

RALLY, COMRADES!

THE VOICE OF THE LEAGUE OF REVOLUTIONARIES FOR A NEW AMERICA

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What is Winning and Losing in the Midterm Elections?

The debate around the midterm elections opened up the discussion about how to resolve the problems of the vast majority of the American people.

About 44 million people have no health insurance, and another 38 million have inadequate health insurance. More and more of our children are denied quality education and go hungry. Homeless families comprise roughly 34 percent of the total U.S. homeless population. Approximately 1.6 million children will experience homelessness over the course of a year. As many as 63 million people – nearly one fifth of the of the U.S. population – from rural central California to the boroughs of New York City, were exposed to potentially unsafe water more than once during the past decade. In addition, 1.6 million do not have adequate access to water. Communities across the country are experiencing the brutal results of police that have become an occupying force. If you are part of the working class, you will be affected.

According to a CNN exit poll conducted on election day, 73% of those voting stated that they thought the country was going in the wrong direction. With polarization in the economy, where all of wealth is going to the ruling class and all of the poverty to the working class, the political life of the country also polarizes. The inability of growing sections of society to afford housing, food and water, lays bare the class society America really is. The divisions in the country are based on the underlying inequality and polarization. The interests of the ruling class are completely antagonistic to not only those struggling for their very survival, but to the overall interests of humanity.

The ruling class uses every election to secure its class interests, and to gauge the development of any type of class awareness and consciousness on the part of the workers. They understand very well the implications of the transformation from an economy based on industry employing millions of workers, to one based on electronic production with less and less human labor. They are taking the necessary steps to guarantee that they remain the ruling class. The ruling class will defend its control of the means of creating wealth, to maintain its rule and privilege at all costs.

What really was at stake in the elections is whether the working class is able to see itself as a class, rather than as groupings with separate interests. There is no struggle for



Philadelphia youth take their demands for freedom into the streets.

Photo: Mobilis In Mobili/Flickr

change today that can be won, if it proceeds on the basis of separation according to color, gender, or generation. On the other hand, the issues coming forth that are characterized as being about color, gender, or generation represent real working-class interests. Under the surface, in urban, suburban and rural communities, there is a growing sense of discontent, a need for change, and often unrecognized expressions of that. A vision of what that change becomes is all important.

We are living in an age of revolution. Every day, jobs that used to require human labor are being replaced with automation. Industrial production did away with manual labor. Today, electronic production is replacing human labor altogether, and in the process, an abundance of everything necessary to sustain life is being produced. This is why we are seeing the emergence of a corporate State. It is a new State form that guarantees the corporate well-being of the capitalists as a class, not simply the interests of individual capitalists or sectors of the economy as it used to do.

Within the elections, there was greater discussion of whose interests the government serves, and of socialism. A recent Gallup poll found that 57 percent of Democrats view socialism positively. People are pulled into the elections because of economic issues, in defense of democracy and human rights, and in opposition to fascism. New leaders are emerging who ran for office at the local, state and Congressional level. Many of them are ordinary workers pushed into motion by

the worsening conditions the workers face. They ran under various labels as Democrats, as Greens, as democratic socialists and as independents. But the common theme among their campaigns was that they put forward the demands of the working class, and the demand that the government serve the needs of the people.

While they may be critical of Trump, many of these candidates are clear that Trump is not the main problem. In many cases they are also critical of the Democratic Party, even though they ran as Democrats. Some candidates separated themselves entirely from the Republicans and Democrats by representing alternative parties. They are focused on such issues as health care, education, water, skyrocketing rents, homelessness, environmental destruction, immigrant rights, police brutality, and wages that are too low to live on. They essentially ran on a program that is about guaranteeing that people's basic needs are met. Many can-

didates raised the question of what kind of society are we going to have, and some candidates are were openly critical of capitalism and discussed the need for socialism.

Within the discussion, revolutionaries have to bring a vision to people; a vision that has been long held and fought for, as conveyed in 1877, by anthropologist Lewis Henry Morgan, who wrote in his book, *Ancient Society*:

“Since the advent of civilization, the outgrowth of property has been so immense, its forms so diversified, its uses so expanding and its management so intelligent in the interest of its owners that it has become, on the part of the people, an unmanageable power. ... The time will come, nevertheless, when human intelligence will rise to the mastery over property and define the relations of the state to the property it protects, as well as the obligations and the limits of the

rights of its owners. The interests of society are paramount to individual interests, and the two must be brought into just and harmonious relations. ... Democracy in government, brotherhood in society, equality in rights and privileges, and universal education, foreshadow the next higher plane of society to which experience, intelligence and knowledge are steadily tending.”

