

21018 I

---

---

# Council of Workers

SOLDIERS *and*

SAILORS

— OF —

TOLEDO, OHIO



# DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

The Council of Workers, Soldiers and Sailors declares that society as at present constituted is based upon the ownership of the means of living by the capitalist or master class, and the consequent enslavement of the working class, by whose labor alone wealth is produced.

In this society there is an antagonism of interests manifesting itself in a struggle between the master class and the working class, which struggle can only be abolished by the emancipation of the working class, from the domination of the master class by the conversion of the means of production and distribution, now held by the master class, into the common property of society, and their democratic control by all of society.

In the order of social evolution the working class is the last class to achieve emancipation, therefore the emancipation of the working class must be accomplished by the working class itself. We can never expect the master class to introduce any measures that will be of the slightest benefit to the working class.

The machinery of government, including the armed forces of the nation, exists only to conserve the monopoly by the capitalist class of the wealth taken from the workers, therefore the workers must organize consciously for the conquest of the powers of government, national and local, in order that this machinery, including these forces, may be converted from an instrument of oppression into an instrument of emancipation.

The ruling class today is absolutely incapable of longer conducting the industrial affairs of the nation in a manner conducive to the welfare of the people. Every act of its official spokesmen in the congress, the senate of the United States and the various state legislatures proves its utter inability to deal with the problems confronting it. Industry has reached such a point of development that the forces of production have come into violent conflict with the existing relations of production, therefore a period of revolution must ensue in which these relations must be burst asunder.

The working class must organize into a class organization for the purpose of waging unceasing warfare against the capitalist class and its instrument of oppression by any action that has for its object the overthrow of the political state of the master class and the substitution therefore of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

The purpose of the Council of Workers, Soldiers and Sailors is to organize all members of the working class into one organization and train them in the principles of mass action in order that we may realize that accumulation of energy, that concentration of force and continuity of resistance necessary to strike the final blow against the capitalist class.

## FORM OF ORGANIZATION.

1. The Council of Workers, Soldiers and Sailors shall be composed of all men and women employed in industry or who in any manner whatsoever contribute to the social welfare, except those who employ the labor of others. This includes all who work for wages, women who are engaged in housekeeping, discharged soldiers and sailors; in fact all the working class, employed or unemployed.

2. No craft or industrial division shall be recognized by the Council, but existing organizations may send delegates to the Council, the basis of representation being one delegate for every one hundred members in good standing, or major fraction thereof, providing such organization endorses the Declaration of Principles of the Council of Workers, Soldiers and Sailors. The representation of the Soldiers and Sailors shall be upon the same basis as the representation of the Workers.

3. The Council shall have the following officers, elected for a period of six months, but subject to recall at any time by a majority vote of delegates, and the terms of office shall expire on the 31st of December and the 30th of June:—a president, vice-president, recording secretary, secretary-treasurer, sergeant-at-arms and reading clerk.

4. The president shall preside at all meetings and be ex-officio member of all committees, except where a committee is elected to investigate the official acts of the president. The vice-president shall be present at all meetings and act as chairman in case of absence of the president. The recording secretary shall keep a record of the minutes of every meeting and permit any member of the Council to examine them upon request. The secretary-treasurer shall have charge of all funds and keep an accurate account of receipts and expenditures. The sergeant-at-arms shall take care of the door and admit only bona-fide members of the Council at any business meeting. The reading clerk shall read the minutes of the previous meeting, communications, etc. In case of absence of sergeant-at-arms or reading clerk, the president shall appoint members to take their places.

5. All checks must be signed by the secretary-treasurer, the president and vice-president. All money must be deposited in a reliable bank.

6. Roberts' Rules of Order shall be observed at all meetings.

7. This shall be the only rules of order observed by the Council of Workers, Soldiers and Sailors, as we do not recognize bourgeois formulas and consider a detailed constitution an impediment to revolutionary action.

8. Any member of this Council who renounces the declaration of principles will be immediately expelled upon competent proof without the formality of a trial. In case the expelled member desires a trial it shall be granted.

9. Sufficient working committees shall be elected subject to the desires of the Council.

10. This document shall be amended at any time, subject to majority vote of the Central Executive Committee.

## WORKERS OF TOLEDO AND VICINITY

The time for action has come. The final struggle is beginning to take shape. Workers! it will be up to us whether or not we are prepared.

Today the workers must organize with but one view, and that is the unity of all our forces. This concentration of our power is the first step to meet the coming crisis.

Today, we are separated by different programs and craft divisions. This condition must not be allowed to exist. We must meet upon a common ground. The function of the Council is to have the necessary force to strike the final blow against capitalism.

A meeting of the members will be called within a few weeks, where plans will be laid to call a meeting of the representatives of the factories of the city.

We are in communication with the councils of Portland, Seattle, Paterson and other cities. Within a short time a national council will be formed.

We are getting in communication with the Councils of Canada and Europe, in order to affiliate with them.

Workers, it is up to you. Shall we be prepared or not?

Those out of the city can affiliate.

---

Council of Workers, Soldiers and Sailors of Toledo.  
706½ Monroe Street, Toledo, Ohio.

I endorse the declaration of principles and form of organization, and herewith send in my name as a member.

Name -----

Address ----- City -----

**ALEX SCHWARZENFELD,**  
Secretary-Treasurer Pro Tem.

