

The MILITANT

Semi-Monthly Organ of the
Communist League of America
(Opposition)

VOL. II. No. 11

NEW YORK, N. Y. July 1, 1929.

PRICE 5 CENTS

GASTONIA

The eyes of all enlightened workers must turn today to Gastonia, North Carolina, the scene of the first great battle for the unionization of the South and the attempt to halt this work by the time-honored method of murder frame-up against nearly a score of the strike leaders headed by Fred Beal. The attempt to railroad the strike leaders is the outcome of the raid on the strikers' tent colony on June 7 which resulted in the fatal shooting of the chief of police, the leader of the raid. This raid, with its tragic consequences, was the culmination of weeks of provocation, Czarist oppression and lynch law invoked against the strikers by the authorities under the control of the mill owners.

That fatalities did not occur sooner is proof of the restraint and discipline of the workers. That finally, after they had been starved, beaten, evicted and driven into a tent colony they fought back in self defense is testimony to their courage which all class conscious workers will applaud. Gastonia has written its name already on the bright pages of American labor history. The workers there have fought and are fighting not for themselves alone but for the cause of all the exploited who aspire to organization and freedom. Their support and defense is a duty of the American working class. It must become a burning issue of the labor movement.

The unionization of the newly industrialized South, proceeding through blood and fire, is a work of profound importance for the future of our labor movement. Every step forward in this field has a strengthening and invigorating influence all around. These workers must not be compelled to fight alone. Widespread, national support is the duty of the hour.

The Communists, the most dynamic element in the working class, have played their part in the vanguard of the battle at Gastonia. In contradistinction to reformist neglect and treachery they have fought at the head of the struggle of the workers. Experience here again shows that it is the revolutionaries who fight most aggressively and courageously for the smallest reforms in the conditions of the workers.

But the Communists cannot and should not wage this fight alone. And the newly industrialized Southern workers must not be separated from the older and better organized workers of the north, not even from those who only partly understand the issues at stake. This will only isolate the struggle and condemn it to defeat. The issue of Gastonia has become a national issue which cries out for the formation of the broadest possible supporting movement. The local struggle must become a national struggle and gain the support of the working class. The advancement of unionization among the Southern workers and the lives of the arrested strikers and strike leaders depend on this.

For the development of this struggle on a national scale and on a broad basis all sectarianism must be cast aside. All efforts must be directed toward the mobilization of all conscious and progressive forces in the working class and all sympathetic elements around the communists for the help of the Gastonia workers. Any other policy is hopelessly futile, against the interests of the workers and condemned in advance to defeat.

Our way is clearly indicated by the experience of previous struggles as well as by the relation of forces and the tested fighting methods of communism. The management of the Passaic strike, despite minor errors was a brilliant exemplification of these methods which must be revived and emulated in the present situation. The Communists at the head of that historic struggle utilized the tactics of the united front with brilliant success. Thereby a broad supporting movement was created in which great masses of non-communist workers took part, along with the sympathizing and liberal elements whose aid in the circumstances was very valuable. The Passaic strike conferences throughout the country which provided the material and moral reserves of support for the striking workers at Passaic, and the methods whereby they were created, are good examples for our guiding line now.

The great Sacco-Vanzetti agitation is another excellent example of how the Communists, despite their numerical weakness and lack of direct influence over the masses, are able by correct tactics to organize hundreds of thousands of workers and set them into motion on a class issue. The Communists, as the decisive element in the International Labor Defense, were indubitably the leading and organizing force in this vast campaign. If this had been done at the start of the fight Sacco and Vanzetti would have been saved. The key to the successful work of mobilization in the Sacco-Vanzetti case as in the Passaic strike consisted in subordinating names and forms to the movement, in appearing as the defenders of the general interests of the workers and not simply of partisan aims and in the organization of non-communists and even anti-communist workers for the struggle on that ground. These methods alone made the movement possible and indirectly brought a hundred times more credit and prestige to the Communists than could have been gained by any ballyhoo of self-praise.

All this holds good in the present struggle. Nothing has happened in the meantime except to confirm this truth. The extent to which this is realized and applied in practice will have a decisive bearing on the scope and effectiveness of the struggle for Gastonia.

Banquet for Balbo - Exile for Trotsky

The anti-Fascist movement in this country, and in the rest of the world, is experiencing a tumultuous discussion and dissension. The subject involved is the report that Teruci, chief of the Fascist militia and Italo Balbo, one of the most notorious hangmen of Fascism, and Minister of Airways in Italy, upon his arrival with an airplane squadron of Fascists in Odessa, U. S. S. R., was given an enthusiastic reception by the Soviet authorities. According to the United Press reports, Balbo and his fellow blackshirts had a banquet tendered to them in Odessa which was attended by the official head of the Soviet Air Fleet and other notables.

Thousands of the best sons of Italian labor were murdered, assaulted and imprisoned by Mussolini's butchers. It is Italo Balbo whose name is an imprecation on the lips of every Italian proletarian. It was he who ordered the murder of the anti-Fascist priest, Don Minzoni, for which he was tried and released. It was he who has the blood of scores of Italian revolutionists on his hands. Wherever he goes he is pursued by the curses of the working class. When he came to Argentina some time ago, the demonstrations of the workers against him raised such a commotion that two of them were killed by the reactionaries. In New York City, when Balbo came here he was met with a demonstration of infuriated workers at the City Hall, at the Plaza Hotel and at the dock when he sailed. Many of the Italian workers in the city felt the clubs of the Tammany Hall police who protected Balbo. In Greece and Bulgaria through which he has just passed, no reception was accorded him.

