

Workers of the World, Unite in the Fourth International!

FIGHTING WORKER

Organ of the Revolutionary Workers League of the U.S. [Marxist Internationalists]
Formerly the LEFT WING of the Workers Party, U.S.

VOL. 1, NO. 0

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1935

PRICE 3 CENTS

INTRODUCTORY NUMBER

Call for Nat'l Convention

The provisional National Committee of the Revolutionary Workers League (Marxists - Internationalists) is calling the first national convention of the organization to start Saturday, February 29th. Chicago has been selected as the first choice for the convention city. The resolutions and documents—the programmatic documents—which were adopted by the National Left Wing Conference held just before the October Plenum of the Workers Party, and being published now in *International News* will constitute drafts for the convention. These drafts and others which are being drafted now by the National Committee will be discussed by the membership in the pre-convention period which is opened herewith.

Agenda

The Agenda for the convention and the reporters are as follows:

- Election of Chairman (each session).
- Election of Secretary.
- Election of Committees.
 - a—Credential.
 - b—Resolution.
 - c—Constitution.
- International Questions.
 - a—Road to the Fourth International—Stamm.
 - b—War Question—Eiffel.
 - c—The First Four Congresses of the Communist International and the eleven Programmatic Points of the former International Left Opposition (Trotskyists).
- Orientation and Perspective—Oehler.
- Problems of the American Revolution.

The Fighting Worker

The working class of the United States is in need of a popular, mass, weekly paper that will present a Marxian analysis of national and international events. All working class groups for the last decade have failed to satisfy this elementary need.

The *Fighting Worker*, launched by the expelled Left Wing of the Workers Party together with other forces that have joined us as the Revolutionary Workers League, will be that paper which will fill this gap. The first issue will not be representative of the coming issues. The first issue is an introductory number, explaining our side of the split in the Workers Party and will present the perspective of our organization for the American class struggle.

Will Appear Weekly

One month after the appearance of this issue we will publish the first regular number of the paper, which will appear weekly thereafter. It will not be the factional sheet of a sect nor of a left opposition of the Workers Party. It will be the organ of our new organization presenting a Marxian interpretation

- a—Situation and Perspectives of American Imperialism—Oehler.
- b—Colonial Question—Negrete.
- c—Negro Question.
- d—Trade Union—Oehler.
- e—Unemployment—Angelo.
- f—Youth.
- g—Labor Defense—Brown.

- g—Agrarian Question—Fox.
 - 7. Organizational Report—Oehler.
 - 8. Report of Constitution Comm.
 - 9. Election of National Committee.
- Included in this agenda are a number of the unsolved problems of the American revolution, which we tried unsuccessfully for years to put on the agenda, first of the Communist League of America

of the class struggle from week to week. To the degree that the other parties claiming to represent the working class, the Socialist, Communist and Workers Parties, obstruct the struggle against capitalism we will deal with them as contending forces in the labor movement.

Organizer and Agitator

We are a small but determined organization and are confident that with our policy and your cooperation we will be able to lay the firm foundation for the creation of the Fourth International in the United States—a revolutionary Marxian party. The *Fighting Worker* will be our organizer and our main weapon to accomplish this task.

We are starting with a modest four-page tabloid and will expand it to an eight-page paper just as soon as we are able to stabilize our new organization. We call upon all class-conscious workers to join with us in making the Revolutionary Workers League and its organ, the *Fighting Worker*, the guiding and directing force for the revolutionary overthrow of American imperialism.

and then of the Workers Party, as well as other burning issues of the class struggle which arose in the Workers Party but were ignored by the bureaucratic leadership. Our first convention will not organize a party. We are organizing the League to lay the firm foundation of our cadres upon the basis of a rounded Marxian program.

Marxists Expelled from Workers Party

Form Revolutionary Workers League

After a bitter struggle which began soon after the Workers Party was founded on the first of Dec. 1934, over the question of building an independent revolutionary party in the United States and the Fourth International, scores of revolutionists have been expelled from the Workers Party. Sincere workers devoted to the cause of the proletariat have been expelled from the party which they helped found. Expulsions have taken place on a national scale in N. Y., Chicago, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Detroit, St. Louis, Kansas City, San Francisco, Washington, D. C., and other cities. Many of the comrades expelled have a long record of activity and struggle in the European and American labor movements. Some were members of the Socialist Party before 1917, foundation members of the Communist Party, the Communist League of America and the Workers Party. Others were members of the American Workers Party which fused with the Communist League to form the Workers Party.

Stalin's Tactics

The expulsions were carried through immediately after the October plenum of the Workers Party which voted to hold a convention on December 26, and to organize a pre-convention discussion between the close of the plenum and the opening of the convention. In a word, we were expelled on the eve of the pre-convention discussion.

In order to cover up their bureaucratic action they print lies in their press, the *New Militant*, claiming that we left the party after a discussion which was unprecedented in the labor movement for fairness. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Charges

In order to prove that the Workers Party lies when it says we left, we print below copies of the charges on the basis of which comrades have been expelled. "October 29, 1935. In line with the decision of the Political Committee as communicated to this branch. (Branch 1, New York City), suspending from the Party, Stamm, Oehler and Basky and instructing the branches to take disciplinary action against members of the Party guilty of collaboration with the above-named, I prefer charges against Brown, Lewis, etc., Comradely,

(signed) Borkeson."

