

Weinstock Ouster Breaches Stalinist Union Domination

Action Of N. Y. Painters Heartens Progressives

(Continued from page 1) housing program, to be worked out in conjunction with the other unions in the Building Trades Council, to rid the city of slums and fire-traps and give work to the thousands of unemployed building mechanics and union painters; 4. for job protection in the trade agreement. The program of the progressives, propagated incessantly by the Inter-Local Conference, in the paper and in the locals, has served to consolidate the militant rank-and-file around their banner within a comparatively short time.

Resort To Usual Tactics

Taken unawares by the sweep of the movement, with its "generalissimo" eliminated from the picture, outmaneuvered and routed in the preliminary contests, the Stalinist machine is resorting to the usual G.P.U. methods of lying, slanders and frame-ups in a last-minute attempt to bolster its shaken position. It tries to make up for the fact that its union-wrecking has isolated it from every honest force in the union — socialists, anarchists, social democrats, "Trotskyists" and unattached militants — by raising the dead-cat issue of Zausnerism.

To becloud the election issues and hide their own miserable bankruptcy, the Weinstock gang has seen fit to raise a fund-raising scandal dating back to the time of the Zausner administration in Local 442—now, two weeks before the general elections, whereas Zausner and his Harry Rosens were ousted more than two years ago. The purpose of this smoke-screen is obvious. Under the heading "Painters Union Fund Stolen Exposed by Progressive (sic)," a pen prostitute by the name of George Morris writes in the Sunday Worker of June 12:

"Local 442 was the main base of operation for the Zausner clique—the very group that has now entered Lewis J. Stevens as its candidate for a comeback."

A Brazen Frame-Up

A more brazen piece of frame-up could hardly be produced by the Yezhoff-Stalin G.P.U. For Lewis J. Stevens was chairman of the "Rank and File Protective Association," in which Weinstock participated, and which led the fight against Zausner up to his elimination from power in the painters union. The same Stevens was so much in the lead of the struggle that the gangsters in the old administration slugged him to within an inch of his life. The Daily Worker printed pictures of Stevens wrapped up in bandages not once but half a dozen times. Pen prostitute Morris knows this. The rank-and-file painters of District Council No. 9 know it too. Stalin-Weinstock's attempt to frame Stevens and the progressive opposition with a charge of "Zausnerism" will not fool anyone. The members of the painters union know where the Zausner clique is today. They ask: What are Zausner's henchmen Zughaft, Ladisky, Kosloff, Passini, Meyers, Zeller, Lawson and Jack Barry doing as paid officials in Weinstock's administration?

What are Harry Rosen's pals Yoyna Gelibter, Billy Sherman and Jack Siegel doing in the present administration of Local 442 itself?

The "Progressive Painter" in a recent issue set up a table of paid henchmen in the Zausner machine as compared with those in the Weinstock machine. The table gives names; in each case the henchmen are exactly identical; the question is put: What is the difference? Why don't the Weinstock gang and their Daily Worker answer that question?

Accusers' Record

Since the Stalinists are looking for fund-stealing scandals, why don't they look in their own back-yard? An article in the "Progressive Painter" recounts the fund-stealing activities of the former Stalinist secretary of the Queens painters union, Redler, who is being indicted for his frauds. Why don't they explain that scandal away? Why don't they explain away the scandal of Weinstock, through the District Council, lending the Stalinist Redler \$500 from union funds entirely unaccounted for?

As is usually the case, the crimes of which they accuse honest opponents are to be found right on the doorstep of the Stalinists themselves.

Another good frame-up charge that the C.P. heroes resort to on similar occasions is the charge of Nazism. They don't fail to use the charge against Stevens and the majority of Local 844, which is composed of German workers. In this case, the charge is not only a damnable slander but the

SWP CONTINUES DRIVE AGAINST FIRETRAP PERIL

(Continued from page 1) faced by workers obliged to live in fire-trap tenements, a second fire, occurring exactly one week after the blaze at Avenue B and Houston Street, gutted a tenement building at 147 Morning-side Avenue, in Harlem, killing John Horan, aged 60, and his sister, Elizabeth, aged 55. They were suffocated as they slept.

