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WORKERS
PARTY OF
THE U. S.

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LAUNCH WORKERS PARTY OF U.S.

Third Convention of League Draws Balance Sheet of Six Years

Bringing the Third National Convention to an end, the delegates of branches of the Communist League of America from coast to coast, and a packed visitors gallery of members of the New York branch, sang with a solemnity arising out of deep conviction the classic chorus:

"The International Soviet shall be the human race."

Comrade Max Shachtman announced the adjournment of the Third and last national convention of the C.L.A. There penetrated everyone present a profound realization that a period had ended and a new one begun. The Convention had unanimously voted to disband the C.L.A. by merging it with the American Workers Party in the Workers Party of the United States.

Six years of successful activity as a propagandist group came to an end. The balance sheet was written:

The ideas of Marx and Lenin, the spirit of proletarian internationalism, the theory of the permanent revolution, had been kept alive and vital in the U. S. by the League. Cadres had been built, armed with the intellectual weapons that alone, when combined with organized proletarian masses, can bring capitalism to an end and introduce the communist order of society. The groundwork had been laid for the country's sole revolutionary proletarian party—the Workers Party of the United States, a current in the international movement sweeping toward the foundation of a new, the Fourth International.

The Third Convention reported substantial gains over the Second League Convention held in October 1931 in New York City. Three years ago the Communist League (Opposition) was a skeleton organization with branches in only a few major cities. The report of the national secretary, Arne Swabeck revealed that the membership had been doubled and that there existed 21 branches in the major industrial centers from the Atlantic to the Pacific. These branches were represented by forty-three delegates. Four delegates from four mid-western cities were unable to be present because of financial difficulties. Six fraternal delegates came from the Workers Party of Canada.

A large proportion of the delegates had been in the C.L.A. since its inception, others had been in the Communist Party many years before they joined the League. Still others had come from various sections and tendencies of the labor movement. The composition of the delegates was overwhelmingly proletarian, many being deeply rooted in the trade union movement.

Second of the achievements recorded at the convention was the maintenance of the Militant as a weekly paper. In six years the Militant had gained the respect of the entire revolutionary movement of the world for its honesty, its clean methods and above all for the clarity and correctness of its policies.

The New Internationalist is the third stone in this mosaic of accomplishments. Although still very young, it has already made a name for itself as the outstanding theoretical review in the revolutionary labor movement.

The Minneapolis strike, symbolizing the truth that sound theory merged with sound practice can bring victory to the working class, stood out among the achievements of the League.

The League convention was no solid monolith artificially held together by a bureaucratic whip, but a genuine Communist gathering. It had been preceded by three months of free, untrammeled discussion in branch meetings and internal bulletins. Minorities were accorded every democratic right provided in the constitution and given proportional representation at the convention. The debates and discussions at the conference, often sharp but always comradely, were many-sided and thorough.

The convention was absorbed with two major questions. The discussions centered on the report by comrade James P. Cannon on the international question, primarily the recent Plenum of the International Communist League to which he was a delegate and the so-called "French question". The other report was by comrade Max Shachtman on the question of fusion with the American Workers Party. International and American, two sides of our struggle, these questions were indissolubly connected.

Comrade Cannon reported on the events in the revolutionary movement since the triumph of Hitler: the declaration for the Fourth International, the Pact of Four, the

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Spartacus Youth Meets

The National Convention of the Spartacus Youth League is now in session at Stuyvesant Casino, New York City. Discussions have revealed unanimous sentiment for the constitution of the Spartacus League as the youth movement of the Workers Party of the United States, politically subordinate to and organizationally independent of the adult revolutionary party.

A. J. Muste, National Secretary of the W.P., addressed the convention Tuesday on behalf of the National Committee. Max Shachtman, a pioneer leader of the Young Workers League which first established the Communist youth movement in America, addressed the convention on behalf of the outgoing National Committee of the C.L.A. Next week's issue will contain a full report of the convention.

Workers Of N.Y. Rally To Support Party

The first mass meeting held by the Workers Party drew twelve hundred workers as, winding up a week of conventions, the Party made its first public appearance at Germania Hall Sunday night.

Addressing the largest group of workers brought together by a political program in recent years outside the reformist and Stalinist ranks, representative leaders reflected in their appearance and addresses a cross section of the proletarian foundations of the Workers Party.

Insurgent leader of the coal miners for two decades, founder of the West Virginia Mine Workers Union, leader of the famed Logan County march of twenty thousand armed miners across three counties in 1921, which was stopped only by the Federal troops, Brant Scott blazed away at the labor lieutenants of the capitalist class and declared that only the Workers Party could smash the John Lewises and build the fortresses of the working class.

Trade Unionists Speak

Vincent R. Dunne, one of the three brothers all of whom were leaders of the Minneapolis drivers in their victorious strikes earlier this year, told of the rising progressive movement in the labor unions throughout the Minnesota district, and the role the Workers Party must play to bring together the shattered left wing in the American Federation of Labor as an essential step in preparing the overthrow of capitalism.