On the same day H. R. in the Bronx Branch entered charges against more than a dozen comrades. Two days later Edith Konikow wrote a letter to another one of our

(continued on page 4)

Campaign to Launch Weekly Paper

Fifteen million unemployed in the United States! Profits going up and wages down! Capitalism preparing for war under the screen of the neutrality policy! Big strike battles coming and Green and Lewis fighting over the best way to betray them! Agriculture being ruined by the capitalists while Roosevelt bribes the farmers to support the wrecking program! The Communist Party leading for fusion with the Socialist Party! Both parties preparing to support the government in the coming war!

And there is no working class newspaper to tell the truth about these events and explain them to the workers. That is what the *Fighting Worker* is going to do.

To get the *Fighting Worker* out the first of the year, to maintain as a weekly thereafter is the aim of this campaign. To start we need a hundred dollars. We expect to raise it in subscriptions, bundle orders and donations.

Quotas
Our national organization is going to put the drive across. Each city has undertaken to raise its quota:

New York.....	\$250.00
Manhattan.....	\$125.00
Bronx.....	75.00
Brooklyn.....	25.00
Youth.....	25.00

Chicago.....	75.00
Philadelphia.....	50.00
Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne, Detroit, Springfield, Ill., Kansas City, St. Louis, Tucson, Arizona and Washington, D.C. have divided the remaining \$175.00 among them in ten and fifteen dollar amounts.	

To raise these quotas our comrades in each city have organized a local drive. Each group will take a bundle order to sell at workers' meetings and to place on newsstands. In addition they are going to take the paper around to all workers with whom they have contact to solicit subscriptions. Social

affairs have been planned. The New York organization, for example, organized a dance to greet the appearance of the paper and is following that with a theater party on December 10th.

Bundle Orders

The aim of the *Fighting Worker* in this connection will be to build its circulation around bundle orders. Subscriptions are necessary and must be promoted but a mass circulation must be built around bundle order sales. Wherever workers meet, wherever workers are involved in struggle, on picket lines, in demonstrations, in trade unions and unemployed organizations, at political meetings, rallies and debates—wherever groups and masses of workers come together, live or move, the *Fighting Worker* must be on the spot with its message of Marxist truth. And there is only one way to do it—with a bundle order!

To systematize the bundle order

circulation, bundle orders will consist of units of five, ten, fifteen, etc. The bundle order rate is two cents a copy. A single issue will sell for three cents.

Subscriptions

The subscription rate is \$1.50 per year (52 issues); 85 cents for six months (26 issues).

Donations

We don't have to agitate much on this score. Workers who want a revolutionary paper and the truth will support the *Fighting Worker* by giving what they can. That is their simple duty. We can count on them to do it. We have seen workers give their last nickel to support their press and go hungry.

Become a subscriber to the *Fighting Worker*!

Become a *Fighting Worker* agent! Order a bundle! Get subscriptions! Help make the *Fighting Worker* a revolutionary agitator and organizer!

National Campaign Comm.

Send all money, subscriptions and bundle orders to National Campaign Committee, *Fighting Worker*, 28 East 14th Street, New York City.

6th Congress of the Y.C.I.

While the world stands on the threshold of another world war, the Young Communist International met after many years and decided to dissolve the Y.C.I. After having trailed the Comintern for many years into the mire of opportunism, the Stalinist youth organization now takes a leap ahead and foreshadows what can be expected from the entire Stalinist movement.

The Browder of the American Y.C.I., Gil Green, returning from the hastily convened Congress, benevolently informs the Y.C.I. of its fate in an interview with the press. "The Y.C.I. is to be a non-party organization which, while clearly supporting the socialist goal, will not take a position on how socialism is to be concretely accomplished, thus opening the way for organic unity with the Y.P.S.L. in all countries." (Gil Green, Daily Worker, Nov. 2, 1935).

Thus the bureaucrats attempt to wipe out twenty-one years of the history of the labor movement. In 1914 Lenin proclaimed the Second International dead—it had betrayed the workers. It had betrayed them precisely because of its revision of Marxism on the road to socialism, i.e., armed insurrection, proletarian dictatorship. The entire world labor movement was split. It was the reason for and the basis of the Third International. For years Lenin and the Leninists carried on a merciless struggle against social democracy. Today, the gentlemen who have long forgotten Leninism, are ready to give up the struggle in name also, are ready to make their formal capitulation to social democracy.

This formal capitulation will be only the conclusion of the political capitulation which which was made some time ago. The party that stands for defense of democratic capitalist countries against fascist capitalist countries, for support of sanctions and the League of Nations, for coalition governments with all sorts of petty-bourgeois lackeys of the capitalist class—a party that stands on that position has long ago gone over into the camp of social democracy.

The necessity for a revolutionary party during this period of the approaching struggle between the work-

YOUTH NEWS

Published by the Young Workers League

Open Letter to the Spartacus Youth

Dear comrades:

By this time you probably know that on November 5th Cannon proposed to the leaders of the Muste-Weber caucus that the Spartacus Youth League be liquidated into the Young Peoples Socialist League. This is exactly the same proposal made a year ago, almost to the day, by Shachtman and Swaback in the Communist League of America. Cannon opposed it then because we were on the eve of fusion with the American Workers Party and he understood that the liquidation at that time would wreck the fusion. Now he thinks the time is ripe.

When we denounced the Cannon-Shachtman Socialist Party orientation many comrades thought we had the "SP HORRORS". Now, immediately after our expulsion Cannon has proposed to liquidate the SYL. The conclusion is inevitable: he tricked you into supporting the Workers Party and Youth League under cover of "fighting the splitters".

