

On the basis of what Engels has written are we not correct in charging those comrades who are in opposition to immediate demands with the fact that it is they who are impatient over the daily struggles of the workers and are desirous of avoiding them, with the object in view of hastening the building of the Proletarian Party.

Carl Babbitt as well as many other comrades seem to think that because a revolutionary party fights (as an organization) for certain immediate interests of the working class, that the Party must necessarily become swamped in social democratic reformism. These comrades must remember that with the social democrats immediate aims are an end in themselves. Marx in the Communist Manifesto has stated, "The Communists fight for the attainment of the immediate aims, for the momentary interests of the working class, but in the movement of the present, they represent and take care of the future of the movement." It is therefore possible, according to Marx, not to be swamped in reformism, but on the contrary raise the ideological level of the working class by active participation in the struggle for their immediate aims.

Working within mass organizations communists advance demands which reflect the every day needs of the workers, whether these organizations be trade unions, unemployed groups, etc. We must win the sympathy and confidence of these workers by our loyalty and perseverance, as well as our ability to understand their needs and fight for them. In pointing out the shortcomings of struggling merely for their immediate needs we try to instill into the minds of the workers the understanding that struggle only for "a fair day's pay for a fair day's work" will leave them enslaved, that only the abolition of the capitalist system will be the solution to their problems.

The C.P. attempts to do just this though failure results because of their tactics which not only isolates them from the workers but many times creates a hostility on the part of the workers toward them.

Comrade Keracher in writing about striking auto workers in Detroit states, "We are working with them in the friendliest way. These are the facts and Detroit comrades will use them to the utmost against the C.P. who in the early part of the strike advertised us as lined up with Republicans and Democrats against the strikers." I am quite sure that by supporting the strike, as an organization, the Party has made some valuable contacts with a great many workers, and gained the friendship of workers who have never been in contact with the Party.

Comrade Babbitt points out that theoretical work is neglected by local Detroit. If this is true then this condition should be corrected by all means. But this does not mean that the practical work of the Party should be pushed in the background. Theory is the basis for the development of a revolutionary movement. If it is lost sight of the movement stumbles along and disintegrates. Marxian theory becomes a vital force in the labor movement only when it is coordinated with practice. Otherwise all the theory that may be obtained, if it is not linked up with practice, remains absolutely useless.

Comrade Heinhaus expresses what he believes the viewpoint of the workers to be regarding the Party: "Today our movement is decidedly unpopular. It may remain so until the eve of the revolution. But this possibility should not deter us." A revolutionary party should not, to my mind, remain "unpopular" to the working class. For sometime before the revolutionary crisis considerable sections of the oppressed toilers must regard the vanguard as an organization fighting for their interests.

For the Proletarian Party to follow a policy of education