

WITH THE SPARTACUS YOUTH MOVEMENT

Hathaway Before Y.C.L. Membership

The speech of C. A. Hathaway, party district organizer at the New York Y. G. L. membership meeting Sunday, April 2, was in outline much the same as the one he delivered at the recent party membership meeting.

After an hour and a half on the banking crisis which he does not yet understand, Hathaway came to Germany. First, by a flood of quotations from the 11th and 12th Plenums of the ECCI he proved that the question of Hitler's coming to power was not a major one for the ECCI.

But already the Nazis admit that there are 8,000 held in their concentration camps, and Dutch Communists put the number below 50,000. Daily the German party loses its best members by arrest and murder.

Finally Hathaway got to the united front, and here the finest results of his two week's research were revealed. The first was his argument to prove that there has been no change in the basic position of the Comintern on the united front.

Oppositionists Slugged at YCL Meet

Over to Hathaway and asked him if he should stop us from distributing. Hathaway shrugged his shoulders and by not attempting to explain to these hotheads that this was no way for workers, let alone Communists, to settle their disputes, thereby lent tacit support to the action.

the social Fascists. Therefore the better to expose them, and the better to show our sincerity in making the united front call, we offer to refrain from criticism of the social democrats during the united front action!

This miserable rationalization is either a denial of the possibility of the united front, or else it is a camouflage for such united fronts as that in China where the C. P. entered and merged in the Ku Min Tang.

YCL OFFERS UNITED FRONT In line with the turn of the Communist party and Young Communist League, comrade Helen North, in the name of downtown section of the YCL, appeared before the Spartacus Youth Club meeting of March 30th and asked the Club to elect delegates to a preliminary conference for youth unemployment relief to be held April 9th.

It is difficult to speak about the morale of the youth. Among the young people, there is a process of differentiation going on all the time. One section is evolving to the side of the opposition but it remains dissatisfied with critical discussions only, and demands action and organizational formulations.

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NOTES

SEMI-MONTHLY YOUTH PAGE IN MILITANT

The National Youth Committee of the Communist League of America (Opposition) is planning to print semi-monthly a youth page in the Militant. This will be supplementary to its regular monthly organ, Young Spartacus. The page will give the youth an opportunity to publish timely and interesting events of importance to the entire revolutionary movement.

SPARTACUS YOUTH CLUB ACTIVITIES

On March 30th the New York Spartacus Youth Club held a meeting preparatory to the April 1st demonstration with Joe Carter, secretary of the National Youth Committee, Left Opposition, as speaker. The proceedings of the United Youth Conference Against Fascism and their meaning were discussed.

APRIL ISSUE OF THE YOUNG SPARTACUS

A general appeal for funds for Young Spartacus has been sent out to all branches of the Communist League and the Spartacus Youth Clubs. As yet the response has been negligible.

If the response does not improve in the next week the April issue of Young Spartacus will be a four pager. It will include an article on Karl Marx, America's entrance into the World War, reports of youth activities in industries and on the jobless line.

1,000 N.Y. Youth Protest Fascism

Over one thousand young workers and students massed before the German consulate last Saturday noon and marched to Rutgers Square, in a protest demonstration against Fascism.

The Yipsels, the Young Circle League—youth of the Workers' Circle—and the League for Industrial Democracy have arranged for a mass demonstration against German Fascism for Saturday, April 8 in Union Square.

The demonstration was organized by the Youth Committee against German Fascism elected at the United Youth Conference Against Fascism held in New York, March 24th and 25th, as a united front of all youth organizations.

As yet the Youth Committee Against German Fascism represents predominantly Left wing and Communist groups. The Rand School Students Ass'n., which to the shame of the Young Communist League had initiated the united front, withdrew at the eleventh hour, the Friday before the demonstration.

The result of the attempts "to protect the members from Trotsky influence" has been an exceedingly low level of political education which is superficial because of its one-sidedness.

Two expulsions have occurred in the past month, comrades Layton and I. We were excluded, under the all-embracing danger of disruption.

It was decided at an executive meeting during my absence, to recommend to the membership my removal from the post of assistant organizer and to place me on a three-month probation in the Unemployed Section of the club.

During the trial the organizer accused me of believing that there should be reports of minority opinion on the Executive. When questioned by a member as to when the membership had passed a resolution forbidding minority reports the organizer explained that the constitution contained nothing concerning that point but that he was acting according to his knowledge of working class organizations.

Members now assure me that I would have remained in the club had I not attempted to organize a Marxist class outside the club. Discovery of this fact caused the Executive to make an amendment asking for expulsion. Their "explanation" is that such a step is an attempt to create factions in the club.

Throughout the last period there is to be observed, with an ever increasing tempo, the return from exile of many former Oppositionists, now "former" capitulators. Most recently there have arrived a great many from Kharkov—many of them arrested there—and chiefly among the arrivals are the repeaters, i. e., "former" capitulators.

participation, four of the five electors were among those who were strongly against affiliation to the Youth Committee Against German Fascism.

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Members and sympathizers of the New York Spartacus Youth Club will meet at 125 East 16th Street at 11:30 A. M. to go in a body to the Union Square demonstration.

