

Communists Expel Francis Franklin

Francis Franklin has been expelled from the Communist Party, it was announced yesterday by the Lower West Side Section of the Party. Charges against Franklin were

Club No. 1 Has Best Turnout

Club No. 1 of the Lower East Side Section of the Communist Party, which recently expelled Francis Franklin from membership, had the best membership turnout in its section in last Sunday's mobilization for sale of The Worker.

Forty-four percent of the club's membership responded to the call, while for the section as whole 30 percent of the membership turned out. Results of the section-wide canvass showed 218 Workers sold, 281 distributed and 11 Worker subscriptions sold. In addition, the canvassers sold 276 copies of the new pamphlet on the Ingram case by Harry Raymond, Daily Worker reporter. It is expected that the mobilization this coming Saturday will be larger.

preferred in his own Party branch, Club No. 1 of the Lower West Side Section, and were subjected to extensive investigation over a period of several months. A special investigating committee held a number of hearings, heard witnesses, examined documents and heard the testimony of Franklin himself.

At the conclusion of the investigation a meeting of the club voted to expel Franklin for his activities. The only negative votes were cast by Franklin and his wife.

3 MAIN CHARGES

Findings of the investigating committee resulted in three main charges against Franklin:

- That he had for a considerable period of time in his club, section and place of employment and through other channels worked to undermine the discipline, unity and authority of the Party.

- That he had been the center of a factional grouping in the Party seeking to split the organization.

- That he had carried on disruptive activities trying to create a dissident group within the Jefferson School, where he was employed as a teacher, which had reflected discredit on the Party before the teachers and students

(Continued from Page 11)

WHY BUY A NEW PIANO AT TODAY'S INFLATED PRICES?

Let Us Recondition Your Old One
Original Tone and Touch Restored
Or Let Us Help You in the Selection
of a Used Piano

RALPH J. APPLETON

137 East 54th St., Brooklyn 3, N. Y.
Dickens 6-5777 MU 2-3757

Expel Franklin

(Continued from Page 7)

of that progressive people's school.

FALSE ACCUSATIONS

Elaborating on the first charge, the committee pointed to three different occasions during the past year, when the Party was under severe attack by Wall Street and its agents, that Franklin opened his own attack upon the Party. It accused him of making false and irresponsible accusations against the Party leadership, pointing to one in particular in which he charged that the Party leadership had helped the FBI and endangered the security of the membership by such acts as holding the Veterans Encampment of 1947.

In reference to the second charge, the committee cited meetings between Franklin and one Joe Prenskey and some former students of his for the purpose of organizing an opposition faction within the Party. Franklin admitted his meetings with Prenskey, who had been disciplined by the Party for tendencies to form an anti-Party group, and with one Bea Rosenstein, who had been expelled from the Party.

Franklin's connections with anti-Party groups were also shown to have extended to contacts with a maritime group on the waterfront which has been attempting to unite all renegades from the Party in support of the

red-baiting activities of National Maritime Union President Joseph Curran.

In this connection Franklin issued a so-called open letter to the membership in which he proposed a series of activities by the clubs of an anti-party and splitting nature. These were that the clubs should withhold from the Party money raised in the Fund Drive, that the clubs resist decisions of higher committees and that the clubs should hold their own pre-convention discussions without waiting for the regular period designated for the whole Party. He further proposed that this discussion be held on the basis of material obtained from renegade groups, whose addresses he offered to provide.

PARTY STATEMENT

Commenting on Franklin's expulsion, the New York County Committee of the Party declared:

In the present period of the offensive of Wall Street, it is evident reaction seeks desperately to weaken and destroy the Communist Party. Along with violence and persecution from the outside, it tries intrigue and disruption from within, using weak, careerist and opportunist individuals.

"The Party has grown in unity, discipline and fighting capacity, in its successful fight against such opportunists and disrupters. It urges the members to be even more alert and to act relentlessly against those who would capitulate and disrupt, not to allow the slightest toe-hold for the wrecking activities of those who pose as 'left' to hide their flight to the camp of the enemy.

"The expulsion of Francis Franklin and the exposure of all such groups, strengthens our Party in its fight for democracy and peace."

WHAT IS B.B.V.?

SEE PAGE 15