

MEETING IN MILAN

ON the 7th June, 1964, "Nuova Unità" promoted a meeting for all Italian Marxist-Leninists based on adherence to the "Proposals for a Platform for the Marxist-Leninists of Italy," and of work around our journal for the victory of Marxism-Leninism which is developing in all the regions. Present were 62 delegates from groups in addition to 15 others, including the platform and comrades invited to the meeting. Groups unable to send a representative sent messages of support from Calabria, Lucania, Trapani, Messina, Naples, Avellino, Portosangiorgio and Rovigo, while several elderly comrades like Comrades Orzali and Moraghi whose lives have been devoted to the revolutionary struggle, also sent warm and moving letters of encouragement for the struggle which we are conducting.

The first person to speak was **Comrade Mario Geymonat**, who was given the task by the Editorial Board of "Nuova Unità" of organising the meeting. First, he proposed to call to the platform all the members of the Editorial Board, and then he proposed as Chairman of the meeting, Comrade Franco Molfese. Comrade Geymonat then gave a list of groups represented at the meeting including among others, from the province of Piedmont the Turin group; from the province of Lombardy the Milan, Pavia, Sondrio, Cremona and Brescia groups; from the province of Emilia, the Bologna, Ravenna, Rimini and Reggio groups; from the province of Tuscany the Florence, Prato, Pisa, Leghorn and Castelfiorentino groups; and other groups from Fermo, Rome, Frosinone, Salerno, Bari, Foggia, Palermo and Gagliari. After a brief report related to the expenses of the meeting, he announced that the journal had reached a circulation of 30,000 copies and 850 subscriptions. He then quoted the example of the comrades of Sesto Fiorentino who obtained a further 50 subscriptions to our journal, as a reply to the disciplinary provisions that the revisionists are taking against them. It is of the utmost importance to spread ever wider the diffusion of the journal, and this aim requires the creation and strengthening of an ever-increasing number of regional and provincial offices of "Nuova Unità." The tasks of the local offices will be above all, to develop and co-ordinate the Marxist-Leninist movement in the various provinces and regions. Letters, articles, etc., will be sent to the journal and when published, they will constitute the patrimony and common experience of all the Italian comrades. The strengthening of the journal and the possibility of soon turning it into a fortnightly and then a weekly is bound up with the development of a more efficient network of organisation, diffusion and collaboration.

Comrade Franco Molfese was then unanimously elected Chairman of the meeting. He thanked all the comrades in attendance, some of them having come long distances and having made great sacrifices in terms of money and labour.

He then introduced **Comrade Ugo Duse**, editor of "Nuova Unità," to give the report. Born in 1926, joined the party in 1944, he was a partisan fighter and Assistant Secretary of the Federation of Rovigo from 1946 to 1953. He has also been a member of the National Organisation Commission (1951) and of the Regional Committee of Lombardy (1953-4) and has undergone numerous trials for his revolutionary activity. In the past few years he took part in the formation of the "Viva il Leninismo" group, and was expelled from the P.C.I. in November, 1962, for serious political disagreements with the revisionist leadership.

Comrade Duse explained how the editorial office of the journal came to organise the meeting. He examined the situation existing inside the Party several years ago after the 22nd Congress of the C.P.S.U. There were many attitudes of open criticism of the revisionist line of the P.C.I. which just after the 22nd Congress threw off the mask stating precisely its position with the document of the Secretariat of 27-11-61. At the same time, there was a revival of the Trotskyist movement, aided and borne up by the same P.C.I.

There were many delusions inside the Party at that time. There was a sense of expectancy, that those comrades with long revolutionary training would become promoters of a radical criticism of the social democratic line of the P.C.I. They did not. It was in this situation that the "Viva il Leninismo" group at Padua and almost at the same time, the "Lenin Centre" at Milan, came into existence. With the support of other groups with which they soon established close links of collaboration, was

born a new journal as a centre of political organisation and orientation.

Comrade Ugo Duse went on to relate what were the reactions produced by the issue of the journal, pointing out the importance assumed by the organisational network created by "Edizioni Oriente" in their meritorious action of the circulation of the positions of the Chinese comrades. The many points raised, helped us in the formulation of that political-organisational line, which on the basis of the "Platform," must orientate us in the following political actions soon to be undertaken:

- Development of the journal with the collaboration of all Marxist-Leninist groups, so that it may, as soon as possible, become a fortnightly.
- Constitution of Marxist groups inside the factories. The demobilisation of the P.C.I. took place with the acceptance of the suppression of factory cells. These groups must intervene in all workers' struggles taking place, making autonomous political-T.U. contributions.
- Constitution of regional committees linked with "Nuova Unità."

