Letters from Militants is very general. It does not even tell speeches consisted largely of questions, the Utica workers how to organize the such as: Why don't we get more support? The release of the men. Yet Why doesn't the L. D. grow? Why

Party and Opposition in Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH .--

The Left Opposition is on the go in old Smokeytown. Our literature and our propaganda are beginning to dig deep into the sentiments of the Left wing ful conclusion. workers. "Loungism" is becoming a by-word on the Hill, in the downtown section, out in Oakland near the Pitt campus and on Squirel Hill. The reason is not hard to guess. After years of crisis and after so many experience of Stalinist bungling with the great possibilities for Communist work among the suffering and discontented projetariat, Communist and non-Communist workers

are beginning to reflect upon causes. They want to know why so little progress and so much backsliding has been the fate of the labor movement under conditions favorable for its growth. They want to know what the way out is. And they are inevitably turning to the ideas that correctly analyze the past mistakes and point the way to the right road for the present and the future-to the ideas of the Left Oppostion led by Leon Trotsky. Workers want to know what the Bolshevik-Leninist Opposition stands for, they are eager to become acquainted with its Marxist program. Here are a few examples:

Opposition Holds Classes

Recently, two classes, one in the history of the Three Internationals-with comrade Gordon as instructor and one in the Fundamentals of Communism (in the Greek language)-with comrade Sifakis as instructor, have been organized by the local committee of the Communist League. Three sessions have already been held of the first and two of the latter. Every session brings with it new faces. All the workers who attend them show a deeply gratifying interest. Comradely discussions take place, in which supporters of the offical party policy take the floor for argument and rebuttal. All the comrades are anxious to equip themselves with a Marxian education. Needles to say, the Statinists have up to now not even thought of conducting such

educational activities. In addition, a Greek Workers Circle has been organized which is going ahead with planned activities.

Gordon Speaks Before Young Workers On Sunday, October 16, comrade Sam Gordon spoke before the Progressive Youth Club, a young workers' organization up in the Hill section. A few words are necessary for a description of this

The Progressive Youth Club of Pittsa lively and spirited composition thoroughly proletarian in character and alert sive work of the movement. in mind. Within the club, members and supporters of the official party, supporters of the Left Opposition and a few non-descript reactionary elements are active. The latter have been campaigning to "keep politics out of the organization" and have been getting a measure of sup- Communist discipline, a discipline of those zations were asked to add their represent the Unemployed Conference. The constill inexperienced and to whom the in- their reason and importance. evitable connection between the activities of the club and the forces of the class ficiently apparent. The party members, our movement. equipped with the misleading and abortive policies of Stalinism, have been conducting a hard-but hopelessly muddled -fight for an enlightenment of the club members and against the reactionary idea of making the club "non-political".

Oppositionist Gets Floor in Spite of Machine Tactics

But, as in so many other instances, the Stalinist line imposed upon the party membership shows its real, back-sliding and opportunist character, in fact-its meaninglessness, whenever it bucks up on the Sunday in question, when comrade al and continues today. Gordon was invited to take the floor by jumps up and objects. And here is the strange point: He objects-no doubt under instructions from the bureaucrats--on the grounds that Gordon is a "Trotskyspeakers take the floor at meetings. (This was a comrade who had, as a matter of fact, led the fight against the "nopolitics" tendency). Harping, thereby, on Opposition the floor.

