

CARICATURE OF A VANGUARD

By the end of this year - probably before - the marshes will count with two new "parties". The "Bolshevik Party of the USA" (PRRWO-RWL) and the "Marxist-Leninist Party of the USA (O. L.). There is still the possibility of even a third "party" this year "The Overall Most Correct Party" (WVO). All these organizations would be parties already are clear in that they and only they are the vanguard of the U. S. communist and working class movements. Neither of them pays attention to Lenin who says

'For it is not enough to call ourselves the 'vanguard', the advanced detachment we must act in such a way that all the other detachments shall see us, and be obliged to admit, that we are marching in the vanguard. And we ask the reader Are the representatives of the other detachments such fools as to take our word for it when we say we are the 'vanguard' ?'

WHAT IS TO BE DONE? Lenin

Regardless of the apparent differences between their approaches to party building - O. L. from the right, all unity no struggle, worshipping spontaneity, belittling theory, PRRWO-RWL from the far neo-Trotskyite "left", all struggle no unity, "only, only, only", purges, purges, purges, etc. - there is basis of unity between these organizations. Especially now that both of them put forward that "organization is the key link to party building" The O. L. came out in the open and put it boldly in their new call PRRWO-RWL continue to cover their line (remember CL) giving lip service to "political line is key" but carrying out the other line Proof of this is the merger of PRRWO-RWL that is reflected not only in line (they have unity of everything now) but also in the establishing of PALANTE as the "political organ of the genuine wing" and the signing "wing of New York" in all the statements of these neo-Trotskyites

As a matter of fact this question of the mergers goes back to early this year when the Revolutionary Bloc??? merged with PRRWO, who kept this in secret and continued projecting the RB as an independent organization that was part of the "wing." (Curiously enough the merger was kept secret even from PRRWO cadres, many of whom found out just a few weeks ago when it was printed in PALANTE that PRRWO had purged all the former member of the RB (unbelievable, but true in the bizarre world of this insane stripe of "leftism") Neither the O. L. nor PRRWO-RWL (we should really say just PRRWO assuming the merger has already been consummated) have said openly that they are already the party, but for all intents and purposes, they do believe it and act accordingly. The O. L. is more "humble" and just puts forward their auto-proclamation as the vanguard as follows

"Through the course of deepening the struggle against modern revisionism, several trends have emerged, all calling themselves Marxist-Leninist One of these trends, represented by the groups who are issuing this call, as well as by other Marxist-Leninist organizations and individuals, has shown itself to stand for communist unity on the principles of Marxism-Leninism This trend represents a rising force to which increasing numbers of Marxist-Leninists are gravitating "

THE CALL

PRRWO, in the supreme tradition of Trotsky, brag about themselves as follows (all underlines are ours, LPR-)

" The Revolutionary wing has come to the head of the movement, is determining its character, has continuity with the past, are the only forces carrying out real polemics ensuring the social base of the party, purging the ranks of opportunist elements, fulfilling our ideological, political and organizational duties. The wing is already recognized as the vanguard by the sham wing, the parties of the petty-bourgeoisie, there is no better sign of this recognition than the raunchiness of the slanders, like hustlers, anti-party block, the main danger, 'the onlys', Bundists and on and on. There is no self-proclamation on our part that we are the party, for we have consistently put forward that the party must be built form above, starting at the First Party Congress, concretized in unity of program, member on a party organization and financial support. But the sham wing, seeing the strength of the current line of the Revolutionary Wing, the social composition which is mainly working class, multi-national through and through, and, in accordance with the bourgeois plan, come out in unison in the efforts to stop the first U.S. Bolshevik Party Congress, and slander that we claim we are the party, in the hope that we will stop hammering out the basic line and program of action, will become self-complacent optimists because of their recognition and not call the Party Congress. But sham wing, there ain't no way "

PALANTE Vol. 6 # 8 p.5

When PRRWO said that there is no "self-proclamation on our (the.r) part that we are the party" but that the "wing is already recognized as the vanguard sounds like somebody saying "I'm not god I'm only Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit " And the statement on the "revolutionary wing" having "continuity with the past" is correct They are continuing in the tradition of Trotsky and the C L. If you don't believe it compare this quote with PRRWO's statement quoted above

" We are proudly aware of the fact that never in the history of this country has there been an organization with workers on the theoretical and political level as the Communist League. Our women cadre, our national minority cadre are without peers in the history of the revolution in the USNA. The violence of the slanderous attacks by the so-called 'left' is only testimony to the fact that we have developed the necessary qualitative base for the coming Congress "

Communist League, Organization Manual, 1974, p. 17

As PRRWO would say, "check this out, shame on you!" Its clear that on these clear rotten lines of self-proclamation and being the vanguard, as O. L. PRRWO, CL, etc have pushed, organizations like WVO will take exception. They would prefer not to use the same quote we used to ridicule this position, and very possibly they will attack these self-proclamations with something like this

"They (the successors to the revolutionary cause of the proletariat) must be modest and prudent and guard against arrogance and impetuosity; they must be imbued with the spirit of self-criticism and have the courage to correct mistakes and shortcomings in their work. They must never cover up their errors like Khrushchov, and claim all the credit for themselves and shift all the blame on others."

Mao Tse-tung

And after defeating everybody with that quote WVO will have some time of rest to sleep for a while and dream with a fantastic world in which they will be able to put forward things like the following and where nobody will oppose it

" The WVO has, in the last three years, waged fierce ideological struggle with both main representatives of right and 'left' opportunism. In waging the struggle on two fronts, WVO line has been firm and consistent. We have been true to the proletariat and its science of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tse Tung Thought. In the course of struggle, negation of opportunism has given rise to the 'negation of the negation', a higher synthesis of the correct line. Its resilience and strength has been tested in the fiery heat and deepest freeze of right and "left" opportunism. Today, the WVO's line is clearly the most correct and consistent line that has turned into a material force pushing both the communist and workers movement forward. In the course of these struggles, Marxist-Leninists and advanced workers are coming forward wave upon wave. Comrades, presently the state of the U. S. communist movement is excellent. The situation is better than ever before "

Workers Viewpoint Vol. 1 #5 p. 25

Awake, idealists from WVO! Come down to the real world, the one in which the only path you determine is your own path toward the marsh, and the corresponding wave upon wave of criticism that all genuine Marxist-Leninists do on your rotten economist practice and your right opportunist line.

