

not through suppression of weaker nations and peoples, but by the collective labor of all the workers was the necessary capital acquired to build up the colossal works and make the Soviet Union today the only country in the whole world where the standard of living of the working class and of the working peasants is steadily rising.¹

2. After New Machinery Is Produced in the Soviet Union Will There Be Unemployment?

Unemployment has been abolished forever in the land of the Soviets. The application of new modern machinery in the Soviet Union where the workers are building Socialism (under conditions as described in answer to Question 1) means decreasing the daily work-hours, means more and better food, clothing, homes and other necessities for the workers.

Income from Socialist industry is not used as profits for a special class. All income from Socialist industry is used for the welfare of the toiling masses. Therefore, new and increased needs of the workers—food, clothing, shelter, education, recreation, etc., are satisfied. To meet these needs, industry is expanded and more things are produced in a shorter space of time. Thus, while the greatest needs of the population are met, there will be a still further reduction in hours of work. The further application of modern machinery in the Soviet Union will result in the reduction of daily working hours to even below the present 7 and 6 hours. Under such conditions unemployment cannot take place.

It is only under capitalism—under the profit-making system, that the workers are thrown out of the factories when new machines are brought in.

In the last 2 years, 1,500 new factories have been opened in

1. NOTE: The figures appearing throughout the text in this pamphlet refer to the list of pamphlets and books at the end of the reading matter under the heading "RECOMMENDED READING." The titles thus listed further develop the questions taken up in the pamphlet at the points noted. All titles listed may be obtained from WORKERS LIBRARY PUBLISHERS, P. O. Box 148, Sta. D (50 East 13th Street), New York City, or from workers' book shops throughout the country.

the Soviet Union.² Over 8,000,000 new workers have come into industry from the farms and there is work for all. In fact, there is a shortage of labor. Already over 80 per cent of the factories are working on the 7-hour day schedule. In industries injurious to health, the schedule is 6 hours. In 1933, there will be another increase in wages amounting to 6.7 per cent. In 1932 the Soviet Government spent 3,500,000,000 rubles for workers social insurance. The social insurance budget for 1933 is 4,431,000,000 rubles. In 1932 3,000,000 workers moved into new apartment houses. And all this happened during the time modern machinery was being installed and new modern factories were being built.³

Further installation of modern machinery will result in more improvements. According to the second Five-Year Plan, the workers will be receiving from two to three times more of everything by 1937.⁴ By that time there will be no illiterate people in the Soviet Union. Everyone will have the opportunity to acquire at least an elementary knowledge of political science, physics, chemistry, biology, of the technical processes of production, of music and literature. There will be more leisure time for recreation, more and better parks of culture, gymnasiums, clubs, theatres and movies. There will be more palaces of labor, lecture halls, stadiums, increased production of radio apparatus, musical instruments and books.

In the Soviet Union the workers are the masters over the machine. With the help of the machine the workers are building a Socialist society where all parasites are being completely eliminated and everything of the best is created for those who work.

Even in this alone, the abolishing of unemployment, Socialism has already demonstrated its superiority over capitalism as an economic system.⁵

The Soviet Union is the only country in the world where the workers' life is secured—where the workers are not tortured by the thought of the hopeless tomorrow, as is the case in capitalist countries.⁶