
Convention Call to Organize The Workers' Party of America

(circa November 1921)

From a typewritten document in the Comintern Archive, f. 515, op. 1, d. 77, l. 7-8.

A fierce class war is raging throughout the world. All capitalist governments are openly fighting the battles of the exploiters.

The struggle of the workers, even for the most elementary needs, is met today with merciless suppression and develops into a fight for political power — a revolutionary struggle.

Inspired by the proletarian revolution in Russia, and impelled by the cowardly and traitorous conduct of their leaders, the workers of the world have organized the Communist International as an answer to the unholy alliance of their capitalist oppressors. Despite the bitter opposition of the capitalists and their labor lieutenants, the Communist International is growing rapidly. It has become a world power.

The American capitalists are using the present economic crisis to increase their power of exploitation and oppression. The whole working class is being crushed under the iron heel of a brutal capitalist dictatorship.

At this critical moment we must have an organization that will not only valiantly defend the workers but will also wage an aggressive struggle for the abolition of capitalism. Only a revolutionary workers' political party can fulfill this task.

Such a party will and must grow out of the unity of all political groups which stand on the platform of militant class struggle. It is not necessary to create this desire for unity. It is already a living reality, grown out of the very struggle of the masses during the years since the ending of the world war and the inauguration of Soviet Rule in Russia.

With a full realization of these facts, the undersigned join in issuing this call for the organization of the Workers' Party of America, pledged to the following principles:

1. **THE WORKERS' REPUBLIC:** To lead the working masses in the struggle for the abolition of capitalism through the establishment of a government by the working class and for the working class — **A WORKERS' REPUBLIC IN AMERICA.**

2. **POLITICAL ACTION:** To participate in all political activities, including electoral campaigns, in order to utilize them for the purpose of carrying out message to the masses. The elected representatives of the Workers' Party will unmask the fraudulent capitalist democracy and help mobilize the workers for the final struggle against their common enemy.

3. **THE LABOR UNIONS:** To develop the labor organizations into organs of militant struggle against capitalism, expose the reactionary labor bureaucrats, and educate the workers to militant unionism.

4. **A FIGHTING PARTY:** It shall be a party of militant, class conscious workers, bound by discipline and organized on the basis of democratic centralization, with full power in the hands of the Central Executive Committee between conventions. The Central Executive Committee of the party shall have control over all activities of public officials. It also shall coordinate and direct the work of the party members in trade unions.

5. **PARTY PRESS:** The party's press shall be owned by the party, and all of its activities shall be under the control of the Central Executive Committee.

All working class bodies that accept the above program are invited to join in the first national convention of the Workers' Party to be held in New York City, December 23-26th, 1921.

Working men and women! Help build the political party that will lead the oppressed masses to

achieve their own complete emancipation! Let us raise the banner of the militant workers of the world with the immortal rallying cry of:—

“WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!
YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE BUT YOUR
CHAINS! YOU HAVE A WORLD TO GAIN!”

SIGNED BY:—

AMERICAN LABOR ALLIANCE

Affiliated Organizations:

Finnish Socialist Federation

Hungarian Workers Federation

Italian Workers Federation

Jewish Workers Federation

THE WORKERS' COUNCIL OF THE USA

THE JEWISH SOCIALIST FEDERATION

WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Address all communications and requests for further information to Joint Convention Organization Committee, Elmer T. Allison, Secretary, 201 W. 18th Street, New York City, New York.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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