

LETTERS FROM THE MILITANTS

3rd PERIOD HITS DAILY WORKER

New York, N. Y.

Dear Comrades:

The third period has hit the *Daily Worker*. In line with the Stalinist ukase on the Bolshevization of the Party apparatus, A. B. Magli and S. Pollack were removed from the staff over a month ago, and Harrison George and General Paul Crouch shoehorned into their places. Shortly before that happened, Sender Garlin obtained a leave of absence which has since become permanent; he is now in Pittsburgh, ostensibly as editor of the *Coal Digger*.

More recently the new leadership decided that the hour for taking over the last stronghold of non-Fosterism had struck, and consequently Whittaker Chambers who despite taints of Lovestoneltis has handled the copy desk for five months, Miller and young Jacob Burke, the cartoonist, who has been doing the make-up, were notified early this week that the axe had fallen.

They go tomorrow to make room for Harry Gannes, Nat Kaplan and Bill Dunne. The first named is to be the *Daily's* financial "expert"; Kaplan replaces Chambers on the desk.

The stout-hearted Harry Wicks is no longer with us; he has been gone for several weeks and since his departure most of the editorial boiler plate has been pounded out by the granite monument to brilliance, with an occasional bull thrown in by Minor or the Polcom or Cohen himself. Once the springs of editorial inspiration ran so dry, what with Minor gadding about blatherskiting with the new illuminati, that old Vern Smith was pressed into service to write a chapter of the Stalin gospel.

Those who remain on the staff are Smith, the indispensable (national labor news); Barbara Rand, a former *Graphic* sob-sister, at present out in the Illinois mine fields writing up—gawdelpus!—the struggle of the miners (now we know who is leading the *Daily's* struggle against Watt and the Trotskyists!—Ed.); Martin Moriarty, a young comrade; and N. Hong, warker-correspondence editor and handy man around the office. Crouch? He has been entrusted with what is called national political news. For a while he was hanging between the devil and the deep blue sea—the League wanted to ease him out and the Party had no place available for one of his astounding parts. The General fought like sixty to retain his hold on his League connections, but in the end they put the skids under him and, quite naturally, he landed in the *Daily* chancel with a dull and sickening thump.

The *Daily*? Ask any rank and file worker what he thinks of it, especially in its present Bolshevized, Fosterized, politicalized form. Did you know that the central organ now actually goes to press without benefit of United Press ticker service, or even the capitalist newspapers? The ticker was shut off a week ago because of failure to foot the bill, and a few days later the newsdealer stopped leaving the papers for the same reason. But then, the *Daily* always did manufacture its news out of the thin air, so where is the difficulty?

The Active Press is in sad straits, and it is bruited about that the *Daily* itself may go under at any moment; if that happens, it will probably reappear as a weekly. One more fruit of the new line.

Yours in comradeship,

K. WILKES

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MOVING AHEAD IN MINNEAPOLIS

Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Comrades:

The League in Minneapolis is carrying on real good work, which will bring in many new members from among the American workers. We are about to start a campaign to organize the general drivers into unions. We have very good connections in this particular industry. We are also carrying on work among the cab drivers with good results. A Left wing has been developed in the Amalgamated which meets regularly and has excellent connections.

The defense movement is going on fairly good with prospects of more mass support in the future.

Two classes have been organized by the League—one in the A. B. C. of Communism and the other on American labor history.

The Party is back in its underground days and is issuing manifestos and leaflets like then, only this time they are not numbered. The last one was about us "splitting" the labor defense when we tried to work with them and were expelled. I am called traitor, renegade and accused of making alliances with S. P., City Hall prosecutors, and A. F. of L. labor fakers. These

leaflets are doing the Communist movement untold harm and the workers class the members of the Party as a bunch of crazy people. It will take years to live down these blunders.

Yours for Communism,
CARL SKOGLUND

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A DAILY WORKER EXPERT

Buenos Aires, Argentina,

Dear Comrades:

Who is this Albert Moreau who writes in the *Daily Worker*? His articles are terrible for lies, exaggeration and ignorance. In the *Daily Worker* of September 12, he says: "Radowitzki... within the four walls of Ushahala prison, Buenos Aires." Now, Ushahala is a convict settlement in Tierra del Fuego, more than 2,000 kilometers from Buenos Aires. It's like saying "Manila prison in the State of New York."