Profits In Death

While hundreds of horrified workers stood watching, firemen worked in vain to pump life back into the scorched lungs of the aged brother and sister. On their tombstones will never be engraved the words literally burned into the minds of the spectators: "They were killed by the greed and lust for profit of the landlord of the building in which they died, a landlord who refused to protect their lives by rendering the building safe from fire."

In the case of both fires, the city police and investigators have tried to put the blame on anybody but the real criminals. In the East Side fire, they endeavored to browbeat a W.P.A. worker, who lived on the second floor of the doomed building, into admitting that he fell asleep with a lit cigarette in his hand. For the origin of the Harlem fire they are seeking to blame some poor devil who did not even have money for a place to sleep and who had sought shelter in the hallway.

Real responsibility for the fires rests squarely upon the tenement fire-trap owners, the capitalist system of private property which permits these fire-traps to exist, and the city officials and administrators who uphold that system.

Death Lurks In Slums

Death lurked in every corner and crack of those buildings as it does in the floors and walls of nine-tenths of the tenement houses of New York City. In these hovels which are called homes live the workers of the wealthiest city in the world. Each month well-fed, well-dressed representatives of the landlord-bankers extract from the tenants a portion of their hard-earned earnings as rent. The sleek parasites, who themselves live in palatial mansions and apartments, never fail to demand their toll from the poverty stricken denizens of their tumble-down tenements.

But knowing that these buildings cannot last much longer, the owners ignore safety regulations and refuse to put them in an even relatively fire-proof condition, or to provide adequate means of escape in the event of fire. More than a year ago, a home relief investigator reported that the Avenue B house which burned down June 4 was a condemned fire-trap. But no action was taken by the city to tear down the fire-trap and move the tenants into a safe abode.

The landlord-murderers sit in their beautiful fire-proof homes. Their police and their government, when a fatality occurs, try to pin responsibility on the helpless tenants. LaGuardia delivers pretty speeches about the parks his administration has created, while fire-trap landlords continue to batten on the miseries of the poor. He prattles about the city's big housing projects, but omits to point out that no unemployed worker, no W.P.A. worker, can pay the rentals of such houses.

Landlords Are Safe

The splendid response of the East Side workers to the rallying campaign of the S.W.P. is an indication that the tenement dwellers will remain silent no longer while slum landlords go on collecting their blood-tainted money and piling up more victims to their greed.

Local 15 of the Workers Alliance, responding to an appeal of the S.W.P. and Y.P.S.L., has entered a splendid united front action to combat the fire-trap menace. This has led to the formation of a pro tem East Side Workers Committee for Better Housing, which is issuing a call to all East Side labor organizations to set up a broader united front organization.

Not in the least surprising, the "Communists" have refused to join in the fight. Instead, they spend their time trying to break up the meetings of the organizations already in action. They, too, have gotten up a petition in the name of their dead "innocent" organization, the East Side Tenants Union. Not a word of criticism of the City Administration,

which is responsible for the continued existence of the fire-traps, but just an exhortation to the tenants to report violations of the fire laws!

But Mayor LaGuardia knows very well that such violations have been going on for years! How can one expect a capitalist politician to fight the landlords and capitalists? Yet the Stalinists, ever since they became stooges of Roosevelt and LaGuardia, have done little else but pass resolutions begging the capitalist pageboys in the legislatures to pass a law or two—and the capitalist administrators to enforce a law or two.

Fight To Live

The fight against fire-traps, for decent housing is a fight for the right to live—no less. Twice within a week—fire and death! No one knows where or when the dread peril will strike next. Every worker must support the fight of the East Side Workers Committee for Better Housing.

Workers should prepare for a march through the East Side to City Hall with the demands: Move all families out of the fire-traps at city expense! Tear down the fire-traps! Build new, large scale, low-rent housing at once! No more hypocrisy and promises—appropriate money at once!

