OPPORTUNISM IN THE LABOR MOVEMENT

by Lucy St. John

Today hardly a day goes by that the crisis of the labor movement is not reflected in the striking, the struggle with the workers, or the collapse of the labor movement itself. Each event brings into question the very existence of capitalism.

The labor movement is forced more and more to seek aid from those who talk left, who pose as "revolutionaries" in order to hinder the workers from pulling themselves within the bounds of their system. These organizations then serve a specific purpose. They talk of Marxism but do not organize. They talk of the workers' struggles but all this talk serves as a cover for their policies of containing the struggles of workers, subverting and keeping them from becoming revolutionary politics by diverting them in this left talk and in separate isolated struggles, systems, and movements.

This is the content of these limited anti-political forms of action refusing to raise the political issues that tie all the struggles together, to challenge, and to make new alliances. This is the content of this series of articles on Progressive Labor.

Progressive Labor from its very origins as a split from the Communist Party has proclaimed its commitment to world revolution and sought a major advancement in the struggle of the working class. Its literature is filled with talk of revolution and socialism. It goes beyond this to the much larger and more orthodox to understand the natural role of PL and see how they relate this in practice. PL's method and rule is clearly revealed in its work in the trade union movement.

PL has given uncritical support to the Rank and File Committee movement and given the Caucus for a Caus over. This is how a long line of orthodoxy to understand the natural role of PL and see how they relate this in practice. PL's method and rule is clearly revealed in its work in the trade union movement.

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