It is in the environment of the elections that revolutionaries show what our society really is and put forth such a vision. We workers have to identify with our class and stand in opposition to the ruling class which spreads the idea that the only choice is to vote for the “lesser of two evils.” A new vision of an America without the class antagonisms, without the poverty, without the ignorance, sickness, and prejudice is within our grasp. The wrong of want in the midst of abundance can be corrected when such a vision is fought for. **RC**

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A Time When We Can Create History

Inside **Rally, Comrades!**

The nomination and appointment of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court is a slap in the face to women, who are faulted for not coming forward to report instances of sexual assault. His appointment is also a part of the inexorable transformation of our government and its institutions toward outright fascism and the protection of the elite, the corporations, and the politicians who represent them. Our country is certainly polarizing economically, socially, and politically. It is only through polarization that change can come about. As revolutionaries, we welcome polarization, as it allows for differences to be identified and motion to develop.

In this issue of *Rally, Comrades!* we address expressions of polarization, what it means, and what the future holds.

In the article, "What is Winning and Losing in the Midterm Elections?" we look at what really is at stake in the elections: whether the working class is able to see itself as a class, rather than as groupings with separate interests. There is no struggle for change today that can be won if it proceeds on the basis of separation according to color, gender, or generation. On the other hand, the issues coming forth that are characterized as being about color, gender, or generation represent real working-class interests. Under the surface, in urban, suburban, and rural communities, there is a growing sense of discontent, a need for change, and often unrecognized expressions of that. A vision of what that change

becomes is all-important.

"The Rising Social Movement Today" looks at the developing response to the destruction of society as we have known it. The rising movement faces both new opportunities and new dangers. The opportunity is that a formerly secure sector of the industrial working class and a section of the intelligentsia, whose influence has always been used to bind the masses to the capitalist class, is increasingly being torn loose from their jobs, homes, and living standards. The destruction of this middle sector is important, because it destroys the idea that the workers and capitalists have the same interests. This sector has some history of organizing to fight for particular demands within the system. If that history of organization can be united with a sense that they belong to a class that can only move forward on the basis of breaking free of the confines of the past, a new unity based on real class interests can be fought for.

The article "Nationalization: What We Are Fighting For" addresses the needs and interests of the corporations versus those of everyday people. The main question facing the working class today is: in whose interest does the government operate, the corporations or the workers? People are becoming aware that the problems of society require national solutions from the government. They are demanding a program for nationalization in the interest of the people, even though they may not be consciously expressing it in this way.

"From the Editors: Ten Years After" explains that the mid-term elections showed how the ruling class is moving quickly to ideologically divide the workers. The elections clearly

revealed that the process of political polarization is intensifying. A rising movement for democracy and for the necessities of life at one pole and the rise of fascism at the other.

"Crossing the Nodal Line" opens up the discussion about how the country and the world are being drawn into the final conflict. How do we fight forward to save our class? We can say that America (and the entire world) is reaching the point when things can no longer continue the way they were. Something has to change, and it will change very dramatically. It is going to open the door for revolutionary organizations everywhere to begin to consolidate and reassert themselves as a force in history.

The fascist police State we face has every advantage against us. They have everything, except for the decisive thing. They do not have the historical process on their side. It is on our side. We have a crucial and critical base at our disposal if we learn how to use it. This base is the destruction of the capitalist economy, the rise of social revolution, and the emergence of a new class of workers being created from laborless production who can no longer survive under the capitalist system.

It is clear that we have entered a period of time when we can create history. This is what we are in the revolutionary movement for. We came into the revolutionary movement because we wanted to see a different kind of world. We are now leaving the industrial economy; we are leaving the old. There is now the real possibility of creating a new world. **RC**

EDITORIAL POLICY

Rally: to bring back together and put in a state of order, as retreating troops [to return to attack]

Comrade: a person with whom one is allied in a struggle or cause

Rally, Comrades! is the political paper of the League of Revolutionaries for a New America. In this period of growing motion and developing polarization, *Rally, Comrades!* provides a strategic outlook for the revolutionaries by indicating and illuminating the line of march of the revolutionary process. It presents a pole of scientific clarity, examines and analyzes the real problems of the revolutionary movement, and draws political conclusions for the tasks of revolutionaries at each stage of development in order to prepare for future stages. It is a vehicle to reach out and communicate with revolutionaries both within the League and outside of the League, to engage them in debate and discussion, and to provide a forum for these discussions. Articles represent the position and policies of the League of Revolutionaries for a New America.

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League of Revolutionaries for a New America

Today, whether through words or deeds, vast numbers of socially conscious people declare themselves revolutionaries in opposition to the degenerating social and economic conditions. The League's mission is to unite these scattered revolutionaries on the basis of the demands of the new class, to educate and win them over to the cooperative, communist resolution of the problem.