A short verbal skirmish took place among the members only, in the course of which, the workers supporting the demand that Gordon be given the floor called for adjournment and invited all these October 25, 1932. who wanted to listen, to stay. But the party comrades had received their in Utica I.L.D. Fails structions. They were determined to prevent the Left Opposition from being to Act heard, no matter for what length of time, no matter on what subject. They UTICA, N. Y. were ready to fight in their determination. In order to avoid a fist fight, the sympathizers of the L. O. called upon all these who wanted to hear Gordon

to adjourn to a nearby room. The great majority of the club members remained and took their places in the and found the state of affairs shocking. next room. Even the party comrades de- Six Utica workers were arrested last cided to stay. Comrade Gordon, referr. July, when the police broke up an uning to the incident of the evening, gave employment demonstration. The men a short half hour's talk on the history of were charged, with inciting to riot and proletarian democracy and on the signi- filteen year jail term. ficance of the latter in preparing the Apparently no real effort is being made working class for the overthrow of its to save them from prison. As party members in a direct but comradely closed, the I. L. D. approach to the case ranging for and speaking at meetings, functionary so sharply reprimanded! The members elect the functionaries at con-

manner and explained to them how their of every worker. It is certainly of suf- are we so isolated from the workers? previous action served a reactionary pur- ficient importance to warrant the form- Why is the L. L. D., which is supposed pose. All these present listened attending of a special defense organization. It to be a mass organization, only composed tively until he was through. None of should not be left in the hands of a small of party members whose meetings are the party members took the floor in re- I. L. D. committee and lumped in with mere duplications of branch meetings? buttal. One of their group even came other cases for general propaganda purover to the speaker to shake hands with poses. him. The meeting then came to a peace-

The "Freiheit' Lies and Slanders As Usual

scrupulous attack upon our courageous where (!). and fighting Pittsburgh comrade, comrade derous character of its attacks against more cooperation. judge for themselves.

The workers of Pittsburgh, coming towards Communism, will, we fear, yet before them to be able to decide amply between the Stalinists and the Left Opposition. They will learn that it is the our Communist party and that it is the Left Opposition alone that will eventually help make it the fighting mass party of the proletariat which it should be.

New Protest Against Stalin Bureaucrats

DAVENPORT, 10WA

To all Young Communist League and Communist party members, sympathizers,

To the Section Committee of the Young Communist League and Communist Party, Davenport, Rock Island and Moline Sec-

Dear Comrades: world in perilous straits.

initiative and life from the rank and file. were nominated and accepted and a vote treat there, he stopped to an attack upon are sold by the Militant in blocs of not regarded. Important decisions are made the 25 and it was impossible for the his slanders there, he finally resorted to the minimum sale \$2. The purchaser can and changed without the voice of the bureaucrats to stomach even this lone sterile demagogy borrowed from the premonths ago to carry on social, sport and rank and file. This results in the inabilcultural activities among the local workon the part of the rank and file to carry into a huddle and hit upon this clever This closed the discussion and a vote the Militant. Third: workers get a fifty

necessary for the healthy life of the movement has been replaced by a mili- opened. Once the nominations were re- the Left Opposition candidate. tary-like discipline whose entire substance is bound by the word "obey". port from some of the members who are who know and understand the decisions, tatives to the committee. And then the ference then adjourned with a hasty read-

cussion and consideration by the rank sentatives did not shrink from the worst invited to bring these to the committee's struggle within capitalist society under and file to bring out a clearer underwhich it exists-has not yet become suf- standing of the theory and practice of demagogy in this fight, in which the sec-

The entire movement is kept in a state of ignorance and doubt on the latest developments of the critical situation in Germany, China and the Union of So-

cialist Soviet Republics. Bureaucracy bloomed at the expulsion of the International Left Opposition and has since held sway throughout the Communst International in the Communist Party of America and in the Soviet Union. Since the death of Lenin, in the struggle against the Left Opposition, bureaucracy became dominant in the entire against the Left Opposition. And so, apparatus of the Communist Internation-

Bureaucracy is necessary for the Stalinist regime to hold sway. When bureau-

tory as in the days of Lenin. Comrades, the struggle against the Left settle this question by the membership.

> Comradely yours, GEORGE MILLAGE. E. E. THURSTON. S. R. CLAUSSEN.

I am sending you a leaflet that speaks for itself. I don't know whether or not there has been anything in the Daily Worker about this.

