

Discussion Article

THE PROLETARIAN PARTY

(The writer of this article was for over 10 years a member of the Proletarian Party of America...)

As time passed the Communist Party and the Communist Labor Party became the Workers' Party while the Proletarian Party became the Proletarian Party...)

Immediately after the entry of the U. S. into the World War a tremendous amount of controversy naturally arose in the American labor movement as to the attitude toward the war...)

It can be safely said that the Proletarian Party group (known also as the Michigan group and later as the Proletarian Party) had the soundest position in regard to the two Russian revolutions of 1917...)

As time passed the Communist Party and the Communist Labor Party became the Workers' Party while the Proletarian Party became the Proletarian Party...)

It is difficult to estimate the part played by each of the two parties named in driving the other to the opposite pole...)

In the Proletarian Party a firm and determined stand was taken against any sort of immediate or partial demands...)

himself said the revolutionary party might be small but good" Such were the arguments used by the leaders...)

Not only was Keracher incapable of any important constructive work himself but on those rare occasions when others of some ability tried to cooperate with him he proved quite incapable of working with them harmoniously...)

This condition might have been excused years ago when the principles of Bolshevism organization and democratic centralism, as outlined by Lenin, were still unknown to us here in America...)

There was little attempt in those days to restrict Keracher or to criticize his methods of carrying on the work because such criticism would have acquired a willingness and ability on the part of the critics to undertake more work himself...)

Previous to his revolutionary career Keracher was a small storekeeper in Detroit...)

The Peterson-Dixon Group In 1931 an attempt was made by the Peterson-Dixon group, as members of the Executive Council, to instruct Keracher, as National Secretary, on matters pertaining to the expenditure of press funds...)

LABOR AND INTERNATIONALISM The Pioneer Publishers has secured a limited number of copies of Lewis L. Lorwin's history of the international labor movement entitled "Labor and Internationalism"...

A One-Man Party There was little attempt in those days to restrict Keracher or to criticize his methods of carrying on the work because such criticism would have acquired a willingness and ability on the part of the critics to undertake more work himself...)

Problems of the Cuban Revolution

CUBA AND MONTEVIDEO

The great importance of the Montevideo Pan-American Conference for the Cuban workers and their American imperialist masters can be seen in the latest developments in the world's former sugar bowl...)

Strike Wave Rising Again The news coming out of Cuba is fragmentary and unreliable, being either capitalist or Stalinist in origin...)

Importance of the Strike The importance of the strike lies not only in the size and importance of the company...)

American imperialists' position to consolidate its position and delude the masses of the country...)

Strategy of the Martin Government The attack on the utility rates is a sop thrown to the petty bourgeoisie who have had to bear the traffic; workers' towns in the interior have long without gas and electricity although equipped to use them...)

PIONEER PUBLISHER NOTES A pamphlet on the history of Soviet diplomacy under Lenin and under the Stalin regime is in preparation and will be published by the Pioneer Publishers...)

That is how the government figures the lay of the land. But what about the workers? They are still putting forward only economic demands...)

The monetary weakness of the world's leading imperialist power should be exploited in another way to assist the Cuban revolution...)

It is not too late to build the defense movement. That task stands high on the agenda of international working class problems...)

tion of Soviet foreign policy under Litvinov-Stalin, the glaring change from the Stalin Comintern of Foreign Affairs to the present incumbent, from Krest-Litovsk to Washington...)

Discussion Articles

Draft Resolution on the Tasks of the Spartacus Youth Clubs Proposed by National Youth Comm. of the C.L.A.

We print below the draft resolution on the tasks of the Spartacus Youth Clubs adopted by the National Youth Committee of the Communist League of America...)

"1. Capitalism draws the youth of the proletarian families into the productive process. The cheapness of their labor power, their physical and intellectual immaturity, their lack of trade union organization makes them particularly profitable objects for exploitation...)

"2. The Y. C. L. was founded in November 1919 out of a need for an organization which would attract the working youth towards Communism, win organize and train it for the Communist parties...)

"3. Limited experience with Communist youth work requires that youth tactics, demands, slogans and special organizational forms should be put forward not as dogmas or finished products which have universal validity...)

League subordinate to Party The League which aspires to be the leader of a section of the working class, the youth, is politically subordinate to the Communist Party...)

Position Towards Existing Youth Organizations Our attitude toward the Young Communist League is that it is a Stalinist organization incapable of effectively educating the youth to Communism...)