The Toledo auto workers' strike of last summer was represented by Ted Selander and Sam Pollack. Leaders of the Lucas County Unemployed League, they smashed the injunction against picketing, organized and led the mass picket lines in a series of bloody battles against the National Guard, and so aroused the labor movement that, faced by threats of a general strike, the bosses surrendered.

The need to include in the ranks of the revolutionary working class movement the decisive sections of the twelve million Negro masses was brought to the fore by three leading Negro delegates. They were Ernest Rice McKinney, member of the National Committee of the Workers Party, national vice-president of the Unemployed League, and spokesman of the Negro workers of Pittsburgh; James Watson, head of the International Labor Defense in Philadelphia until his recent break with Stalinism; and Simon Williamson, delegate from Kansas City.

Unemployed Leaders Speak
The transformation of the unemployed from potential scabs into the

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Workers Party Facts

Temporary National Headquarters of the Workers Party of the United States: 112 East 19th Street, N. Y. C. Phone AL-gonquin 4-9058.

National Secretary: A. J. Muste.

Official Organ: The New Militant (weekly) 144 Second Avenue, N. Y. C., Phone Gram-ery 5-9524; The New Internationalist (monthly), P. O. Box 119, Station D, N. Y. C. These addresses hold until further notice.

The full text of the declaration of principles and the constitution of the Workers Party of the United States appear on pages two and three of this issue. They will be available in pamphlet form at low cost within a few days.

C.L.A. and A.W.P. In Fusion Convention of U.S. Revolutionaries

The Workers Party of the United States has been formed! Amidst scenes of wildest enthusiasm, the unity convention of the American Workers Party and the Communist League of America completed its historic task Sunday afternoon in Stuyvesant Casino, New York City. Out of its labors and deliberations has arisen the only revolutionary party in the country.

On the ratification by unanimous vote of the fusion agreement, comrades James P. Cannon of the C.L.A. and A. J. Muste of the A.W.P. announced for the two organizations that henceforth they owed allegiance to the Workers Party of the U. S. and to no other organization. The entire audience was on its feet and the strains of the International shook the rafters. The historic work was completed!

Minneapolis and Toledo, exemplifying the new militancy of the American working class, were the stars that presided over its birth.

Under the most favorable auspices, the new party launches into its tremendous undertaking: the overthrow of capitalist rule in America, and the creation of a workers' state.

A. J. Muste will be the national secretary of the new party. J. P. Cannon will be editor of the official weekly, the New Militant, with Harry Howe as associate editor. The theoretical organ, the New Internationalist, will be under the editorship of Max Shachtman and an ex-A.W.P. member. Eleven comrades of the A.W.P. and eleven from the C.L.A. will comprise the national executive, of which will be chosen the political bureau of 10 members. Louis Budenz and Arne Swabeck will be the national organizers.

These, and other important organizational agreements were reached in the opening session, which moved with Bolshevik efficiency and dispatch. Sleepless delegates, without rest from the all-night sessions of their respective organizations, shook off their weariness to speed the foundations for the new party.

The speeches were short and to the point.

"We are not repudiating our pasts, rather we are looking towards the future," A. J. Muste said in opening the session.

An ovation greeted Vincent Dunne, one of the leaders of the strike of the Minneapolis truck drivers, and chairman of the opening session.

"In view of the immediate work that lies before us, and the heavy responsibility we have assumed: namely, the organizing of the working class on a militant basis, for the overthrow of capitalist rule," Dunne said, "we may dispense with speechmaking."

Fusion Endorsed

With this as the keynote, the session moved swiftly. In a short space of time, and despite the utmost liberty allowed in discussion of all matters not previously settled by the separate conventions, the convention heard and approved the appointments of committees, elected the important organization, trade union and unemployment committees, and passed upon the organizational agreement reached between the executive committee of the A.W.P. and the Communist League.

At the second session, Sam Pollack, active in the unemployed movement in Ohio and Illinois, and one of the leaders in the Toledo Auto-Lite strike, presided. He, too, was warmly received by the delegates.

The second session passed upon the constitution of the new party as proposed by the joint negotiating committee, with a few amendments from the floor. It also sanctioned the party-building report brought in by Max Shachtman, the trade union report read by Arne Swabeck, and the report on work in the field of the unemployed, presented by Anthony Ramuglia, national president of the National Unemployed Leagues.

Resolutions were passed in support of Tom Mooney, and on behalf of Happy Holstein, whom the hangers of the Citizens Alliance in Minneapolis are trying to frame on a murder charge. A resolution also endorsed the proposal of the Provisional Committee for Non-Partisan Labor Defense, for the creation of a permanent labor defense organization. The text of the reports and resolutions will be found elsewhere in this issue.

Here ended the main business of the convention. Fraternal greetings were extended to the convention by Maurice Spector and Jack MacDonald, representing the Workers Party of Canada.

The meeting closed with the singing of the International.

Party Maps Canada W.P. Greet's New Party's Birth

The Workers Party of Canada, formed about a year ago by the Canadian section of the International Communist League, is a vigorous and healthy youngster, according to the report given by comrade MacDonald, fraternal delegate of the Workers Party to the Communist League convention. Comrade MacDonald, as well as comrade Spector, another Canadian delegate, is a veteran in the radical labor movement. Both were foundation members of the Communist Party of Canada and delegates to the 4th and 6th World Congresses of the Comintern.