The Muste-Weber caucus has decided to fight against the liquidation. But we must warn you against Muste and Weber. Do not trust them. For months they posed as opponents of Cannon's liquidationist line. Yet they united with Cannon at the October plenum

and fascist forces, exists today a thousand-fold intensified. We who have been carrying on the work of building the Fourth International can look on the open announcement by the Stalinists that they are no longer a Communist organization as a proof of what we have been saying for a long time. Now that this has been made quite clear to those young workers who were still attracted to that swamp because it is cloaked with the prestige of the Soviet Union, the task of building the new youth international should be greatly facilitated.

to endorse his line and expel the Left Wing. Weber endorsed Cannon's international liquidationist line and supports it today. That is why he cannot effectively fight its application to the Workers Party. When Muste endorsed the new orientation of the International Communist League he cut away the ground from under his opposition to the liquidation of the Workers Party. When these leaders helped to expel the Left Wing they made Cannon's work easier.

Now they have laid the basis for a new capitulation. At their joint caucus meeting on Sunday, Nov. 10th, under pressure of their membership, they decided to fight the liquidation. But Weber immediately put through a motion to propose unity to the Y.P.S.L. "on a revolutionary basis", thus opening the door wide to Cannon's line. This identical motion was made by Carter in the top steering committee of the Cannon caucus a week before. Carter's motivation was to avoid coming out too openly and to gain time to psychologize the membership for the idea of the liquidation.

That is being done now. Garrett's report at the last city membership meeting clearly laid down an ideological basis for the liquidation. The decision of the District Committee

that the line in regard to the Y.P.S.L. shall be for "unity on a revolutionary basis" is the next step to prepare the minds of the members for the coming liquidation.

If you want to fight for an independent revolutionary party and youth league you must draw the conclusions from these experiences with this whole leadership. Base yourselves on a clear international line; break sharply and completely with the liquidators on the international question. That will inevitably lead to a second split in the WP and SYL. But Cannon is going to the SP, as a majority if he can, or as a minority if he must. He is sending his own faction in now. Some have already joined. Others will shortly. Unless you prepare yourselves now you will be dragged along.

Organize yourselves. We will help you fight the liquidators. In common struggle we can reunify the ranks of the revolutionary forces and take a step forward toward the building of the independent revolutionary party and youth league of the American working class.

Comradely,
YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE.
(Formerly Left Wing of
Spartacus Youth League).
28 East 14th Street N. Y. C.

Youth League to Hold Convention

The provisional National Committee of the Young Workers League is organizing the first national convention of the League to take place in conjunction with the convention of the Revolutionary Workers League. The agenda will include the problems of the working class youth and the revolutionary youth movement, made

so acute by the onrushing world war and the confusion and opportunism which characterize present youth organizations on a world scale. Plans will also be discussed for building the Young Workers League as the revolutionary youth organization of the United States, section of the Marxist Youth International, the creation of which is an urgent task.

NATIONAL NOTES

Several weeks ago the New York Left Wing was expelled from the Spartacus Youth League. Expulsion are now taking place on a national scale. The following have been expelled or are facing expulsion: a majority of the active membership in New York City; the entire Philadelphia branch; a large section of the Chicago membership, including three of the six branch organizers; the entire State College, Pa. branch; comrades in Detroit, Pittsburgh, and other cities.

We have set ourselves the task of building a new revolutionary youth league in the United States and are making rapid advances on a national scale. We have organized branches in N.Y.C., Chicago and Phila. elected provisional National Committee to function until the coming convention, and gone ahead to set up branches and nuclei nationally.

In New York City our comrades started with one branch in Manhattan. Now a second branch is being established in the Bronx, and the nucleus for a third in Brownsville. A city committee has been elected. Two classes have been arranged; one on the A.B.C. of Marxism, one on Marxian Economics. Open air meetings are held every Friday night in the Bronx and Brownsville. Branch educational meetings are a regular feature. In student work we have had our first experience with the S.Y.L. in a united front at City College in which the maneuvers of the S.Y.L. to exclude us drove away even its own members. A strong emphasis has been put by the New York organization on outside activity—trade union, etc.

For months our Philadelphia comrades were practically excommunicated from the S.Y.L. As a result they have been functioning on their own, have held street meetings, and done work among high school and college students. Much of their activity has been concentrated on the Young Peoples Socialist League and the Young Communist League, from whom they have won a number of members.

In Chicago the expelled comrades have organized two branches and are busy laying the basis for a revolutionary youth organization. They have doubled their bundle order of the Call To Action and are busy with plans for local and neighborhood activity.

Our start is an indication of our future. The spirit of our comrades is high. Almost the first official act of the National Committee was to issue two days after the expulsion, the first number of the Call To Action. The second issue is ready now.

The National Committee is now preparing to issue leaflets and pamphlets (What Is the Young Workers League, War, etc.), and programmatic material for our coming convention. As the first major step to consolidate the League, Comrade Streeter is making a national tour. With its accomplishment we will have laid a cornerstone in the creation of the revolutionary youth organization of the American working class, the Young Workers League of the U.S.

Youth Tour

Right on the heels of the successful tour made by comrade Oehler, the Young Workers League is sending comrade Streeter, expelled member of the National Committee of the Spartacus Youth League and New York District Organizer, on a tour for the youth. The dates up to Chicago are listed below.

