Why You Are Out of a Job

[Leaflet of the United Communist Party] [circa Feb. 15, 1921]

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Are you walking the streets, looking for work?

Are your clothes worn out? Are you cold?

See those other people walking the streets, looking for work the same as you? There are five million of them. What chance have you?

Do you think of going to another town to find a job? What's the use? The streets of the other towns are lined with men and women tramping, tramping like you, looking for work.

Factories are closing everywhere. Mines are cutting down forces. Railroads are letting out people. There are no jobs.

Why?

Because the workshops, mines, railroads, and all other things that supply jobs for people, are the private property of the rich. **WE**, the workers, do the work. **WE** produce the goods. **THEY** take the profits. The wealthy class won't let any goods be produced except what they can sell for a profit. During the war, they made big profits. They worked us overtime. They made five billion dollars extra profits, over and above regular profits. They are taking it easy now. As for us workers — **WE CAN GO TO HELL.** They are through with us.

There is more than enough food, clothing, and shelter — everything we need. But the working people can't buy. The goods that are already made are locked up.

The people are hungry "because there is too much food"! The people are cold because "there are too many clothes"!

"No Help Wanted" — you read everywhere.

They don't need us now. But we need work. They won't let us work. Sleep on the pavement! Let your children die of hunger and cold! The boss says "No work." **The word of the boss is law**.

When the capitalists needed us for the war, what did they do? **Through the government they took us by force.** They said "Fight or Work" — and that settled it. They took everything we had, our lives if necessary.

Now the working people need the workshops. **The workers demand the right to work.** If a workman's life can be conscripted for the benefit of capitalists, can't factories be conscripted for the benefit of the working class?

Of course, the government won't conscript the factories, because it acts in the interest of the capitalists, the bosses.

Then we have only one solution:

WE, THE WORKERS, MUST ACT!

We must take possession of the workshops and establish control over them. We must control production, and operate all industry for the benefit of ONLY the workers.

THAT IS THE ROAD TO COMMU-NISM.

That is what the workers of Russia did. They seized the factories, mills, and mines and threw out their owners. They overthrew the government, which existed only to protect the bosses. They organized their own government — the Soviet government of Russia.

That is what American workmen must do.

But when we try to take possession of the workshops, the bosses will call on the government to protect them. Police, thugs, troops armed with machine guns, poison gas, and all war implements will be there to stop us.

We must be ready to fight them. We must organize for that. The time is coming — soon.

Down with the private ownership of jobs! Down with unemployment! Down with capitalism! ALL POWER TO THE WORKERS!

Leaflet No. 1

PASS THIS ON AFTER YOU HAVE READ IT!

The United Communist Party

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