New Expulsions in Brownsville

The advice of comrade Hathaway to "arouse a lynch attitude in all Communists" against the Left Opposition has been taken up by the aspiring bureaucrats of mass organizations affiliated to the Communist party.

The club executive committee meets behind closed doors. Its snobbish members have divorced themselves from the rank and file, half of whom consist of raw workers with no political background.

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Joint Meet of League and Weisbord Lays Ground for Close Collaboration

A meeting held on Saturday, April 1, 1933 between representatives of the National Committees of the Communist League of America (Opposition) and the Communist League of Struggle (the Weisbord group), adopted a joint declaration on the relationships between the two groups.

As is known, our League has been engaged for some time in a dispute on fundamental questions with the Weisbord group, concerning which our readers have been informed in the columns of the Militant.

The joint meeting was made possible by a declaration from the CLS to the National Committee of our League which marked a new advance on its part towards our advancement of position, especially on the question of Centrism.

Stalinists and the Upholsterers

And this is exactly what happened. Our committee appeared at the membership meeting with its credentials. They were not admitted to the membership meeting, and their credentials were taken, and the matter was referred to their executive board meeting which met ten days later.

Here again the committee, out of ultra-Leftist disdain for elementary trade union procedure, left itself open to the indignant attacks of Thiez. The haughty credential addressed "to whom it may concern" instead of to the union, as an example, aroused a sneering attack which had its effect on the members of the union as another attempt to ignore their organization.

The Union Committee then decided on a "demonstration" before the membership of Local 76. As some comrades expressed themselves, it might even be necessary to "force" their way into the meeting if the officials would not allow them to enter.

But by this time Thiez was able to so rile his following against the party bunglers that there was absolutely no protest from the membership when he ordered the manager of Manhattan Lyceum to put the entire "mass" delegation out on the street.

The Union Committee has called a mass meeting to agitate for the organization of shop committees of the rank and file, to unite against wage-cuts and lay-offs. Such meetings are always beneficial and are in order. But if these meetings are organized as a substitute for a genuine united front of unions and shops, or with the understanding that all further attempts at unity are to be dropped, they will not achieve the success we are all striving for.

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It is above all important that these questions be thrashed out thoroughly and openly on the floor of the union and that all points of view be heard before final action is taken in the future.

our League which marked a new advance on its part towards our advancement of position, especially on the question of Centrism. The former position of the C. L. S. and of Weisbord on this question, is rejected and the declaration says that "the group as a whole fully accepts comrade Trotsky's views on this question as obtained through reports of his discussion with comrade Weisbord last summer through his letters to us and his discussion of the question in print, particularly in his pamphlet 'What Next?'"

In reply our National Committee proposed a joint meeting with the C. L. S. asking its cooperation with the League in the next period on the following basis:

(a) Acceptance by the Weisbord group of the theses adopted by the Preliminary International Conference of the I. L. O. (b) that it adopt an attitude toward the League as the American section of the International Left Opposition and cease differentiating between and contrasting the one to the other; (c) that the Weisbord group discontinue its claims to be a section of or to represent the I.L.O.; that after a transition period of cooperation between the two organizations on this basis, during which the possibility of joint work is tested, the question of a fusion between the two organizations be referred to the National Conference of the League for discussion.

RESOLUTION OF THE JOINT CONFERENCE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COMMUNIST LEAGUE OF AMERICA (OPPOSITION) AND THE COMMUNIST LEAGUE OF STRUGGLE

1. Previous discussions and correspondence between the Communist League of America (Opposition) and the Communist League of Struggle have established the principle ground for common work and a possible eventual fusion of the two organizations.

2. With this fact as the point of departure the joint conference of representatives of the two organizations agrees upon a program of collaboration.

3. In this collaboration the Communist League of Struggle adopts the following standpoint: (a) It accepts the theses of the International Preliminary Conference of the International Left Opposition.

4. The Communist League of America (Opposition), on its part, will welcome the cooperation of the Communist League of Struggle in concrete activities and will facilitate the fusion of the two organizations after the actual possibilities of common work have been sufficiently tested in the period of collaboration between the organizations.

5. It is agreed that the Communist League of Struggle shall be given the opportunity to bring its special point of view on the remaining differences before the membership of the Communist League of America (Opposition) in the forthcoming pre-conference discussion and at the national conference.

FOR THE COMMUNIST LEAGUE OF AMERICA (OPPOSITION) (Signed) Max Shachtman J. P. Cannon Martin Abern FOR THE COMMUNIST LEAGUE OF STRUGGLE (Signed) Albert Weisbord Sam Fisher Vera Buch THE MILITANT Entered as a second class mail matter November 23, 1928, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. Under the act of March 3, 1879. Published weekly by the Communist League of America (Opposition) at 126 East 16th St., N. Y. C. EDITORIAL BOARD. Max Shachtman James P. Cannon Maurice Spector Arne Swabeck Saturday, April 8, 1933 Vol. VI, No. 22 (Whole No. 169) Subscription rate: \$2.00 per year. Foreign \$2.50. Five Cents per copy.