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THE MILITANT

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L.D. Trotsky Paris, France

Copy to International Secretariat

Dear Comrade Trotsky:

Enclosed herewith you will find a copy of our letter to the British section concerning the proposal to enter the IIP.

We are taking a very deep interest especially in the British developments and very much fear that our British comrades will hesitate too long while the fate of the ILP is being decided without their direct influence upon it. The development of the nucleus of the Left Opposition was so long retarded in Great Britain, and took shape so slowly that it would be a great pity for our comrades there now to stand aloof and miss the opportunity of the moment. We are very glad to see your positive intervention on the question of the ILP and hope that the British comrades will be convinced and act on it. We will do everything we can to help.

Things are moving here, as I wrote you before. The branches throughout the country have expressed themselves unanimously for the new orientation. During recent weeks we have made gains, both in direct recruiting of individual members and in the formation of new units--two new youth clubs and a new branch in California Now, after long delay, we are on the point of crystallizing a new branch in San Francisco. Our organization is the only one of the dissident groups which has a national structure. At the present time we have 22 branches.

A quotation from a letter from San Francisco on the effect of the new turn on non-affiliated revolutionaries will be interesting to you: "The sentiment seems to be overwhelmingly favorable to our coming out for the formation of a party. With great relief many of those who have not been affiliated with any particular party and were not ready nor could understand joining a faction have greeted the new orientation."

We hear that the internal faction fight in the Socialist Party is growing deeper and that a leftward tendency is becoming more aggressive. The Stalinists captured a similar movement in the YPSL(Young Peoples Socialist League) recently, cut it off prematurely, taking a few top leaders and driving the rest of the left movement back into the fold of the SP. The re-emergence of this movement can be expected and if we are alert and skilfull enough a different result may follow next time.

Yours fraternally,

Secretary