I attended the meeting of the local branch of the I. L. D. the other night

is very general. It does not even tell | speeches consisted largely of questions, here we have a real class-struggle case do the workers desert us? Why can we that ought to be brought to the attention not build a broad united front? Why

warning the Jewish workers on the Hill ganization. Ten members were present pointed on the defense committee. color |. New York workers have long yer, but he has notified them that he not be "forgotten".

this piece of reporting, the Pittsburgh report at the meeting, and several mem- do all I can while I am here. Jewish workers will have a chance to bers then spoke on the report. Their

These were all significant questions, coming from sincere workers willing to At the time of the six men's arrest, learn and to do something for their class a representative from the I. L. D. was -a real good proletarian element, 1 sent here in connection with the case, thought. So when they were through but soon left the city, after having made putting their questions, I got the floor the local comrades understand that they and attempted to give them an answer. In the Freiheit of Tuesday, October 25, must handle the matter themsleves, the I gave a little history of the I. L. D. there appears an account of this same I L. D. central committee having too and an outline of the party's mistakes. meeting, coupled with a venemous, un- many other matters to attend to else- In contrast to what would happen in New York, where I. L. D. members have The comrades here are all foreign-born, been poisoned against the Opposition. Jim Sifakis, leading Greek worker. After with very little experience in defense or- I was well received and was even apto keep away from this "Trotskyist" at the meeting I attended, and they ap- proposed that a letter be drawn up and tiend, the Freiheit correspondent proceeds peared to be very pessimistic in regard sent to the secretaries of all unions and money to us but are unwilling to give We will keep a record in these columns. to tell its readers that the "Trotskyist to organizing a broad united front for working class organizations in Utica, and money without getting something in re- Now who will be the first? speaker nearly provoked a fist fight and the defense. Two of these arrested that an open letter be distributed to the turn. wanted to break up the meeting". This are still in jail, the other four being out members of these organizations to inis, of course—the Ofgin sheet true to on \$5,000 bail each. They have a law- sure that the letter to the officials should through the club plan to increase the cir-

to stay in Utica to follow up the work, the Left Oppostion. By the example of The defense committee gave in their as I haven't got a job yet, but I will when ordered. These cards sell for fifty into a tie for the leadership. That is

—GADFLY.

wards Communism, will, we fear, yet have many such actions and "reports" The Pittsburgh Hunger March Conference

(Continued from page 1)

Stalinists who by their bungling, their them calculated and discredit the Opposi- cord of militancy in the Pittsburgh rev- donation of two or more dollars. He bureaucracy and their lies, are retarding tion and all certain to reflect more olutionary workers movement. The party says: O. K., but I want something for surely on the stupid and servile speakers, under Stalinist influence, were character of those who made them, as the then forced to grasp-as to a last straw every day struggle continues to prove the -on the word "Opposition" in the official the League. Finally, the discussion was agogic appeal to the sentiments of the summed up by Myerscough, who softly audience, stressing that "Opposition" side-stepped all the political issues, and, means—a desire to disrupt. last point in the order of business.

Bureaucrats against the Leninist Oppositon

Next, the conference proceded to elect an executive committee. Comrade Jim Myerscough once again summed up the sian revolution finds the revolutionary Sifakis, of the Pittsburgh branch of the discussion. Forced at first to argue arrangement? First: the Militant sells shall see this too. movement in America and throughout the C. L. A., was nominated among others. politically, he repeated the Stalinist myth these Paid Sub Cards ONLY on a cash Immediately another flurry started among of the "united front from below" as basis. Thus we get money in advance. Bureaucracy has its stifling hold upon the party members. The committee was against the Opposition's Leninist united This is a very important point as all the throat of the movement, choking all supposed to consist of 25 members. 25 front policy. Heckled and forced to re-The rights of the membership are dis- was in point. But Sifakis was among our Illinois comrades. Interrupted in less than four at one time. This makes committee: There were not enough wo; the Stalinists, they were able to obtain year sub. Everybody gets something Discussion on theory and practice so men workers on the committee! And only some 30 votes against Sifakis, most and the Militant gets a boost on its upwith this, nominations were once again of the others abstaining and 7 voting for ward climb toward a bigger circulaopened, representatives of the National In spite of all these provocations, the Student League, the Musteite Citizens Left Opposition was the first to pledge There is no objection to discipline -a Council and any number of other organi- a definite sum in financial support of fight against the Opposition's nominee ing of resolutions. Others wanting to There is a great need for study, dis- began in earnest. The Stalinist repre- propose resolutions were magnanimously methods of slander, provocation and headquarters. ened-on a committee of 30-by a single feet on the revolutionary workers of

