

# AN ACT OF UNITY

*By Sam Lipshitz*

**T**HE decision of the Left Socialists of Israel to join the Communist Party is a logical result of the whole process of their ideological and political development.

We can do no better than quote one of the leaders of the Left Socialist Party, P. Hertzberg, on this subject. In an article published recently, Hertzberg says:

"Changes in ideological thinking are the result of objective changes taking place in society. What are the objective changes that took place in our society and influenced our own ideological and political thinking?"

"1. The victory of Marxism-Leninism as the foremost science of the working class and of humanity.

"2. The victorious advance of Communism in many parts of the world;

"3. The bankruptcy of the Zionist organization;

"4. The opportunity, here in our own country, to see the 'Zionist' reality of Israel, which shows that Zionism is irrevocably linked with imperialism; with all the reactionary forces in the world;

"5. The fact that the State of Israel, which is at the present time governed by Zionists, pursues internally a reactionary policy; and insofar as the foreign arena is concerned, it desires and does fulfill the role of a policeman of imperialism, against the 'storm over Asia';

"6. The ideological, political and organizational crack-up in Mapam, which we came to recognize as the cover-up of the Zionist, nationalist policy among the Jewish working people;

"7. The close study of the Communist Party of Israel and the fact that we got to know the truth about this Party and that we rid ourselves of all the false and biased notions inherited from the Mapam."

The great unity celebration that took place in Tel Aviv, at which the decision of the Left Socialist Party was publicly announced, was a truly historic occasion for the working people and for the country as a whole. One thousand new members proudly took their place alongside the thousands of Communists, Jews and Arabs, and swore to battle for their country's independence and freedom and for its great and glorious future. They pledged to raise higher the banners of peace and of Israel-Arab friendship.

More significant possibly than anything else was the fact that this great act of unity and strength acquired by the Communist Party took place at a time when all other political parties in Israel, particularly the reformist ones, are faced with splits and internal dissension. Only recently the Mapam itself split again with the Left Poale Zion, leaving the organization and establishing their own group. Both the strengthening of the CPI, as well as the crisis in the other parties are signs of the times and a portent of things to come.