

POST COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD SHOWS INFLUENCE OF COMMUNIST PARTY IN MEXICO

By JAY LOVESTONE.

MEXICO CITY, April 29.—The remnants of the Fascist bands of the de la Huerta uprising are being dispersed.

In many quarters the opinion still prevails that de la Huerta will stake his all on one more desperate "final fling," but nobody has any doubt as to the outcome of such a test of strength. The de la Huerta counter-revolution has failed completely.

Working Class Active.

One of the outstanding features of the recent fighting in Mexico is the extent and character of the working class participation on the side of the Obregon-Calles group against the reactionary united forces of Mexican Catholicism, landowners, and Fascisti.

For the first time in the history of Mexico's many revolutions, near-revolutions, and counter-revolutions, a regime has succeeded in maintaining itself in power against an uprising. This development is of epoch-making significance in Mexican history.

It is largely due to the fact that great sections of the rural and industrial masses, consciously and in an organized fashion, lined up in the struggle. And in this part played by the workers and peasants of Mexico, the Communists played a no small role.

Communists To The Fore.

Weak as the Communist Party of Mexico is, it clearly foresaw the eventualities and character of the de la Huerta, the Central Executive Committee of the Mexican Communist Party whose influence far exceeds its presently limited organizational strength, that it took the leadership and initiative in rallying the masses against the Fascist outbreak.

When it became evident that the reactionary forces were going to pin their political future on the bayonets of the military following of de la Huerta, the Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party lost no time getting into the fray.

The Committee forthwith made an offer of military and propaganda help to the Callisto forces and the government on the condition that the forces recruited by the Communists be permitted to remain irregular and be subject only to the officers whom they themselves named.

The Communist Party pursued this policy in order to avoid surrendering any of its strength to a government which, tho they now supported against the reaction, they opposed politically.

Communists Make First Declaration.

The first declaration against de la Huerta and for the Obregon regime on the part of any section of the laboring masses came from the Communist Party. Subsequent to this offer to the government and to the appeal to the masses to wipe out Fascism, the Central Committee proposed to the government that the Party send its picked representatives to various states for the purpose of organizing the workers and peasants for active military operations on a large scale.

The entire Central Executive Committee of the party, with the exception of three members who were left at the Capital, to act as the emergency group, were dispatched to various parts of the country to carry out this program of action.

When the revolt was in full swing, the Governor of the State of Vera Cruz fled to Mexico City to avoid the de la Huerta forces. Thereupon the Communists made him the same offer of help against the Fascist band. In Vera Cruz it later turned out, that the Communists organized the peasants and workers so effectively, that it was their harassing the rear of the de la Huerta army that drove Fascism out of this highly important State.

In the State of Puebla the forces rallied by the Communists also proved of considerable help to rout de la Huerta.

In Oaxaca, the Communists concentrated their activities largely on recruiting peasants and workers for the Callista army.

Pursue Same Tactics.

Even in the Military School which Obregon suspected of having strong leanings towards de la Huerta, the Communists made their impress against Fascism.

The wholesome attitude of the Communists was most clearly evidenced by the fact that in not a single state of the Mexican Union did they fail to fight energetically against the reactionary forces. It is especially significant to note that in many states the local Communists adopted such measures even before they were instructed to that effect by the Party center.

Of equal importance in the consideration of the almost instinctive soundness of the Mexican Communists is the fact that the Obregon government had been fought bitterly by these revolutionary workers and peasants prior to the revolution. More than that.

While the Communists were fighting for the Obregon government against de la Huerta, they, as a group, lost no love on the Obregon-Callista outfit and did not burden themselves with any illusions as to the true non-proletarian class character of the present government.

Whatever dangers these united front tactics of the Communists

brought to their organization, and unquestionably these have been and still are many serious dangers, the Central Executive Committee took decisive steps to counteract at the very first opportunity with a strong declaration against Obregon's regime as soon as de la Huerta's politico-military grave was dug and his threat to the safety of the republic buried.

Struggle In Vera Cruz.

The Fascisti military clique was especially harsh with the workers in Vera Cruz. Here de la Huerta and Already the presence of about 25 delegates is assured. This number will be increased before the close of the Congress.

Fraternal delegates from the Communist Parties of Cuba and Central America (Guatemala) are expected to participate actively in the sessions of the Convention.

Delegate From U. S.

For the first time in the history of the Communist movement on the American continents a duly authorized representative of the Communists from the United States, a delegate from the Workers Party of America, will attend a convention of the Communist Party of a Latin-American country.

The Mexican Communists view this step of the Workers Party as a most significant movement in the direction of organizing a centralized unified Pan-American Communist movement to deal effectively with the aggression and increasing encroachments of the Yankee imperialists and their Wall Street-Washington government in the Latin-American countries.

The present party congress assumes extraordinary importance for the Mexican and other Communists because of the delicate and complicated situation in the country arising out of the de la Huerta revolt on the eve of the national elections.

Among the strongest delegations at the congress are the representatives from the Vera Cruz district, where the Communist Party wields considerable influence amongst the agrarian and industrial masses.

One of the prominent delegates from Vera Cruz is Comrade Ursula Galvon, who is the leader of the heroic band of peasants that dealt crushing blows to the rear of the de la Huerta forces in the fighting in the state.

Comrade Galvon is the President of the League of Agrarian Communities of the State of Vera Cruz. He is also a member of the Praesidium of the Red Peasants' International recently organized at Moscow and now making rapid growth in many of the principal countries. Galvon was en route to Vera Cruz from the international peasants' congress while the port was in the hands of the Fascisti de la Huerta forces. He was wired by his comrades to avoid the port, but he managed to land secretly and organize a splendid military fighting force of Communists and poor peasants to rid the state of the reactionary forces.

