

The Platform of the Brandler Group

Number 5 of "Gegen den Strom," the organ of the Brandler-Heinrich group, now appearing in Strasbourg, contains theses on the struggle against Fascism and other programmatic declarations. This number is very important in the determination of the physiognomy of the group.

A Few Steps Forward - But No Conclusions

8. The Brandlerites are compelled to evade this central question because, by their whole character and spirit, they are only a proscribed, insulted little detachment of this same bureaucracy.

(onomy), but of a false evaluation of the international groupings within the ranks of Communism. 11. The theses declare that outside of the Brandler organization, no forces exist that are able to reconstruct the German party and the Comintern.

China Receives New U. S. Loan

The new deal government at Washington, so solicitous for the welfare of the poor speculators on the Chicago wheat market and the New Orleans cotton exchange, is about to come to their aid again.

This week's newspapers carried the headline announcements of a fifty million dollar sale of wheat and cotton to the Chinese National government. The money, to pay for the purchases by the Chinese government of the wheat in this country, is to be advanced by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation as a loan payable after several years.

For the American unemployed, however, the Roosevelt administration, like that of Hoover, is providing merely fine phrases. In the same day there appeared the announcement that despite the grain crop failures in many parts of the country, and despite the campaign of the government to cut down the wheat acreage, the total amount of wheat being stored in the granaries of this country at the present totals almost four hundred million bushels.

New Falsifications of the Stalinists

In the past year a new bit of gossip emanating from Moscow was put into circulation: Lenin declared Trotsky to be a "Judas." When? Where? Why? At first, the European Stalinists were a little disturbed about telling this filthy story to the face of the advanced workers.

What is it based upon? Two years before the war, in one of the moments of the accentuation of the emigrant struggle, Lenin angrily called Trotsky a "Yudushka" in a note which he wrote. Whoever is even slightly acquainted with Russian literature knows that "Yudushka" (Golovlev) is a literary type, the hero of the Russian satirist Saltykov-Shchedrin.

In connection with the unavoidable exaggerations in the polemical letters of Lenin, Stalin taking up the defense of the attitudes of Zinoviev-Kamenev in October 1917, wrote in 1924: "Lenin sometimes deliberately runs ahead in his letters, pushes into the foreground such possible mistakes as may be made, and criticizes them in advance with the aim of warning the party and insuring it against mistakes, or else he sometimes mixes up trifles and makes 'an elephant out of a gnat' towards the same pedagogical aim."

That Lenin had violent encounters with Trotsky in the years of emigration, is known to everyone. But all that was a number of years before the October revolution, the civil war, the upbuilding of the Soviet state and the founding of the Communist International. The true relations between Lenin and Trotsky are, it would appear, set down in later and more authoritative documents than that of a note resulting from a conflict in the emigration.

The Slander of Trotsky's "Judas" Role

It said that the unification (with the Mensheviks) is impossible. Trotsky has grasped this and since then there has not been a better Bolshevik.

In the days of the civil war, when Trotsky by himself had to make decisions of extraordinary scope, Lenin, on his own initiative, handed him a blank sheet of paper with the following inscription at the bottom: "Comrades! I know the rigorous character of the orders of comrade Trotsky, but I am so convinced, convinced to such an absolute degree of the correctness, the expediency and the necessity of the order issued by comrade Trotsky in the interest of the cause, that I completely support the order—V. Ulanov-Lenin"

If the first of the two declarations cited above gives a clear enough political evaluation, the second one reveals the degree of moral confidence. It is hardly necessary to quote the dozens of citations from the articles and speeches of Lenin where he expresses his attitude toward Trotsky, or to reproduce here once more the correspondence of Lenin-Trotsky on the national question or on the question of the foreign trade monopoly.

When you came to us in London from Siberia, did not change to his dying day. I wish you, Lev Davidovitch, strength and health, and I embrace you warmly.—N. Krupskaya.

The overzealous agents of Stalin would have acted more prudently had they not raised the question of moral confidence. Already Ill, Lenin urged Trotsky not to come to an agreement with Stalin: "Stalin will make a rotten compromise and then he will deceive." In his Testament, Lenin urged the removal of Stalin from his post as general secretary, giving as his motivation the disloyalty of Stalin. Finally, the last document dictated by Lenin the day before his second attack, was his letter to Stalin in which he broke off "all personal and comradely relations" with him.

Will this perhaps suffice, Messrs. Calculators? — ALFA

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News From German C. P.

Reject E.C.C.I. Resolution

Six Berlin districts of the C.P.G. have rejected the E.C.C.I. resolution on the German question as politically false. One district demanded the return of Heinz Neumann (probably from the Soviet Union). The E.C.C.I., however, denied this request. These are working districts. The rest have no connections.

