

spoke about the fraudulent manœuvres of the Austrian bourgeoisie and Social-Democracy in the question of union with Germany. "In Germany there prevails such poverty, such unemployment, such food and financial distress that we face a catastrophe exactly as you do. We, the German Communists will firmly and faithfully fight with you in your battles. The new If-and-but-International of the Mensheviks will not live long. It is incorrectly said that Austria will play no part in the emancipation struggle of the working class. In the great struggle between revolution and counter revolution in Central Europe, the great decisive battles will probably be fought here in Austria."

Comrade Schlesinger spoke as the representative of West Hungary and described in a gripping manner, the sufferings of the Hungarian proletariat under the Terror of the Horthy bandits, and closed with the call, "The Hungarian Soviet Republic has fallen! Long live the Soviet Republic of the World!"

Comrade Tomann spoke on point 1 on the order of business: "The immediate tasks of the party." "It is the task of the Communist Party of Austria to oppose the opportunist leaders of the Social-Democracy, with all possible means, in all the trade unions, workers' councils and factories, everywhere where workers are. The unity with the Left Wing lays the foundation for a Communist mass party." He pointed to the necessity of correlating the daily anxieties of the masses with the struggle for the dictatorship of the proletariat; of arousing the country proletariat; of fighting for the control of production; accomplishing the support of Soviet Russia through the control of arms and munitions transport; of strengthening the agitation among the transport and railroad workers.

After the detailed resolution on the immediate tasks of the party was passed after a short debate, the creation of country-secretariat decided upon (be it noted that the convention did not at all occupy itself particularly about the position of the Communist Party of Austria on the agrarian question in Austria) the question of union with Germany and the West Hungarian question came up. After a short debate by Franz Koritschon, the resolution of the U. C. P. of Germany on the question of union with Germany and the resolution of Koritschon on West Hungary were passed. The former declined participation in the "union with Germany" movement led by the Social-Democrats as illusionary and closed with the words:

"With or without formal union, German-Austria is already drawn into the sphere of interest of the German counter revolu-

tion. The vindication as well as the extension of the German and of the Austrian revolutions, the vindication of world revolution with its vanguard, Soviet Russia, impose upon the German-Austrian and German proletariat alike, a series of concrete tasks which demand the closest co-operation of both parties."

"Accordingly, the Communist Party of Austria proposes to its German brother party, for the purpose of closest co-operation in all common problems, to create a common commission whose competency, position, etc., shall be determined in agreement with the executive of the 3rd International."

"However the Communist Party of Austria cannot overlook in considering the common tasks of its own and the German proletariat that in view of the geographical position of its country which faces toward the Balkans, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Italy, their special tasks in the further course of the world revolution point to the supporting of the revolutionary movements in these countries as their first duty."

The resolution on West Hungary demands that the Communist Party give its support to the "union with Austria" movement in West Hungary whose proletariat has at present no possibility of existence in West Hungary.

The proceedings of the second day began with a report by Comrade Friedlander on the workers' councils in German Austria. According to his opinion, the workers' councils in Austria in contrast to those of Germany are not transitory phenomena of the revolution, but a concession extorted with difficulty from the capitalist state. They have firmly established themselves and are a factor making for

disintegration in the otherwise hard-shelled Social-Democratic Party. The interests of the Communist lie in energetically working with them and by stern reality to convince them. In the next struggles, the workers' councils will be the most important instrument of the Communists. A resolution in this direction was passed. The matter of organization was next on the order of business, and after that, the press. The conviction that we will succeed in breaking and thorough report on the work in the trade unions and the tasks of the factory councils. On the trade union question Comrade Glass, who presented the report, represented the viewpoint of the Third International, the capture of the trade unions from the Communist movement. He closed as follows: "I believe that today's unity convention has at its disposal just in this question a number of sound comrades within the trade union movement, comrades who have been closely bound up with the trade union for decades, and who are conscious of their duties as Communists. I am of the firm conviction that we will succeed in breaking up the autocracy within the trade union movement, but that it will be necessary that the single factory workers be active not only among the circle of forces in their shop or factory but they must extend their activity outside of their factory to the locals. The first break has been made. The warring activity of the trade union committee has shown that we already control a number of locals, that it is only necessary that we set to work with renewed energy that we may succeed in welding the proletarian organizations into proletarian organizations for battle, which will lead us to the victory of Socialism."

The convention closed with the elections to the Central Executive Committee.

Speech of Paul Levi at the Unity Convention of the Left Independent Socialist Party and the Communist Party of Germany.

DO NOT take it amiss if I greet this convention with intense feeling, for this convention is the climax of a long and bitter struggle. The events which led up to this convention are marked with blood. It is an important episode in the history of the proletariat of the world. It is an occasion for profound emotion that we again meet together with many comrades with whom for a long time we were bound to work but from whom we were separated because we and they believed that the same could be reached by different paths.

We, the members of the Communist Party, have trodden a thorny path. Our struggles with bourgeois illegality, which

drove the movement under ground, brought us the severest trials. And not only did we have to fight against the bourgeoisie. During our illegal existence we were obliged to carry on a struggle which resulted in a split in the party. We have taken this upon ourselves but we have worked with the consciousness of being of service to the working class in that we have sought to formulate a tactical platform upon which the revolutionary proletariat might stand.

The comrades of the Independent Socialist Party took another path. They could remain in a mass party. They could step into the struggles with great masses while we could only direct it. In the