The Call vs. Daily World: opposing views on Doug Fraser

Two different headlines, two different newspapers. It really comes down to which class you serve—the capitalists or the workers.

Last week, The Call ran a story exposing the resignation of UAW chief Doug Fraser from the government’s Labor-Management Committee. Fraser was miffed because he didn’t get the Labor Law Reform Bill passed in exchange for his dedicated service to the monopolies.

What caught everyone’s attention, though, was the militant-sounding statements Fraser made about “class war.” Pre-tending to criticize the capitalists, Fraser said he now favored “struggle” between the workers and the bosses.

In The Call, we showed how Fraser’s resignation was basically a face-saving gesture designed to cover up his years of class collaboration with the bosses. We pegged Fraser for what he is—a “guardian of the rich man’s castle.”

But The Call wasn’t the only newspaper to write about the Fraser affair. The phony “communists” of the revisionist CPUSA also covered the event in their newspaper, the Daily World. But instead of exposing Fraser’s publicity-stunt resignation, they praised it to the skies.

“UAW head quits big biz council—scores Carter and backs mass action!” blared the Daily World headline on their July 21 issue. Quite a difference from The Call’s focus.

In the revisionists’ eyes, Fraser’s resignation was a “major move” and a “departure from collaboration.” To read the Daily World, you would think that sellout Fraser had all of a sudden become a working-class hero.

Could this be the same Fraser the rest of us know so well—the one who spends his time clamping down on the rank-and-file fightback in the auto plants? Why is the Daily World so anxious to give Fraser-the-Wolf a new set of sheep’s clothing to replace the one now so tattered?

The answer can be found in something the CPUSA calls the “left-center coalition.” It’s their main strategy for coming to power in the labor movement.

Under this “coalition,” the revisionists (the “left,” in their parlance) ally themselves with the “center” (top bureaucrats like Fraser) to jointly share power in labor officialdom.

Up to now, the bureaucrats have been hesitant to deal with the CPUSA misleaders. But because of rising rank-and-file disillusionment with the labor leaders, Fraser may be forced to look for help where he can get it, including from the CPUSA.

In any case, the Daily World’s reportage was a useful self-exposure on their part. It gave auto workers the chance to see how the revisionists sabotage the rank-and-file movement in auto.