

# COMMUNIST PARTY EXPLAINS OUSTERS

## Board Lays Recent Expulsions to 'Left Sectarianism' and Browder's 'Opportunism'

The National Board of the Communist Party explained yesterday, in a long statement published in *The Daily Worker*, recent expulsions by declaring that "Left sectarianism" as well as the "Right opportunism" of Earl Browder was challenging the basic strategy and tactical line of the party laid down at the Emergency Convention in July, 1945.

Specifically the victims of the most recent purge—William F. Dunne, who once shared leadership with William Z. Foster and Mr. Browder; Ruth McKenney, author of the "My Sister Eileen" stories, and her husband, Bruce Minton, former *New Masses* correspondent, and Vern Smith, West Coast Communist writer—were charged with following the line of "semi-Trotskyism and unprincipled Leftist adventurism."

The chief grievance in the bill of particulars against the ousted Communists, according to the statement, was that they had advanced the "petty-bourgeois, anarchistic slogan of 'freedom of criticism' to facilitate their propagation of views hostile to the party."

### Sees "Duty" to Criticize

The board not only granted the right, but said it was the duty of every party member to engage in "healthy, constructive discussion and criticism as provided for by our party constitution, which is based on the principle of democratic centralism," but declared the dissidents had "distorted" that right.

The statement left no doubt that the present leadership of the party headed by Mr. Foster, which originally expelled Mr. Browder, his brother William Browder, and A. A. Heller, considered the latest batch to be purged farther to the Left than the current "line" warranted.

"Browder's revisionism," the statement said, "would lead to victory for reaction by advocating reliance on the non-existent 'progressive' role of American monopoly capital. It would doom the party to passivity and liquidate its leading role and its very existence—a liquidation which Browder temporarily brought about. The 'Left' sectarianism would accomplish the same objective by isolating the party from the working class and the working class from all its allies. While Browderism openly surrenders our socialist objective, the 'Left' sectarians would make the victory of socialism impossible in the name of 'socialism.'"

### Two "Dangers" Cited

The fight for "a correct Marxist-Leninist policy," the board declared, must be waged with equal vigor against the two "dangers," both the Browder Right and the "sectarian" Left.

Mr. Browder said yesterday he had found time to read the national board's statement.

"I have nothing to say about it," was his only comment.

Miss McKenney and Mr. Minton have obtained passports from the State Department to visit France on a business trip. They will collect material for an original screen story for Paramount Pictures, to which they are under contract.