Dates of the return trip from Chicago will appear in a later issue of the paper:
Scranton, December 3-4; Rochster December 6-7; Buffalo, December 8-9; Cleveland-Toledo, December 10; Detroit, December 11-12-13; Ft. Wayne, December 14; Chicago December 15; Coal Fields, Kansas City, St. Louis, Indianapolis, Columbus, Akron, Pittsburgh, New Castle, Youngstown, State College, Allentown, Philadelphia.

Join the Young Workers League

To Defeat War - - -

It is more than five years now that world capitalism is groping for an issue out of its crisis. In the last few years billions of dollars have been spent in a vain attempt to stimulate an industrial recovery. The results so far are negligible. Although the possibility of a general pick-up is not excluded, the permanence of the crisis is indubitable. Millions of workers are condemned to permanent unemployment. While previous crises have been convulsions of growth, this one is a hopeless paralysis of the productive forces, driving all imperialist powers toward a new world war as the way out for the victorious at the expense of the defeated.

The sun is not big enough for all to have a place in it. It is becoming small even for those who have it now. Someone has to be pushed off. The war for the markets, for the sources of raw materials, for the right to invest capital in colonial and semi-colonial countries, for "spheres of influence", for everything that will set the productive forces in motion and alleviate the intolerable crisis is inevitable. For such a "solution" it is the workers that will have to pay the price. War cannot be prosecuted unless the toiling masses are completely oppressed. In our war thesis, submitted to the National Committee of the Workers Party shortly before our expulsion, and rejected by that body, we have sounded the warning:

"In preparation for entry of the United States into the war, a violent attack upon the revolutionary movement and organizations of the Ameri-

can working class will take place. The suppression of the class will increase until war is declared and then all semblance of bourgeois democracy will be eliminated. Emergency laws will be enacted as war measures, depriving the workers of democratic rights. For the successful prosecution of the war, a complete suppression of revolutionary organizations will be imperative for the government."

Those who cannot foresee and can learn only through bitter experiences should recall to their memory the war measures of the Wilson administration.

Can America Stay Out of War?

But why should we worry about the war in distant Ethiopia? Is it any of our business? Why should we worry whether British or Italian imperialism will have control over the Mediterranean? Why should we embroil ourselves in a European war? War is going on in Africa; it may break out any day in Europe. But was not a neutrality law enacted by Congress, and did not President Roosevelt proclaim a policy of remaining a "good neighbor"? He did and we have a neutrality law. But the question will be decided neither by a Presidential proclamation of pacifism nor by a neutrality law. Is American imperialism vitally interested in the struggle of imperialist powers for world domination and if it is, can it stand idle with folded arms while such an issue is decided by a world war? Let us look into this matter a little more closely.

American imperialism became inter-

ested in Ethiopia more than thirty years ago. Its slow penetration culminated eight years ago in gaining valuable concessions for capital investments in plantations of vast proportions and later still in the concession to Standard Oil. There can be no doubt that American imperialism is vitally interested in Ethiopia and, consequently, is vitally concerned in the struggle for domination over it. It is sufficient to establish this fact to answer the question: "Can America stay out of war?" It can not. Roosevelt will "keep us out of war" as Wilson did!

War Against War

The pacifists will not keep us out of war, either. They are against war up to the time when war is declared. Then their pacifism disappears and they become ardent supporters of the government. Bourgeois pacifism begins when war ends and ends when war begins.

Can we depend upon the various working class parties to organize the struggle of the workers against war and to turn it into a revolutionary defeat of the enemy closest to us into a defeat of American imperialism?

Not the Workers Party surely! A week before our expulsion a National Committee meeting was called to deal with the problems confronting the working class. A few days before the Committee met we demanded that the question of the struggle against the war danger and social patriotism be placed on the agenda. Our proposition was rejected. A few days later war broke out. It was only after the actual outbreak of the war that the leadership of this party discovered the war danger

Subscribe to the Fighting Worker

and graciously consented to put in on the agenda for discussion.

Social democracy is irrevocably committed to the defense of the capitalist "fatherland." As in 1914, it is preparing again to support the imperialist governments. It will protest against war, as the Socialist Parties of Germany, Austria, France, the United States and other countries protested before 1914, but will end by siding with the imperialist governments as they did in 1914.

The Communist Parties are committed to the support of all imperialist governments with which Soviet Russia entered or will enter into alliance. For the defense of Soviet Russia they place their faith not in the working class and the proletarian revolution but in alliances with imperialist governments. With such a policy they cannot lead the workers for struggle against war and cannot lead them in the revolution for the overthrow of capitalism.

A Revolutionary Party Is The Need

We live in an epoch of wars and revolutions. The decay of capitalism has reached the stage where no other solution is possible but the revolutionary solution. For the revolutionary solution a revolutionary party is needed. The workers' resistance to exploitation and suppression must be developed into an offensive against the capitalist system. Their class struggle must be developed into a revolutionary struggle for power. The class struggle must be given a revolutionary leadership thru a revolutionary party.

The American working class has no revolutionary party. Without that we will be defeated. The immediate, imperative task is—to build a revolutionary party!

