

Communist Party of Spain (M-L)

First Full Plenum of the Central Committee

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Nothing is accomplished in a day, and neither are problems solved according to our wishes. Especially when the obstacles are tremendous and experience is lacking.

In the last Full Plenum of the Central Committee of their Party the Spanish working class achieved an outstanding historical triumph. The Party already exists, and is firmly based, thanks to the close unity and maturity attained within its ranks, which justifies the unanimous optimism that exists with regard to the development of the popular anti-Fascist struggles of the future that is already here.

The unity achieved by the Spanish Marxist-Leninist Communists, and the constitution of the (Marxist-Leninist) Communist Party of Spain, suffered from a radical defect: its unity was more apparent than real; an unstable, not very solid, unity. Neither the unity proclaimed on 4 October, nor the later measures, had achieved the objective of creating a Party that was solidly united with regard to a political perspective that was loyally and firmly accepted by all the comrades. Nevertheless, those dates represent steps taken toward the attainment of the completely mature triumph which we possess today.

The reason for the delay was due to the presence within the core of the Party of noxious elements, individuals without principles, individuals who sought nothing more than their personal welfare. This is the naked truth. Having uprooted the weeds, and all the comrades having participated in this effort, unity surged to the fore, robust and sincere.

This is the way it happened, and that is the reason for our optimism. The hard struggle to destroy the conspiracy of the opportunists has given experience to the newly born Party, and has submitted its leadership to a baptism of fire that has forged a sense of brotherhood among its members. The vigorous leadership that was born of that struggle is furthermore united by another very solid cement: the confidence of the entire Party.

How was it possible for such opportunist elements to infiltrate and remain among us?

Treason (that is, the abandonment of Marxist-Leninist principles by the anti-Party revisionist group headed by Santiago Carrillo and Dolores Ibarruri) had entrenched itself in the leadership by excluding from all responsible posts, and even from the Party itself, any Marxist-Leninist militants who opposed their opportunistic policy that betrayed the interests of the proletariat. In this way they prevented the struggle of the Marxist-Leninists from being coordinated within the Party, and these militants were forced to fractionally break away from the revisionist leadership. Thus, it was subsequently necessary to bring about a fusion of the different groups. But in the meantime, due to the numerical weakness of each group, in addition to their organizational weakness; the ideological vacuum in which the revisionists had left the majority of the militants in order that they should not be able to distinguish between truth and falsehood, and the source therefore of all the errors that must necessarily occur in the future; and the general inexperience due to the uniqueness of the situation; because of all these reasons, then, it became possible for opportunist elements from within and without the Party, adventurers and more or less direct agents of the bourgeoisie, to infiltrate the Marxist-Leninist ranks and promote their projects.

The first adventurer with Trotskyite tendencies to appear within our ranks was Martin Valdes, who was expelled from the "Proletarian" group. Other opportunist elements managed to remain even after the union that was brought about by the four nuclei that banded together to form the Party: Revolutionary Communist Opposition, the Reconstituted CP of Spain, the Proletarian group and the entire organization of the old Party in Colombia.

Taking advantage of the general burning desire to reconstitute the Party, the opportunists managed to achieve this without seriously examining the political contrasts between the different groups. They avoided submitting the Spanish reality to a joint study so that the unity of the Party could be established on the firm and clear basis of a concrete political perspective.

Later they threatened to break up the Party anew unless their particular demands were accepted. They hoped that these demands would be fulfilled during the Full Plenum of the Central Committee that has just been held.

The period prior to the convocation of the Plenum was used by the more conscientious elements of the Party to isolate the opportunists by two means: first, by ideological clarification among those comrades who were likely to fall victims to the confusion created by the opportunists as a base for their operations, designed to make them aware of the need to

first and foremost establish a Political Line that would separate the true Marxist-Leninists from the opportunists who were the objective servants of the bourgeoisie. And second, by close ties and understanding among the comrades who came from different groups, in order to destroy at the source any misunderstandings and slanderous rumors of the type that the opportunists take care to promote.

This objective was fully attained. The prior conditions that the opportunists outlined before the Plenum should be held were rejected with unanimous indignation, and the Order of the Day was established as follows: Political Line, Statutes and Reorganization of the Central Committee.

In the preparation of the Political Line the opportunists behaved in an undisciplined manner, by refusing to participate in the common task. They presented a "platform" of their own, composed of absurd theses that zigzagged from rightist to "leftist" positions without ideological unity. Thus, ideologically speaking, they were completely unmasked. Their subsequent behavior was based on attitudes of blackmail and the use of bluffs regarding their representativeness, in addition to slanders against some of the comrades who were present.

These procedures were totally repudiated by the entire gathering of comrades, and completely convinced those who had adopted conciliatory attitudes. The isolation of the opportunists was so complete, and the indignation of the comrades so great, that it was unanimously voted to expel five notorious opportunists from the Party (two of whom were members of the Central Committee).

Thus, the Party already has a fine experience in the area of internal struggle against infiltration by dangerous elements who have attempted to weaken the structure and the functioning of the Party, and who may so attempt, regardless of the weapons that were or may be used.

And above all, our Party now has a strong Party Line that reflects the interests of the Spanish working class and the enormous popular masses that constitute the majority of the country, and who jointly must manage the political power now in the hands of the financial-latifundist oligarchy that serves Yankee imperialism through a powerful Fascist political apparatus, an apparatus that deprives the people of their popular liberties and savagely represses any manifestations on behalf of the popular interests.

The political perspective that the (M-L) CP of Spain will strive to fulfill consists of the union of the proletariat on the basis of an awareness of their interests and their historical role, through the orientation of their struggles and the constitution, by means of these struggles, of a United Anti-Fascist Front with other popular classes and groups (the poor peasantry, particularly; peasant farmers, industrial and commercial middle classes, revolutionary students and intellectuals and, eventually, the highest strata of the petite bourgeoisie and sectors of the bourgeoisie), with the principal blows aimed at the great financial-latifundist capitalists and their ally, Yankee imperialism, in order to crush Fascist power by means of armed insurrection and the installation of a democratic, national and popular State.