

THE FIGHTING WORKER



WORKERS OF THE WORLD
UNITE!

Organ of the Revolutionary Workers League of the U. S.

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LENIN, LIEBKNECHT, LUXEMBURG

January is the month of the death of three outstanding heroes of the working class — V. Lenin, leader of the Bolshevik revolution, who died in 1924, and Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg, glorious leaders of the German revolution who were brutally murdered by the Social-Democrats in January 1919.

Almost a whole generation has passed since the death of these revolutionary leaders. The optimism of the young workers of yesterday who fought to establish a world Workers State and Workers Democracy was hard hit by the defeats of the working class in more than 2 dozen revolutions, following the victorious October Revolution.

Instead of a Workers Society, free from wars, starvation and persecution, the present generation of youth — the new generation — is confronted with the Black Hand of Fascism sweeping

across Europe. Instead of Peace the most fervid re-armament in all history! Instead of Democracy the concentration camps, persecution of Jews and Catholics, murders of thousands of Haitians by an American puppet government! Instead of a life of plenty, 16 millions unemployed in the U. S., back to the old 60 hour week in Germany — starvation everywhere!

FUTURE BELONGS TO YOUTH

The Youth of today — the new generation of proletarians — is without any perspective, without any hope, so long as they are satisfied to continue to live under capitalism. What makes the situation even more trying is that the present leadership of the working class, the 2nd and 3rd Internationals, are sold out bag and baggage to world capitalism, are preparing the new generation to be butchered and drowned in blood, are preparing to smash any new attempts at proletarian revolution, are preparing to

repeat the murders of Liebknecht and Luxemburg.

Nevertheless the objective situation favors the working class. Capitalism is bankrupt, decaying, dying. Its doom is inevitable. With a Party, a Leadership, a Program, the victory of the working class is assured. To the famous phrase of Liebknecht, "THE FUTURE BELONGS TO THE YOUTH", we add the words of Lenin, "HAVE THE WILL TO BUILD A PARTY AND ALL THE OPPRESSED WILL COME TO YOU."

U.S., Britain Main Antagonists At Lima

THE LIMA CONFERENCE

Dec. 12 — The Eight Pan-American Conference at Lima Peru, now in session is of importance in that it throws light upon

the imperialist policy of United States and the class conflicts maturing in Latin America. The United States through Roosevelt's New Deal and its representative, Cordell Hull, intends to tighten up the Monroe Doctrine and further close the door of Latin America to England and the other imperialists.

The U. S. talks against the Fascist nations: Germany, Italy and Japan, and will work to keep them out of the U. S. backyard; but at the same time, and with heavier blows, the United States aims the Lima conference against British rivalry in Latin America.

The U. S. has cleverly used the fear of the German and Italian minorities and of Nazi expansion, to drive the conference into line.

Argentina does not stand out as the second most important country in the conference merely because it is one of the big countries of South America, but because British imperialism dominates it and utilizes its spokesman at Lima against the United States. American Imperialism gives the chairmanship of the "peace" committee to De Mello Franco of Brazil, because the United States uses Brazil as England does Argentina, and Roosevelt wants this committee to come in with suitable plans for military defense and military bases for the U. S. in the Western Hemisphere against all imperialist countries.

The United States, the "democracy", uses as its puppets in Latin America many open dictator countries, like Brazil.

EXTEND TRADE INFLUENCE
The United States will not obtain at Lima all she would like, but that is expected. However, much of her gains will be made outside of the glare of the spotlight, behind closed doors where the real business is handled.

The immediate objective of the United States at Lima is to increase her trade and export of capital at the expense of England and the Fascist nations, and to take important military steps to extend her fortifications southward. This will be coupled with an attempt to further sell this plan in the name of the "good neighbor policy." Why not? Hitler marches into Austria, Sudetenland and Eastward in the name of "peace". American Imperialism has its own method to cover its offensive measures with "peace" slogans. The weakness of Germany economically in spite of her highly developed industries, and the strength of American imperialism accounts for the different methods each uses to gain its objectives. In Content, however, both are the same.

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MUNICH «PEACE» AN OFFENSIVE AGAINST WORKERS

Two months ago Messrs. Chamberlain, Daladier, Hitler, and Mussolini sat down at Munich and saved the world forever and ever from the horrors of war.

Now II Duce and M. Daladier are ready to go to war over the question of giving Tunisia, Corsica, Djibouti, Savoy and a share of the Suez Canal to Italy. The stretch of water between Tunisia and Italian Sicily is so narrow that if Italy could fortify both banks she could dominate the Mediterranean — the Anglo-French lifeline.

In Central Europe Herr Hitler is busy swallowing up little Memel and preparing for the establishment of an autonomous Ukraine, patched out of Czechoslovakia, the Soviet Union, Roumania and Poland.

