

Vern Smith Expelled From Communist Party

The California state board of the Communist Party, by a unanimous vote, has expelled Vern Smith because of his opposition to Party policies, factional activities and attacks against the leadership.

The text of the California Board's statement on the expulsion follows:

The State Board of the Communist Party of California announced on Aug. 25 that it unanimously expelled Vern Smith from the Party because of his basic opposition to the policies of the Party, his participation in factional activities, and his slanderous attacks against the Party leadership.

Over a prolonged period of time, Vern Smith participated in a factional grouping in San Francisco which advocated a "left" sectarian line in opposition to the basic policies of the Party and pursued a conciliatory attitude to elements in the labor movement whose policies are influenced by the Trotskyites. In spite of repeated warnings, Vern Smith continued to support this factional group after its expulsion from the Party. He persisted in factional attacks against the line of the Party, after his position was overwhelmingly repudiated by the San Francisco Party membership.

Smith characterized the line adopted by the July Plenum of the National Committee of the Party as a "new swing to the right." He rejected the tactical orientation outlined at the Plenum as "new forms of class collaboration." He attacked the Party's election policy and tactics of the necessity to build a labor-progressive coalition as "support for capitalist candidates" and a "capitalist third party." According to Smith, the Communist Party cannot participate in the building of an anti-monopoly peoples coalition until it has become the "dominant force" and the "main leader."

Smith rejected the immediate program of the Party for rallying the masses in the struggle against the drive of American imperialism for war abroad and reaction at home. Instead he advocated the fatalistic position of the inevitability of war against the Soviet Union by American imperialism. Further, he placed the immediate struggle for socialism in the center of our activity in the present situation.

This "leftist" rejection of the Party's policy plays into the hands of reaction, at a moment when the offensive of imperialist reaction makes it urgently necessary to build a broad alliance of all anti-fascist forces to meet this growing threat to the American people and the peoples of the world. The building of the Party cannot be separated from this vital task, but it is a necessary and indispensable part of the development of such an anti-monopoly, anti-fascist coalition. Smith's position would not only disorient the Party, immobilizing it in the struggle against the offensive of the reactionary war-mongers, but it would prevent the building of the Party in the course of the struggle against fascism and war, reducing it to a narrow sect.

On a whole series of other questions, Vern Smith maintained the same "leftist" sectarian line. In the

continued to defend, took the position that the maritime strike was fundamentally a political strike and that the June 15 settlement was a "sell-out."

Smith encouraged factional disruption in the Party by opposing the principle of democratic centralism and defending the right of Party members to refuse to carry out Party decisions. He spread slanders against the national and state leadership of the Party, inferring that they were concealed Browderites. After prolonged discussions in which Smith continued his violent and slanderous attacks against the Party leadership, charges were filed against him, but he refused to appear for trial before the State Review Commission. On recommendation of the State Review Commission, the State Board voted to expel Smith from the Party.

The State Board calls on the

Party membership to vigilantly safeguard the unity of the Party against factional disruption, and to continue to fight for a correct Marxist-Leninist policy against both Right and "Left" deviations. The struggle against the remnants of Browder revisionism and right op-

portunism must be combined with a simultaneous struggle against "left" sectarian distortions. The State Board is confident that the whole membership will rally unitedly behind the line of the National Committee of the Party

Rally Labor for China Week

A week of intensive activity by veterans' organizations, church bodies and community groups to bring our troops home from China was capped yesterday by an appeal to organized labor to join the campaign from Paul Robeson and Brig. Gen. Evans F. Carlson, USMCR (retired), co-chairmen of the Win-the-Peace Committee.

Sponsored by the committee, "Get Out of China Week" is being held Sept. 22-28, in cooperation with

many other groups and will seek to rally public support to have U.S. troops withdrawn from China.

Robeson's and Carlson's appeal to the trade unions was based on the threat to China's organized labor movement seen in the recent suppression of the Chungking offices of the Chinese Association of Labor, arrest of 20 CAL members and taking over of a U.S. labor-supported welfare institution.

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