

African Communist Party.

Our people are definitely on the march against all forms of oppression and capitalist exploitation. Never before has there been such mass resistance covering all classes and strata of our population. Already this year, which has been declared both the 'Year of the Charter' and the 'Year of the Worker', thousands of Black workers have gone on strike for better wages and improved working conditions. The year started with the victory of the Fatis and Monis workers, the Sea Harvest workers, the Fruit pickers in the Western Cape. Despite the stubbornness of the employer-government alliance, the workers scored notable victories which resulted in either workers' reinstatement or higher wages.

Soon afterwards, capitalist South Africa was plunged once more into an escalation of strikes. Workers in the Meat Industry in Cape Town walked out demanding the recognition of their Independent and Democratic Union. The capitalist bosses reacted by sacking all the workers. The workers immediately gained solidarity support from workers in other industries, from the Black residents, from churches and democratic Whites. The cry erupted 'Boycott Red Meat' until all workers are reinstated.

The past two months have seen workers' actions for the improvement of their conditions and recognition of their Independent and Democratic Unions spreading to Ford Motor Company, General Motors, Goodyear Tyres, Volkswagen and other industries in East London, Putco and Gold Miners in the Rand, De Beer Miners in Kimberley, Frametex in Durban, the workers at Sasol 11 in Secunda, and dozen other places. The Black working class has, in the words of Karl Marx, become not a class on its own, but a class for its own. It has exploded the fashionable myth that in the face of the so-called improved standard of living it has become

accommodating to capitalism. It is exposing the irreconcilable contradictions engulfing our capitalist society.

The gold bonanza has resulted in super profits for the capitalist class in our country. While the minority White capitalist class and its foreign multinational companies are basking in prosperity and wealth, the Black workers and indeed the whole Black population are victims of hunger, disease and unemployment. Statistics estimate that more than 2 million Blacks are out of jobs. It is no wonder then that the Black workers have decided to fight back against the naked exploitation perpetrated against them by racist and fascist capitalism.

An interesting aspect of the workers' struggle is that these struggles have not just been economic or trade union struggles, but they have become political battles as well. The workers have also challenged influx control measures and in some instances have marched in demonstrations carrying placards with political slogans. They have defied the trade union leaders who have worked out unacceptable compromises with the bosses. They have also established joint committees with political organisations in order to adopt meaningful and effective action against those companies which have victimised them. The best are the boycotts at Fattis and Monis and at the Table Bay Cold Storage.

The present march against repression and fascism has also affected the youth. Thousands are marching out against the inferior, fascist education in our country. The universal cry is 'Down with Bantu Education, and we demand free, and compulsory education'. The classrooms and lecture theatres have become empty and students from university down to primary school have shouted in unison 'Boycott apartheid education until our demands are met'.

The fascist ruling class has reacted in a predictable manner. It has killed and maimed, detained and banned, all in vain.

The present political ferment has also shown the growing support for the national liberation movement whose leading components are the A.N.C. (S.A.) and the S.A.C.P. The defiant attitude of the oppressed masses has been strengthened by the brave and audacious operations mounted by Umkhonto Wesizwe at Sasol plants, Booysens Police Station, and elsewhere. The cry for the release of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners has been taken up by the majority of our people. This is indicative of the growing acceptance of the National Liberation Movement led by the A.N.C.(S.A.), and in which the S.A.C.P. is playing a notable role. The Freedom Charter has become the people's programme and the people's document in which all their aspirations are embodied.

TASKS FACING THE PARTY.

It is the duty of our Party to lead and direct all signs and manifestations of revolt and resistance affecting all classes and strata of the population. In practical terms this means that we must raise higher the level of political consciousness of all our people. The priority is to build secret Party units in the factories, rural areas, locations, schools, universities, and everywhere. Their major task must be to produce and distribute literature both of an agitational and propaganda nature. They must bring home to the workers that the present capitalist exploitative system can be destroyed through a combination of trade union and political struggles. The workers must realise that the trade union struggle can lead to the improvement of their working and living conditions whilst leaving the capitalist system intact. Our units must emphasize in their propaganda that

real working class liberation lies through socialism. Hence, we must participate in the mass political mobilisation of our people under the political guidance of both the A.N.C.(S.A.) and the S.A.C.P.

Likewise, the students at high schools and universities must build underground Party units and stimulate theoretical discussions on the basis of Marxism-Leninism. The units must realise that a democratic, free, universal education can be possible only in a new society built on the basis of the scientific doctrine of Marxism-Leninism.

The mass political mobilisation of our people around all oppressive issues affecting them remains the key to our success. Communists must participate in trade union organisation, peasants' movements, students' movements, and civic organisation. The aim must be to raise the level of political consciousness and sensitivity to the schemes of the enemy. This would make it impossible for the enemy and the opportunists to confuse and deceive our people.

LONG LIVE THE S. A. C. P. ! !

LONG LIVE MARXISM - LENINISM ! !