Expulsion at the Top

The majority of the members of the Central Committee of the C.P.G. in Moscow. Their reports are of the same character as the Heckert speech. The "leitmotif": There has been no defeat in Germany. The E.C.C.I., together with the Germans, has decided to expel everybody from the party, who speak of a defeat and express critical sentiments generally. Thus, for instance, comrades Wollenberg and Felix Wolf have already been expelled because of criticism against the German policy. The expulsions at the top, where only few uncorrupted comrades still attempt to draw the lessons of the catastrophe, speak mountains for possible mass expulsions in the lower ranks.

Remmele Disagrees with Heckert

In a letter to Moscow, Hermann Remmele expressed a critical opinion on the theses of Heckert. Thereupon he got a rebuff from the E.C.C.I. and is at present completely isolated. He has not even any connections with the Central Committee any more.

Stalinists Furnish False Information

The information in the Stalinist press regarding the circulation and regularity of appearance of the Rote Fahne is simply fabricated. It appears irregular and rarely. "Unser Wort" Strikes Fear into Bureaucratic Hearts

Teachers Fight Expulsions by BofE

ward to their pensions and retirement. They prefer a salary cut, or some "small sacrifice" which they can afford to a struggle to maintain salary schedules and teaching conditions which may involve retaliation by the Board of Education thru the loss of position in the school, petty persecution or even outright victimization with the consequent loss of their pensions. To be sure they fail to understand entirely that their failure to resist the present attacks will encourage the bankers and politicians to make still further and more drastic attacks with the possible result, that, in the end, as in Chicago, they will get no salary at all and will lose their pensions as well. Apparently they have learned nothing from the experience and struggle of the Chicago teachers. That is why the union administration policies are confined to lobbying in Albany, paper resolutions and the usual hollow squawks of outraged but impotent dignity. But the great majority of the 45,000 teachers in the system do not fall into the stratum from which the union administration draws its support. These teachers are younger and receive lower salaries. They can less easily afford to make "sacrifices." They have less to lose in a struggle in defense of their interests. The 15,000 unemployed and substitute teachers are in an even worse state. Under the "economy" lash of the bankers and politicians the Ryans, the O'Briens and the Lehmanns have demonstrated the high esteem which state and municipal bureaucracies place on the educational system. School construction has been stopped. This puts an immediate quietus on the hopes of the unemployed, substitute teachers and the hundreds more the training schools and colleges are turning out. These teachers, must look to an expanding educational system for an opportunity to make a living and to become so-

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The work of the party in the Reich is very bad. Only in the Ruhr region heroic sacrifices are still being made in the carrying on of work.

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The E.C.C.I. has criticized the representation of the C.P.G. abroad as well as Muenzenberg's organization for lagging behind Unser Wort, which was the first Communist organ published abroad. The E.C.C.I. warns against the great "danger" of Trotskyism. The representatives of the official apparatus abroad, above all in Czechoslovakia, have reported to Moscow that Unser Wort makes a big impression everywhere and leads to "demoralization" in the party.

Instead of taking any measures to relieve the suffering, exactly contrary steps are being taken by the government and the various relief agencies. The New York City Home Relief Bureau has cut off all payments of rent. In addition, the Gibson Committee which through the Red Cross has been distributing food have announced their intentions of discontinuing this work after the summer.

This is the indictment of the present system; amidst plenty, there are many starving. Only a powerful working class movement will force from the capitalists a portion of the huge supplies of all types of food and clothing stored throughout the country.

etc. Witness Chicago! To this Left wing adds—the parents of the school children. And it should add—the school children themselves. This conception is diametrically opposed to that of the union administration and irreconcilable to it. It is the fundamental duty of the Left wing to clarify these conceptions to the teachers in the union and outside it. The Left wing must show how these conceptions motivate the policies of the administration and the Left wing; how they are expressed in these policies; how they affect the struggles of the teachers in defense of their interests.

Unfortunately the Left wing has not clearly understood its task in the union with the result that its opposition to the administration has not been as fruitful in the interests of the union and the teachers as a whole as the objective situation has made possible. Its false policies on many questions, and the division in its own ranks over these questions has helped the administration to give a totally false picture of the situation in the union in which it appears as the representative of the interests of the union and the teachers; and the Left wing groups as factions with special, factional interests which they pursue at the expense of the union. That is why the administration was able to defeat even the temporarily united Left wing in such a vital question as the defense of the militants persecuted by the B. of E. This can best be seen by an examination of the policies of the administration and the Left wing groups. (The policies will be discussed in next week's issue.)