After a brief interval, Comrade Molfese read out some messages of support, among which was a letter from **Comrade Golias** of Monza, member of the Party since 1936, ex-inmate of Buchenwald concentration camp, who wrote:

"I send my unconditional support for all decisions which the Italian Marxist-Leninists render opportune and necessary, including the support of a group of comrades in Monza. Long live the glorious struggle of Marxist-Leninists all over the world."

Comrade Oliviero Graneri of Siderno Marittima (Reggio Calabria), ex-political prisoner in concentration camps in Germany, wrote:

"It is with profound sadness that because of my state of health I cannot be present, to have the joy of meeting comrades from the other parts of Italy. The struggle will be long and difficult, but as on a foggy day, the irrepressible wind disperses the unbreatheable air, so the fog of revision and opportunism will likewise be cleared away by the fresh wind of Marxism-Leninism."

The Chairman then announced the delegate of the Genoa group, **Comrade Fernando Pucci**, who joined the Party in 1940, was a member of the Genoa Federal Committee and of the National Council of the A.N.P.I. (National Association of Italian Partisans).

Comrade Pucci told the meeting how the first Marxist Leninist groups were formed in Genoa, recording the principal stages of their development, from the foundation of groups of friends of China, to adherence to the platform of "Nuova Unità," then on to struggle conducted inside and outside the revisionist party.

Next speaker was **Comrade Salvatore Piombo**, delegate from Palermo, Assistant Secretary of the Lenin Branch of the P.C.I., who recalled the experiences of struggle in Palermo on 8-7-60, the pusillanimity and sell-out of the revisionists and the heroic struggles and deaths of generous comrades.

Comrade Marino Gambi, who spoke on behalf of the comrades of Bologna and Ravenna, examined various aspects of the anti-capitalist and anti-revisionist struggle in the context of the present economic and political situation in the Province of Emilia.

The deepening of the economic crisis brought about an embitterment of the struggle of the working masses.

In Bologna, following a massive series of sackings at the Scarnie foundry, the workers occupied the plant for over a month. However, the courage of the workers was not matched by a corresponding courage on the part of the T.U. leaders, continually caught by surprise by the turn of events. These signs of weakness were responsible for a notable pre-occupation of the working masses. But the open struggle inside Scarnie is just one visible aspect of the continuous, plodding, consuming class struggle taking place inside individual enterprises. In Ravenna, inside the public and private industrial complexes, nobody bothers to count any more the cases of warnings, punishments and dismissals of Marxist workers. And such repressive operations nearly always succeed due to the weakness of local T.U. organisations. These facts are not just typical of Ravenna and Bologna, because the same thing applies all over

Italy and indicates how hard and without quarter the struggle against capitalism is.

But with what force does the proletariat go into this very hard struggle? Nearly always with its strength disorganised and split, with no effective support from the P.C.I. or the T.U.s. In fact, in the hands of Togliatti, the P.C.I. is being transformed into a huge church, into an electoral organisation with nothing truly revolutionary left in it. This phenomenon is very evident in Bologna, where through inter-class manoeuvres, the P.C.I. has even obtained the support of traditionally conservative sections. The most visible consequence of these manoeuvres to keep the trappings of office at any cost, is the internal struggle between various factions at the top to decide the successor to Mayor Dozza. Such intriguing is worthy of a conservative party like the Christian Democrats, but certainly not of a Marxist party.

The next speaker was **Comrade Tullio Magnani** of the Pavia group. After examining our strength among the comrades of the Necchi and other major factories of Pavia, and underlining the sympathy which our movement has among the University students, Comrade Magnani spoke of the possibility of developing our actions in the Province of Pavia, and in particular, in Lomellina, very rich in revolutionary, peasant tradition. Unfortunately, after revisionist attempts to eliminate from the political struggle just those comrades who have fought and suffered the most, many comrades are now in a state of apathetic resignation and profound demoralisation.