"4. Our efforts have been progressively in the direction of a national Spartacus Youth League which would function as the Communist youth League in the United States...)

"5. This does not exclude the possibility of forming or cooperating with youth groups which are not Spartacus Youth Clubs but steps in this direction, in certain localities where a S. Y. C. cannot immediately be formed...)

"6. Our attitude toward the Young Communist League is that it is a Stalinist organization incapable of effectively educating the youth to Communism...)

for the first time in a working class organization...)

A Uniform Constitution 3. The action of the National Youth Committee in suggesting to the Spartacus Youth Clubs a uniform constitution which provided for the political subordination of the Clubs to the League...)

9. A pamphlet under similar imprint should be issued as soon as feasible on "Who Are the Spartacus Youth?"; this to be the first of a series of uniform pamphlets on the problems of the American young workers...)

10. The Spartacus Youth Clubs (and League) should be extremely careful to avoid the mistake of the Y. C. L. in becoming a "youth party", that is, assume the same organizational forms, tasks, activities and methods of work as the adult Communist organization...)

11. To avoid becoming a "youth party" two dangers must be avoided: First, the danger of separating the economic work of the youth from the adult organization...)

12. Our aim should be to convert "Young Spartacus" into a live and aggressive Communist propaganda and agitation paper which will attract the youth to Communism...)

Clubs which will make them the cultural centers of the youth...)

12. Our aim should be to convert "Young Spartacus" into a live and aggressive Communist propaganda and agitation paper which will attract the youth to Communism...)

13. We propose that the coming national conference of the Communist League (Opposition) empower the national youth committee to call an early date following the conference, call a national convention of the Spartacus Youth Clubs and all other youth groups which are sympathetic to Communism...)

14. The Spartacus Youth Clubs should attract into their ranks youth coming to Communism rather than full fledged Communists whose place is in the adult organization...)

15. To avoid becoming a "youth party" two dangers must be avoided: First, the danger of separating the economic work of the youth from the adult organization...)

16. Our aim should be to convert "Young Spartacus" into a live and aggressive Communist propaganda and agitation paper which will attract the youth to Communism...)

Spartacus Youth League along the lines proposed above...)

International Affiliation and Tasks The task of building a Fourth International assumed by the International Left Opposition raises the necessity of constructing a new Communist Youth International...)

17. We propose that the coming national conference of the Communist League (Opposition) empower the national youth committee to call an early date following the conference, call a national convention of the Spartacus Youth Clubs and all other youth groups which are sympathetic to Communism...)

18. The Spartacus Youth Clubs should attract into their ranks youth coming to Communism rather than full fledged Communists whose place is in the adult organization...)

19. To avoid becoming a "youth party" two dangers must be avoided: First, the danger of separating the economic work of the youth from the adult organization...)

20. Our aim should be to convert "Young Spartacus" into a live and aggressive Communist propaganda and agitation paper which will attract the youth to Communism...)

must merely recognize the limitations involved in such a method and recognizing these limitations emphasize another method which is more difficult but will in the long run yield far greater results...)

The turn to a new party means a turn to mass work for the immediate purpose of gathering revolutionary workers for the building of a new party...)

The superiority and correctness of our theories can be convincing to the workers through our successful activities in mass work...)

To use comrade Trotsky's phrase of the two levers, one can say that there are two levers which we must use in preparing the groundwork for the new party...)

A turn to real mass work will be a very valuable training for our members. It will mean that they will no longer confine themselves to the study and discussion of what might be termed purely Communist and international questions...)

With Whom and How Shall We Build the New Communist Party As far as the Left Opposition is concerned the necessity for a new Communist party has been accepted and has passed the stage of discussion...)

ship of the various Communist or near-Communist groups in this country is insignificant...)

The only possible method of organizing a new party in the near future on the basis of the existing Communist and near-Communist groups is to permit all groups joining in the formation of a new party to lead a more or less independent life in the new party...)

But, having accepted the idea of the necessity of a new party, we are immediately faced with the question: with whom and how to build the party...)

The temptation is to take the easiest road. We want to organize a new party. There are several groups with strong leanings towards Communist principles...)

But to depend upon discussion and winning over of those who claim to be Communists or those who are traveling in that direction for the formation of a new party is to invite sad disappointments...)

In the first place, the membership of the various Communist or near-Communist groups in this country is insignificant...)

ALBERT GOLDMAN