> fend his candidacy. Again the Lenin tionary labor movement in Pittsburgh policy of the Left Opposition was brought has been driven. before the conference, our comrade re-

minding the delegates, many of whom half-hearted and lame arguments, all of knew him from the past, of his long re- approach a worker and ask him for a correctness of the Leninist position of name of our organization, to make a dem-

forced to defend himself for forgetting | Comrade Gordon again took the floor, altogether about the great lessons of the to tear down the veil of demagogy and Chicago incident resorted to picking to bring the discussion once more up to up the cheap slanders of those who pre- a political plane. He reiterated the Left ceded him. No votes on policy were Opposition's unemployed platform, stresstaken. Resolutions were relegated to the ed again our loyal desire to cooperate in the work of the concerence committee, then send them in to the office and be 20 to 1-An Insufficient Majority for the in any case, and called upon the delegates entered as subscribers; or you can sell to put the Communist League to the them on bloc to workers' organizations. test in actual every-day struggle, to judge it and its policies on that basis.

The Left Oppositon's action at the urity of the Stalinist "line" was threat- conference will not remain without ef-Communist League militant! Significant Pittsburgh. An important wedge for the Leninist regeneration of the Communist Comrade Sifakis took the floor to de- movement and for the progress of revolu-

Our Club Plan MILITANTBUILDERS

SECOND PHASE OF THE CLUB PLAN

nced of financial assistance. If it is to basis. They are sold by the Militant in appear regularly as a weekly we must blocs. The minimum number in a bloc build a sounder financial base under it. is four. There is no maximum. These This is primarily a question of circu- cards apply only to new subs. They do lation. That of course rests on political not apply to renewals. The worker who factors. For the moment we are leaving has one of these cards given to him or these aside. We are concentrating on sold to him has only to fill in his name the question of promotion, of building and address and send it in to the Militant a larger circulation.

to introduce here the second phase of the who buys a bloc of these cards is a caub plan. You will frequently run Militant Builder. across workers and people sympathetic to the Left Opposition who are subscribers themselves, have all our liter- long will it take us to convert these ature and who are willing to donate potential assets into cash? Let us see.

It is our idea to put them to work THE STAFF TO DATE been acquainted with the lying and slan- will drop the case unless he receives I don't know how long I will be able be done? Very simply. We have on ago Friends of the Militant Club shot in year sub to the Milkant. Sample below. looks like a lively race. We shall see.

Anyone who sends in one of these cards with his name and address filled out will be entered on the Militant mailing list as a subscriber. How does he get this card? In this way. Suppose you this money. I have a sub to the Militant. I have all of your literature. What are you going to give me?"

To this comrade we say: "Very well. We understand your feelings and we have just the thing you want. If you give us two dollars we will give you four of these paid cards. Each one is good for a half-year sub to the Militant. Now you can do whatever you want with these cards. You can sell them to workers and people you know, one at a time; or you can give them away to workers who can you can and please.