The demands of this new impoverished class for food, housing, education, health care and an opportunity to contribute to society are summed up as the demand for a cooperative society. Such a society must be based on the public ownership of the socially necessary means of production and the distribution of the social product according to need.

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The *Rally, Comrades!* bilingual website provides online access to all issues of *Rally, Comrades!* It is a political resource for our readers, and provides up-to-date articles, statements and analysis of key questions of importance to revolutionaries.

Ten Years After the Financial Meltdown

From the Editors

Recently much is being written about the ten-year anniversary of the financial meltdown, commonly referred to as the Great Recession of 2007-2009. Most of what is being written defines the Great Recession as the financial crisis caused by the collapse of the U.S. real-estate market related to U.S. sub-prime mortgage defaults. However, this was a feature, not the cause. The electronic revolution that is generating laborless production was the underlying cause of the financial crisis. Since the 1990s, this revolution in production led to the rise and dominance of speculative capital in the U.S. and the world economy.

Banks and financial institutions curtailed productive capital investments and invested in speculative transactions instead. When less money is to be made in the production of commodities for exchange, then capitalists seek to move money around, making money from money. In the years just prior to the 2008 financial meltdown, speculative capitalists were making record amounts of money by amassing and trading vast sums of debt based in home mortgage real estate holdings, particularly sub-prime home mortgages that began to default in large numbers. With the September 2008 bankruptcy filing of Lehman Brothers, the fourth-largest investment bank in the U.S., the speculative debt bubble burst into a global financial crisis.

In November 2009, Ben Bernanke, chair of the U.S. Federal Reserve, declared “September and October 2008 was the worst financial crisis in global history, including the Great Depression.” In the months and years that followed, millions of once stably employed workers from all sectors of the economy suddenly found themselves jobless. Millions lost their life savings and retirement savings. By 2014, some 9 million families had lost their homes. Over the same period, the U.S. Department of the Treasury and the U.S. Federal Reserve Bank provided trillions of dollars to bail out U.S. banks and banks around the globe.

Contrary to current government proclamations that U.S. unemployment levels are the lowest in 50 years, the results of the last financial crisis are still with us. Millions of workers who lost everything during the crisis and in its aftermath have not recovered. Tens of millions more are without stable full-time employment, working at part-time, temporary and contingent jobs. Tens of millions remain unemployed. Once they are armed with class identity and a vision of what kind of abundance the new technology makes possible, these tens of millions of workers fighting to secure the necessities of life can move as a revolutionary force necessary to transform society for the benefit of all. These are revolutionary times.

The ruling class is well aware that we live in revolutionary times, and as the results of the mid-term elections show, it is moving quickly to ideologically divide the workers. The elections clearly revealed that the process of political polarization is intensifying. At one pole a movement is arising to fight for the necessities of life and for democracy. Opposing it is its polar opposite: the rise of fascism.

As a new economic crisis looms on the horizon, one that promises to be worse than the last, the tasks of revolutionaries have become urgent. The exponential advancements in new electronic technology is producing an abundance of the necessities of life. The struggle today is about ownership and distribution of that abundance. A section of the working class that is struggling for these necessities of life must be won over to the new ideas based on this reality.

All of the economic indicators show that speculation continues to be the main driver of the U.S. and global economy and that debt has reached new historic highs. The U.S. fiscal 2018 budget deficit stands at \$779 billion, 17% higher than last year. U. S. household debt has now surpassed its 2008 peak. Unpaid student loan debt that in 2008 was \$611 billion has ballooned to \$1.5 trillion today. Auto loan balances sit at \$1.5 trillion today, far above their 2008 peak. Global debt has soared from \$177 trillion in 2008 to \$247 trillion today. The ruling class is well aware of the dangers the situation presents for them. JPMorgan Chase in its September 2018 report, “10 Years After the Financial Crisis,” is just one of the many financial institutions and think tanks warning about the consequences of an impending economic crisis that will accelerate the social and political polarization around the world.

Today, how will conscious revolutionaries help to forge class unity among a section of our class in order to develop independent class interests when the next social outbreak occurs? The struggle for the distribution of the necessities of life is the struggle for distribution according to need. The struggle for distribution according to need is the struggle for ownership of the necessities of life. The struggle for ownership of the necessities of life is a class struggle. The class struggle is the fight against fascism and for a new society based on cooperation, common ownership and distribution according to need. The class struggle is a conscious struggle. There is no middle ground. **RC**

Program of the League of Revolutionaries for a New America

Editors Note: In this issue of Rally, Comrades! we are publishing the Program of the League of Revolutionaries for a New America, adopted by delegates to its 9th Convention held in June 2018. The LRNA Program is a precise formulation of the actual process underway, formulates the League's basic view, and establishes its immediate political task.