Farmers' Representatives Present

Delegates from the important industrial center of Orizaba, where the Communists have influence among the textile and tobacco workers, are expected to play a prominent part throughout the convention.

One of the delegations from the State of Oaxaca will be an ex-colonel, Comrade Roberto Ramirez, who resigned from the army in order to be a more effective worker for the Communist Party. Comrade Roberto Ramirez is now a candidate for the national Chamber of Deputies.

The States of Sonora and Durango will also be well represented. The powerful Agrarian Party of the State of Michoacan and the League of the Defense of the People's Rights, both organizations of strongly Communist character, are expected to seek representation at the Congress.

All in all, despite the most insuperable obstacles created by the present military situation in the country and the extreme suffering resulting therefrom amongst the farming and industrial masses, no less than ten states will be adequately represented at this Convention.

Reports have reached the Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party that delegates from the other states are making desperate efforts to break thru the numerous barriers and come to the Congress by all means of transportation available.

Communist Influence Grows.

Within the last year the Mexican Communist Party has greatly increased its influence, tho it is still organizationally weak. The Mexican Communists are confronted with almost unbelievable and countless difficulties arising from foreign imperialist aggression against the country, from the extremely poverty stricken state in which the overwhelming mass of the working and farming population finds itself, from the dangers of Indian and Spanish-Mexican conflicts, and many other peculiarly complex situations.

Recent months have seen a marked favorable attitude developing towards the Communist Party amongst the railroad and textile workers and the various peasants' leagues and unions of which there are a number in Mexico.

It is interesting to note that the Congress is being held in "La Casa

Borah Is Perfectly Safe Republican, Says Senator Edge

Washington, April 30—Senator Edge of New Jersey, republican, today endorsed Senator Borah for chairman of the Republican National committee.

Republicans need not fear that Borah would "introduce reforms or innovations which might embarrass," Edge said.

"If they deal with his viewpoint of the solution of some national problems or differ from the attitude of some other republicans, it would not be fatal."

del Pueblo," the "House of the People". This was once a Catholic monastery. During the great tenants' strikes of 1922, the Communist Party and the Union of Striking Tenants took away the building from the Church. All efforts to force the return of this building to the Catholic missionaries have failed to date.

Important Questions Before Delegates.

The principal questions confronting the delegates are the agrarian problem, the tactics of Communist participation in the national elections, the strengthening of the Party organization, and the growing serious dangers of American imperialism.

Comrade Bertram D. Wolfe has been especially assigned by the Central Executive Committee of the Party to prepare and organize the material and data on which the Party policies on these and other questions will be based.

Spirited discussions and a lively interesting Congress are expected by all the delegates present.

General De la Huerta and his agents declared all labor organizations outlawed. Many workers and peasants were shot down in cold blood. Under these circumstances the Communists banded themselves together in an underground organization and smuggled food, ammunition and sundry military supplies to the government forces.

Six Communists are known to have been shot by the de la Huerta mercenaries for aiding the government in this fashion. Among the workers who were thus murdered by de la Huerta or who met death at the front, was the local Secretary of the Young Communist League.

Some Workers Hesitate.

Let no one get the impression that all the workers and farmers of Mexico consciously and actively fought on the side of the Obregon government. Some workers and peasants who were followers of the Anarchist Federation or who were members of the Railway Workers' Union, were very slow in getting into the fight, even when they were finally drawn in. On several occasions anarchist followers even joined de la Huerta. It was not until the latter showed his real hand by crushing the workers' organizations of all shades of opinion, that the Anarchist Federation woke up to the cruel realities of the situation. After a few anarchists were murdered by the Fascisti, the organized Anarchists under Communist pressure, particularly in Vera Cruz, where a strong united working class front against Fascism was formed, expelled those of their spokesmen who had declared themselves for de la Huerta.

The Railroad Workers' Federation, which is independent of the General Federation of Labor, formally declared its neutrality as soon as the conflict broke out. Many of the railway workers were extremely disgruntled at the treatment they had been receiving at the hands of the Obregon government. Besides, de la Huerta, in preparation for his revolt, had made it his business to demoralize sections of the ranks of the railway workers by a liberal dispensing of funds amongst them. The Fascist leader was well-aware of the fact that the strategic importance of having the railway workers on his side in a military struggle could not be overestimated.

But the Communists among the railway workers worked actively to counteract this potentially grave menace to the success of the Callista forces. Utilizing their strong influence among the railway carpenters as a base of operations, they launched a determined campaign among all railroad workers against the Fascisti coup. Soon many railway workers rallied to the colors against de la Huerta despite the fact that they were warned by their superior Federation officers that such practices were in violation of the accepted policy of the national organization to keep out of politics.

Communists Gaining Strength.

The position taken by the Communist Party in the de la Huerta rebellion has greatly helped to strengthen the comparatively weak national organization of the Mexican Communists. The role played by the Communists in vigorously resisting Fascism has brought them much closer to great masses of Mexican workers and peasants who now have considerable confidence in Communists in several states.

Today the national organization of the Mexican Communist Party is still very weak. But the ideological and general political influence of the Communists the country over is already much greater than the numerical strength and is steadily developing proportions that are to be reckoned with in the class conflicts of our Southern neighboring country.

The present conditions in Mexico, political and economic, are favorable for the building of a powerful mass Communist Party.