

LORE DEFENDS LOVESTONE

LUDWIG LORE, editor of the New York Volkszeitung, is shocked by the impoliteness displayed in a recent article in the Daily Worker. In this article the lying pretensions of Lovestone, Wolfe and Gitlow were characterized. It was pointed out that these pretensions are the outgrowth of petty-bourgeois shopkeepers conception on the part of these gentlemen. It was shown that the tactics of Gitlow, Lovestone and Wolfe were the tactics of the type of storekeepers that subordinate everything to the chance of selling their article. They advertise shoddy for wool and gleefully rub their hands, in a self-satisfied contention that they "put one over" on their poor customer.

Lore feels sorry for Lovestone and comes to his defense. He even smells anti-Semitism in the term "Hester Street Concern of Lovestone, Wolfe and Gitlow."

This protest of Lore will unquestionably elate Lovestone. But it is doubtful whether it will have any effect on the intended victims of the sales method of the concern of Gitlow, Lovestone and Wolfe. The workers know better. They know first of all that when one shopkeeper who sells his goods under false pretenses is defended by another, it is reasonable to assume that the defender also indulges in the same practice. But, and most important, they know that when a revolutionist speaks of a petty shopkeeper's psychology he refers to a class and not to a religion or nationality. We may have located the concern of Lovestone, Gitlow, Wolfe and Co. in the Irish territory of Hell's Kitchen instead of

the Jewish territory of Hester St., or, to suit Mr. Lore, we might have put it into Yorkville. The location could not change anything. It is the type that we are concerned with. And in the type we are interested only from a class standpoint. Worker or bourgeois—revolutionist or shopkeeper, that is the question, considering Gitlow, Lovestone and Wolfe from this point of view we point to the facts which prove conclusively that they are shopkeepers and not revolutionists.

Lovestone, Gitlow and Wolfe try to "do business" under the firm name of the Communist International when their whole object is to fight against the Comintern. In old established fire sale fashion, they advertise their wares as Leninism-Communism, when they know that they are in violent conflict with the theories of Communism and in reality, try to peddle cheap economics of bourgeois professors. Their "bankrupt stock" sale advertises their conscious distortions of Comintern decisions as the real article. Mr. Lore can suit himself. He can give Lovestone an Irish, German, Italian or any other face he wants to; but behind whatever face he may give him there is and will be the small brains of the petty shopkeeper who hopes to maintain his existence politically or physically by perpetrating perpetual petty larceny on an unsuspecting clientele.

After Mr. Lore is through with changing the face of Messrs. Lovestone, Gitlow and Wolfe, he may invite the gentlemen to his house to receive from them the congratulations due him for his quick action in their defense.