

New Leader and the Amalgamated Left Wing

Ten Important Facts The New Leader Ignored in Its Slanderous Attack Upon the Left Wing in the Trade Unions

By BEN GITLOW

THE New Leader of November 13 contains an editorial on the meeting held by the Amalgamated Section of the Trade Union Educational League on Saturday November 6 at the Central Opera House, New York City.

Ignoring entirely the issues raised at the meeting, the editorial concludes as follows:

"At any rate we are unable to tell where the spy ends and the Communist begins and there is reason for believing that in some cases both are employed by the same paymaster."

The editorial also charges that the meeting was a mask for the Communist Party.

One. The meeting was called by the Amalgamated Section of the Trade Union Educational League, not by the Communist Party.

Two. The meeting was called in order to explain how the reactionary machine in the Amalgamated was helping the Cloakmakers who were out on strike for 19 weeks.

Three. The direct cause for the calling of the meeting was the fact that a number of workers were deprived of their jobs upon the order of Beckerman, manager of the New York Joint Board of the Amalgamated, because they dared to take up in their shops collections for the striking cloakmakers. Some of those discharged for this reason were Sam Lipzen, A. Nelson, Philip Aronberg.

Facts of Meeting.

THE following facts were brought out at the meeting:

1—That Beckerman, the manager of the New York Joint Board, during the Cloakmakers' strike, with the approval of Hillman, closed a most shameful agreement with the New York clothing manufacturers. In the agreement not a single demand was won by the union. At a time when other needle trades unions had won or were fighting for the 40-hour week, and other demands, the Amalgamated accepted a 44-hour week, and gave further concessions to the manufacturers. The announcement of the Amalgamated agreement brought forth a statement by Mr. Figner, representing the cloak bosses, who were most bitterly fighting the union, praising the agreement and the leaders of the Amalgamated. This agreement accepted during the early stages of the cloakmakers' strike, and after the furriers had won a notable victory and the 40 hours, was a blow at the cloakmakers and a great aid to the cloak bosses.

A. C. W. Delays.

2—That in spite of the fact that Sidney Hillman as president of the Amalgamated at the meeting called at Madison Square Garden to vote in favor of the strike, pledged the whole hearted support of the Amalgamated to the impending struggle, the Amalgamated failed until very late in the struggle to assist the cloakmakers, and then in dribblets, the total sums amounting to only \$27,500, an insignificant amount for an organization like the Amalgamated. That the Amalgamated is the one union in the needle trades that is in a very good position to financially assist the cloakmakers.

3—That Abraham Beckerman, the New York Joint Board manager, without the interference of Hillman and the general Executive board during the course of the strike worked closely with the opposition forces in the cloakmakers and carried on a vicious campaign against the strike and its left wing leaders.

4—That the decision to tax the members of the New York Joint Board of the Amalgamated for cloakmakers relief was made after Beckerman had given strict orders that there must be no collections taken for the striking cloakmakers in the shops, after a number of workers were discharged for doing so upon the orders of Beck-

erman, and deprived of a livelihood and a few days after the Amalgamation Section of the Trade Union Educational League had announced publicly that it would hold the Central Opera House meeting.

Scab Work Done.

5—That in Amalgamated shops in Newark, with the knowledge of the business agents, scab work has being done.

6—That the Beckerman Hillman right wing administration of the Amalgamated was working hand in glove with the reactionary right wing forces lead by Sigman in the International to sabotage the strike and create difficulties for the left wing leadership.

7—That when the amalgamation issue was raised during the strike by the General Strike Committee of the cloakmakers, Hillman who has always been taking credit for being in favor of amalgamation remained as silent as a clam.

8—That when delegates representing the New York Joint Board of the Amalgamated appeared at the conference of New York unions called to organize relief, they stated that they came as observers and had no power to commit their organization.

Opposed Picket Demonstration.

