MARCH SIXTH: ITS MEANING AND SIGNIFICANCE

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INTERNATIONAL Day to Struggle Against Unemployment, organized by the Comintern and the RILU demonstrated that the revolutionary workers' movement in every part of the world had made a further step towards coordinating united action. Our information on how this day was carried out in the various countries is still inadequate, but the facts already to hand enable us to draw a few preliminary conclusions.

The preliminary results can on the whole be summarized as follows: There was greater response and far larger sections of the working class were roused on March 6th, 1930, than on August 1st, 1929 (International Day to Fight the War Menace). Should we contrast these two International campaigns, then it must be said that March Sixth succeeded in rousing far larger sections of the workers, both unemployed and employed. Further, the movement on March Sixth was greater than on August First. And lastly—the third conclusion that can be drawn—March Sixth marked off a definite stage in the struggle of the working class to unify its ranks, for on this day it was made clear to all the workers that the interests of those in employment and out of work are one and the same.

What was the political significance of this day and what is it that deserves our special attention? The significance of this day lies in the fact that it was the revolutionary wing of the labor movement alone, as represented by the sections of the Comintern and the RILU, that took up seriously the question of fighting unemployment and that on this day not only the unemployed, but all the workers in employment were brought into collision with the bourgeois state apparatus and their social-fascist flunkeys. This development was extremely important for some countries, especially in those parts of the world where large sections of the workers still support Social-Democracy, and undoubtedly is bound to prove a big factor in breaking down social-democratic influence among the workers.

Another extremely important development was that this International Day was organized in every part of the world under the same slogans, the chief of which were: **For a Seven-Hour Day, Struggle Against War and Defend the USSR.** Should we take into consideration the present campaign of lies, hatred and misrepresentation directed against the USSR being conducted in the capitalist countries, the demonstrations organized on this day under the slogan, "Defend the USSR," are even more significant from the political viewpoint. Thus we see that the positive aspects of March Sixth were: the demonstration that the interests of the workers whether in or out of employment were the same, the simultaneous movements of large numbers of workers on this day on different sides of the frontiers, which put up the same slogans, and lastly, the fact that in several countries the response to the call issued by the Comintern and the RILU was so great as to have been unexpected even by the Communist Party and the revolutionary unions in the given country. This was seen first of all in the U. S. A. According to preliminary data, approximately one million two hundred thousand workers took part in the March Sixth demonstrations in different parts of the U. S. A. It was a long time since anything like these demonstrations had been seen in the U. S. A.

The imposing demonstrations in the U. S. A. on March Sixth certainly alarmed the bourgeoisie. Some of the American bourgeoisie newspapers are already making known their views. They have put forward the very peculiar slogan of **"Mobilize the Blacks against the Reds,"** that is to say, to utilise the backward Negro masses to save capitalist "civilization" from the Reds, the militants who showed the American bourgeoisie unmistakably on March Sixth what international working class solidarity means.

But besides the positive factors, March Sixth made clear several defects and blunders, and, most important of all, that inadequate preparations had been made. First of all, our sections in some of the countries considered it necessary to fix their own day. This effor to come out independently, to fix or choose their own day, shows that some of our comrades do not fully realize the international significance of March Sixth and that its significance grew in proportion to the way its organization was coordinated in every part of the world.

The second drawback was that in several countries the preparations made were somewhat formal in character. Preparatory activities were limited to a few articles published in the press and to an appeal or so, no serious preparations being made. This was seen for example in Belgium, to mention this country alone. Finally, in some countries where the movement was not going, it was not raised to the plane that could have been expected with the objective conditions. This was seen for example in England where there were several demonstrations and meetings, etc. But if we remember that there are more than two million unemployed in Great Britain today, the Labor Party having long since derided the unemployment, then it must be admitted that the demonstration of a few thousand workers throughout England on that day was certainly a small movement for such a country.

We must make a careful study of the positive and negative aspects of March Sixth, not merely with a view to making an investigation, but with the object of laying bare the mistakes with the firm intention of avoiding their repetition in future.

The movement on March Sixth was one of those international demonstrations which must serve as a starting point to prepare a far more serious mass movement on May Day. We must, therefore, carefully examine what was done by our organizations in each country on this day, and what could and should have been done. This is essential, for if we make good use of the experience gained on March Sixth we shall be able to organize a real international mass political strike on May First and thus take another step forward on the road to consolidating the Revolutionary Wing of the working class movement and coordinate the movements of the workers on an international scale.

Is the Party Membership in Action in the Daily Worker Campaign?

WE ask this question because we are receiving letters from Section Committees asking for campaign information. St. Louis, as an instance, writes: "We have set our own provisional quota because the district has not assigned us any as yet."

The quotas for mail subscribers, bundles and contributions for the districts were printed twice in the Daily Worker, April 1 and April 3. Every district should have assigned Section quotas long before this date.

It is true, the Party is engagd in many important tasks at this moment. An attitude may prevail in some districts that to initiate at this time a campaign for the Daily Worker is just one task too many. The answer is that building the Daily Worker is a part of every task the Party undertakes, is a part of the daily life of the Party.

A Feature of Every Party Task.

You want to increase the revolutionary understanding of the masses of workers in your district? You want to have a mass response to your call: "Strike! Down Tools May First." Reach the masses in the industries with the Daily Worker and they will learn why they must fight and how to fight. This will give you leadership over conscious masses who will join your defense corps, will join revolutionary unions.

Securing mass circulation for the Daily Worker goes hand in hand with every Party task. The Party membership has not understood this. For many months the members have wholly neglected their duty to secure new readers for the Daily Worker.

To make all members conscious of this duty, the Central Committee has decided to institute a Daily Worker campaign. It has been decided to set up a special campaign apparatus for the purpose, first, to clarify the role of the Daily Worker as a mass organ; second, to drive the members into action to secure tens of thousands of new readers.

This campaign to win masses of workers in all the industries for the Party by making them regular readers of the Daily Worker will be successful only if every district bureau, thru the district Daily Worker Campaign Committee, will show initiative and give leadership to the campaign.

Over the Lagging.

The campaign opened officially April 1, with the printing of the campaign program. A half month has gone by and many districts are lagging behind. Some have not yet taken the initial step to begin the campaign.

We repeat, with emphasis, your immediate tasks: 1. The Central Committee holds every District Bureau responsible for the success of the campaign. 2. Elect able and authoritative district and section campaign committees. 3. Apply the campaign program concretely to the entire district, the sections, industries, working class neighborhoods, etc. 4. Strengthen your district, section and unit Daily Worker representatives. 5. Insist that your district