Now some points about the idea. The cards are known as Paid Sub Cards. They The Militant is still desperately in are sold by the Militant only on a cash to be entered as a subscriber. Nothing It is in this connection that we want more is required from him. A comrade

As we said we have 1,000 of these cards. In money that means \$500. How

Comrade Vomas is no longer the unculation of the Militant. How can this disputed leader of the staff. The Chichand one thousand cards ready to ship 8 subs on two club plan blanks and shot cents apiece. Across the top runs this the way we like to see it go. A cut and legend: Exchange this card for one half- dried affair has no interest in it. This

Chicago Friends of

CHICKED TATELLE	
the Militant Club	12
P. Vomas	12
B. Morgenstern	8
V. R. Dunne	8
H. Nash	7
W. Krehm	6
H. A.	4
II. Capelis	4
M. Gottlieb	4
J. Hamilton	4
W. Konikow	4
O. Coover	4
S. Lessin	4
J. Sifakis	4
A. Joel	4
E. McMillen	4
A. Millen	4
J. Weber	4
J. Ross	4
C. Shechet	2

The record by cities also was changed from what it was two issues ago. Minneapolis is no longer in first place. Chic-It is up to you to dispose of them as ago has outstripped it. But this is not for long, say our comrades up there. Now what are the advantages of this Queen sabe as the Spanish say? We

e this too.	
Chicago	24
Minneapolis	20
Pittsburgh	16
Toronto	10
Boston	ŢO
Philadelphia	8
Montreal	7
St. Louis	4
Des Moines	4

As we foretold New York is moving up. Slowly, you say? Right but what counts is who crosses the tape first at the end of the race; and things which have great bulk and travel long distances pick up speed as they go along. Watch our dust.

PAID JUB CARD

Exchange This Card For One Half-Year Sub to the Militant

Good for One Half-Year Sub

\$1.00 a Half-Year to the Militant without this card) A Marxian Paper for Class Conscious Worker

THE MILITANT, 126 E. [6 STREET, New York City Piease send me HE MILIANT for 26 weeks. City State Militant Builder

Des Moines, Iowa - A New Battleground For the Left Opposition

DES MOINES, IOWA .-

by its secretary, a young party comrade cracy is done away with, the party can one of the rotting structure of the and the tasks of the work, that they return to its former Leninist path. The Stalinist system has just fallen. In Des could see that we were proletarian revmovement will revive and march to vic- Moines a good half of the membership olutionists and therefore should be in -11 to 12-are in revolt against lies and the party. bureaucracy. They refuse to be bullied Helping this out was the newness of hey lead those workers through difficult discussion, submission of documents, and or terrorized, insist upon their rights, are the party in the city (6 months), so that battles, and stand those acid tests and the right of opposition, for it is to be some time or other not to have political out the world and has been brought to studying the cause of the Left Opposition the burcaucracy was not yet developed tense strains when they are of such a real? Have we not always insisted that our attention locally. It is high time calmly and objectively. A few others and strong, the members were not poison- puny moral stature? And this isn't the without this you have a mockery, a holthat the rank and file make a thorough are in the process of becoming convinced ed by slander against us, arguments of exception, the comrades knew. Weren't low sham, but no democracy? study of the Left Opposition, its program but all vigorously protest bureaucracy reason accordingly exerted some force. the higher-ups notified and was Schroeand point of view, and then examine the and demand our reinstatement into the Lastly members, still uncorrupted, had der reprimanded or recalled? program as drawn up by the present lead- party. Already we two, Barach and a lively sense of workers' democracy ceeded in pushing through a motion not ership, their point of view and demand Gottlieb, have been expelled, with one and justice to which we could successfulto give the representative of the Left a discussion and convention correctly to other Gay. Three whose probationary ly appeal. periods expire this week, will no doubt rather as if they were just shaking off when we upheld), an insolent attempt to

essence of Stalinism.