The next speaker was **Comrade Franco Cascavilla** of the Foggia group, a young comrade recently expelled from the Party for his Marxist-Leninist position. Bringing the greetings of the comrades of Capitanata, Comrade Cascavilla read out the resolution of the recently constituted Marxist-Leninist centre of Capitanata.

The next speaker was **Comrade Manlio Donati** of the Marx-Lenin-Stalin Circle of Rome, a P.C.I. member as far back as 1923. Comrade Donati examined the actual political situation, showing the necessity for speeding up to the maximum the struggle of the Marxist-Leninists against the capitalists and revisionists. For Marxist-Leninists, revolution and socialism is not a problem of tomorrow to be resolved through the sweet "Italian Road" of Togliatti, but is an immediate objective. T.U. struggles, strikes, occupations of factories and demonstrations must have a clear Marxist-Leninist political objective. If they are only limited to support for a reformist parliamentary policy, these struggles will be altogether sterile and unproductive.

Next was **Comrade Dino Meoni** of Prato, joined P.C.I. in 1929, persecuted anti-fascist, partisan fighter and ex-Secretary of the "Camera del Lavoro" of Avellino. Comrade Meoni examined the position of many comrades still in the P.C.I. at Prato, the numerous difficulties that it is necessary to overcome for the constitution of a new party above all in relation to the great tradition of struggle in the P.C.I. and of the aspirations of all the workers for unity. He emphasised the necessity of working both inside and outside the revisionist party, forming outside the P.C.I. a committee to co-ordinate and support struggle inside the Party. He then appealed for an intensification of the work of clarification which "Nuova Unità" must apply to problems of class struggle. The revisionists search for the most shameful compromises in order to have the possibility of inserting themselves in the left-centre coalition. Thus, very often, also within the experience of Prato comrades, strikes and T.U. actions go ahead outside the radius of revisionist slogans. Finally, he dealt with the continuous loss of moral prestige of the revisionist apparatus, also due to the lies they tell about the policy of the Chinese comrades and other Marxist-Leninists. Several revisionists of Prato even went as far as to condemn the partisan war of Laos, saying that "the Chinese want war." But just these lies they tell, induce more and more comrades to re-form in groups faithful to Marxism-Leninism, and to take up again themselves the glorious revolutionary tradition of the Italian proletariat.

Next speaker was **Comrade Bressan**, ex-Secretary of the Camera del Lavoro of Trieste, and delegate of the Lenin Centre of Milan. He described the framework of contradiction within the working class between its enormous and explicit potential for struggle and power, and the subjective incapacity of its official organisations to unify and utilize this potential, even on the plane of their immediate and particular interests and struggles. Reformism and revisionism are in fact incapable either of resolving contradictions between bourgeoisie and proletariat or of defending the immediate interests of the masses.

The working class is alienating itself more and more from its political and T.U. organisations and at the same time, tends to organise itself in new political class forms.

In effect, as much as the revisionist and reformist leaders become corrupt integrating themselves in the system of exploitation, so much do they tend to dissolve and disintegrate the strength of the

working class. The famous "articulations of struggle" are nothing more than the reduction of their objectives to dimensions acceptable to the capitalist system.

Following the falling apart of the P.C.I. factory groups, the only forms of working class organisation remaining in the factories are the Works Councils and T.U.s, incapable by their nature and leadership of unifying working class struggles and of utilizing these struggles in accordance with a revolutionary line against the bourgeois structure. The failure or the ephemeral success of the workers' struggles in the last years, has demonstrated and demonstrates all the more the impotence of the actual structure of working class struggle. While, on the one hand, the revisionist line has caused numerous groups of workers to become passive and discouraged, on the other hand, it has made more acute the contradictions between the desire for united struggle by the most advanced groups of workers and the capitulationist line of the official leadership. It is exactly in these contradictions where we must insert ourselves because it is precisely on this level that is born from the tough experience of struggles, the necessity, objective and subjective, historical and immediate, particular and general, of a new Marxist-Leninist organisation. Thus, our strategy and tactics come to coincide with our capacity to unify, organise and lead politically the working masses and their struggles.

