

"The Parting of the Ways"

OWING to the recent split in the Socialist Party of Canada, the following statement has been issued by those members who are dissatisfied with the attitude of the party in Vancouver:

The "Great War" marked the limitations of capitalist imperialism, no further expansion being possible, save at the expense of one or other of the predominant rival imperialisms, and divided the capitalist world into two great warring camps in order to decide as to which of the imperialisms, British or German, should be predominant. The result of the struggle—of the destruction of millions of the working class—of the productive efforts of that class for many years—was the rising into predominance of a new Imperialism, that of the United States. Not only were the capitalist interests divided, the mask was also torn from the majority of the Socialist parties of the world, revealing them in their true light. Social patriots who had assumed a pose as revolutionaries by the mouthing of revolutionary phrases.

The split between the revolutionary Socialists and the Social-Patriots has been still further extended as a result of the proletarian revolution in Russia and the institution of the proletarian dictatorship. The mouthings about the negations of democracy because of the dictatorship, indulged in by the leaders of the so-called Socialist parties, has stamped them as the reactionaries they really are, and in every country under capitalist rule can be observed the rising tide of working-class discontent.

The old Imperialisms are breaking down, hastened on their downward path by the revolt of the tolling masses in the colonial dependencies. The financial magnates of the United States are now the arbiters in world politics and are busy endeavoring to restore the social balance in order to maintain domination over the exploited masses of the world. Increasing repression of the working class by terroristic methods, the depression of the standard of living in order to obtain cheaper commodities, the boycott and blockade of Soviet Russia, are events which mark the progress of the ruling class towards unchallenged dominance.

The dislocation of industry and commerce is world-wide. Millions of members of the working class are unemployed and compelled to exist upon such doles as they are able to force from their capitalist masters. With half the world

starving because of a lack of food-stuffs, the workers of the other half are starving because of a surplus. Capitalism cannot exist without markets. The only market which can absorb the products and allow industry to operate is the war market. This then is what we have to face. War! with the destruction of members of the working class, with the chaos, confusion, and suffering of working-class life intensified a thousand-fold. This—or revolution! In the face of this task which confronts the working class, we find less revolutionary spirit among the toilers of this North American continent, even among those organized in labor unions, than is found among the exploited masses of other nations. No excuse, however plausible, no mouthing of revolutionary phrases, can alter the fact that the Socialist parties of North America have failed to bring into being a revolutionary organization of the working class.

The Socialist Party of Canada, one of the clearest of the Marxist groups on this continent, which has carried on educational work for many years, but which has not attempted to guide the working class in its struggles against its capitalistic masters, has now been faced with the question of affiliation to the Third International. Upon this question of affiliation, of going forward into the working masses in order to organize them for their revolutionary task, the party has split.

In the face of a regrouping of our Imperialist masters in order to maintain world domination, accompanied as it is by a world-wide attempt to still further enslave the working masses, those whom we have hitherto looked upon as revolutionary Marxists, refuse to accept the task which the International Communist movement has laid before them.

To them the academy is preferable to work among the masses. In the academy let them stay. That is the real position of the party—an academic institution; not a political party of the working class. While in the past we have worked with those who have voted against the Third, we can do so no longer. Their path, their attitude of non-participation in every day affairs of the workers leads to sterility. We refuse to follow that path. In a period of social changes, of class upheaval, we refuse to shirk the burden which historical development has placed upon us. As a political party of the working class we will endeavor to do that work which has hitherto been neglected.

To the alliance of the capitalist rulers must be opposed an International revolutionary working class. The issue before the revolutionary working class is the Third International and proletarian control, or the 2½ International and compromise with the exploiters. To us the road is clear. We will go forward with the revolutionary workers of the Third International. The road is hard, but the goal is worth all the hardships of the task before us. Let the slogan of the Communist manifesto become a reality, "Workers of all countries unite, you have nothing to lose but your chains."

Signed on behalf of twenty members of the S. P. of C.

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MANY HAVE BEEN MURDERED

Ruthless Policy of Political Murder Exists in Germany

(By The Federated Press)

Washington.—How ruthless has been the policy of political murder instituted in Germany during the past three years against Communists and other radicals by the reactionary parties is told in figures published in a pamphlet which has