In an interview with the Militant, comrade MacDonald reported that the membership of the Workers Party of Canada is now 250. The principal branches are located in the large cities, Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton, Winnipeg and Vancouver. Toronto, the capital of Canada, is also the center of the new party and the seat of its national executive. The branch in Toronto has about 90 members.

Most of the members of the new party have come out of the Communist Party of Canada and the Y.C.L. The W. P. is steadily growing in size, in the scope of its activities, and in its influence among the class-conscious workers throughout the provinces.

The Militant, comrade MacDonald stated, performed an indispensable service in rallying and educating the initial cadres of the new party in its earlier days. The Workers Party today, however, has two papers of its own, the Vanguard, published monthly, and the Workers' Voice, a foreign language paper of the Ukrainian workers.

The circulation of the Vanguard is about 1,200, that of the Ukrainian paper 500 copies. The Ukrainian workers have also published a number of pamphlets, among them several by Trotsky.

The New Internationalist has already made a remarkably favorable impression. Not on the Canadian authorities, however, who have banned the magazine along with other revolutionary literature.

The organized workers of Canada are divided among A. F. of L. craft unions, Canadian national unions (French-speaking population in Quebec), and the Stalinist "Workers Unity League". The A. F. of L. has approximately 100,000 members, the national unions about 25,000, the Catholic unions about 40,000, and the Stalinist unions 15,000. The chief influence of the Stalinists is among the lumber workers, the dressmakers in Toronto (about 2,000), the miners in Alberta, and the shoe workers in Ontario.

Inasmuch as they dominate the trades they have organized, it is very doubtful that the Stalinists will liquidate their unions in Canada as they recently did in several notable instances in the U. S. The Stalinist party is still illegal in Canada and its chief leader, Tim Buck, has just been released after having been three years in jail on charges of criminal conspiracy against the Canadian government. The Stalinist party has been virtually outlawed under Section 98 of the Dominion's Criminal Code, a Canadian version of the Criminal Syndicalism laws. At the time the government proceeded against the C. P., the Bolshevik-Leninists had not yet organized a political party. Unless Section 98 is repealed as a boss and politician.

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Old Guard Threatens S.P. With Split

Boston, Mass.—At the very moment when American workers feel the inspiring effects of the merger of the A.W.P. and C.L.A. to establish the new revolutionary Workers Party of the U. S., the Socialist Party enters a new stage in the development of the crisis which has been threatening it for several years.

Hard on the heels of the halting by the Gitlow group of the S. P. as "the party of revolutionary unity", comes the announcement that the meeting held here this week by the national executive of the S. P., the right-wingers ("Old Guard") offered the "Militant" majority now in control the alternatives of swinging back to pure reformism from their newly adopted centrist platform, or a split in the party.

One of the main points on the agenda of the present meeting of the S. P. leaders was the question of a united front with the C. P. A. C. P. delegation led by Hatcher, Ford and other Stalinist bureaucrats appeared to beg for a chance to sit down around a table with those whom they yesterday called the working class's worst enemies. The S. P. militant majority, toying with the idea of a united front based on a non-aggression pact and a program of passivity and noise, did not dare to receive the Stalinist delegation because of the objections of the Old Guard.

Old Guard Delivers Ultimatum

The Old Guard prefers its noise and passivity in close relations with the top bureaucracy of the A. F. of L. and feels that it may not be able to do this if the C. P.-S. P. united front is consummated.

Minneapolis Bosses Plot Frame-Up of 574 Leaders

Minneapolis, Minn.—Seventy trade unions have united in a defense committee to give organized labor's militant answer to a frame-up campaign launched by the Citizens Alliance through its class instrument, the municipal police headed by Joe Burns. The frame-up campaign, directed primarily against the leaders of General Drivers Local 574, has as its object the terrorization of the whole local trade union movement.

Several weeks ago an attempt to frame Harry Hussman, organizer of the Machinists Union, and to deport him, was smashed. Now, however, the Citizens Alliance is trying a bolder step. They are at the heart of a plot to hang on leaders of Local 574 responsibility for the death during the May drivers strike of Arthur Lyman, a capitalist who played at being a strike-breaking deputy sheriff.

Happy Holstein, Chippewa Indian and truck driver who was a leading figure in the Strike Committee of 100 both in May and July, is now out on bail after being arrested for the murder of Lyman. In addition, a stool-pigeon has been found who is trying to involve unnamed leaders of 574.

The latest and third victim in the hands of the police is a 19 year old boy, Philip Scott, who was picked up through a "very clever police trap", according to the Min-

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This Issue is Last of "The Militant"

This is the last issue of the Militant which, for six years as the weekly organ of the Communist League of America, kept alive in the haze of confusion brought upon the vanguard of the American working class by Stalinism, the clear flame of Marxist and Leninist ideas.

With the founding of the Workers Party of the United States, the Militant gives way to the New Militant, the official organ of the country's only revolutionary party. All readers of the Militant will continue to receive the new paper. Workers, read the New Militant!