The United States of America – indeed the entire world – is in the throes of epochal economic revolution. Transformation from electro-mechanical industry requiring human labor to operate gigantic means of industrial production to digitally controlled production requiring little or no human labor is the determining content of our time.

The qualitatively more efficient means of electronic production greatly lowers the cost of production of the basic necessities of life. This makes possible a sustainable economic paradise of abundance for all. Under capitalism, however, it leads to the falling price of labor power and fastens the chain of poverty, exploitation, and stultifying toil ever more tightly upon the worker.

The steam engine created an industrial working class that replaced the existing manufacturing class. A new class of workers is being created by electronic production. This new class consists of employed and unemployed sectors. The part-time, contingent, minimum wage, below minimum wage workers within the employed sector are already over forty percent of the U.S. work force. This employed sector of the class is constantly drawn into the growing unemployed sector that ranges from the structurally unemployed to the absolutely destitute, homeless workers.

The new class cannot solve its economic problems without the public ownership of the socially necessary means of production and the distribution of the social product according to need. For the first time an objective communist economic class is forming to become the foundation for a communist political movement.

Globalization creates this new class everywhere. Global unity is the condition of its national emancipation. The League extends its hand of comradeship around the globe.

Wageless digital production is antagonistic to capitalism, which is based on the buying and selling of labor power. This antagonism is economically, socially and politically polarizing society, making social and political revolution inevitable. A new fascist State form, the naked rule of corporate power, has arisen to oppose this motion. Society must take over these corporations or these corporations will continue to take over society.

Today, whether through words or deeds, vast numbers of socially conscious people declare themselves revolutionaries in opposition to the degenerating social and economic conditions. The League's mission is to unite the scattered revolutionaries on the basis of the demands of the new class, to educate and win them over to the cooperative, communist resolution of the problem. The demands of this new impoverished class for food, housing, education, health care and an opportunity to contribute to society are summed up as the demand for a cooperative society. Such a society must be based on the public ownership of the socially necessary means of production and the distribution of the social product according to need.

The new class must have political power to achieve these goals. In the effort to achieve this political power, the League fights shoulder to shoulder with all political organizations and sections of society that fight against the growing poverty, social and ecological destruction, fascism and war.

In spite of worsening economic conditions, nothing can be accomplished until the American people hold a vision of where they want to go and what they want to be. Creating this vision with them is the overriding task of revolutionaries and the foundation of our organization.

Destruction of the environment, the growing threat of nuclear war and looming pandemics are calling the very existence of the human race into question. The battle is class struggle. The war is for the existence of humanity. We in the League face the future with confidence. We call upon all revolutionaries to abandon sectarian differences, to unite around the practical demands of the new class and to secure the imperiled future of humanity and the planet. **RC**

The Rising Movement Today

The leap in the economy, from industrial production to electronic production, is forcing millions of workers out of jobs, destroying the standard of living they thought was guaranteed to them. The capitalist system is untenable. America's workers are abandoned and are pushed into struggles to obtain adequate housing, healthcare, education, water, and every other human necessity, hoping to get back what they once had. But these refugees from the dying capitalist system actually belong to a new class developing outside the old relations of production. As the robot destroys the economic order, the new class will destroy the social order. Its historic role will be to pull the various aspects of the overall struggle into a class movement, to liberate society from the ruling class and its private ownership of the necessities of life.

Leaders of the ruling class understand that the social effects of the destruction of capitalism will spur huge mass struggles. Their operatives in both political parties are implementing new forms of fascist control, to protect private ownership of the economy at all costs. That's what was behind the arming of police with military weapons, as seen in Ferguson, Missouri and elsewhere. Fascist restructuring is also behind the new network of privately-owned prisons for immigrants, a threat to the freedom of anyone who the ruling class sees as dangerous to themselves.

Democrat and Republican leaders may argue publicly over how to best redesign the presidency, the FBI, or the police, but their basic unity to impose fascism has been revealed more starkly over recent years. The new class has nothing to gain in the debate between Donald Trump versus Robert Mueller. That will not provide solutions to the growing poverty, violence and ecological destruction.

STRUGGLE FOR NECESSITIES REVOLUTIONARY

The struggle for necessities must resist being pulled under the control of one or another section of the ruling class, as they continue to mobilize ever-escalating pressure on the government to provide for the people. Private ownership of today's means of production prevents the government from meeting this responsibility. Therefore, in the electronic era the struggles for necessities are revolutionary. The new property-less class cannot stop fighting for what it needs, but it cannot win the fight within the confines of the current economic system. The struggle of the new class is objectively moving toward creating a new type of communist system, one able to utilize technology for the good of society.