Regarding our attitude towards the Works Councils, the T.U.s and the C.G.I.L. we have to appreciate that such organisations are still the only ones today which, in spite of their profoundly erroneous line, the working class recognises. Because of this, at the present moment, we must not fight against these organisations themselves, but inside them, we must denounce the capitulationist line, point out the errors made in the course of the struggles and show up their limits and functions, on the basis of Marxism-Leninism. But that is not enough. We also need to propose, wherever we are, general lines and forms of struggle, more efficient, more advanced, more militant and above all, in the framework of a general revolutionary strategy. It will be by the dialectics of this our insertion, that there will be born in the midst of the masses the need for a new political guide, for a new party, and for new political factory organisations basing themselves on the scientific class analysis of Marxism-Leninism. Working class unity is not a unity at the top of T.U.s, nor is it a popular, democratic, anti-fascist unity, but a unity which the workers are compelled to realise, irrespective of their political, T.U. or religious allegiances, as a necessary condition for the success of any struggle.

Another speaker was **Comrade Montezani**, Secretary of the "Proletarian Group, July '60" of Milan and member of the delegation from "Edizioni Oriente" which recently visited People's China. He recorded the experiences of struggle against revisionism in the Lorenteggio and other Milan Branches of the P.C.I., where the most acute struggles are taking place now and will take place in the next few months.

The revolutionary push which comes from the whole country through T.U. and political struggles and the great experiences of the past, must be gathered together by the Marxist-Leninists who must enter decisively in the class struggle and take over the leadership.

Finally, he addressed a special greeting to the first 2 youth brigades "July '60," which were formed in the Lorenteggio district of Milan.

Another speaker was **Comrade Arturo Balestri**, delegate of Pisa, who joined the Party in 1943, was a member of the Federal Committee of the P.C.I. of Pisa, responsible member of the Agrarian Commission and editor of "Il Lavoratore," weekly of the Federation. He has recently been suspended for his Marxist-Leninist activity in the Porta Nuova (Pisa) Branch.

He said that those who put the accent on the need for a new party take into account the necessity to create the objective conditions for this step. Similarly, those who put the accent on inner-party struggle, also take into account the need for the creation of external poles in order to carry it forward. The internal struggle tends to blow itself out if it is not encouraged and directed by Marxist-Leninist groups who act as external poles. The unity created at this meeting in Milan which has brought together these two lines of struggle, constitutes an overcoming of a series of questions which have concerned us in our movement in these months.

He then spoke about the struggle conducted by Marxist-Leninists in Tuscany. Here the struggle inside the revisionist party has been carried forward to the extreme limits. The reaction of the revisionists has not been the same in all cases and has varied according to the particular situation. In Leghorn, for example, they tried to minimize the importance of the fact that a Marxist-Leninist comrade from that city has been to People's China at the head of the delegation from "Edizioni Oriente." They also put pressure on comrades and tried to intimidate them. In

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INNER PARTY STRUGGLE

EXTRACTS FROM "ON INNER-PARTY STRUGGLE"
by LIU-SHAO-CHI

"INNER-PARTY struggles are a reflection of the class struggles outside the Party . . . Therefore, such inner-Party struggle is absolutely necessary and cannot be avoided . . . Inner-Party struggles consist principally of ideological struggles . . . Our inner-Party struggle must be directed simultaneously against both Right-opportunism and 'Left'-opportunism, against their two aspects so that our Party can preserve its definite proletarian character . . . It is in the course of ceaseless inner-Party struggle on two fronts that our Party consolidates and develops itself.

"There exist three kinds of deviations . . . on the question of inner-Party struggle with the Chinese Party. The first is Liberalism and conciliationism within the Party; the second is mechanical and excessive inner-Party struggle and 'Left'-opportunism in organisational matters in inner-Party struggle; the third is unprincipled disputes and struggles within the Party. These three kinds of deviation do not differ very much as far as their substance is concerned, because unprincipled disputes and struggles, excessive struggles and Liberalism within the Party are not Marxist-Leninist. They are all manifestations of opposition to Marxist-Leninism."

"What are the manifestations of mechanical and excessive inner-Party struggle? Firstly . . . instead of conducting first of all a struggle over the 'points at issue,' the struggle is directed 'against the person' . . . such 'struggle meetings' are a concrete manifestation within the Party of sectarianism and of the erroneous policy of attacking cadres and comrades . . . They are chiefly for the purpose of struggle against the person while divergence and antagonism in ideology are overlooked [our italics, Ed.]. Secondly . . . some comrades hold the view that the more bitter the inner-Party struggle the better. To them, the more seriously the problem is brought up the better; the more fault-finding the better; the more name-calling the better; the more severe and the more rude the manner and the attitude, the better; . . . In acting in this way they regard themselves as 'revolutionary as revolutionary could be.' . . . They conduct the struggle without any restraint. Quite obviously that is entirely incorrect.

