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# Protest Letter Regarding Jay Lovestone to the CEC of the Communist Party of America from the CPA's Boston District Organization, March 24, 1920.

A document in the Hoover Institution Archives, Jay Lovestone Papers, box 195, folder 9.

New York, March 24, 1920.

Dear Comrades:—

The undersigned hereby protest against the distortion of Communist principles and tactics indulged in on several public occasions by Comrade Lovestone since his indictment. The latest misrepresentation took place during the course of his testimony at the Winitsky trial (Wednesday, March 24), during which Comrade Lovestone, according to the report in the *New Yorker Volkszeitung*, made statements in complete opposition to the Manifesto and Program of the Communist Party of America and of the Communist International (see below).

As Comrade Lovestone has been a party speaker and official, and, at one time, was designated as director of education for the New York Local, we cannot allow such misrepresentation to pass unnoticed, even if engaged in for the sake of saving his own and Winitsky's neck.

At a time when all activity of the party is in abeyance, when the membership is burning with the desire to place the truth about capitalism and, in particular, about the Communist Party before the American working class — in which work they

are sadly left without assistance both by their leaders and their officials — it is necessary that no one regarded as a spokesman for the party be allowed to manipulate party principles to suit his own wishes.

As this is not the first time that Lovestone has been guilty of statements regarding party policy in utter contradiction to our program, we must assume that it is due either to ignorance, irresponsibility, or cowardice. In any one of these assumed cases, he proves himself unfit to represent the party in any capacity.

We believe that mere reprimanding is totally inadequate. We demand *stern disciplining*. And, above all, WE DEMAND THE IMMEDIATE REMOVAL OF LOVESTONE FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THE NATIONAL COUNCIL, of which he is a member.

We are in the midst of a revolutionary epoch, in which no hesitancy or leniency must be tolerated. Continuation of desultoriness on the part of our officials will only lead to a revolt within the party.

Fraternally yours,

Org. of 1st [Boston] Dist.

*Edited by Tim Davenport.*

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