Then again "Workers... are demanding in huge demonstrations the release of Radowitzki". Is a meeting of about 400 persons "a huge demonstration" for a city of over two million population? For Sacco and Vanzetti we had some big meetings—50,000 at the lowest estimate—but never for Radowitzki. Besides the affair of Radowitzki is claimed entirely by the anarchists, and Communists have very little to say in it. As for "The Communists... are the leading elements in this almost general upheaval"—that's so much rot. Neither the Op-

position nor the official Communist Party is leading anywhere in South America. We do our best, of course, but that's all. Lenin taught that the truth is the best way to win the masses, but nowadays all the press that's inspired by Stalin and the C. I. is nothing but words, words, a tissue of misrepresentations and hot air.

Comradely yours,

R. G.

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THE SPORTS MOVEMENT IN CANADA

Toronto, Canada.

Dear Comrades:

The Toronto group is now getting into shape for action. I am quite hopeful that the new year will bring stability back into our ranks. We plan a couple of public meetings with comrade Spector, beginning with January.

The whole workers' sport movement looks as though it has slipped out of the hands of Stalinists. Following the complete bankruptcy of the Canadian Stalinists in the organization, a number of Finnish worker sportsmen are now trying to reorganize the national executive.

In an open letter to the Labor Sports Union of America, the secretary of the Workers Sports Alliance (Canada) condemned the factional splitting methods of the Young Communist League which has brought chaos into the organization. The C. E. C. has already appointed a committee

to investigate the fake charges that were made against us after we were expelled, and promise to publish an open statement on the truth of our expulsion both to the membership and in the labor press.

The C. P. continues to slip downhill to complete bankruptcy. Mass expulsions are again taking place and more and more to come; after years of compromise with the Right wing leaders of the Finnish organizations. The whole conflict was continually suppressed from the rank and file. The membership is unable to figure out what it's all about. What confidence can the rank and file have in a leadership that was steamrollered to the top, with less than 2% of the membership supporting them.

The Ukrainian membership are next to be expelled. After that there will remain the 100% Bolshevik leadership and a handful of faithfuls if they too don't get the royal toe. The former father of the Stalinist line on the trade union field, Salzberg, has also been given the boot after he had come to the conclusion that the Canadian Industrial Needle Trade Union was bankrupt. At the last trade union meeting they told the stupefied rank and file that Salzberg was a traitor, social democrat, etc. Due to the backward ideological level and lack of Bolshevik understanding of the Third Period, the proceedings became quite hot for a while. Not all the workers gulped in the hot air.

MAURICE QUARTER

Φ

Tardieu

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the party thinks that the strengthening of repression is a reply to the broadening of labor struggles. But on the contrary, the less violent these struggles are and the more the party separates itself from the masses, the more the government hastens to ransack the revolutionary organizations, to corrupt and weaken them.

The most pressing need of the Communist party is to find normal relations with the working class again, so as to be able to establish a front against the governmental attack. But it is clear that the party of Cachin or Semard, bound to its international bureaucracy and entirely corrupted in its cadres, is incapable of it. The pressure of the conscious workers is needed, devotion and patient work are needed to create cadres anew, nuclei with clear ideas,—in a word, to recreate a Communist party.

P. NAVILLE

Paris, November 15, 1929.

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Where to Buy The Militant

LOS ANGELES, Calif.: Belmont News Co., 101 East 5th St.; Western News Stand, Box 604, Arcade Station.

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.: McDonald's Book Shop, 65 Sixth Street

WASHINGTON, D. C. Gale's Book Shop, 805 Tenth St. N. W.

CHICAGO, ILL. Cheshinsky's Book Store, 2720 W. Division St.; Horsley's Book Store, 1623 W. Madison St.; and on various newsstands.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.: Joe Angelo, 431 No. Wesley St.

BOSTON, MASS.: Shapiro's Book Store, 7 Beach St., near Washington.

ROXBURY, MASS., Goldberg's Store, 536 Warren St.

DETROIT, MICH.: Aldas Book Shop, 1713-24th St.; and on various newsstands.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.: Engelson News Co., 234-2nd Ave. So.

KANSAS CITY, MO.: Buehler's Book Store, 220 West 12th St.

ST. LOUIS, MO.: Foster's Book Store, 410 Washington Ave.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.: On various newsstands.

SEATTLE, WASH.: Raymer's Old Book Store, 905 Third Ave.

CALGARY, ALTA., CANADA: Boston News Co., 109-8th Ave. West

TORONTO, ONT., CANADA: On various newsstands.

NEW YORK, N. Y.: On various newsstands in New York and Brooklyn; Blederman Bookstore, 2d Ave and 12th St.; Rand Bookstore, 7 East 15th St.; The Militant, 25 Third Ave.