Join the . . .
Revolutionary Workers League

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THE RO LUTION! U. S.—F S Friday IR Irving Pl

The Expelled Revolutionists Pledge Solidarity

Protest Bureaucracy For New Party

We have selected a few of the telegrams and protests against the expulsion of the Left Wing in the pre-convention period. In addition to these telegrams of solidarity the following comrades, speaking for the Left Wing groups in their cities have solidarized themselves with the expelled Left Wing:

- Jim Reed for the Buffalo group.
- H. Beck, Sam Garrett and George Saul for the Detroit group.
- Harry Connors for the Fort Wayne group.
- Joe Angelo for the Springfield group.
- Martin Sayer for the St. Louis group.
- Nell Tygart, Stan Dolsen and Kassen for the Kansas City group.
- Robert Gaynor and Louis Nagey for the Newark group.
- Florence Becker from Tucson, Ariz.

I express full solidarity with Left Wing fighting bureaucratic and centrist leadership Cannon-Muste-Weber bloc. stop. acceptance of expulsion in face of correct revolutionary Marxist position of Left Wing means capitulation before centrism. stop. Revolutionists never capitulate, long live Left Wing nationally and internationally, for Leninist Fourth International.

Secretary Frisco Branch
KOGAN

Chicago Left Wing itself on verge of expulsion hails the stand of New York comrades assuring its wholehearted support. Together we shall build our movement as answer to Cannon-Weber wreckers and opportunists.

GIGANTI

Left Wing Washington Branch WP stands solidly with party Left Wing in fight against party bureaucracy for Marxist principles.

Fraternally,
WASHINGTON LEFT WING

McKinney here to expel leading Left Wingers with three non-members and PC decision. McKinney took over branch most bureaucratic manner resulting in split. Our members solid and in full agreement. Have organized Pittsburgh branch the Revolutionary Workers League.

SIFAKIS.

We, members of the WP and SYL pledge solidarity with the Left Wing and will do all in our power in the fight against war.

Philadelphia Left Wing.

MASS MEETING

THE ROAD TO THE NEW REVOLUTIONARY PARTY IN THE U. S.—FORCES AND PROSPECTS

Speaker: Hugo Oehler

Friday, January 3 - 8:30 p.m.
IRVING PLAZA HALL

Irving Plaza & 15th St., N.Y.C.

Statement of the Chic'go Comrades

(Submitted to the Chicago District Trial Committee, Nov. 3, 1935)

The critical situation in existence in the Chicago Local of the Workers Party has been aggravated immeasurably by the charges made against comrades Garber, Giganti, Samuels and Sold by the Cannon group. The demand is made that they be expelled. The motivation is that these comrades have distributed leaflets advertising a mass meeting on the War Situation to be addressed by comrade Hugo Oehler. The charges do not take into consideration the fact that this mass meeting was expressly decided upon by the comrades did distribute leaflets, it would merely be following out the decisions of the branch, in which they are members.

National Situation

The situation here, however, is directly tied up with that in the WP nationally. The Left Wing in the party is being forced out by the Cannon majority during the pre-convention discussion in order that it be deprived of the opportunity of winning the membership for a more correct Marxist line. Already comrades Oehler, Stamm and Basky have been suspended from the National Committee and the membership has been ordered not to collaborate in any way with the Left Wing or even to hear their views on all questions of disagreement. Consequently, it has forced the comrades of the Left Wing to technical breaches of discipline in order that they may get their views before the members.

We therefore call upon the party majority to reinstate the suspended comrades; to drop all charges pending against Left Wing comrades; to restore these comrades to all the rights of membership and the normal rights of a minority to present its views by means of free access to membership meetings, rights to the party press; allow the Left Wing to make an official tour; permit Left Wing representation on all editorial committees.

The acceptance of these proposals will restore unity in the ranks of the party, prevent a split and all of its consequences. In the meantime the following comrades solidarize themselves with the suspended comrades as well as with the comrades under charges, and fully back their struggle for reinstatement and prevalence of a correct Marxist line:

- Alex Garber, J. Giganti, J. Samuels, Phil Sold, Harry Paine, Jas. Campbell, Carl Kaspin, Esther Kamornick, Sid Scott, Jos. R. Booth, Belle Saltz, Ann Trenton, R. Garver, Geo. Katsiolis, Frank Buckley.

MASS MEETING

CLASS STRUGGLE TRADE UNION POLICY - WHAT IS IT?

Speaker: Hugo Oehler

Friday, December 20 - 8:30 p.m.

IRVING PLAZA HALL

Irving Plaza & 15th St., N.Y.C.

"Like in the C.P. so in the W.P."

Nov. 6, 1935

A. J. MUSTE, Political Committee, Workers Party. Dear comrade:

I am informed of all of the latest developments and the suspensions taking place in the party. This reminds me of the 1924-25-26 period in the Russian Party when the Stalin-right wing bloc fought the left wing. They too followed the same policy. You expel the rank and file first and then suspend the leaders. Like in the CP so in the WP this proceeds just prior to the party convention.

As one who helped organize the CP, then the CLA and later the WP, I protest and condemn your methods and actions. The Left Wing is the only revolutionary group in the country. Expel it and the party will be doomed. I am in full agreement with the Left Wing in the party and will do my utmost to support it till the end. I demand that you reinstate all of the expelled and drop the suspension charges and give them full membership rights and equal opportunity to present their position in the pre-convention discussion.

Fraternally,
HARRY GOLDBERG

Nation'l Tour a Success

The first national tour of the Left Wing of the Workers Party, now known as the Revolutionary Workers League was successfully carried through.