The multiplying demands for health care, for decent housing, and for clean water and air are all part of this overall historic struggle, which is against the ruling class continuing its private ownership of the society's means of production, and for the distribution of what

people need. Protests and mobilizations play an important role in bringing masses into the struggle on their own behalf. But people's consciousness still lags behind the objective changes and the new possibilities wrought by the electronic revolution. Without new revolutionary ideas, many of the combatants will be vulnerable to the ruling class idea, that their progress can only be guaranteed at the expense of other workers.

“ What's developing in America today is not limited to separate movements trying to improve conditions for separate groups based on color, gender, or immigration status. We are seeing one objectively communist class, whose interests lie in uniting into one class movement to eliminate private control of everything it needs. ”

For example, in recent years the struggle of immigrant workers, to feed their families without a constant threat of ICE raids at their jobs and homes, has expanded to include the fight against their children being stolen by the government and tossed into “baby prisons,” or across the border. Millions of citizens have declared their opposition to this atrocity carried out in their name, including many who identify as “conservatives.” But, even among those opposing this form of fascism, many still think that jobs should go to citizens instead of immigrants; they are at risk of being won over to other aspects of the fascist agenda. They are in desperate need of new, revolutionary ideas, showing the possibility of pulling the struggles of both native-born and immigrant workers into a united fight against the ruling class.

BUILD UNITY ON CLASS INTERESTS

As people are forced to discard their old beliefs about the fight for jobs and the economic security that capitalism seemed to promise, many are beginning to abandon old political beliefs about race and class. Those old beliefs prevented them from seeing themselves as part of the new class being created by the electronic revolution. Many struggles originated in communities or industries mainly made up of one color or ethnicity of people, a consequence of America's long history of separation and segregation of working-class people. So, when struggles over basic necessities also include battles against discrimination and demands for social equality, the ruling class portrays these demands as “racial move-

ments” to make it appear as if these struggles have nothing to do with the struggles of the rest of the class.

An understanding about the new class will not spontaneously grow out of the different struggles, even though the fighters actually do belong to it. Class consciousness must be introduced into those struggles by revolutionaries who fight alongside of them. Even how the word “movement” is used puts limits on

our thinking. For example, Merriam-Webster dictionary defines it as “an organized effort to promote or attain an end – [example] the civil rights movement.” What's developing in America today is not limited to separate movements trying to improve conditions for separate groups based on color, gender, or immigration status. The class developing outside of the old property relations is an objectively communist class, whose interests lie in uniting into one class movement to eliminate private control of everything it needs.

Eliminating the causes of the growing misery of the new class will require it to unite its scattered struggles into one, fighting to revolutionize the whole society. For a long time that didn't seem true. As capitalism established itself through conquests, slavery, and vicious exploitation, the ruling class was able to maintain the loyalty of many workers by granting limited concessions, and even major reforms like civil rights, legalization of unions, and rights for women. But the electronic revolution has not only sounded the death knell of the old industrial capitalism, it has polarized the economy to the point, when today just three Americans own as much wealth as the poorest half of the population.

BRING VISION OF NEW SOCIETY

The rising movement faces both new opportunities and new dangers. The opportunity is that a formerly secure sector of the industrial working class and a section of the intelligentsia, whose influence has always been used to bind the masses to the capitalist class, is increasingly being torn loose from their jobs, homes, and living standards. The destruction

of this middle sector is important because it destroys the idea that the workers and capitalists have the same interests. This sector has some history of organizing to fight for particular demands within the system. If that history of organization can be united with a sense that they belong to a class that can only move forward on the basis of breaking free of the confines of the past, a new unity based on real class interests can be fought for.

But that's also where the danger lies. Revolutionaries may refuse to interact with those, whose thinking includes scrambled bits of ruling class ideology such as anti-communism and ignorance about race and class, to name only two. But, then this middle sector will become easy prey for political operatives of the ruling class, eager to win them into the mass base for fascism, using propaganda blaming other sections of the new class for their worsening conditions.

This sector is not politically cohesive, having a long history of being pitted against one another along color, ethnic, gender and religious lines. Their previous economic security led many of them to accept socially and economically conservative ideas. Unless they are reached with revolutionary ideas explaining their plight, that history can push them toward the fascist mass base that is now playing a divisive and increasingly violent role in America.

