

Lovestoneites---Strikebreakers

By ROSE WORTIS.

IN a recent statement issued by the Lovestone group they openly proclaim their affiliation with the company union in the needle trades; however, they still try to cover up their desertion to the camp of the enemy with revolutionary phrases. In their statement they speak of building left wing oppositions in the company union. We will therefore cite some facts which will throw light on the character of the Lovestone "left wing" fighters."

In the dress industry the firm called Needleman and Bremmer, formerly located at 370 W. 35th Street and now at 263 W. 40th Street, was for many years under the control of the Needle Trades Workers Industrial Union. It was one of the few shops where union conditions were enforced and the workers earned a decent livelihood. The ILGW made many attempts to company-unionize this shop in the past few years, but found it impossible to penetrate this fortress of the Industrial Union.

When the Lovestoneites began their destructive work in the Needle Trades Workers Industrial Union they concentrated their efforts on Needleman and Bremmer, where one of the outstanding leaders of the Lovestone group, I. Steinzor, was employed. Through demoralizing activities in the shop Steinzor sought to bring desertion into the ranks of the workers, to poison their minds and turn them against the industrial union. This work of assassination and

with resentment on the part of all workers with the exception of two or three followers of the Lovestone group.

Steinzor's Strategy.

Under the influence of Steinzor, the Gitzes brothers began to work hand in hand with the bosses to lock out the workers and settle with the company union. Steinzor, who still had to parade as a left winger, quietly left the shop before the lockout so as not to expose himself by openly scabbing; while his supporters, the Gitzes brothers, under his inspiration got the boss to sign an agreement with the company-union and become open scab agents working under the protection of police and gangsters.

When the lockout was declared in the shop the Industrial Union called all the workers, including Steinzor, to a shop meeting. Steinzor failed to report. The warning of the union that this will mean desertion of the strike made little difference to him.

It is now almost four months since the strike against the firm of Needleman and Bremmer started. The scabs (Lovestone supporters) are brought in taxis guarded by gangsters and police. The strikers, many of whom are old fighters in the ranks of the needle trades workers, have shown a spirit of militancy and self-sacrifice that has aroused the admiration not only of the members of the Industrial Union, but of many of the company-union members as well. The

members, by throwing in donations, and I know of several people who would throw in a dollar.

Now I want to say right here before the Party get anywhere here the local must be cleaned up of a lot of useless and undesirable members, as they are a bad example for the Party. If they had carried out the orders of the district office during the last demonstration we would not have lost our hall. There is a lot of turmoil in the local here and it is seeping out into public and is hurting the Party's progress in Sacramento very much.

—J.K.S.

the workers in the company-union shops in the building.

The workers in many of the company-union shops, inspired by the spirits of self-sacrifice displayed by the strikers and the need of their families, are making financial contributions to aid the strikers and assist them on the picket line.

But the Lovestone leader, Steinzor, who had been employed in the shop for more than a year, not only failed to show his face on the picket line, but is actively defending the scabs against the strikers.

Lovestone Tactics

The Lovestoneites, who today are in the ranks of the company-union under the pretense of fighting from within, are giving their full sanction to these strike-breaking activities of the company union. They have not raised a single word in protest against this outrage committed by the company-union against some of the best fighters in the needle trades. The Lovestoneites, at one time members of the Industrial Union, are now being guided by the union boss of the

family, our committee, from the outside, came, found the starvation case, went to the police, the police gave relief, the police got the credit.

In the Philadelphia case the same mistakes were made. The workers in the neighborhood of the family that was evicted and lost its furniture were not mobilized, called to a meeting, informed about this case, were not given a voice as to what to do in the matter, and on top of all this wrong approach, the case was taken to a capitalist court in an attempt to "legally" recover the furniture, which in the absence of

company-union. They have had ample experience with strikes of this character and they know full well that such a maneuver means a reduction in wages and slavery for the workers.

A Fake "Opposition"

The facts about the shop of Needleman and Bremmer speak louder than any of the proclamations of the Lovestoneites about their desire to fight for the interests of the workers within the ranks of the company union. The facts about this shop prove that the Lovestoneites though still parading under the guise of a left wing opposition have become part and parcel of the treacherous, corrupt gang in control of the company union. Through this one example the workers in the needle trades will learn that there is no difference between Zimmerman, Steinzor, Pearl Halpern and the company union officials; that all have but one aim—to help the bosses carry through their attack on the conditions of the workers and force the yoke of company-unionism on the needle trades workers. Schlesinger does it openly, the Lovestoneites under the cloak of revolutionary phrases.