in the Soviet Union.

Here we see the capitalists themselves forced to admit the general world decay of capitalism, of increasing unemployment and mass misery throughout the capitalist world.

And what are the conditions in the Soviet Union, where the workers and peasants have freed themselves from the plight of capitalist exploitation? Again, let the capitalist press tell the story. The following is taken from the New York Times of December 25, 1931. The figures on unemployment are intentionally deceiving, but even this deliberate underestimation of the unemployed army and their dependants cannot destroy the sharp contrast between dying capitalism and the new society rising in the Soviet Union:

'WORLD'S NEEDY ARE ESTIMATED AT 100,000,000; UNITED STATES HAS MOST IDLE. RUSSIA NONE.'

"GENEVA, Dec. 24 — The world's needy are estimated this Christmas to total 100,000,000 men, women and children. The United States stands first in the list with the number of workers now out of employment at 12,000,000. Soviet Russia stands last with none."

As pointed out in previous article, the economic crisis has been further aggravated by a financial or credit crisis. This development of the crisis has already occurred in every capitalist country in the world, including the United States.

(To be continued.)

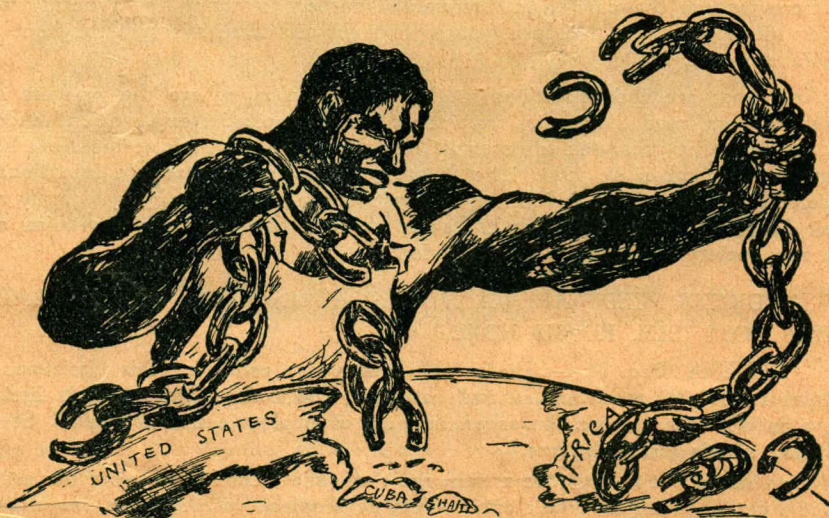
Romain Rolland Denounces Imperialism

The following appeal for defence of the Soviet Union, for unity of the working masses has been issued by Romain Rolland, the great French writer and humanitarian, in connection with the anti-war congress called by an International Committee of intellectuals, to take place in Europe on the 28th August:

In the name of besieged China—in the name of the menaced Union of Soviet Socialist Republics—in the name of the peoples of the earth—in the name of the great hopes of humanity which the awakening of the oppressed races of Asia and the heroic reconstruction of proletarian Russia arouse and sustain in us: I cry HELP! Down with the assassins! And I denounce to all the world, the ignoble lies of the governments of Europe and America, especially that of France, whose handful of adventurers in the service of the war mongers stretch out their rapacious hand over the earth and use Japanese imperialism as the executioner's axe to sever the head of the revolution. I denounce the treason of that intellectual class which formerly was the lookout at the mast of the ship to guide it through storms—which today basely purchases its peace and comfort by its silence or its servile flattery which serves the interests of the moneyed and privileged classes. And I denounce the farce of Geneva and the folly of the League of Nations.

I appeal to the sleeping conscience of the best forces of Europe, America and Africa. I appeal to the consciousness of colossal power as yet unrealized in all the peoples of the world, to cut the serpent's knot of the plutocratic and military Fascisms which tomorrow will encircle the globe, to crush the new-born conspiracy and to seal the union of the working masses of all free peoples.

Romain Rolland.



What is the International Trade Union Committee of Negro Workers?

The Negro Workers Committee was formed in July 1930 at an international conference of Negro toilers held in Hamburg, Germany. The Committee is not a race, but a **class organization**, organizing and leading the fight in the interests of Negro workers in Africa, the West Indies and other colonies.

The aims of the Committee are as follows:

1. Abolition of Forced Labour, Peonage and Slavery.
2. Equal Pay for Equal Work — Irrespective of Race, Colour or Sex.
3. Eight Hour Day.
4. Government Relief for Unemployed, — free rent, no taxes.
5. Freedom to organize trade unions, unemployed councils and peasant committees, — right to strike.
6. Against racial barriers in trade unions and colour bar in industry.
7. Against capitalist terror — lynching, police and soldier terrorism, arrest and deportation of foreign workers.
8. Against confiscation of peasant and communal lands, against taxation of the Negro workers and peasants.
9. To promote and develop the spirit of international solidarity between the workers of all colours and nationalities.
10. To agitate and organize the Negro workers against the imperialist war in China and the intervention in Soviet Russia, in which the white capitalist exploiters intend to use black workers as cannon-fodder as they did in the last war.
11. To defend the independence of Liberia, Haiti and other Negro States and to fight for the full independence of the Negro toilers in Africa and the West Indies, and their right of self-determination in the Black Belt of U. S. A.
12. The Committee also fights against white chauvinism, (race prejudice) social-reformism and the reformist programmes of the Negro capitalist misleaders, and the missionaries, preachers and other agents of imperialism.

These misleaders, instead of organizing the Negro masses to fight for their freedom are the very ones who help the capitalists by preaching obedience, and loyalty to imperialist rule:

Negro Workers, Organize The Fight Against Imperialism!
Support The Revolutionary Trade Union Movement!
Fight For The Freedom Of The Working Class!

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