Purge Looms In NMU As Officials Lose Prestige

Curran Asks Outlawing Of All Groups as Rank And File Seamen Reject Policies Of Stalinist District Committee

NEW YORK.—With the usual hypocritical pleas for "unity," a campaign for the expulsion of seamen unwilling to accept the factional domination of the Communist Party was launched by Joseph Curran, organizer of the National Maritime Union, at a meeting of the deck department last week.

Employing the same phrase used in the unsuccessful "end factionalism" maneuvers in the United Automobile Workers, Curran declared "that any members taking part in secret meetings outside of the union hall, which may be called to inject policy into the union, be dealt with if discovered on the basis of anti-union activities and be subject to trial and suspension."

Pilot Echoes Curran

The bland statement that any one opposing the seafaring class collaboration policies of the Stalinist-controlled district committee is guilty of "anti-union activity" met with whole-hearted support from the editors of the Pilot, despite Curran's bluster about "Communist politicians" in the union.

The editors of the Pilot, waterfront edition of the Daily Worker, recognize the real significance of Curran's speech when they say editorially: "It calls upon those members of the N.M.U. who are pushing the Rank and File Pilot to immediately cease their treacherous attack on the officials of this union."

The rising resentment of the rank-and-file members of the N.M.U. toward the reactionary officials of the district committee is causing serious concern to the Communist Party. As Curran said in the Pilot, amplifying his statement at the deck department meeting: "Certainly they (the District Committee) cannot continue to function if this continues as it has, where crew members refuse to live up to agreements and constantly condemn the officials."

Seamen Rebel

The well-earned lack of confidence in the Stalinist bureaucrats of the district committee was even more strikingly revealed when rank-and-file seamen refused to heed the irresponsible "24-hour stoppage" in the port of New York. When the Shepard line was forced to live up to its union agreement and ship West Coast men on the S. S. Seaharsh, Curran and the District Committee called a port-wide "holiday" in support of the National Labor Relations Board!

The seamen on the ships for the most part ignored the "holiday" and those that did "sit down" kept up steam so long that, which is responsible for the continued existence of the fire-traps, but just an exhortation to the tenants to report violations of the fire laws!

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Stalinist Record

The Stalinists have used this system to give the good jobs to the Filipinos and Latin-Americans who make up a large part of the membership in order to hold their vote, thereby tending to create racial antagonism in the union. The activities of the union have been almost entirely confined to the Business Agent teaching the boys to play baseball (while scores of taverns, once Union, are now hiring non-union porters), and to raiding the union treasury to support boss politicians seeking elections.

The progressives organized in the "Union Welfare Committee" are preparing for the coming elections next month. With a good section of the union thoroughly dissatisfied with the Stalinists, the progressives stand an excellent chance of winning this fight. But regardless of the outcome they are determined to carry on the fight until every last vestige of Stalinism is driven from the union.

As a reaction to the Stalinists, many of the progressives have turned anti-political, but due to the action of genuine revolutionary workers their confidence in workers' political action will be revived.

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N. J. Bosses Glad CIO Fired Kaempf

NEWARK, N. J.—Steel plant owners and managers in North Jersey, as well as the Jersey Journal, mouthpiece of Mayor Hague, are rejoicing over the dismissal of E. H. Kaempf and Al Blackman, militant organizers of the Steel Workers Organizing Committee (C.I.O.).

The two men have to their credit the organization of several thousand steel workers in Hudson and Essex counties and effective leadership in several steel strikes, particularly in the Jersey City and Harrison Crucible Steel plants.

The principal reason given for depriving Kaempf of his job was that the unions in Crucible steel, during their last strike, used per capita to run their strike and keep their picket lines going, although admittedly these unions received no financial aid from the national office of the S.W.O.C. Blackman was just fired without even being given the opportunity for a hearing.

Actually, it develops, the S.W.O.C. took this action because of complaints from numerous employers in this area concerning the "unreasonable attitude" of Kaempf and Blackman.

Dismissal of the two men has aroused wide-spread resentment among the rank-and-file workers in most of the steel lodges.