"Thirdly, some comrades still do not understand that inner-Party struggle is essentially an ideological struggle. They consider inner-Party struggle as a kind of

contradiction in organisation or in form, or they consider it as fighting, causing quarrelling or wrangling. They do not look for real unity and do not solve problems on the basis of principle and ideology. Quite obviously, that is entirely incorrect . . .

"These comrades purposely look for 'targets of struggle' (comrades inside the Party) and conduct the struggle against them as representatives of opportunism . . . They magnify the individual shortcomings and mistakes of this comrade and develop these into a system of opportunism, create an extremely unfavourable impression about this comrade among comrades in the Party and incite their hatred for opportunism in struggling against this comrade . . . The psychology of revenge on the part of some persons begins to gain ground and they expose all the shortcomings and mistakes of this comrade and arbitrarily raise these shortcomings and mistakes to the level of principle. They even fabricate some story and on the basis of subjective suspicion and completely groundless rumours, accuse the comrade of various crimes . . ."

Fourthly, the methods of struggle inside the Party are mixed up . . . with the methods of struggle outside the Party . . . Some comrades employ the methods of struggle outside the Party and the methods of struggle against the enemy and against alien elements in conducting struggle against comrades inside the Party . . . They employ all kinds of provocation, estrangement and conspiracy . . . For example, the "Left" mistake committed by some comrades in the hunting down of traitors is largely due to the fact that they have not drawn a strict line between the struggle inside the Party and the struggle outside the Party and that they have mixed up the ideological struggle inside the Party with the campaign to hunt down traitors. Often there are enemy spies hiding inside the Party. But we must rely upon

facts in conducting struggle against these hidden spies, expose them and expel them from the Party. But that is entirely different from the struggle waged for the purpose of educating Party members who have committed mistakes. A clear line of demarcation ought to be drawn between these two . . .

There are still some comrades (in fact they can no longer be called comrades) who openly rely on and make use of the forces outside the Party to conduct inner-Party struggle and to blackmail and intimidate the Party . . . They compel the higher organisation and the Party to accept their demands and opinions. They adopt an independent attitude towards the Party and declare their independence of the Party. Or they avail themselves of the newspapers, magazines and various conferences outside the Party and even those of the bourgeoisie and the enemy to criticise the Party and to conduct a struggle against the higher Party organisations and certain comrades and cadres . . . These persons conduct struggles against the Party from a non-Party standpoint. Therefore although they are Communists in name, they have completely departed from the standpoint of the Party and have become enemies of the Party. . . .

The above are some important manifestations of mechanical and excessive inner-Party struggle . . . What results have these incorrect and inappropriate forms of inner-Party struggle produced inside the Party? They have produced the following bad results.

First, they have given encouragement to the patriarchy inside the Party. Under such forms of inner-Party struggle, individual leaders and leading bodies oppress many Party members to such an extent that the latter dare not speak up or criticise, thus contributing to the arbitrary manner of an individual or a few persons inside the Party.

Secondly, on the other hand, they have given encouragement to the tendency of ultra-democracy and the development of Liberalism inside the Party. Many Party members in ordinary times dare not speak up or criticize and superficially peace and unity prevail inside the Party. But when the contradictions can no longer be concealed and when the situation has become serious and mistakes are exposed, then they begin to engage in wild criticism and struggle, resulting in antagonism, splits and

organisational chaos inside the Party which are almost beyond remedy. This is the opposite side of patriarchy inside the Party.

Thirdly, they have prevented the correct establishment of Party life based on democratic centralism with the result that democratic life inside the Party is irregular, abnormal or extremely lacking.

Fourthly, they have impeded the development of Party members' enthusiasm, initiative and creative power and weakened their sense of responsibility towards the Party and their work, with the result that some comrades dare not assume responsibility with enthusiasm, or work or create with a free hand. They have led comrades not to bother to consider and study problems and situations carefully, but have encouraged their working style of attending to their work perfunctorily and merely echoing others' words.