After the death of the martyred Matteotti, a session of the League of Nations in Geneva took place, during which Mussolini came forward with outstretched palm to Emile Vandervelde, the Belgian social patriotic prime minister. Vandervelde said: "I don't give my hand to Matteotti's murderer." Even the yellow social democ Vandervelde did not dare to shake the hand of blo.

But Stalin

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of Lenin, for a leader of the Bolshevik Revolution, for a founder and leader of the victorious Red Army, for a founder and leader of the Communist International — Stalin has only imprisonment and exile in Siberia and deportation to the White Guards in Turkey.

PARTY MEMBERS PROTEST BALBO'S RECEPTION

On Friday, June 21, 1929, at the district membership meeting of the Italian comrades in New York and vicinity at the Workers Center, the question of the Russian reception to the famous fascist murderer, Italo Balbo, was heatedly discussed for hours. Many of the Italian comrades protested against the action of the Stalin regime, the most energetic voice of condemnation being raised by comrade Mainelli, of Union City, New Jersey. When he declared: "It was shameful to receive Balbo!" he expressed the feelings of numerous Italian comrades who have had to hang their heads and be unable to reply to the taunts of the yellow socialists and anti-Party Italian press in New York, which has raised a hue and cry about the Balbo reception.

PICNIC

arranged by the
New York Branch of the Communist
League of America
in PALISADES PARK, N. J.
ON SUNDAY, JULY 14th

Directions: Take Fort Lee Ferry at W. 130th St. On the Jersey side take Hudson River car to Dalia Boulevard. From Dalia Blvd. ten minutes walk to end of Seventh St., Palisades Park. From the Jersey side of Fort Lee Ferry auto service from 9. A. M. to 2 P. M.

— There will be eats, and fun —
TICKETS 25 C.

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New Split Begins Lovestone is Expelled

The falling apart of the Right-Center Bloc in the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the International is already finding its inevitable expression in the Communist Party of the United States. Jay Lovestone, yesterday the leader of the Party and comrade-in-arms of Foster in the war against the Communist Opposition, has been expelled by the new Political Bureau manufactured recently in Moscow. At the same time, Bertram D. Wolfe was suspended from the Political Bureau of which he was a member. These actions, together with similar ones to follow, were already evident from the tone and content of the spurious "enlightenment campaign" carried on in the Party press since the receipt of the "open address" of the Executive Committee of the Communist International. They represent the beginning of a new split in the Party.

Lovestone-Wolfe-Gitlow and Company are undoubtedly leading a split away from the Party to the Right, the logical conclusion of their whole past course of petty-bourgeois corruption and opportunism, a course in which they were continuously supported by the Stalin Executive Committee of the Communist International. They are obviously allied with the Right Wing in the International, led by Bucharin, Rykov and their faction. They will undoubtedly bring forward a Brandler platform of tactics for the American movement which will clash with the new "left" policy of the party all along the line. The Lovestone faction is strongly entrenched in the party apparatus and in the leading circles of the Needle Trades group of opportunists, and is already waging an effective internal struggle of factionalism and sabotage against the decision of the C. I. and the new "leadership" made to order by it. At the opportune moment Lovestone and Wolfe will be able to deal a heavy blow in the open.

The "enlightenment campaign" throws no light whatever on the actual processes at work and only prepares the ground for deeper convulsions. Its explanation of the new events is false and superficial from start to finish. What is taking place in the American Communist Party, as in the Communist International as a whole, is the splitting of the movement, the disintegration of its forces, the smashing of its prestige and recruiting powers among the workers. We are witnessing the culmination in the American Party of the disruptive influence of Stalinist centrism on the International movement. Only those who understand this can help the movement back to the path of Lenin.

Organization measures, suppression and falsification — the sole weapons of the newly appointed leaders — cannot cope with the disintegration. They only strengthen and deepen it. They sow pessimism and discouragement in the ranks. The Party members vote without understanding or conviction in the vain hope for peace and unity while the whole situation matures new and fiercer factional struggles. Stalinism has led the Party to a blind alley, disrupted it from within and weakened it enormously before its enemies.

Formal discipline as a cover for political impotence and bureaucratic rule has played itself out. Organization measures have lost their effectiveness. The only salvation of the movement lies in ideological clarification and a reunification of the communist ranks on that basis. The communist workers need to know what is really behind the crisis, to think and to act with conscious purpose. The cablegram leadership, without political strength, without independence, without ability and without courage cannot create the conditions for this. The communist workers will win their way to a Leninist understanding of the situation only in revolt against them.

The party needs a real discussion of the three conflicting political lines which are now clearly revealing themselves: The Right, the Centrist and the line of the Communist Opposition. The Party needs to smash through the artificial limits of the fake "enlightenment campaign" and compel a real political discussion of the issues and the viewpoints. This is the way out of the crisis. This is the way to the consolidation of the proletarian communist forces and a new life for the