Progressives In Culinary Union Establish Group

Ranks In Revolt Against Stalinists In 'Frisco Dishwashers Local

SAN FRANCISCO.—The spreading revolt of progressive trade unionists against the Stalinist union-busting gang has finally swung into uptown San Francisco. The Miscellaneous Employees Union, Local 110, was for many years in the forefront of the struggle of progressive workers for better conditions and wages. It was nationally known for the conditions it had gained for its members, and its leaders were well respected in all labor circles. Last year the Stalinists, by use of whispering campaigns, phony methods of slander, and playing upon the ignorance of foreign-born workers unable to understand the technique of the voting machine, were successful in winning the majority of the posts in the union.

Almost immediately after taking office, they instituted a "rotation system" to "even up the work among the members." The progressives argued that the rotation system would be used by the boss as a club over the men on the jobs because the men knew there would be a long wait till their names got to the top of the list in case they got fired. Also there are so many different classifications of work that some men would naturally get all the best jobs while the majority would have to take relief work, smaller jobs, or else lose their place on the list.

The Stalinists have used this system to give the good jobs to the Filipinos and Latin-Americans who make up a large part of the membership in order to hold their vote, thereby tending to create racial antagonism in the union. The activities of the union have been almost entirely confined to the Business Agent teaching the boys to play baseball (while scores of taverns, once Union, are now hiring non-union porters), and to raiding the union treasury to support boss politicians seeking elections.

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C.P. Stooges Suspended From Auto Union Posts

(Continued from page 1) of the Stalinists, one heard talk of peace and harmony, while the Stalinists continued blazing away at the administration with all the weapons of factional warfare.

So, two weeks after the victory, another meeting is unnecessarily and gratuitously called. Martin is not even in town, so sure is everyone that the Stalinists have been licked for good. Then the Stalinists, catching the others napping, make another grab for the leadership and the administration becomes panicky and replies with suspensions.

Explanation Needed

To overcome at least in part the bad effects of this move, the Martin leadership must go to the membership at once, explain what policies it wishes to carry through, explain the role of the Stalinists and why disciplinary action was taken, and assure the membership that no campaign of red-baiting or violations of democracy is under way. The union can then be rearmored with the necessary militancy and confidence for the inevitable campaign the Stalinists will launch and for the great economic battles that loom ominously in the immediate future.

Leaders Over-Confident

The real secret of the last panic measures against the Stalinists is probably due to the super confidence the leadership gained after the last Executive Board meeting. The victory seemed so easy. The Stalinists seemed crushed. Instead of inaugurating a bold and energetic campaign to educate the membership along the lines of the "Twenty-point" program and to expose the treachery and the deception

of the Stalinists, one heard talk of peace and harmony, while the Stalinists continued blazing away at the administration with all the weapons of factional warfare.

N. Y. Jobless Prepare Action In New Crisis

NEW YORK.—With reports coming in from all parts of the country of ever-expanding relief rolls, and the capitalist incapacity showing increasing incapacity to cope with the mounting relief crisis, New York may soon witness situations similar to those which have prevailed in Cleveland and Chicago—only on a much larger scale—when the Board of Estimate considers new relief appropriations for the month of July.

When Mayor (Ten per cent) LaGuardia moved for the cut in relief in April, he confided to Sam Wiseman, Stalinist secretary of the New York Workers Alliance, that the cut, unnecessary at that time, was decided on in anticipation of a future crisis and to bludgeon the City Council into voting his Sales Tax proposals.

Figures Are Eloquent

To comprehend the magnitude of the relief crisis in this city, one must compare the latest figures issued by the New York Times with previous figures. The Times (June 12) stated that the present total home relief load is 567,000 persons (apart from 571,000 others who are deriving their support from the wages of 168,000 W.P.A. workers).

Mayor LaGuardia, testifying on January 17, 1938, before the U.S. Senate Special Committee to Investigate Unemployment and Relief, stated that at that time

Sit-Ins Postponed

"Sit-ins" projected last week by the Alliance Delegates' Council, were postponed by the city strategy committee as Alliance locals were voting for participation in them. Telegrams sent from the central office of the Alliance announced the postponement.

