
Expulsion of Trotsky and Zinoviev: Statement of the Central Executive Committee of the Workers (Communist) Party of America, Nov. 20, 1927.

Published in *The Daily Worker* [New York], v. 4, no. 266 (Nov. 21, 1927), pg. 2.

The Central Executive Committee of the Workers (Communist) Party endorses fully and completely the expulsion of Trotsky and Zinoviev from the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. This action is dictated by the most vital interests of the workers and peasants of the Soviet Union as well as the toiling masses the world over.

The Trotsky-Zinoviev opposition has long ago overstepped the bounds of the permissible in a Communist, Leninist Party. The actions of the opposition have long ago reached the point of actually encouraging the enemies of the working class. Now the opposition has come to the stage where it is organizing a new party, joining hands with non-working class elements, enemies of the Soviet Union, becoming the rallying center for capitalist opposition to the Soviet power generally.

Was Final Step.

The unprincipled public attack upon the Party and government of the Soviet Union at the 10th Anniversary demonstrations arranged to celebrate 10 years of achievement and victory in the building of socialism was but the final step in a long chain of events which followed an objective logic of their own, leading farther and farther away from Party line and from Party loyalty.

Beginning with the attempt of Trotsky and his adherents to undermine Leninism and substitute for it his brand of ultra-revolutionary phrases masking petty bourgeois opportunist tendencies, the opposition has moved from that to the formation of an unprincipled bloc of all elements in opposition to the

Communist Party, plotting with the opposition in the Communist International and with renegades from Communism, on an international scale, then to open defiance of the Party, violation of pledges, counter-demonstrations against the celebration of the 10th anniversary, and thus to open attacks on the Party.

Opposite of Leninism.

Trotskyism is not Leninism. It is the negation of the Leninist revolutionary theory and practice, which alone guided the toiling masses of Russia to success and victory. It was only by abandoning his own theories, by accepting the theory of Lenin, and by joining the Party of Lenin, the Bolshevik Party of Russia, in 1917, that Trotsky's efforts in the past contributed to the struggle and victory of the toiling masses.

Now, however, when Trotsky and the Trotskyites have reverted to the policies of Trotskyism as against those of Leninism; when the Trotskyite opposition, joined by Zinoviev and Kamenev, is undermining and vainly attempting to split the Party which Lenin led to victory and which is now leading the masses of the Soviet Union to socialism, now the efforts of Trotsky and Zinoviev have become detrimental to the working class and a source of gratification and joy to the enemies of the toiling masses. For Trotsky and Zinoviev today there is no room in a Bolshevik, Communist Party.

Non-Proletarian Attitude.

For nearly 14 years (1903-1917) Lenin and the Bolshevik Party of Russia have been fighting the fall-

cies of Trotskyism. For 14 years, until Trotsky tacitly admitted defeat and joined the Bolshevik Party in the spring of 1917, Lenin and the adherents of Leninism were combatting mercilessly the non-proletarian attitudes of Trotskyism. These were the support of the Mensheviks against the Bolsheviks; the refusal to accept the alliance between the workers and peasants led by the revolutionary working class, the alliance which proved the basis condition for the success of the revolutionary movement; lack of faith in the victory of the proletarian revolution and the victory of Socialism in Russia, this being the basis of the Trotskyite theory of permanent revolution; bitter opposition to the efforts of Lenin and the Bolsheviks to build a centralized working class Party; rejection of the only correct Bolshevik slogan of "Civil War Against Imperialist War," proposing instead during the late imperialist war the petty bourgeois pacifist slogan of "a democratic peace without annexations" as though such peace were possible under imperialism.

Defeated Trotskyism.

Leninism defeated Trotskyism as it defeated Menshevism and the other non-proletarian and petty bourgeois tendencies in the revolutionary movement of Russia. The actual experiences of three revolutions and 10 years of struggle of the Soviet Union and its successful building of socialism have convinced the masses of the correctness of Leninism and the fallacies of Trotskyism. That is why the Communist Party and the toiling masses of the Soviet Union have rejected and swept aside the Trotsky-Zinoviev opposition, leaving it a little group of disgruntled and discredited generals without an army. That is why the revolutionary workers throughout the world stand with the Leninist Party and against the Trotsky opposition. That is why the Workers (Communist) Party of America stands with the Central Committee, with Leninism and the Leninist Party, against the Trotskyites and splitters.

Hinders Development.

The bankruptcy of the opposition and its non-working class character is further evidenced by its policies of more recent days. The opposition does not believe in the victory of socialism in the Soviet Union

and is actually hindering its socialist development. Trotsky and Zinoviev refused to vote for the introduction of the 7-hour day, branding the proposal as insincere because they themselves lack faith in the growing possibilities of the Soviet Union to improve the conditions of the masses. They hesitated and finally refused to accept the unconditional defense of the Soviet Union from military attacks of the imperialists, Trotsky actually declaring that the Leninist Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union was a greater menace to the working class than the threatening imperialist war against the Soviet Union. The opposition's "criticisms" of the policies of the Communist International in England, China, etc., have been proved by actual record to be insincere, unprincipled, and false.

Reverting to Old Mistakes.

Pravda, the official organ of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union rightly said that "Trotsky is returning to Menshevism and Zinoviev and Kamenev have squandered their former principles, repeating now their mistake of 10 years ago" when they opposed the proposal of Lenin that the working class seize power.

The Party has been amazingly patient, but the time for patience is past. The length to which a handful of disgruntled oppositionists have gone and the danger involved in such attacks upon the unity of the Party while the Soviet Union is being threatened by a new war, makes it especially imperative that the unity and Leninist line of the Party be maintained and that even the self-appointed heroes of the opposition be obliged to accept the will of the Party and follow its line or be swept aside.

Complete Liquidation of Opposition.

We are of the opinion that the forthcoming Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union should complete the liquidation of this opposition, which recognizes neither elementary discipline nor loyalty to the decisions of the Party membership and committees. The forthcoming congress should expel every oppositionist who does not submit himself once and for all to the will of the Party, and completely repudiate the opposition views and tactics. The Party

has no room for self-appointed leaders who defy the will of the Party and attack it before non-Party elements, plot against the unity of the Party and the Communist International with renegade and expelled elements, and become a rallying center for all enemies of the Soviet Union and our Party.

Party Expressed Attitude Before.

The Central Executive Committee of the Workers (Communist) Party and the Party as a whole have on several occasions expressed their attitude clearly against Trotskyism and the Trotsky-Zinoviev opposition. During the 6th [Feb. 17-March 15, 1926] and 7th [Nov. 22-Dec. 16, 1926] Plenums of the Communist International the Party's representatives actively participated in combatting the destructive activities of the opposition, joining with the rest of the Communist International in unanimously maintaining the Leninist line and unity of the world Communist movement.

To Educate Membership.

The Central Executive Committee of the Workers (Communist) Party pledges itself to increase its efforts to educate its membership and the American working class as to the line of Leninism and the issues involved in the controversy in the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

We take this occasion to pledge anew our solidarity to our brother Party.

Hail the unity of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Communist International, leader of the world's working class.

Long live Leninism, the path to victory!

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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