July 28th, 1926

To the Political and Economic Organizations of the Working Class.

Fellow Workers:

GREETINGS:

Enclosed herewith you will find a pamphlet entitled "The Third International and the Socialist Labor Party." As you will note it consists of a series of articles dealing specifically and in detail with the Third International and its activities outside of Russia and, more particularly, its activities and the results of these activities in the United States of America.

In the United States the activities of the Third International have created a condition in the labor movement which has acted as a very serious obstacle to the progress of revolutionary socialism. The Third International has given its support to a group of individuals calling themselves by various names, the latest of which is the "Workers (Communist) Party." Most of the members of this group have been recruited from the bourgeois reform party mis-calling itself the Socialist Party of America, and some of them were recruited from the anarcho-syndicalist I.W.W., both of which are now practically defunct. Practically all of the leaders of the so called "Workers (Communist) Party" came from these two camps. This fact is significant for the reason that it explains to a large extent why these individuals are attacking the Socialist Labor Party, lying about and misrepresenting our Party as shamelessly as was ever done by any representative of the unscrupulous order of Jesuits. In the past, while these elements worked hard to build up the Socialist Party (referred to by one of its former supporters as that "huge machine for lying about Socialism") they necessarily encountered the opposition of the Socialist Labor Party. On occasions too numerous to mention the Socialist Labor Party, through its spokesmen and its press (and especially through the Daily People under the editorship of that great Marxist and indomitable fighter for the working class, Daniel De Leon) fought and exposed the reformism, the crookedness, the opportunism and the compromises with the bourgeoisie which these individuals effected while members of the Socialist Party. The same holds true in a slightly different sense with the elements that were formerly supporting the anarcho-syndicalist (which is to say the anarcho-bourgeois) I.W.W. As representative types of the bourgeois S. P. who are now leaders in the "Workers (Communist) Party" may be mentioned Rothenberg, Ben Gitlow and many others. As the outstanding type of the anarcho-syndicalist I.W.W. may be mentioned W. Z. Foster, also a leading light in the "Workers (Communist) Party."
Having been thus exposed mercilessly in the past as reformers, anarchists and in general as upholders and supporters of the bourgeois tactics which it was endeavored to fasten upon the revolutionary movement of socialism, it was to be expected that in their new roles they would turn bitterly against the Party which so uncompromisingly had lashed them and defeated their contemptible efforts in the past. In the role as "communists" these elements are simply continuing their anti-revolutionary and reform tactics of many years against the Socialist Labor Party. They are resorting to the identical lies and vilifications about the Socialist Labor Party and they are continuing with no essential difference their work of miseducating the working class, with the result that the American proletariat as a whole finds itself as far removed from the revolutionary movement of socialism as ever. In fact, the efforts of these elements in the past and their efforts to this very day as "communists" and what not, have created very serious obstacles to the revolutionizing of the minds of the American working class.

It is this element which is receiving the support of the Third International. For the Third International to support the so-called "Workers (Commmunist) Party" is to play directly into the hands of American Top Capitalism. The Third International thereby helps to defeat the efforts of the Socialist Labor Party, which efforts are directed toward organizing the American working class into revolutionary industrial class unions, the sine qua non of socialism.

From what has been stated in this letter the earnest and sincere workers in the movement of working class emancipation may realize the importance of studying carefully the enclosed pamphlet in order to secure authentic and first hand knowledge as to conditions in the United States. We invite sane and rational criticism and suggestions from fellow workers in other lands. We shall also be glad to furnish such additional information as may be relevant in this connection.

With revolutionary greetings, we remain

P. O. Box 1076, City Hall Sta.
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Fraternally yours,

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY,

National Secretary.

Enc.

AP/AS