9—That when a decision was made by the conference to march to City Hall to protest before Mayor Walker against the unjustifiable mass arrests, the breaking up of picket lines and police brutality, Beckerman declared that the Amalgamated was not officially a part of the conference, that it had made no decision to participate in the march and therefore would not take part in the demonstration.

10—That when Philip Orlofsky, manager of the Cutters' Local No. 4 endorsed Smith for governor, after the cloakmakers were bitterly fighting the strikebreaking atrocities

of this Tammany governor, who tried to force arbitration, whose commission granted a decision in favor of the bosses, and whose judges granted a most severe injunction, Beckerman and Hillman remained absolutely silent and did not criticize Orlofsky for his treacherous endorsement.

New Leader Ignores Them.

THESE facts and many more raised at the meeting, the New Leader ignores and instead it raises a bugaboo about spies and agents of the bosses. If anything is proven by these facts, it is that the whole right wing machine in the needle trades together with the Jewish Daily Forward and its envious understudy, The New Leader, are the agents of the bosses. That their role is one of treachery to the workers, one of sabotage against the workers' militant struggles for better conditions.

The meeting held in Central Opera House was of great significance to the workers in the needle trades. Upon the platform were gathered the militant leaders of all the needle trades unions. It was a demonstration of the need of greater unification of the militant forces in the industry to meet the difficulties that have now become very clear to all workers in the needle trades, as a result of the furriers and cloakmakers' strike. The resolution of the meeting sounded a new note for the needle trades in addition to protesting against the sabotage of the cloakmakers' strike by the Amalgamated officials and pledging full support to the cloakmakers' strike.

IT raised the issue of amalgamation and the defeat of the right wing for its compromising treacherous policy and for the militant fighting policy of the left wing.

The New Leader had better rave. It can offer no constructive proposals against the program of the left wing. It can, like in its editorial, deal only in lies, insinuations and calumny.

The Program of Work for the Party

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Loeb. The statements of the political Committee on the situation in the Communist Party of the Soviet Union were unanimously approved, as were the resolutions on the other questions mentioned above.

The resolution on The DAILY WORKER calls for energetic support of the Keep The DAILY WORKER Campaign and a campaign to extend

its influence by building up the circulation of the paper.

Inner Party Unity.

The resolution of the Central Committee establishes the fact that great progress had been made in uniting the membership and leadership of the party. While here and there remnants of factionalism remained it was agreed that there was less factionalism in the party work than at any time in its history.

Seek Appropriation for Paying Claims of Americans on Germany

WASHINGTON, Nov. 16.—A definite plan for the payment of \$200,000,000 of claims of American citizens against Germany and the return of German property seized by the United States during the war was presented to the house ways and means committee by Under Secretary of the Treasury Winston.

An appropriation by congress of \$100,000,000, the value of German ships and radio stations seized by the United States, was the first step proposed.

Police See Shooting of Former Ball Star

WEST PALM BEACH, Nov. 12. — John B. "Sook" Robinson, former ball player with the Rochester Internationals and Birmingham in the Southern League, now a deputy sheriff, was shot and probably fatally injured here early today, by J. V. Landes, night clerk at the Pennsylvania Hotel, as two policemen looked on.

Use your brains and your pen to aid the workers in the class struggle.

Klan Claims Right to Operate Despite Contrary State Laws

WASHINGTON, Nov. 16.—The right of the ku klux klan of Georgia to operate in all states of the Union regardless of state laws was claimed before the supreme court today by attorneys for the secret order.

Appealing from an ouster order of the Kansas supreme court, the klan counsel invoked the constitutional privilege of free speech and free press to sustain the claim.

The Kansas court held that the klan had not complied with the state charter act for foreign corporations.

Fruit Growers Talk About Farm Relief

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 16.—The annual convention of the California Fruit Growers' and Farmers' Association opened this week in Fullerton. The most vital problem facing them was raised in an opening speech by a representative of the state department of agriculture on the problem of relief for the difficult economic problem facing the farmer.

SEND IN A SUB TODAY.