Problems of New York Dressmakers

The question of the establishment of a single union in the trade is now a question of life and death. A successful strike, a thorough-going organization drive must take into account other essential branches of the trade which are indispensable for united struggle and for its extension. The establishment of one union would give the Left wing access to the Cutter's Local, lack of unity with which has destroyed many a previous action; to the Spanish and Italian workers who are increasingly becoming the predominant factor in the trade and who are organized almost exclusively in the International; finally, to the out-of-town market which is the sore spot of needle trade organization, and which finds even the powerful Right wing only with skeleton apparatuses. Perspectives of the Struggle These sections of the trade must be given consideration, if the strike is to achieve its ends. The question of the out-of-town market is especially a burning one, in view of the attempts of the bosses to rid themselves of whatever union control there is even in New York. The unity of the dressmakers can well become the starting point for the establishment of unity in the whole needle industry and when it reaches that point, the strength of the Left wing will be increased tenfold due to the powerful victory it will have achieved by rallying the majority of the fur trade. Tremendous possibilities lie ahead for the Left wing in the needle trades. It is only necessary to know how to reach out for them, how to make use of them. The first step is the establishment of one single, class struggle union among the dressmakers, the elaboration of a single organization drive, the conduct of a single, united strike. The Industrial Union has no time to lose. If it has learned the lesson of the failure of dissipated, scattered militancy; if it wants to really harness the heroic militancy of the Left wing to the struggles of the great bulk of workers in the trade, it must proceed immediately with the proposals to the International indicated above. —N. B.

Chilean Left is Organized

(Continued from Page 1) fundamentally necessary and correct.

Delegations Represented

The Congress, begun on the 19th, adjourned on the 22nd after thirty hours of significant council and debate. It has made a serious theoretic and political contribution to the proletarian movement in Chile and represents a considerable organizational effort. There came to the Congress delegations from Talcahuano, Talca, Temuco, Valparaiso, Molina, Barrancas, San Antonio, Santiago, Valparaiso, Vina del Mar, Quillota, Llo Lloco and Puento Alto. The following localities could send no delegation by reason of distance and economic difficulties, but dispatched their expression of support and unqualified adhesion: Antofagasta, Tocopilla, the entire province of Coquimbo, Valparaiso, Copiapo, San Rosendo, Chol-Chol, the Isle of Maipo, Ocoa, etc.

There came to the Congress many Laffertist comrades (members of the Stalinist faction), who fruitlessly attempted to justify the political line of the national official section and of the C.I. In the international field, they were shown the absurdity of the theory of "socialism in one

country," now threatening to stifle proletarian internationalism; they were shown the responsibility of Stalinism for the various revolutionary defeats, especially for the German defeat, the revolutionary process of which was carefully analyzed; the zigzag policy of the Stalinist bureaucracy was carefully explained.

In the national field, these comrades found themselves obliged to recognize, first, the growing influence of our Party even in the Laffertist ranks; secondly, they recognized the errors and the internal discussion fostered by the bureaucracy of the official national organization as well as that of the South American Bureau.

We demonstrated by means of testimony provided by the Laffertists themselves that our party was growing and developing in scope and influence at an accelerated rate in contrast to Laffertism, whose ranks were rapidly diminishing and in some localities, disbanding. We did this without the least desire of underestimating the surviving importance of the bureaucratic forces.

Appeal for Unification

That the Communist Left (Chilean Section of the International Communist Left Opposition) could hold such a Congress, whose great political influence is undeniable and at which the workers' positions were consolidated through weighty debates and discussions, was due to the fact that the Communist Left represents a movement that is historically in the process of development. In the C.I., as well as in the official national sections, such meetings are sterile, because everything is fixed beforehand, all dangers of criticism by the rank and file against the top being carefully avoided.

The Laffertist bureaucracy does not only fear a common congress of both factions. It also stands in terror of a democratic congress of its own faction, where uncovered as well as latent discontent exists. The Laffertist (Stalinist) bureaucracy, backed by the international bureaucracy, will only call a national congress when everything has been gotten ready to silence the expression of discontent by the base.

The Left Opposition, here as everywhere, is ready to take part in a Congress for Communist Unification because it sincerely desires Communist unification. Comrades, it is up to us, after this Congress, to redouble our efforts and our Bolshevik tenacity. We are the standard bearers of the revolutionary movement of the world. The tens of thousands of Oppositionists whom Stalin holds exiled in Siberia, the deportation of Trotsky to Prinkipo, the example of Oppositionists all over the globe—all this shows us the way.

We have united in an international organization in the triumph of which are rooted the accelerating factors of the proletarian revolution. We must fight on. We must labor heroically. We must attack Laffertism in the entire country, taking it by storm in the city as well as in the rural districts. This is the basic slogan peeled forth to you by the Central Committee of the Communist Left (Chilean Section of the International Communist Left Opp.)

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