

STATEMENT BY FOSTER, BITTELMAN AND OTHER COMRADES

We wish to make the following statement in the name of the minority comrades in the Polcom and in the C.E.C. (Foster, Aronberg, Bittelman, Hathaway, Wagenknecht, Costrell, Gomez, etc.):

1. We consider it an error that the comrades of the minority elected Cannon a member and spokesman of the minority steering committee at the membership meeting in New York on October 3rd. This error resulted, in our opinion, from failure to draw all the political implications from Cannon's remarks and statements at that time.

2. We also consider it an error that the comrades of the minority, in their efforts to expose and bring before the Party the developing Cannon Trotskyist opposition between October 3rd and 16th, did not advise and work with the Polcom. This error resulted, in our opinion, from the existing unhealthy factional situation which in this case influenced the comrades in their actions.

3. In their handling of the Cannon-Trotsky matter between October 3rd and the Polcom meeting of the 16th the comrades were guided solely by the thought to find the most effective means to expose Cannon before the Polcom and the Party. In no sense did they hesitate on the Trotsky-Cannon question or in any way whatever try to shield Cannon.

4. We wish to protest once more against the campaign of the majority that the minority are objectively helping the Cannon opposition. We again state that only the line formulated by the minority can successfully combat both the Right danger and the Cannon-Trotsky opposition.

5. We are preparing a longer statement in this matter for publication in the Party press.