Comrade Hugo Oehler, expelled member of the Political Committee of the Workers Party, prohibited by that committee from making the tour, covered the following cities, where group meetings of the Left Wing were held. Eighteen cities were covered. Branch meetings and mass meetings were held in eight cities:

- Buffalo, October 25; Cleveland, October 26; Toledo, October 27; Detroit, October 27-28-29; Ft. Wayne, October 30; Chicago, October 31; November 1-2-3; Coal Fields, November 4-5; Kansas City, November 6-7-8; St. Louis, November 9-10; Indianapolis, November 11; Columbus, November 12; Akron, November 13; Youngstown, November 14; New Castle, Pa., November 14; Pittsburgh, November 15-16-17-18.

BROWNSVILLE MEETING A NEW WORLD WAR OR SOCIALISM - WHICH?

Speaker: Jules Lorenz
Friday, Dec. 6 - 8:30 p.m.
PALESTINE HALL

1731 Pitkin Ave. Brooklyn

LECTURE

REVOLUTION IN THE AMERICAN COLONIES

Speaker: Rosalio Negrete

Sunday, December 15 - 8:30 p.m.
Revolutionary Workers Center
28 East 14th St. N.Y.C.

LECTURE

THE PERMANENT REVOLUTION Socialism in One Country or Extension of the October Revolution?

Speaker: T. Stamm

Sunday, December 29 - 8:30 p.m.
Revolutionary Workers Center
28 East 14th St. N.Y.C.

The FIGHTING WORKER

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New York Organization Swings into Action

One month after the centrists expelled the Marxists from the Workers Party, the N. Y. City organization of the Revolutionary Workers League is driving full steam ahead.

A city committee has been elected; three branches have been organized in Manhattan, Bronx and Brooklyn; a base has been laid for units in Boro Park and Astoria in the near future. Four mass meetings on war; the Split in the Workers Party; Will the W.P. Join the S.P.? and Hunger Under Roosevelt's Breathing Spell, have been held. Seven others are projected in Manhattan, Harlem, the Bronx and Brownsville.

A number of comrades are engaged at present in the Hecht Bros. and Mays' strikes. Others are in the thick of the struggle of the Home Relief Bureau workers against mass dismissals and wage reductions. The whole New York membership was mobilized for a mass picket line on Friday, November 22, to cooperate with the striking workers who were fired by the **Amsterdam News**, a Harlem newspaper, for union activity. Other comrades are active in the unemployed field, organizing workers on the W.P.A. projects. On November 20th, thousands of leaflets were distributed at the unemployed rally which filled Madison Square Garden.

Other comrades in the Non-Partisan Labor Defense are fighting to preserve it against the Workers Party liquidators who are plotting to bury it in the newly created Labor and Socialist Defense.

The entire membership is now engaged in the campaign to put the **Fighting Worker** over with a bang, visiting contacts, soliciting subs, raising funds. A theater party for the benefit of the **Fighting Worker** has been arranged for December 10th at the Civic Repertory Theater to see the new play, "Mother", by Gorki. A gala affair to greet the appearance of the **Fighting Worker** is planned for November 30.

CALL TO ACTION

Organ of the Young Workers League (formerly Left Wing of the Spartacus Youth League)

Contents of
Volume one, Number one, Nov. 1935
Statement of the Left Wing of the SYL to the NY District Convention.

Analysis of the NY District Convention.

Slaughter in Ethiopia.

Collapse of the Stockholm-Oslo Youth Bureau.

Expulsion of the French Socialist Youth.

On the War Front—Notes.

Student Struggles in England.

Why a New Marxist Youth International.

Volume one, Number two, Dec. 1935

Editorials

Why the Young Workers League. We Go to Work.

National Tour.

LEFT WING EXPELLED

Statement of Chicago Left Wing, Spartacus Youth League.

A Letter from a Cannonite—How the N. Y. Left Wing was Expelled.

SYL Disrupts United Front Anti-War Meet.

YOUTH AND INDUSTRY

Are we "Turning the Corner?"

The National Youth Administration Shows Its Colors.

INTERNATIONAL NOTES

The Two and-a-half Youth International Falls Through.

Organic Unity—The Marriage of the Social-Patriots.

Egypt—the Waldists and the Revolution.

REVIEWS

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Chicago Meeting

WHAT NEXT FOR THE AMERICAN WORKER?

The New Deal? Socialist, Communist or Workers Party?

— or —

AN INDEPENDENT REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

Speakers:
Joseph Giganti and Al Garber

Sunday, December 1 - 2:30 p.m.
Idrott Hall, 3206 Wilson Street

HARLEM MEETING

RACE RIOTS OR REVOLUTION?

What Solution for Lynch Law, Jim Crow, The Chain Gang?

Speakers:
Hugo Oehler James Watson

Friday, Dec. 6th 8:30 P.M.
MONSTERRAT HALL

207 W.137 St. N.Y.C.

HOUSE WARMING & DANCE

OPENING OUR NEW HEADQUARTERS

Games · Refreshments
Entertainments

Nov. 30th, 1935 - 8 p.m.

REVOLUTIONARY WORKERS CENTER

28 East 14th St., N.Y.C.

THEATRE PARTY Benefit for the FIGHTING WORKER MOTHER by Maxim Gorki

Tuesday, December 10th 8 P.M.

CIVIC REPERTORY THEATRE

14th St. Cor. 6th Ave.

Tickets can be obtained at **REVOLUTIONARY WORKERS CENTER**
28 E. 14th Street., N. Y. C.