"Coming at this time, the sit-ins to a large degree should serve as a preventive measure against what is happening in Cleveland and Chicago," spokesmen for the Progressive Group in the Alliance asserted. "Be on guard against any deal between the city Alliance leadership (Stalinist) and the city officials."

The vote taken at the Delegates' Council for a strategy committee of seven was erroneously reported in last week's Appeal as being decided by Chairman Jerry Benton, after a 23-23 tie vote. A second vote was taken which favored a committee of seven by a vote of 28-24.

Appeal Army

National Appeal Campaign: A few literate agents have written us regarding their plans for the campaign beginning on July 1. Let's hear from the others. Don't forget that we only have two more weeks in which to get started on the Appeal's greatest drive to date: to attain a circulation of 10,000! The first week is National Newsstand Week. Send in the address of your newsstands right now. New York's literature agent has turned in over 40 of them already. Just as soon as we have enough, a newsstand column will be printed regularly.

Subs took a drop over last week's record total, but we're still going strong. Here's the record for the week:

MINNEAPOLIS 10
Maplewood, Missouri 8
New York City 6
Los Angeles 6
Detroit 4
Oakland, Calif. 2
Ohio 2
San Francisco 2
Miscellaneous 2

TOTAL 42

In bundle orders we have the following increases: Detroit — now taking 75; Evansville, Indiana, raising theirs to 8; Youngstown, Ohio, to 25 and a new bundle account of five from Chaska, Minn. That's the sort of thing the business manager likes to report!

We're glad to welcome California back into the sub lists

Unionist Jailed On Handbill Ban

L.A. Police Arrest ILGW Organizer, Set Bail At \$600

LOS ANGELES.—While Shriners, meeting in national convention in Los Angeles, were busy last week blocking traffic by adolescent pranks, littering the streets with trash, making every conceivable kind of loud and unusual noise, and were permitted to do things which would mean a prison sentence for a striking worker, Bill Busick, organizer of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union was arrested for violating an anti-handbill ordinance and released on the exorbitant bail of \$600.

In spite of the recent ruling of the Supreme Court of the United States invalidating a similar ordinance, and a recent local ruling of the Los Angeles Municipal Court declaring unconstitutional the hand-bill ordinance of Los Angeles, the police of Vernon, a small manufacturing district in the Los Angeles area, have insisted on enforcing their local ordinance.

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Workers On W.P.A. To Get Pay Cut

(Continued from page 1) lose. Instead of centering their fire on Roosevelt, who ordered the \$1,000 maximum, they will picket several underlings representing the "reactionaries" who "convinced" the president of the need to cut salaries.

Not only are New York W.P.A. workers receiving pay cuts, but they are also faced with dismissals. At the present time, thorough investigation of the relief status of each worker is being made by employees of the City's Emergency Relief Bureau. La Guardia, as mayor of the city, has the power to prevent city employees from being used on this type of work. Yet the Stalinist leadership refuses to allow any militant demonstration to force the mayor's hand. The very idea of even picketing such a prominent People's Front is beyond them. The only action planned is a "dramatic and professional" rally at City Hall. Ask the mayor in a nice way, but make no demands on him!

When Roosevelt Comes

On June 30, President Roosevelt will be in New York City, at the World's Fair grounds, to address the National Educational Association convention. This would be a splendid opportunity to rally every W.P.A. worker for a fighting demonstration at the Fair grounds. The chief executive, responsible for the reduction of salary, will be right at hand. Probably the most militant action the Stalinists will allow will be the circulation of petitions and showing of exhibits of the good work done on W.P.A. near the Fair grounds.

The only hope for W.P.A. workers is to cast aside the Stalinist leaders and engage in a militant anti-government struggle for their immediate demands.

Role of Stalinists

Not in the least surprising, the "Communists" have refused to join in the fight. Instead, they spend their time trying to break up the meetings of the organizations already in action. They, too, have gotten up a petition in the name of their dead "innocent" organization, the East Side Tenants Union. Not a word of criticism of the City Administration,

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