

Nov. 1935

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To all members of the Young Communist League:

You have been called to this meeting to hear the report on the latest turn of the Young Communist International. This turn is being made at a time when the war crisis has become intensified. You owe it to yourselves, as serious young comrades striving to become revolutionists, to seriously consider the meaning of the new policies of the YCI.

What is the meaning of the Comintern slogan "defense of the 'small nations' against Fascism"? What small nations? Czecho-Slovakia, Poland, countries which themselves oppress national minorities! Is this not the same as the social-democratic slogan of 1914: "defense of small Belgium against the Kaiser"?

This means class collaboration with the national capitalist classes instead of revolutionary class struggle! What else is the meaning of the statement of Chemendonov, leader of the YCI, to the French young Socialists:

"If war breaks against the USSR and you make your revolution, you will be traitors."

Or the speech of Gottwald at the Seventh Congress of the Comintern that the Czecho-Slovakian CP will fight side by side with all elements in defense of the "republic" against Fascism in case of war? (See current issue of "Communist International")

And in France the Peoples Front adopts the national patriotic slogans and banners of the petty bourgeois politicians: the tricolor flag, Le Marseilles, "our fatherland", "unity of all Frenchmen for peace and freedom"! support of "democratic France against Fascist Germany!

All this in the name of "defense of the Soviet Union"! In reality, it makes almost impossible the independent action of the working class which alone can defeat Fascism and defend the Soviet Union.

Even more. Today the Communist Parties support "economic, financial and military sanctions" by the robber League of Nations and the imperialist powers against Imperialist Italy.

Military sanctions! This means war! Or do you think the Suez Canal can be closed by British and French imperialist ships and other military steps taken without a new world imperialist war breaking out?

In Britain the Communist Party openly proclaims that it is to the interest of the international working class that the League of Nations powers make war against Mussolini. (See article by T. A. Jackson, leader of the CP, in the current issue of "Plebs" Nov. 1935.)

What will the CP do if such a war would actually break out? With their present policy the only consistent course would be support of the "democratic" imperialist powers! And the day after war breaks the capitalists will establish military dictatorships of Fascism in those countries--that is, will crush all workers' organizations! Is this the way to fight imperialist war, Fascism, capitalism and defend the Soviet Union?

And in the United States?

The "Daily Worker" hails the Roosevelt-Hull statements on "neutrality". The League against War and Fascism sends a letter to President Roosevelt urging that the "neutrality laws" be extended to oil, etc.

The YCL fought against the Spartacus Youth League and the YPSL at the Detroit American Youth Congress on the question of supporting a resolution which states that we will not support the U. S. government in any war it may undertake (which means even

if it is temporarily allied with the Soviet Union), since any war the U. S. conducts will necessarily be an imperialist war.

Is it any wonder that the YPSL should, under these conditions, attack the social-patriotism of the Comintern? (See "Challenge" October 1st, 1935).

And now, in order to achieve "unity" on this program of social patriotism, your leaders, behind your backs, without consulting you at all, "reorganize" the YCL--in reality, converting it into a loose federation of present day "youth clubs". The new program will not take a position on the road to socialism!

How can you effectively fight against imperialist war unless your propaganda and activity lead to the slogan of "Turn the Imperialist War into a Civil War"--that is, the revolutionary road to power? How can you effectively combat Fascism except with the program of workers revolution?

The YCL can answer on the basis of the new policies that they will stop war by "uniting all lovers of peace" and support imperialist sanctions. They will stop Fascism by uniting "all liberty loving people irrespective of class" against barbarism.

This is the answer of social patriots!

The Spartacus Youth League will continue its struggle for a revolutionary program and practise. Under the banner of Lenin, Liebknecht and Luxembourg, we will unite the militant youth of the YCL and YPSL with us in the struggle against imperialist war and social patriotism, Fascism and capitalism, and for a workers' rule.

Young Communist, do not accept the policies of your organization!

Think! Study! Act!

Spartacus Youth League

55 East 11th Street

Read our literature.

Read the New Militant

Read Young Spartacus.

Read War and the 4th International

WILL THE SOCIALIST AND COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL UNITE?

Lecture under the auspices of the Workers Party of U. S.

Sunday, November 17, 8 PM

Irving Plaza Hall, 15 St. & Irving Pl.

Speaker: Maurice Spector, former member of E. C. of Comintern.

Questions

Discussion