Therefore, for both the revolutionaries and the fascists, the “center of gravity” of the rising class movement is this newly dispossessed section of the new class. If the ruling class can keep them locked into obsolete ideas, their influence can be used to keep social struggles uselessly trying to recreate the past. Some may follow leaders who claim their outdated policies will “make America great again.” Others may follow leaders who claim to support each stream of spontaneous struggle, but only to steer it away from progressing towards unity with the struggle of the whole class. Either way, this key sector would then be diverted from influencing others towards a real solution to the problems they face.

If the fighters grasp a vision of the society of abundance made possible by electronic production and digital tools, they can begin to fight in the direction of their own class interest. That direction and its program is the elimination of private ownership of the economy by the capitalist class. As they become clear and conscious about the crisis society now faces, members of the dispossessed middle will use their political experience and connections to help the emerging leaders of the new class focus their struggle in that direction. Today, the program of all revolutionaries must be to fight for this program of the new class, and their point of concentration must become the newly dispossessed. **RC**

Crossing the Nodal Line

We look at events in the world as a process. The current quantitative stage of development simply can go no further, and transformation is upon us. People who are careful politicians have some idea of a “nodal line,” wherein things simply cannot continue the way they are. It is a moment when something must change because every aspect of the environment is changing, and because all of the forces that determine things are changing. The whole world today is facing an economic, social, and political nodal line.

This nodal line constitutes a moment of transformation. A nodal line is the point at which revolutions take place. We are beginning to see, that there is a process going on of economic revolution that precipitates a social revolution. This social revolution begins with the destruction of societies that are in existence and dependent upon the very economy that is being destroyed. Capitalism is wage-labor, and if you take away wage labor, you are doing away with the capitalist system. How can a capitalist society be maintained without a capitalist economy?

NO WAY BACK

There is no way that the ruling class can stop the process that is going on. What we see the world over is the result of the computer, and the globalization that took place because of the computer. All of the economies of the world have been pulled into one world economy. It is not possible for one country today to change without changing the entire structure.

The result is a reality where electronic production pulls all labor into the world market of production, which creates the decline of wages and an upsurge of production. There is a mountain of commodities and no way for the capitalists to distribute them. The people who still create commodities don't get paid enough money to buy back what is being produced. And of course, robots don't consume anything. We see that the capitalists can no longer continue the way that they are going. Capitalism can produce, but it cannot distribute. The standard of living throughout the whole world is declining very steadily. It will reach a nodal line too, where it begins to fall very rapidly.

The most profitable industry, which has held things together for at least the last 30-40 years, is war. War is a gigantic industry. In America for example, the military uses up huge quantities of rubber, tin, steel, glass and clothing. War is no longer a solution for the ruling class. War could be a temporary solution to their economic problems as long as the US fought small, impoverished countries that could not do the US any real harm. That list is exhausted.

The U.S. ruling class finds itself in a situation where any war today will be with a country such as China, Russia and Iran. This means that war would immediately become a World War, and it would become nuclear whether anyone wishes this or not. The American people have the false idea that a nuclear war can

be confined to the Middle East and won't affect them. Of course, the result of all this is that our class can look forward to further decline into a miserable existence in the coming period of time. The world is confronted with the threat of war and the reality of austerity and pauperism.

THE WAY FORWARD

There is a growing and consolidating political resistance against the threat of world war and fascism in every country. The situation is becoming very serious because political resistance is a big step along the way to destruction. This is polarization, where forces that once had been united, then separate. We are seeing this separation now. The next step is that these forces begin to fight each other; they begin to destroy one another.

From the standpoint of our philosophical overview, we can say that America (and the entire world) is reaching the point where things can no longer continue the way they were. Something has to change and it will change very dramatically. It is going to open the door for revolutionary organizations everywhere to begin to consolidate and reassert themselves as a force in history.

The fascist police State we face has every advantage against us. They have the technology, they have the forces, and they have the money. They have everything, except for the decisive thing. They do not have the historical process on their side. It is on our side. We have the crucial and critical base at our disposal if we learn how to use it. This base is the destruction of the capitalist economy, the rise of social revolution, and the emergence of a new class of workers being created from laborless production, who can no longer survive under the capitalist system.

Every country has its own history, and therefore, it has its own path to revolution. Nobody can deny that here in America we are stumbling along a path of mass uprisings. As far back as the 1970s, the League wrote out our understanding of the American path to revolution. We put forth that it is not possible in America to have any uprising except a mass uprising. The only path is with a mass of people who have a goal in mind; who are clear about who the enemy is and who are their friends. Without this there is no way for us to talk in terms of any kind of transformation. It defines us and lays out our tasks. It means the first step is to gather together the revolutionaries, unite them around the demands of the new class and win them to communism.

HOW DO WE BEGIN?