In addition to the stores listed above, The Militant also can be obtained through members and Branches of the Communist League of America.

Workingmen and women who wish to get in touch with Branches of the Communist League of America (Opposition) or to obtain The Militant are requested to write THE MILITANT, 25 THIRD AVENUE, Room 4, New York, N. Y.

Constitution of the Communist League

ARTICLE I: NAME

SEC. 1. The name of this organization shall be the THE COMMUNIST LEAGUE OF AMERICA (OPPOSITION).

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

SEC. 1. The purpose of the organization is to organize the Communists in the United States and Canada, inside and outside the official Communist Parties, for the struggle to preserve the fundamental teachings of Marx and Lenin in the Communist movement and to apply them in the daily activities of the workers in the class struggle and to reunite the Communist International on that basis.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

SEC. 1. Every one who subscribes to the principles and tactics laid down in the first four Congresses of the Communist International, who accepts the platform of the Communist League and who agrees to abide by its discipline and engage actively in its work shall be eligible to membership in the Communist League.

SEC. 2. Every member must join a duly constituted branch of the League in the locality where he resides. Groups of members shall be organized in places of employment under the supervision of the Branch. Where no branch exists applicants shall be admitted as members-at-large.

SEC. 3. Pending formation of a separate national organization of the Canadian Communists adhering to the Platform and principles of the Communist League of America, branches in Canada shall be affiliated directly with full rights.

ARTICLE IV: ORGANIZATION

SEC. 1. The highest governing body of Communist League shall be the branch made up of not less than five members. When the branch attains a membership of 75, it shall be subdivided into two branches.

SEC. 2. Wherever two or more branches exist in the same locality, a Local Executive Committee shall be formed by delegates from the respective branches elected on the basis of proportional representation.

ARTICLE V: ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 1. The highest governing body of the Communist League is the National Conference.

SEC. 2. Between National Conferences this authority is vested in the National Committee elected by the National Conference.

SEC. 3. The National Committee consists of seven members. The National Conference also elects five alternates who become members of the National Committee in case of vacancies in the order of their vote.

SEC. 4. The National Committee directs all the work of the national organization, decides questions of policy and elects the national secretary, editor and other necessary officers.

SEC. 5. The local governing body of the League is the Local Executive Committee consisting of delegates from the branches elected on the basis of proportional representation. Where only one branch exists this authority is vested in the

SEC. 6. The branch executive committee is elected by the membership meeting of the branch and is subordinate to it.

ARTICLE VI: DUES & INITIATION

SEC. 1. Each applicant for membership shall pay an initiation fee of fifty cents which shall be receipted for by an initiation stamp furnished by the National Committee. The entire initiation fee goes to the National Committee.

SEC. 2. Each member shall pay fifty cents per month dues which shall be receipted for by dues stamps furnished by the National Committee. Of this amount 35 cents is remitted to the National Committee and 15 cents remains in the branch or local treasury.

SEC. 3. Members unable to pay dues on account of unemployment or strikes shall, upon application to the branch secretary, be furnished exempt stamps.

SEC. 4. Members who are three months in arrears in payment of dues shall cease to be members in good standing. Members six months in arrears shall be stricken from the rolls.

ARTICLE VII: DISCIPLINE

SEC. 1. All decisions of the governing bodies of the League are binding upon the members and subordinate units of the organization.

SEC. 2. Any member or organization violating the decisions of the League or any of its authoritative bodies shall be subject to disciplinary action up to expulsion by the organization having jurisdiction.

SEC. 3. Charges against any member shall be made in writing. Charges filed before branches shall be considered by the branch executive committee at a meeting to which the accused member is invited. The recommendation of the Branch Executive Committee is acted on by the membership of the branch. Charges considered by higher units of the organization are also acted on by them.

SEC. 4. Any member subjected to disciplinary action has the right of appeal to the next higher body, up to and including the National Conference. Pending action on the appeal the decision of the party organization having jurisdiction remains in full force and effect.

ARTICLE VIII: CONFERENCES

SEC. 1. The National Conference of the League is held once a year. Special Conferences shall be called by the National Committee upon the demand of branches or local executive committees representing one-half of the membership.

SEC. 2. The Call for the Conference together with an agenda shall be issued at least sixty days before for the discussion of the Local organizations and in the official organ.

SEC. 3. Representation to the Conference shall be based upon the dues-paying membership in good standing for a period of three months prior to the issuance of the Call.

SEC. 4. The manner in which the cost of the Conference shall be defrayed shall be by the National Committee in the Conference.