distributing leaflets and in our speeches

However, 5 days later, 2 days before of Schrocter, who disrupted the meeting phrase. But to the second and third be expelled. And with these a larger the next unit meeting, we received the and walked out when he was outvoted. we are proud to plead guilty. Whence group of about 6 or 7. To the party following note under a personal signa- The following evening a special unit this concern over the trust and confidence functionaries it looks, indeed, as if the ture from Heinz Schrocter, the section meeting was called by the City Central, of the member? Whence this kowtowing members are intoxicated, have gone mad, organizer: "Your application for mem- out of which we were violently ejected, to the leaders? Learn from Lenin's and or else are excessively "weak" and so bership into the party with your state- while another comrade, Gay, was expelled Luxemberg's struggle! As if by trying have succumbed to our "wily demagogy" ment denouncing (literally) Trotsky's by the City Central which met before the up the destinies of the movement with (although why they-the great almighty theories and tactics in the U. S., has been unit meeting-a City Central in which the leaders of the present moment-we Poobahs with all the power of the appar- received. You are refused admission inatus and their overwelming correctness to the Communist party'. This note, of principle should not be able to more which provoked outspoken resentment than counteract this, is left unexplained). among the member's, was characterized bureaucracy walked out after Gay and But the members themselves feel not in in a resolution of the unit as containing the least intoxicated, mad, or "weak" but an "open brazen lie (that we denounced, the spell of fake promises and glittering usurp authority (refusing us membership entire Des Moines membership, Enlick, or open forum class to its credit (just appearances and have at last seen and under a personal signature), a bureau- the 100 percenter railed and stormed for street meetings), despite the fact that experienced the perfidious, disgusting cratic overriding of the proper procedure an hour and a half with a long sum- the members are new.... We immediand will of the unit." And Schroeter, Comrade Barach and myself were un- its author, on the strength of this and another 50 minutes while we were just of Communism and a lecture class in the animously admitted into the party on some similar misdeeds was censured and granted a meager 40 minutes (they first History in the Opposition. So it wasn't Sept. 12 by Unit 2 even though in our condemned and was warned "that if his statement we stated clearly that we were behavior weren't corrected, more drastic the struggle for workers' free speech and assault, and are now facing a ten to oppositionists and would remain so, but projetarian democracy and on the signi- fifteen year jail term.

Steps would be taken." He was removed and the rest warned, and all this, despite that the opposition must reach these still would obey party discipline, etc. to the City Central. It's been a long only a slim majority of one—10 to 9. units and districts where at present it It was due to the fact that we had worked time since a unit has asserted itself like "Do we not have democracy in the is unknown, because here is a most

troduced to the culinary art as Stalin one-the essence of democracy consists

its tone and substance anyway. But to a referendum or plebiscite? Do not Another pillar-albeit a very diminutive and conversations explaining Communism what kind of a party is it many asked, the workers of America have the bare which has leaders who can attempt such right of election? Is this democracy? little "maneuvers"? Can functionaries Haven't we always insisted and been of this sort gain the confidence and re- taught that true democracy needed a spect of the workers of Des Moines, can basis of full unhampered preliminary

quick successions. The unit meeting of confidence of the members in the leadsat and voted Srhroeter, who had been are best guiding it. And what a fragile recalled the day before. Ten other members, protesting this use of violence and dissolved? What a crew of leaders!

The following week, in a more or less packed and hastily called meeting of the tasks, there not being one study, lecture mary, and her supporters granted her ately strted a study class in the A B C wanted to make it 20). We were expel- peculiar that one of the contacts defined led with Gay, 3 others put on probation us an "educated Communist." apitalist masters. He criticized the you can see from the sample en along with them in the mass work, ar this. Just think.... a loyal Stalinist party?" Erlich protested, "do not the fruitful field. We must redouble our

members, you see, had not yet been in ventions and meetings?" Hear-O stupid least of all in the bare right of elec-This incident, it is true, is in itself tions. Did not Napoleon secure the comparatively unimportant, especially "sanction" of the people of France to seeing that the letter condemned itself by his becoming Emperor by submitting it

"And look,' she said "they disrupt the unity, they atienate the members Incidents of a similar order followed in 1 rom the leaders, they undermine the Sept. 19 admitted us despite the protest ers' The first is of course an empty trust it must be that can be so easily

> Another feature worth mentioning: the party although here all summer has been woefully backward in its educational

-M. GOTTLIEB