The tactical overview of the League of Revolutionaries for a New America is to get into the spontaneous movement with the purpose of a long-range strategy that begins with trying to get a hold of those leaders who are objectively revolutionaries – those who are instinctively moving against capital, those who are really up against the system, even though they don't understand it, or the significance of their actions. Revolutionaries have to educate

these forces about the possibilities of today, and organize them to be the driving force of the spontaneous movement.

It is these leaders who can win the class to the reality that private property can be brought to an end and spread a vision of the new society. Revolutionaries do have an answer. In the past, it was sectarian to say that what we need is communism. Today, proposing communism is not sectarian because it is the practical solution to the problems the workers face. Communism is the public ownership of the socially necessary means of production and the distribution of the social product according to need.

It is clear that we have entered a period of time when we can create history. This is what we are in the revolutionary movement for. We came into the revolutionary movement because we wanted to see a different kind of world. We are leaving the industrial economy; we are leaving the old. There is now the real possibility of creating a new world.

Revolutionaries have a gigantic job to do and very little time to accomplish the changes necessary. It won't be accomplished unless the leaders thoroughly understand that they cannot change conditions. Conditions are changed by objective forces like developments in science that allow for the development of a computer chip, or any given motive force. It is then that revolutionaries can make a difference. When the philosopher G.F.W. Hegel talked about “mankind creates their own history,” the revolutionary Karl Marx added to it saying, “under given conditions.” That is to say that we are not free to do whatever we want under any circumstances. The thing we do see is that as conditions change, the possibility for us to change history has come into our grasp. We can only triumph if we understand that change, if we understand that history, and if we understand that possibility. **RC**

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History is made by those who understand the vital role of actively struggling for what they believe in. There is no doubt that America, and the world, are undergoing historic changes that are calling forth struggle from every quarter. As in previous epochs of revolution, those who are most conscious and prepared can influence what direction that revolution goes in.

As the political paper of the League of Revolutionaries for a New America, *Rally, Comrades!* is a vehicle to reach out and communicate with revolutionaries, to engage them in debate and discussion and to provide a forum for discussions about a vision for a new America.

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Nationalization: Meeting the Demands for Life

Millions of people have taken to the streets in the U.S. in response to their growing poverty and to end the growing violence. Due to labor-replacing technology, people are losing their jobs, and they end up working part-time, if working at all. Capitalism is actually dying. The ruling class has merged the corporations with the State to protect private property. The new technology produces an abundance that could meet the basic needs of all, yet the ruling class refuses to provide for the people.

Today healthcare, education, pensions, housing, and water are being transferred into corporate hands at the expense of the working class.

Recent evidence that the government is acting in the interests of the corporations occurred in August, 2018, when the government trashed the Clean Power Plan, which aimed to cut power sector emissions. This deregulation allows each state to choose how, or even whether, to set standards for coal-fired power plants. Pollution control upgrades were reduced. Additionally, the U.S. pulled out of the Paris Climate Accord that nearly 200 other nations signed.

The Trump Administration proposed a 2019 federal budget that increased military spending to a \$777 billion boost over the next 10 years. There will be a 42.3 percent cut to all non-defense discretionary spending. The currently planned \$756 billion for government agencies will be reduced in 2028 to \$436 billion. This includes funding for agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency, the State Department and other programs like Head Start. The budget for education is \$63.2 billion, which is a 5 percent reduction from the 2017 spending levels and it includes increased funding for private school vouchers and the expansion of charter schools.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program is being cut by 30 percent, amounting to \$213 billion over a decade. The cuts in SNAP and its food stamp program are a matter of life and death for millions of children. There is to be a 7.1 percent cut to Medicare and a 22.5 percent cut to Medicaid and Obamacare subsidies. The Trump budget will also cut Section 8 housing by \$47 billion. The president's 2019 budget proposal also prevents federal assistance to Planned Parenthood, a key provider of women's healthcare, by excluding funding to any clinic or healthcare facility that offers abortion services.

The Keystone pipeline is another example of the government turning over public lands to private corporations for exploitation. The Keystone pipeline has leaked 210,000 gallons of oil in South Dakota since 2015. Other privatization schemes include opening national parks and other public lands to private exploitation. Fracking and the expansion of offshore oil drilling are also part of the plan to expand privatization of the public domain.

NATIONALIZATION IN THE WORKERS' INTEREST

People are becoming aware that the problems of society require national solutions from the government. They are demanding jobs, housing, food, clean water, healthcare, quality education and other basic needs. They are demanding the government stop the killings by police and the growing culture of violence in America. They are demanding a program for nationalization in the interest of the people, even though they may not be consciously expressing it in this way.

