
Open Letter to John Keracher, Executive Secretary of the Proletarian Party of America in Chicago from C.E. Ruthenberg, Executive Secretary of the Workers Party of America in New York, March 17, 1923.

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Dear Comrade Keracher:—

In the name of the Central Executive Committee of the Workers Party I am extending to your organization an invitation to join the Workers Party.

The Workers Party has demonstrated during its year of work that it is a Communist Party. Its delegates attended the 4th Congress of the Communist International [Nov. 5-Dec. 5, 1922] and it has been recognized by the Communist International as a fraternal organization. The program of our organization is a clear statement of Communist principles and the constitution provides for a centralized Communist form of organization.

The Proletarian Party has declared itself to be a Communist organization. It has declared its sympathy with and support of the Communist International. On the basis of these declarations we are of the opinion that the members of the Proletarian party should become a part of the centralized, Communist party — the Workers Party of America.

We recognize in the membership of your Party an earnest self-sacrificing group inspired by the determination to help realize the goal of the Communist

movement. However, as a separate organization, with its present membership, the Proletarian Party cannot play an effective part in the class struggle in the United States. As members of the Workers Party, which now embraces 20,000 members, the members of your organization can render vastly greater service. We believe that this service could be very great indeed along the line of assisting in carrying on the educational work within the party.

The Communist movement in this country is making new steps in advance. After years of persecution it is again openly carrying on its work. The consolidation of the Proletarian Party with the Workers Party will be another step forward.

I request that you bring this matter before your National Committee. Details can be taken up through a conference of representatives.

For unity of all Communist forces in the United States, I am

Fraternally yours,

C.E. Ruthenberg,
Executive Secretary.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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