Fifthly, they have helped the development of sectarianism and unprincipled factional struggle inside the Party. They have given rise to the psychology of fearing criticism and struggle inside the Party and cultivated the conservative psychology of "minding one's own business" among some comrades, the psychology of "the less work, the better."

Sixthly, they have afforded more opportunities for the Trotskyite spies and counter-revolutionary elements to undermine our Party and have furnished more pretexts for counter-revolution to attack our Party. The Trotskyite spies particularly take advantage of contradictions inside the Party and any not too correct inner-Party struggles to carry on their work of undermining the Party and to win over those elements who have been attacked and who are dissatisfied with the Party. The counter-revolution takes advantage of the struggle against opportunism to conduct propaganda and provocation, and to influence sympathisers outside the Party and unreliable elements inside the Party in order to carry out a policy of estrangement and to undermine the solidarity and unity inside the Party.

Such mechanical and excessive forms of inner-Party struggle have created abnormal conditions in Party life for a considerable length of time and have caused great losses to the Party. Therefore, we must call serious attention to this deviation so that we may thoroughly eliminate it from our organisation and so that our comrades may not repeat these mistakes and may correctly and steadily conduct the ideological struggle inside the Party and advance the Party.

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another Branch in the Pisa province which unanimously condemned the intimidatory line of the Federation when it tried to impose disciplinary provisions, the revisionists apparently renounced their line of maintaining formal unity and compelled the most advanced part of the proletariat to follow their line of submission and compromise. In my Branch, however, where the revisionists have the majority, they suspended a comrade. Their preoccupation is that of maintaining their links with the rank and file in some way or another, so that they can go on deceiving them. Fearful of the reaction of the comrades, sometimes they are disposed to apparently renounce their ideas of capitulation and compromise. They accept "discussion," but as soon as the real battle between Marxism-Leninism and revisionism gets underway, they try to use the force of the apparatus against us.

In Tuscany, the struggle inside the Party continues, is developing and the number of comrades conducting it forward is increasing, reinforced ideologically and organisationally from the experiences and examples of these months. But we are convinced that now this struggle can proceed only if encouraged and guided by external poles. This does not mean renouncing our positions of struggle inside the Party, but we do realise that we need groups who elaborate a Marxist-Leninist political line independently of the revisionist party. This unites us all the more with comrades who put the accent on the constitution of a new party, and makes clearer to all of us the need for the programme of work inside and outside the revisionist party (in accordance with the 25 points of the Chinese comrades) so as to create as rapidly as possible, the objective conditions for the foundation and growth of the Marxist-Leninist Communist party.

The next speaker was Comrade Sergio Quandomatteo of Rimini, who said that comrades must carry forward their struggle for Marxism-Leninism inside the Party as far as possible. But this work must mean no sacrifice of Marxist-Leninist principles, so that when the revisionists attempt to get rid of single comrades, they will have with them and will be followed by the maximum number possible of Party comrades.

Then Comrade Franco Molfese spoke. He was Secretary of the cell of the Chamber of Deputies, and was expelled from the P.C.I. last July for his battle against modern revisionism, and is now a member of the Marx-Lenin-Stalin (Rome) circle.

He said that if a train goes off the rails, the most urgent task is not to keep it going, but to put it back on the rails. Today, the train is the Italian workers' movement and the rails are the strategy and tactics of Marxism-Leninism.

Comrade Alberto Mazzei of Florence brought to the meeting an interesting report of the anti-capitalist and anti-revisionist struggle among Italian workers at the Volkswagen Works in Germany.

The next speaker was the delegate from Bari. The Marxist-Leninists of Bari and province, he said, act as a collective, they are for the most part still inside the P.C.I., but they are preparing also to fight outside when the corrupt revisionist apparatus decides to get rid of them.

He underlined the importance of maintaining links with the masses, who in the industrial zones in the South, are more convinced of the correctness of our position. He noted in particular the struggle which our comrades are conducting inside the "Camera del Lavoro" in Bari and the situation among the textile workers.

Next was Comrade Salvatore of Ruscio, who brought greetings from the new Marxist-Leninist group which is being formed in Fermo. He reported several positive results of the work conducted in the last few months by the Fermo group around "Nuova Unità" and the publications of "Edizioni Oriente."