The workers are losing any hope for a good future. They are joining with others who face the same plight. Some are still tied to the ruling class, trying to get back what they have lost, but a growing number within the class are beginning to see themselves as part of a class, and are developing a more socially conscious perception of class unity. This is the stage where the class is beginning to separate from the ruling class. They are beginning to demand a society that guarantees justice, equality, democracy and access to the necessities of life.

FIGHTING FOR BASIC NECESSITIES

There are many examples of how people are fighting the cuts in basic necessities. In Michigan, the residents of Flint protested against the poisoning of the water from the Flint River. When water from the Flint River was pumped into the pipes of the city water system, city officials addressed the bacterial problem by pumping extra chlorine into the system, but did not add any corrosion control treatment. The highly corrosive water caused lead to leach from the pipelines and home plumbing. The fight to make clean and safe water a public resource available to the people based on need is continuing, not only in Flint but across the country.

Another example of a growing awareness of the role of the corporations and the government is the developing revolutionary consciousness of our youth. The youth from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, where 17 members of their school community were killed, are among those leading the demand to change the culture of violence. These students are making demands directly to the government and the National Rifle Association that they do not want their schools militarized. These young people led the March for Our Lives! in Washington, D. C., while hundreds of thousands across the country raised the same demands to stop the killings. The youth joined with the Black Lives Matter movement to declare the need for gun control and to end the police violence.

Teachers in West Virginia went on strike, demanding a 5 percent raise for all state employees, and tens of thousands of teachers in Oklahoma, Arizona, and Kentucky shut down schools across their states when they walked out on strike and rallied at their state capitols. They were demanding more funding

for the public school systems. In Oklahoma, not only did the legislature give the teachers raises, but hiked taxes on the oil and gas industries to fund the raises.

The main question facing the working class today is in whose interest does the government operate, the corporations or the workers? Nationalization can be used as a vehicle by the ruling class to maintain control over the economy to protect private property and continue reaping profits, or for the working class to operate the economy in the interests of the vast majority, the working class.

CLASS AWARENESS INDISPENSABLE FOR THE NEW CLASS

Those who make up the ranks of the new class are those who are unemployed, or minimum wage workers, including those contingently employed or working part-time, due to the new labor-replacing technology. They are demanding food, clothing, housing, clean water, healthcare, and decent jobs from the government. They are seeking a solution to their situation, but they are really fighting for a new society. Revolutionaries must help the workers to align their thinking with the reality that this new society is possible.

The struggles for clean and affordable water, food, clothing, housing, healthcare, and education all have a common cause. Combined, they are politically summed up as a program for nationalization in the interests of the people. Public access to clean and safe water means the nationalization of the nation's water supply, just as public control of quality healthcare and housing and free, quality public education require nationalization in the interests of society and not the private interests of the corporations.

A new fascist State form, the rule of cor-

porate power is arising to protect private property. Society must take over the corporations or the corporations will continue to take over society. Revolutionaries point out the necessity of overthrowing private property and transferring the resources of society into public property. It is a necessity for the future of humanity itself.

The struggle for nationalization in the interests of society is a political step toward the development of the consciousness of our class about the need to abolish private property. Nationalization raises the issue of which class the State serves. Nationalization becomes a battlefield where class consciousness can be taught.

The fight against the hold of private property over society cannot succeed without a vision. Revolutionaries provide a vision of what is possible today, based on the new content of the times in which we live.

To maintain private property, the ruling class must continue to control the economy and political order. It needs the government to intercede in the economy in the interests of the corporations. The workers need the government to operate in the interests of the people. For the workers, this means public access to clean and safe water, public control of healthcare, housing, and free, quality public education.

The task of the revolutionaries is to work within this process to develop the stages of consciousness along the line of march from scattered economic struggles to united political struggles against the State. Such a task requires widespread propaganda within this growing movement that provides a vision of what's possible and a strategy of how to get there. **RC**

Join the League of Revolutionaries for a New America

The goal of all revolutionaries' work today is to give the American people a vision of what is possible. It is a vision of a world where no one has to fight another for the daily bread of existence. It is a vision where cooperation and fulfilling the needs of humanity are the guiding principles. It is a vision that satisfies the deepest yearnings of the people for peace.

Society can now create the abundance the new technology promises, and so a new world: a cooperative society, with this abundance distributed according to need. In spite of worsening economic conditions, nothing can be accomplished until the American people hold a vision of where they want to go and what they want to be. Creating and imbuing them with such vision is the overriding task of revolutionaries and the foundation of our organization. Join us!

For more information or a free information packet, email LRNA at info@lrna.org, or call 773-486-0028, or write LRNA, P.O. Box 477113, Chicago, IL 60647.

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