

World Socialism

TROTSKYISTS JOIN SOCIALISTS

By HERBERT ZAM

Continuing what seems to have become a general policy since the entry of the French Trotskyists with the Socialist Party, the Trotskyists in Belgium and Italy have decided to give up their organizations and join the Socialist Parties in these countries. They have been accepted in both countries.

As the statutes of the Belgium Labor Party Socialists do not permit the admission of groups, the Trotskyists will have to make application as individuals. This they have agreed to do. They have therefore, already liquidated their organization, the "Communist League." Both groups of course declare that they do not abandon their principles, and intend to advocate them with the limits of Party democracy and Party discipline. In Belgium, the Trotskyists point to the fact that the Labor party and the trade unions have the majority of the working class organized. Therefore, they must be preserved against Fascist attacks. In Italy, however, a somewhat different approach is taken, the statement declares:

UNIFICATION

"An end must be put to the illusion that one of the Parties or groups will succeed in winning, destroying or reforming the othersthe road to a new party leads through the unification of the old ones. In order to accelerate the process of complete organizational unity the International Communist group is joining the Socialist Party."

The action of the Trotskyists is welcomed by "Socialist Action," organ of the left Socialists in Belgium, and "Il Nuovo Avanti," central organ of the Italian Socialists. The latter says:

"The words 'new party' and 'new international' do not frighten us because we are not conservatives. Every party is in constant process of change and renewal. Otherwise it becomes a sect. We, on the other hand, wish to be a party of the working class, and not a sect."

These developments in Belgium and Italy are significant. They mark the end of the International Trotskyist movement as an independent organization. They indicate that the tendency for all revolutionary workers, and particularly those formerly affiliated with the Communists. To join the Socialist Parties as a means of re-establishing unity is continuing in spite of bitter opposition in some quarters.

COALITION GOVERNMENT

Finally the fig-leaf has been stripped from British "national" government. Ramsay MacDonald is out and Stanley Baldwin is in. This is merely an outward shift to conform to a condition which has long existed. The policies of the MacDonald "national" government were the policies of Toryism. At a time when Tories were themselves incapable of putting their policies into effect, they chose MacDonald to do it for them. Profits are at a new high level. Relief payments are at new low level. With British connivance Hitler has been armed and strengthened and war brought nearer.

This is the achievement of the coalition government. This was its sole function. Coalition governments are instituted to save Capitalism. When the job is accomplished, the use for the "labor"

partner ends. Already we see the beginning of it in Belgium. The striking miners in Charleroi naturally looked to the Socialist ministry for some material assistance to their cause. But the Socialist ministers could give them none.....the mines are private property, which Socialist ministers in a Capitalist country are pledged to preserve. Result.....the anger of the miners is directed more and more against the Socialist! The Socialists become the shock-absorbers for the blows directed at capitalism.

IN FRANCE

In France also, the capitalists would like a Socialist partner to tide them over the stormy period. So a new "Socialist" part was born to accommodate the Capitaliststhe Neo Socialists. But this group was discredited almost before it started. A new "ally" was found.....Louis Frossard. Frossard is not only an ex-Socialist, he is also an ex-Communist. Perhaps the bourgeoisie thinks this will add double strength to the coalition.

It won't work! Frossard will go the way of Briand, of Paul Boncou, of Marquot. The French Socialist Party, by holding firmly to its revolutionary principles will emerge stronger than ever. The Belgium Party, also will learn its lesson. Socialism can be achieved only by the power of the working class, not by deals with the capitalists.

From the Executive Committee of the Y. P. S. L. of Greater New York

The Executive Committee accepts the resignation of Comrades Retzkin and Oxman from their respective positions as City Organizer and City Secretary of the League. They have both recognized that they were in error in attaching their signatures, while officers of the League to a certain statement issued by a group.

Previous to the issuance of that statement, certain proposals contained in it had been placed before the Executive Committee and had been definitely rejected.

The Executive Committee wishes to make it clear that this statement is not the position of the League. It was an act of individuals unrepresentative of the League.

While it is the democratic right of every member to express his views, the Executive Committee condemns any act which makes it possible for an individual expression of opinion to be construed as an official position. This was undoubtedly the effect of the act of League officers in putting their names to that document.

In view of the consequences that might have followed had not prompt action been taken by the League, the Executive Committee strongly censures the two officers. Since they have offered their resignation, the Executive Committee herewith accepts them with the understanding that the two are to continue with their present duties until new elections can be held.

In addition, the Executive Committee calls on all members of the League not to permit the present chaos in party ranks to throw confusion into our midst. We must continue to stand firm for Socialism and the Socialist Party by which alone can come the emancipation of the working-class.