

During this re-election campaign, the workers in Moscow alone made 94,216 proposals for improving the working processes in industry. In Leningrad, 49 new day nurseries, 27 medical aid stations, 159 new workers' dining rooms, 132 new booths for the sale of products, 45 new co-operative stores and 119 pig-breeding farms were opened up.

The instructions contained in the mandate by the workers to the newly elected committees included: helping the workers to learn the technical processes in industry¹⁸; liquidation of personal irresponsibility in production; promotion of workers' inventions¹⁹; instructions regarding Shock Brigade work; questions regarding the social and economic conditions of the workers.

Between re-elections, the workers assist the Factory Committees in carrying out the workers' proposals. To help the newly elected members, a network of the most elementary courses are organized on the functions of a member of the Factory Committee. These courses are given in the factory club. The members of the Factory Committees found wanting are re-called by the workers. This is the trade union democracy, which makes it possible to draw the wide masses of the workers into the cause for the building of Socialism.

10. Is There Forced Labor in the Soviet Union?

There is no forced labor in the Soviet Union. The right of the kulak (the rich peasant who used to live by the labor of others), to utilize the labor of other peasants and workers for his own selfish ends has been taken away. He must live by his own labor. The press in capitalist countries calls this "forced labor." The principle of "He who does not work does not eat" is strictly enforced by the working masses in the Soviet Union. A fight is carried on against all parasites. No one is permitted to enslave or exploit another's labor. Leaders of the Socialist Parties call this "forced labor." In the Soviet Union there are no chain gangs as in the South of the U.S.A. where prisoners are tortured to death.²⁰

In the Soviet Union there still are workers (comparatively few in number) who have come under the influence of enemies

of the Soviet Union or who have been thieves before the October Revolution, because of the horrible conditions under which they then lived. These have repeatedly committed social offenses, and are kept in prison, where they work eight hours daily and have their reading rooms.

The Soviet government does not punish such workers as down-right criminals. Attempts are made to restore them as useful members of society. Special communes are organized, made up of such former workers. Here they manage the factories they work in and administer the work and life in the commune themselves. They are paid regular wages and work seven hours daily. They live in dormitories or, if married, with their families in separate cottages. Here there is no prison regime. The discipline which exists, they collectively impose upon themselves. At the end of four years, if the prisoner has conducted himself properly, (this is judged by the commune collectively, in a meeting), his wages which have accumulated in the four years are given to him minus the expense for his up-keep, his right to citizenship is restored, and he may leave the commune if he wishes to. This is irrespective of the length of his last prison sentence. He is accepted into the trade union, given a job in a factory. Anyone who would dare to cast up to him his past life is liable to be tried by a workers' court.

Bourgeois papers in capitalist countries call these communes forced labor communes. To any worker it is clear that only in the Soviet Union are workers, who have succumbed under formerly existing capitalist conditions, restored as useful social beings to the ranks of the working class.

11. What Is the Increase in Population Since the Establishment of the Soviet Government?

In 1928-29 there was an increase of 23.3 per each 1,000 population. 3,500,000 children are born each year. The percentage of infant mortality is continually on the downgrade. In 1912-13 infant mortality in Russia was over 25-27 per cent. By 1932 the Soviet government succeeded in decreasing this to