
Workers Told to Rally for Foster-Gitlow: Ex-Socialist Secretary Repudiates LaFollette

Published in *The Daily Worker* [Chicago], vol. 2, no. 108 (July 24, 1924), pg. 1.

A call for all class-conscious workers to rally to the support of Foster and Gitlow and to beware of the betraying Hillquits and Bergers who deliver the working class over to the petty bourgeois LaFollette, who is true to his own class and not to the workers, has come to the *Daily Worker* from Walter Lanfersiek, former National Executive Secretary of the Workers Party of America.

It is a challenge to all the muddled and misguided, a call for all the straight-thinking, level-headed builders of the new world to join in the fighting ranks of the Workers party, the one working class organization in America that is holding the battle line firm for the workers against the ranks of capitalists, big and little.

But read Lanfersiek's own words:

Springfield, Ohio, July 20, 1924.

In these days of confusion, when even men like Debs are forsaking the working class position, it becomes even more necessary than ever for everyone to find his bearings and declare himself.

It must have become evident long ago to all thinking workers that the ruling class always have used and always will use every weapon of treachery, deceit, and coercion against the workers. Even today, with reaction in the saddle, we see the masters organizing and concentrating their forces in preparation for the coming inevitable conflict. In

view of these facts, it is idiocy to expect the LaFollettes of any stripe, pink, yellow, or black, to help us. There is no use mincing words. LaFollette is no traitor. He stands for his class. But those of our kind who choose LaFollette, when there is any other available choice at all, are traitors, conscious or unconscious.

Until another and a better standard is furnished us by the march of events, the Russian Revolution must be our guide and hope. The Russian Revolution raised no LaFollettes to power. Not even Hillquits or Bergers. They may have jelled some. It is so reported. Very well. We have been taught in this country by hundreds of examples, the alternative of compliance with capitalism or the stinking penitentiary; and we have learned the lesson so well that perhaps we could teach the lesson to other non-conformists, if need be.

Comrades of the Revolution, beware your betrayers, your Hillquits, your Bergers, and the rest.

Eyes left! Always left! March one step nearer the Revolution with Foster and Gitlow.

Walter Lanfersiek,
Former National Executive Secretary,
Socialist Party.

Edited by Tim Davenport

1000 Flowers Publishing, Corvallis, OR · July 2012 · Non-commercial reproduction permitted.