ARMAMENTS RACE

Instead of the longed-for "peace", Munich has merely accelerated the preparations for war. France is to have the biggest war budget in history. So is Italy. So is Great Britain. So is Germany. So is the U. S.

Not only weren't the contradictions between the Rome-Berlin axis and the Anglo-French bloc solved, but even within the Fascist axis the struggle has been sharpened by the "Peace" of Munich. Germany has expelled Italy from Austria. Her borders stand today at the Brenner Pass, a real menace to Italy. Italian trade is being swallowed up by the Nazis in central Europe. To offset the stampede of Herr Hitler, Mussolini tried to get Hungary and Poland to swallow up little Ruthenia, thus creating a common frontier and checking Hitler's encroachments in the rest of Central

Europe.

Hitler was able to check these plans. So far Mussolini has received very little in return for his support of the Austrian and Czech grabs by Hitler. The friction between the two Fascist states is bound to increase. It can only be relieved somewhat if the Rome-Berlin Axis can force much greater concessions from Britain and France than were gained at Munich.

WHAT WILL S. U. DO?

On the Eastern Coast of Europe the Soviet Union and Poland seem to have formed a new "friendly" relationship. Both understand that they are to be the next victims — together with Roumania — of Nazi Germany. Stalin has cheerfully liquidated the Stalinist Party in Poland as a token of friendship to the Polish Dictatorship. As with France, Stalinism is placing its faith in the "good word" of the capitalists of foreign nations. As with the Franco-Soviet Pact, Poland will wipe its hands of the Soviet Union the minute it can come to some agreement with Hitler.

More than 2 years ago Stalin desperately tried to form an alliance with Fascist Italy. There is reason to believe that today he is trying to form such an alliance with Nazi Germany. Can the Stalinist refusal to help evacuate some of the German Jews be a step in the direction of appeasing the Nazis?

(Continued on page 3)

**For Workers
Control of
Production**

Class Defense Brings Negrete Release Closer

A letter from comrade Russell Negrete Blackwell, American revolutionist and member of the RWL, has been received. He is no longer held incommunicado but does not know about the outcome of his case. Negrete may face trial in the near future in Loyalist Spain on the frame-up charges of being a Fascist spy, etc. Negrete's name was constantly mentioned in the trial of the POUM leaders a month or two ago, some of whom were sentenced to 16 years for allegedly having started the uprising of the workers against the capitalist government in May 1937 in Barcelona.

The Negrete United Front Sponsoring Committee is expanding its work to include more organizations into our united front to free Negrete and his fellow anti-capitalist victims now held by the Loyalists. The last organization to join the Committee was the Joerger Group.

The Committee is continuing with its picketing and is in constant touch with the Spanish Consul General in N. Y. who received its delegation and submits its protests to the Spanish Government.

On Saturday December 10th, the Committee learning of the presence of Indoluccio Prieto, former Premier of Spain in N. Y. sent a delegation to his hotel to see him regarding Negrete. The Committee found both Prieto and De Los Rios, Spanish Ambassador and interviewed both.

PROTEST TO PRIETO IN N. Y.

Prieto, on his way to Chile would not undertake to do anything, but De Los Rios stated he had just sent a cable to his government "exclusively on the case of Negrete." The delegation, headed by the Committee's Secretary, J. Lorenz of the RWL, protested against the Government's continued silence, and De Los Rios promised to send another cable to Valencia with the Committee's demand for Negrete's immediate release.

The NUFSC is preparing another public protest meeting. The Trotskyite "Blackwell Defense Committee" turned down an invitation to share auspices of the meeting on the ground that... "we must wait for some dramatic event."

Picketing of the Spanish Consul in Chicago by the R. W. L. is now being resumed and similar plans for a mass meeting and tag day are being prepared.

Word has been received from Sydney Australia that the "Fourth" International comrades have been active in behalf of Rosalio Negrete and have sent protests to Spain. They have con-

(Continued on page 3)

ORGANIZATION NOTES

NEW UNIT IN THE SOUTH

A new unit of five members of the Revolutionary Workers League has been organized in an important city in Virginia by one of our active comrades of that part of the country. The new unit shows good signs of gaining wide influence in the whole area and takes as one of its special tasks the question of the oppressed Negro masses.

This is the 4th new unit of the RWL in the last few months. The others were in Detroit, Kansas City and Philadelphia.

LLL Meetings

Lenin, Liebknecht, Luxemburg Memorial Meetings are being held by R. W. L. units throughout the country. Friends and sympathizers are asked to get in touch with the local comrades for dates and addresses.

Phila. Sunday Jan. 22 8 P. M.
329 Pine St.
Speakers J. Nemiroff and B. Campbell

CHICAGO SUNDAY FORUM

Every Sunday at 8:30 P.M.

