

Gitlow Deserts Communism

The Communist Party (Opposition) scoops again! For months those dejected political prospectors sniffed the political trends in the labor movement, and finally, driven to political despair by their "twixt heaven and earth" position, discovered that the bright yellow of Social Democracy was revolutionary gold. For months we have declared that the political embarrassment of Gitlow, Zam, and several etcs., was soon to end by a headlong plunge into the swamp of Social Democracy. Just as over one year ago it was discernible to us that Trotsky was leading his anti-Soviet friends into Social Democracy, so it was clear months ago that, Gitlow too was tip-toeing—in clear daylight—toward the brink, as he mustered enough "courage" to take that final plunge. The statement to the press, explaining their degeneration, is as putrid politically as those political principles they are now embracing, the principles of Social Democracy.

At the very moment when the Communist International is again returning to the tactical principles of Lenin, abandoning its disastrous ultra-left policies, do these little-shots indict the Comintern as bankrupt! Already they have adopted the conceptions of the SP's lawyer-trust. May we enquire: Are the principles of Communism less important to alleged revolutionists than a mythical freedom of expression in the Second International? Has Social Democracy learned more than the Third International from the German and Austrian events? Yes, says Gitlow, as thousands of Social Democrats, who have learned their lesson, flock into the Austrian Communist Party and cooperate with the German Communist Party. Those Socialists who have

learned are breaking with the principles of Social Democracy, as the big Gitlow rushes in to bolster the principles of Kautsky, Hillquit, Vandervelde! Social Democracy, say these deserters, will overthrow capitalism!

The political atmosphere is clearing-up as the melting-pot—Social Democracy—absorbs every anti-Soviet, anti-Communist group. Birds of a feather flock together.

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