Philadelphia Meeting

FRANCE AT THE CROSSROADS

Fascism or the Proletarian Revolution

Speaker: Joseph Fox

Friday, November 29 - 8:30 P.M.
Pine Hall, 431 Pine Street

December 6th, 1935 - 8:30 p.m.

MASS MEETING

THE MARRIAGE OF THE SOCIAL PATRIOTS

What Road to the Revolution? Organic Unity of the 2nd and 3rd or the Fourth International?

Speaker: Hugo Oehler

Sunday, December 1 - 8:30 p.m.
GERMANIA HALL

16th St. & 3rd Ave. N.Y.C.

Workers Party Is Headed for the Socialist Party

The bankruptcy of both the Socialist and the Communist Internationals was made tragically obvious by the easy victory of fascism in Germany and Austria. In Germany we had a Communist Party with over three hundred thousand members, a Socialist Party with more than one million members, backed up by trade unions with several millions of members. Both parties were made increasingly conscious of the danger of fascism by its growing aggressiveness. They had ample time to prepare the German workers for the struggle. Both parties failed miserably and went down in defeat practically without any struggle. In Austria the workers put up a heroic but futile fight because they were caught unprepared.

Now this bankruptcy is being demonstrated on an even larger scale. A new world war is looming upon the horizon. And what are these parties doing? In France the Socialist Party under the slogan of "Defend democracy against fascism" and the Communist Party under the slogan of "Defend the Soviet Union" are calling upon the French workers to support French imperialism in the war. In other countries, also, they are lining up the workers to support the imperialist powers against their rivals instead of teaching them that the enemy is at home—their own imperialist government which they must overthrow.

It is clear as daylight that neither of these parties can be depended upon for revolutionary leadership. New revolutionary parties must be built and welded together in a new revolutionary international.

The Workers Party

It was the recognition of these facts that impelled the Communist League of America and the American Workers Party to merge at the end of 1934 to form a revolutionary party, to become the American section of the Fourth International.

The prospects for the new party, the Workers Party of the United States, were excellent. After being on the defensive for years, the masses of the American workers became increasingly militant. The splendid strikes in Toledo, Minneapolis, Milwaukee and other industrial centers, the general strike in San Francisco, the heroic struggles of the textile workers, of the longshoremen, the rapid growth of militant organization of the unemployed were so many unmistakable indications of the rise of the workers' militancy.

In spite of the favorable situation, a fertile soil upon which a revolutionary party can grow, the Workers Party failed. It is torn to pieces, is in the process of disintegration.

The Socialist Party Orientation

Two months after the foundation of the Workers Party, as an independent revolutionary party on the basis of a Marxian declaration of principles, a resolution on "perspective" was introduced by one, West, a member of the Political Committee. It was a cautiously worded proposition to prepare the party for entering the Socialist Party. There was no majority for or against the resolution. The question was left up in the air until the first plenum of the National Committee in March. There the national secretary of the Party, Muste, submitted a series of motions on "perspective". Characteristically, these motions did not take a position on the question of entry into the Socialist Party. But they were worded so that the reader who was for and the reader who was against entry into the Socialist Party could fit his opinions into them. At the second plenum in June, Cannon submitted a resolution which denied the impossibility of reforming the social democracy and paved the way for entry into the Socialist Party as it is. This resolution was defeated. But our resolution which applied to the Socialist Party what Lenin taught

us about the social democracy was also rejected. At the third plenum in October, resolutions were adopted endorsing Trotsky's policy of liquidating the independent groups fighting for the Fourth International into the Second International; applying this policy to the Workers Party.

The Left Wing of the Workers Party was organized in April to fight against these policies. We carried on a sharp struggle against this international Socialist Party orientation for an independent revolutionary policy. For this we were expelled.

The Revolutionary Workers League

The prospects for an independent revolutionary party are just as good now as they were eleven months ago when the Workers Party was organized.

The decision of the Workers Party in favor of a Socialist Party orientation and the expulsion of scores of revolutionaries has sealed its fate. It is no longer a revolutionary force. But the objective conditions favorable for a revolutionary party have not changed. A crisis from which the ruling class finds no way out, except through war, the opportunism of the Socialist and Stalinist parties coming to completion in social patriotism, an undefeated American working class whose militancy is growing, leftward movement in the workingclass organizations—all these facts remain and work in favor of the creation of a revolutionary party in the United States. That is the aim of the Revolutionary Workers League.

The Revolutionary Workers League is not that party. Together with other forces standing on the same platform—the teachings of Marx and Lenin—it will build the party. In doing that it will continue the work it began as the Left Wing of the Workers Party—for the Fourth International and an independent revolutionary party in the United States. We face the future confidently. We do not underestimate the difficulties. We know that the task is a very hard one. But we are armed with the mighty weapon of revolutionary Marxism and the will to struggle and win.

Form New League

(continued from Page 1)

comrades part of which reads as follows: "At the regular membership meeting of Branch 3, Tuesday, October 29th, the following charges were presented against you by comrade R. Robbins: 'I hereby bring charges against comrade Beardlee for his collaboration with expelled members of the Workers Party...'"

It was the same story around the country. Where we controlled branches the Political Committee of the party excommunicated them; it cut them off from all communications and relations with the rest of the party.

Why They Lie

The bureaucrats lie because they cannot advertise the fact that they opened a pre-convention discussion by throwing out of the party a considerable section of it. They cannot afford to admit that without stamping themselves before the working class as bureaucrats. But they needn't trouble about that. We will do it for them.

