

# WORDS AND DEEDS

By ABRAM JAKIRA.

COMRADE BROWDER in his article published in the Dec. 6 issue of the DAILY WORKER claims that among all the united front campaigns carried on by the party the labor party campaign was "the least successful in its practical and organizational aspects." This point of view is now shared by the "majority" as a whole judging from their discussion articles published so far.

The same "majority," however, only a short while ago was of an entirely different opinion. In "Our Immediate Work," a pamphlet published for the party membership mainly (there was therefore no need to exaggerate things), on page 5-6 the C. E. C. says:

"We can also say, without being challenged that our party has made the greatest gains for itself thru this campaign for the Labor Party. It is thru this farmer-labor party campaign that our party has established itself as a political force in the U. S. . . . NOTHING has contributed so much to develop our party from a sectarian group to a recognized political force in the life of the labor movement of this country than our maneuvers in relation to the farmer-labor party."

So speak the majority after the June 17 and after the Cleveland conventions—it is a document which the majority can not erase from the records.

## Unemployment.

Both Comrade Ruthenberg and Bedacht well pointed out that it was under extreme pressure of the minority and of the Executive Committee of the C. I. that the "majority" was compelled to "do something" on the question of unemployment. The attitude of the majority towards this important question can best be seen from the "practical" steps taken by the C. E. C. in connection with this. As far back as Aug. 11 instructions were sent out to all district organizers to organize unemployment councils and to see to it that a resolution is introduced in various labor organizations. There the matter rested until Dec. 6. It was only on that date that another circular letter was sent out asking the district organizers to re-

port whether anything was done in connection with the unemployment question. For four months our C. E. C. was even not interested to know whether the districts carried out their instructions. A careful study of the "majority" theses will reveal that the majority hardly believes that there is an unemployment problem in this country at this moment.

## Loreism.

Under pressure of the minority the majority was also compelled to take up the fight against Loreism in the party. But . . . up to the present moment there exists a solid united front between the majority and the Lore groups (which also includes large sections of the Finnish Federation) both on the C. E. C. and way down the line. The real fight is carried on not against Lore and Loreism but against the left wing, the Marxian group, in the party. It is against the latter, and not against Loreism, that Cannon is ready to "fight till death." Certain representatives of the Finnish Federation are an integral part of the Lore group. One of these is one of the signers of the majority theses. The majority without the help of the Lore group is helpless. It must and will therefore continue its organizational and in effect, in practice, also political alliance with that group, despite of its pre-convention theses. Deeds and facts are stronger than words. The Marxian group must solidify its ranks to carry on a struggle for Bolshevization of the party in a real Bolshevik spirit.

## Various Forms of United Front.

The majority apparently believes that it discovered a new America when it says that there are various issues which can serve as a basis for united front tactics. Relief for Soviet Russia and protection of foreign born are the pet cases quoted by the majority in support of their new "discovery." It is needless to repeat here that the majority had little to do with initiating of these united front campaigns and that as far back as two years ago Comrade Cannon, while in Russia and immediately upon his return, carried on a most vigorous campaign for the liquidation of the Friends of Soviet Russia. Aside

from this, the fact that the farmer-labor party campaign presents the best and strongest possible basis for a united front campaign cannot be disputed. Suffice it to remind the majority of the attitude of the reactionaries towards the farmer-labor united front and to all other united front campaigns. It was precisely on the farmer-labor party issue that the bureaucrats in the labor movement really became excited. It was on this issue that the reactionaries split among themselves, and Communism was made the issue in the labor unions. It was precisely on these issues that many of the fake progressives could be unmasked before the masses of the workers. It was the issue of the farmer-labor party that a crystallization of a Communist sentiment took place in the labor organizations.

Comrades Manley and Abern made an "expose" that the Workers Party took a most active part in the farmer-labor campaign and that we spent a considerable sum of money in that campaign. Quite so. But, measuring the results of our work in the various fields by the Manley-Abern standards and arguments we may have no difficulty to show that much of our work was more than a failure. It is high time, however, for Comrades Manley and Abern to realize that Communist work cannot be measured in dollars and cents or by cheap demagogic "exposures."

#### **United Front from Below.**

The majority yells at the top of its voice that it wants a united front from below. Quite so. But here again it was the minority that was always fighting the present majority to make the farmer-labor party campaign a united front from below and to a great extent the minority succeeded, too. It is Comrade Foster who now laments over the loss "of many valuable sympathizers," referring apparently to Fitzpatrick and Nockels. It is Comrade Foster who still lives under the illusion that a labor party will or can

be organized by Mr. Gompers and his associates. It will probably be only then that Comrade Foster intends to again revive the slogan of the farmer-labor party in order to "assume leadership."

The party membership must rally around the minority and "fight till death" to make the party a party of deeds and not of words.

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## **Bureau of Italian Section Unanimous For Minority Theses**

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At a regular meeting of the national bureau of the Italian Section of the Workers Party held in Chicago Monday, Dec. 15, after a reading and thoro discussion of both the majority and minority thesis, by a vote of 7 to 0 unanimously endorsed the minority thesis of Comrades Ruthenberg, Lovestone, Bedacht, Engdahl and Gitlow.

The bureau recognizes that the thesis of the majority is not in accord with the principles of the Communist International. The majority in its thesis fail to give the proper conclusions for the course of action which the Workers (Communist) Party of America shall follow in gaining contact with the masses in order to establish in America a mass Communist Party.

It recognizes that the minority thesis expounds correctly the position of the Communist International in relation to building a mass Communist Party in America, one of the most effective weapons being the united front slogan for a "Class Farmer-Labor Party."

It urges the branches of the Italian Section of the party to study carefully both the thesis of the majority and minority of the party so that they can properly express their views in the party controversy.—Signed: Enea Sormenti, National Secretary, Italian Section, Workers Party of America.