

# CLASH OVER REDS MARKS DIES INQUIRY

Marcantonio Denies I. L. D.  
Link With Communists, but  
Gitlow Contradicts Him

*NY Times*  
LATTER CITES INCOME

Organization Is Main Support  
of The Daily Worker, Witness  
Says at Hearing

*10-18-39*  
WASHINGTON, Oct. 17 (AP)—Benjamin Gitlow, who said he spoke from experience as a former member of the Communist party secretariat, told the Dies Committee today that the International Labor Defense and the International Workers Order were organized and controlled by the party.

He contradicted many details of the testimony given yesterday by the secretaries of the two organizations and ridiculed an emphatic denial of Communist influence in the I. L. D., made from the witness stand today by Representative Marcantonio, American Labor of New York, the organization's chairman.

The I. L. D. is an organization which gives legal aid to persons alleged to have been deprived of civil liberties.

"It is not a defense organization in the pure sense of the term," Mr. Gitlow said. "It is the legal defense organization of the Communist party and the Communist International and serves also as a highly political and propagandist Communist organization."

The I. W. O. is incorporated in New York as a fraternal benefit organization and its members throughout the country, numbered by its officials at 164,000, pay monthly dues for insurance and sick benefits.

## Newspaper Held Aided

"It has been a source of great income for the Communist party," Mr. Gitlow testified. "It is the main support of The Daily Worker (party newspaper)."

Mr. Gitlow, a charter member of the Communist party who was expelled in the factional split of 1929, produced what he represented to be minutes of party executive meetings in 1925 at which the organization of the I. L. D. was planned.

Anna Damon, executive secretary of the I. L. D., said yesterday that she was a Communist and she and Mr. Marcantonio also identified William L. Patterson, vice chairman of the I. L. D., as a party member, but Mr. Gitlow said a third of the I. L. D.'s four officers, Robert W. Dunn, treasurer, also was a Communist. And he said seventeen of the fifty-eight members of its national committee or governing body were Communists.

In addition to the three officers, Mr. Gitlow named as Communists William Albertson, Rose Baron, Robert Minor, Bruce Minton, Harvey O'Connor, Ben Davis Jr., Jessie Lloyd O'Connor, Leo Gallagher, Jessica Henderson, Angelo Herron, Rockwell Kent, Joseph Pass, Lawrence Simpson and Ada Wright.

## Marcantonio a Volunteer

Mr. Marcantonio, appearing at his own request, said that when he assumed the chairmanship of the I. L. D. in 1937 he had a "distinct understanding that this was going to be a non-Communist organization" and that he assumed full responsibility for its activities since then.

When Chairman Dies asserted the organization's record showed it had taken a stand against fascism, but never against communism and never had defended a victim of "Communist persecution," Mr. Marcantonio explained that no case of that sort had ever been presented.

"The Communists have always been the victims," he declared.

Meanwhile, on the House floor Representative Dickstein of New York scoffed at testimony given by two previous witnesses before the committee and called one of them, General Walter G. Krivitsky, "nothing but a phoney."

He said General Krivitsky "was induced" to testify in order to protect the publishers of his magazine articles from a libel suit.

Mr. Dies commented that the committee would be glad to have Mr. Dickstein testify under oath if he had "one piece of information that's authentic."