In the name of the Marxist-Leninist group of Reggio Emilia, Comrade Giuseppe Artoni brought greetings. Comrade Artoni spoke of the sacrifices of comrades in the days of July, 1960, and of the revolutionary traditions of all the people of Reggio Emilia, who will certainly give great support to all our actions. Today in Reggio Emilia, our comrades are carrying out an interesting experiment inside the Party, of struggle against the factiousness and attempts at misinformation of the Federal revisionist organs. But here also, we are preparing to create a first nucleus outside the Party, so as to be better able to co-ordinate our work, both in city and province.

He was followed by Comrade Mario Quaranta, who after having taken part in the creation of the "Viva il Leninismo" group, was expelled from the P.C.I. and is now sub-editor of "Nuova Unità." He said that the fighting spirit of the masses today becomes dissipated in great struggles, because there exists no revolutionary political guide. As the last years demonstrate, mass industrial struggles are not able to produce consequent political

results, when they are directed only to obtain immediate and limited ends. The revisionist leaders of the P.S.I., P.S.I.U.P. and P.C.I. do not want to utilize the mobilisation of the masses for other ends, holding that the masses are never mature enough for the conquest of power, but that they themselves are always mature enough to become deputies and ministers representing the working class in bourgeois parliamentary regimes.

The concluding speech was made by Comrade Giuseppe Regis, P.C.I. member since 1944, ex-member of the Central Economic Commission of the P.C.I. and now member of the Lenin Centre of Milan.

He said: This first meeting of Marxist-Leninists of Italy promoted by "Nuova Unità," has been an important step forward in the clarification and unification of the experiences and perspectives of various groups, and in the construction of our organisation.

He affirmed that while the actual forces of the movement are still limited, its prospects are extremely favourable. We have the correct revolutionary Marxist-Leninist ideological position, and the spontaneous support and enthusiasm which that arouses from the proletariat of our country.

At the centre of the debate during the meeting, has been the question of mobilising, directing and organising this support and enthusiasm, in the struggle against the class enemy, in the most effective way possible. In this perspective, there are several tasks which have been indicated by the introduction of Comrade Duse and by the remarks of the other comrades. These are:

- (1) Extension, co-ordination and strengthening of the movement, through:
 - (a) The constitution of Marxist-Leninist groups in all localities where they do not yet exist.
 - (b) Their co-ordination on a regional basis with the formation of strong Regional Committees.
 - (c) The preparation of a National Conference of Regional Committees.
 - (d) Strengthening the industrial links of the local groups through the formation of Communist factory groups.
 - (e) The development of supporting mass organisations and the advancement of a Marxist-Leninist line in those already existing.
- (2) Reinforcement of the instruments of the press for the ideological clarification and political direction of the movement, through:

- (a) Increasing the power of "Nuova Unità" by the elevation of its political level, so improving its capacity for analysing the Italian situation and directing the workers' struggles, and by the increase of sales and subscriptions.

- (b) The number of contributions of articles by comrades to be increased and their level raised, and the political direction of the paper strengthened with the enlargement of the Editorial Board. We also hope to produce more literature as soon as possible.

- (c) The development of the initiatives of local press, and above all, of those of factories.

- (d) The increase in circulation of the political material of fraternal Marxist-Leninist C.P.s, published by "Edizioni Oriente."

- (3) The insertion of Marxist-Leninist groups in class struggles taking place in factory and countryside, through:

- (a) More profound study and analysis of the situation in factory and countryside and of the concrete terms of the workers' and peasants' struggles.

- (b) The elaboration of slogans of agitation and of methods of struggle which express the full potential of the revolutionary will of the proletariat, and opposition to revisionist and reformist policies in Works Councils and T.U.s.

- (c) Taking up the most advanced posts of combat in the fight against exploitation and oppression.

Comrade Regis concluded thus:

It is thanks to the unshakable determination and will of our best comrades, to their total dedication to our cause, to the support of the finest cadres of the working class both inside and outside the ranks of the C.P. and other left wing parties, that with this meeting we can gather the first success. If we can continue along this road, in fraternal unity with the best cadres of the working class and in close links with the masses, and if we know how to maintain the highest standard of vigilance towards the class enemies and their agents and provocateurs, then more rapid and greater successes there most certainly will be. These successes, in their turn, will enable us to contribute towards completing the historic task which today lies in front of the working class and our country.

Long live "Nuova Unità" and its struggle for Marxism-Leninism, and the victory of socialism in Italy.