

Introducing the Workers' Library

By BERTRAM D. WOLFE.

OVER eighty years ago one of the greatest of human thinkers declared:

"Theory too becomes a material force as soon as it grasps weapons."

The theories which he was then only beginning to elaborate have since taken hold of millions of working men and women throughout the world and have become a material force by grasping weapons in 1848, 1870, 1905 and 1917. In 1917 Marxian theory became a victorious force in the revolution described and commemorated in this pamphlet.*

WITHOUT the sufficient spread of working class theory there can be no powerful working class movement. The numerical and ideological weakness of the American labor movement is an eloquent proof of this. Our capitalist class, the most powerful in the world, carries on a most intensive propaganda which penetrates into the ranks of the working class, confusing, demoralizing, destroying. Endless tons of paper and printers' ink pour forth from giant presses to sow confusion in the minds of the workers.

Consequently, the American labor movement has an incredibly short memory. It forgets today what it learned yesterday thru costly experiences and bitter struggles. It forgets what the masters of press and school would have it forget and remembers largely only what the master class would have it remember. The giant presses pour out tons of falsified theory and misinformation. Intellectual shoddy and adulterated mental food are sold to the workers just as shoddy cloth and adulterated body food are sold to them.

WITHOUT the sufficient spread of working class theory there can be no powerful working class movement. This cannot be repeated too often. Only by the building of working class schools, the development of a working class press and the printing and wide distribution of working class literature can working class theory become the property of the mass of American workers. Only if the lessons of experience are supplemented by the spread of working class theory can the American labor movement learn all there is to learn from its daily struggles. Only thus can it wrest from its defeats the theoretical lessons that lay the basis for victories. Only thus can it learn from victories in minor skirmishes the lessons that lead to victories in decisive engagements.

Only thru the development of its own press and literature and theory can the American working class lengthen its painfully short memory that within a generation forgets such heroes as William Sylvis and within a decade such heroic struggles as the Seattle General Strike or the mutiny of the American troops sent to Arch-

angel to throttle the Russian Workers' Republic.

THE Workers Library is dedicated to the publication of working class literature, to the conserving of the traditions and experiences of the American labor movement, to the spread of working class theory.

Its aim is to help in the building of a more powerful labor movement, one capable of coping with the most powerful capitalist class in the entire world.

THE Workers Library inaugurates its series of publications with this present pamphlet dealing with the victorious Russian revolution. About no event in human history has the capitalist press and literature of America and the official press of the A. F. of L. bureaucracy spread more poisonous and lying propaganda than about the Russian revolution of 1917.

The reasons why American capitalism is trying to keep us from knowing the truth about the Soviet Union where the workers rule, are obvious. And it is precisely for these reasons that we have to struggle to get the truth about that world shaking event.

Hence the Workers Library publishers feel that it is peculiarly appropriate to inaugurate its series of publications with a pamphlet contributing to the spread of the truth about the Russian Revolution and the Soviet Union—a pamphlet written by a well known labor journalist who has witnessed with his own eyes the achievements of the Russian workers and peasants and who is even now in the Soviet Union conveying the greetings of the American workers to their Russian brothers.

*"The Tenth Year," for which this article is the introduction. The series of publications of which the present pamphlet is the first have been made possible thru a fund contributed by a number of comrades and sympathizers. Acknowledgment is due to Comrades B. and S. Rubin for generous contributions initiating the fund. Since the publication of the first number of the Workers Library two other new titles have been issued: "The Coolidge Program" by Jay Lovestone and "Questions And Answers To American Trade Unionists—Stalin's Interview With The First American Trade Union Delegation." The Workers Library has also supervised the printing and distribution of "Wrecking The Labor Banks" by Wm. Z. Foster for the Trade Union Educational League.

Rogers Back to Stage.

Will Rogers will return to his old trade of monologist and rope-spinner, according to a statement made here yesterday by his manager, after his unofficial "kidding ambassadorship" to Mexico. He will appear at the Majestic Theatre, New York, February, 12, for a "charity."

BOOKKEEPER ARRAIGNED.

William Prepiak, bookkeeper of the Rigney & Co., candy manufacturers, of 348 Park Ave., Brooklyn, was arraigned before the Gates Avenue Court, charged with embezzling \$400.