

An Appeal to Left Wing Members of the S. P. of C

The provisional organization committee of the recently formed Workers Party of Canada, has issued the following appeal to the Left Wing section of the Socialist Party of Canada:

Comrades—The beginning of the world revolution, as the aftermath of the Great War, either floundered or completely shattered the Socialist parties everywhere. Out of the debris there evolved a new revolutionary force, the Third International, guiding the world proletariat to the fulfillment of its historic mission.

When the first glamor of the Russian revolution faded away; when it became apparent and generally understood that it was not merely a Russian revolution in a national sense, but was the beginning of a new era, an epoch of revolutionary struggle, then Socialist parties felt it incumbent upon themselves to declare for or against this new epoch.

Declaration for, meant allegiance to the Third International; declaration against meant an agreement, open or veiled, with the old Second, or its successor, the Two-and-a-Half International. A neutral position was impossible.

The revolutionary wave, which shook the well-organized Socialist parties, could not leave unscathed even the somewhat self-centred S. P. C.

Your party had always declared itself a revolutionary Marxian body. It eschewed the Second International and boasted thereof. The Second, declared the S. P. C. was a mish-mash of reformistic organizations, without revolutionary purpose. For two years, after the November revolution, you pursued the even tenor of your way, while other American Socialist parties were killed, as was the S. D. P. of C., or irretrievably broken, as was the S. P. of A., on the question of alignment with the Third International.

The quietude of your party was rudely broken in the beginning of 1921, by various of your members declaring that the question of affiliation with the Third International should be discussed in the columns of the Clarion. This was ceded to the membership by the D. E. C., and for almost a year various opinions have been put forward—for and against affiliation. From the first it was evident that the majority of the intellectuals of the party were against, while, on the other hand, among the lesser known lights, it soon became evident that the feeling was distinctly in favor of affiliation.

The D. E. C. finally decided that a referendum should be taken, but not before some dissatisfaction had been expressed at the delay.

The results of the referendum is now coming through, and Vancouver local, undoubtedly the stronghold of the party, has voted 37 against affiliation, with 24 comrades in favor, these figures excluding, of course, those members not in good standing.

A split is now inevitable. The educationists will reorganize and continue their philosophical wanderings. But you—the Left Wing—who stood out clearly and squarely for the Third, what will you do?

We, the provisional organization committee of the Workers Party of Canada, know the place for you. We ask you to line up with us, to give us your weight, your support in order to fill the crying need of the day, a working class party of the masses.

You, the Left Wing section, have already set a shining example to the general membership. If you come over, others will undoubtedly follow your lead, for you but express the general feeling of the rank and file.

We appeal to our militant comrades of the S. P. of C. You cannot remain any longer with a moribund party that refuses to recognize the historic mission of the workers, and its own mission of leadership. It is not a party of Action and Struggle. It is but an educational sect whose aim is to make all workers 100 per cent Marxian, an admirable expression but one which puts them out of touch with the masses of the workers.

The revolutionary tide is sweeping the world, its velocity varying, it is true. Any moment the wave may break. Will it find you unprepared, unorganized?

The W. P. of C. is here. We invite you to link up with us. They act would join the revolutionary forces from east to west of Canada. Out of the political chaos of the past has now evolved a strong party of struggle. If we live, if we are successful in our task, then all the storm and travail through which we have passed in political evolution will have been worth while.

If you decide to break indefinitely, and come into our ranks, then we welcome you. On the other hand, if you decide to know more about us, our party convention which will take place in March, is open to you, information concerning which can be obtained from our secretary, W. Moriarity, 8a Grand Avenue, Toronto.

Signed: F. J. Peel, F. C. Custance, T. Buck, J. MacDonald, A. Lyon, J. T. Hill, J. Boichuk, M. Buhar, W. Moriarity, Provisional Organization Committee, W. P. of C.

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