With the expulsion of the Marxists the Workers Party has ceased to be a revolutionary force. The expelled comrades have organized themselves on a national scale in a dozen industrial centers as the Revolutionary Workers League and are already busy in trade unions, unemployed, labor defense and political propaganda work. The completion of the national tour made by comrade Oehler and the publication of the *Fighting Worker* are two important steps in the development of the League as a revolutionary force in the American labor movement. Others will follow.

Join the . . .
Revolutionary Workers League

Subscribe to the International News

Build A Marxist Party!

To the revolutionary workers in the Socialist Party!

To the revolutionary workers in the Communist Party!

To all revolutionary workers everywhere!

In Africa the imperialist lust of Italian Fascism forges a bloody colonial empire out of the bodies of Italian boys, Askari, Somali and Ethiopian serfs and slaves. British imperialism stifles the unconquerable thirst of the Egyptians for freedom and together with French, Spanish and Belgian imperialism oppresses millions of colonial blacks to the level of the beasts of the jungle.

In colonial Asia more than half the population of the "civilized" earth groans under the crushing yoke of British and French imperialism while with swift thrusts Japanese imperialism tears China to pieces to satisfy its voracious appetite and prepares to sink its talons into Soviet Siberia.

Fascism sits astride the European continent and is preparing to seize the French working class by the throat. The agony of German capitalism, shorn of its colonies and reduced to insupportable restrictions by the Treaty of Versailles, impels it to seek a new external base in the Ukraine at the expense of the Soviet Union, under the direction and with the support of Anglo-French imperialism.

Mightier even than these plundering bandits towers the American imperialist colossus whose shadow covers the entire earth and whose influence penetrates to its farthest corner, dictator of the lives of millions on six continents. Greatest of all war mongers is American capitalism, staunchest pillar of decaying bourgeois society, strongest foe of the world revolution.

War

To unemployment, starvation and tyranny the masters of society are preparing to add the holocaust of world war. The piling up of gigantic armaments, the disguised mobilization of millions of men, the intrigues of diplomacy under the hypocritical formulae of pacifism and noble motives, the war in Ethiopia, the dismemberment of China, all herald the inevitable conflagration which may burst at any moment.

Once again humanity stands before a momentous and fatal decision; the descent to barbarism or the glorious war for freedom and socialism.

Which road the world will take depends on the proletariat which must lead the struggle of all the oppressed through civil war and insurrection and its own dictatorship to the socialist society.

Revolutionary Leadership Needed

But for that the proletariat itself needs revolutionary leadership, a revolutionary world party, a party armed with Marxism, the iron will and determination of Lenin, a party that will raise millions to their feet, fire them with revolutionary ideas and spirit, put arms in their hands and march at their head to victory and power.

Workers will follow such a party to the death. But that party does not exist. The Second International is the open agent of the bourgeoisie. Since 1914 its history is a record of black treachery. Today it proclaims in advance of the war that it will harness the proletariat to the chariot of imperialism. It cannot be reformed but must be destroyed.

The Third International has hauled down

the flag of the proletarian revolution and has placed itself at the service of world capitalism against the working class. Social patriotism is its official policy established by the Seventh Congress. Like the Second International it proclaims its readiness to play the role of recruiting sergeant in the coming war. And it offers its hand in marriage to the Second International.

A new international must be created. The marriage of the social patriots cannot create a revolutionary party. Organic unity is a snare which will lead the workers to new defeats.

Break with the Social Patriots

Workers—revolutionists! You are imprisoned in the parties of opportunism and social patriotism. You cannot serve the revolution while you are united with the social patriots, who are united with the bourgeoisie. Learn from Lenin! Separate yourselves from the social patriots, politically and organizationally! Establish the unity of the revolutionaries in a new party independent of the social patriots and opportunists. We must build the Fourth International. We cannot follow Trotsky. His policy is to transform the Second International into the party of proletarian revolution and is liquidating the independent organizations of the revolutionists.

Revolutionary workers in the Socialist Party! You cannot live in one party and one international with Kautsky, Vandervelde, Spaak, Stauning and Blum. You cannot follow the international Thomases who plead for unity with these traitors, except to certain defeat. Throw off the chains of centrism! Declare your Marxist independence!

Revolutionary workers in the Communist Party! You cannot breathe a free breath in the same party and international with Stalin, Cachin and Browder. Theirs is a policy of betrayal and suppression of revolutionaries which can lead only to defeats as it has done on a historic scale in China, England and Germany.

Revolutionary workers in the Workers Party! You had the opportunity to become the center of revolutionary unity. But your centrist leadership has scrapped Lenin's teachings on war, endorsed Trotsky's policy of reforming the Second International, expelled scores of revolutionaries. You are facing a second split over the question of liquidating into the Socialist Party. The Workers Party is doomed!

Build the Party of Proletarian Revolution

Revolutionary workers everywhere! Capitalism can be overthrown. Two great strike waves have shaken the American imperialist giant. The struggles of our class brothers in Latin America are undermining its base. Great battles loom! There is no time to lose! To defend the Soviet Union, to extend the October Revolution, to overthrow capitalism we must build a revolutionary party!

The Revolutionary Workers League has set itself that task. It calls on all revolutionary workers to join it as the first step in building a revolutionary party in this country.

For Socialism!

For the World Revolution!

For the Fourth International!

For a revolutionary party in the U. S.!

National Committee,
Revolutionary Workers League
of the United States
(Marxists Internationalists)