Workers Center
1904 W. Division Street

January 1st

American Imperialism and the Lima Conference
Bill Streeter

January 8th

Germany's March toward the East
Sid Okun

January 15

The Budget and WPA
Joe Hadley

January 20 Friday

LENIN, LIEBKNECHT, LUXEMBURG MEMORIAL MEETING

MOTION PICTURE: TEN DAYS THAT SHOOK THE WORLD and SPEAKING:

Hugo Oehler

January 29th

China, Japan and the Soviet Union

CLASSES

DETROIT, PHILADELPHIA, NEW YORK, CLEVELAND

Information on these classes can be had from the local comrades or by writing to the National Office of the R. W. L.

Starting Friday, December 2nd and every subsequent Friday at 8:30 P. M. the N. Y. Local of the R. W. L. is conducting a series of 10 lecture classes covering a wide range of topics. Each lecture is complete. For more information apply at the headquarters of the N. Y. comrades, 66 E. 12th St., Room 3.

CHICAGO CLASSES

Starting Monday, December 5th a new class is being organized on "Tendencies in the Labor Movement" with comrade Bill Streeter as the Instructor. As a special feature of the class, which will run 8 weeks, speakers will be invited each week from the various tendencies.

FREE ROSALIO NEGRETE

Workers Rights or Democracy?

(Continued)

SUPPORT OF THE DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS PAVES THE WAY FOR FASCISM.

Since the democratic institutions are instruments of the exploiting minority, of the capitalists, the support of these political forms in present day decay capitalism is the support of an outworn system versus the proletarian solution — the socialist system.

Developing capitalism, with its expanding productive forces under which it could afford to concede the working class a few "reforms" in order better to control it carried with it a political counterpart known as bourgeois democracy. But decay capitalism, with a contracting economy, wracked by ever deeper and more prolonged crises, with "organized" scarcity and organized starvation, has as its political counterpart, Fascism, as the only effective means to hold in check the working class and maintain the dying system.

Just as the "back to 1776" (free competition) movement is hopeless against finance capitalism so the cry of "back to democracy" (bourgeois democracy) is hopeless against fascism. In both cases the only road is FORWARD TO SOCIALISM, to planned economy on a higher plane, forward to WORKERS DEMOCRACY under the Workers Council Government.

WORKERS RIGHTS VERSUS "ROTTEN BOURGEOIS DEMOCRACY"

Speaking on this question Trotsky says, "Everywhere and always, where and when the revolutionary workers are not powerful enough immediately to overthrow the bourgeois regime, they defend from Fascism even rotten bourgeois democracy, and especially do they defend their own positions inside bourgeois democracy." Under this centrist formula Trotsky leads his followers into support of bourgeois democracy. Defending "rotten bourgeois democracy", and defending workers democratic rights against fascism are as opposite as the two classes in society. The workers democratic rights were obtained and can be defended only by a struggle against the bourgeoisie, against bourgeois democracy as well as against

fascism. Where, as in Spain today, bourgeois democracy attempts to take the "leadership" in the struggle of the working class against Fascism (capitalism), in order better to betray the workers, the workers' policy is to "march separately and strike together." This does not include defense of capitalist democracy, but just the opposite, prepares the proletariat for the struggle for power, against boss rule in all its forms.

Coupled with the above mentioned position of Trotsky is his policy of "Fight imperialism to fight fascism." Under these formulas the Trotskyites become victims and supporters of bourgeois democracy and cover up their line of support to Cardenas in Mexico, material aid to Loyalist Spain, support of "left" bourgeois governments, etc.

Fight Capitalism to Fight Fascism is the correct position of Marxism.

The Stalinists and Socialists, and the open bourgeois reformers such as Green and Lewis of the AFL and CIO, openly defend the "democratic" capitalist institutions against workers rights and Workers Councils. These opportunists, like the social reformists and trade union bureaucrats in Germany, are preparing the road for fascism and their own destruction, along with the labor movement as a whole.

COMMUNISM VS. FASCISM.

The Stalinists and Socialists propose that the working class fight for democracy against fascism. Trotsky speaks also of the "very pressing problem of fascism and democracy." Those who defend or fall into the trap of supporting the democratic institutions (CAPITALIST DICTATORSHIP) use this language. To fight for the workers democratic rights against capitalism is possible only on the basis of the working class versus capitalism (COMMUNISM AGAINST FASCISM), of independent working class action. To fight fascism the working class must fight capitalism in all its forms, from its "left" forms such as the People's Front and Labor Party Governments to its extreme rights forms of decree cabinets, military dictatorships and fascism.

(To be continued next issue)

Loyalists Sentence Anti-Fascists To 16 Years

The world wide protest against the attempts of the Stalinists to frame-up the POUM members as Fascist spies has been successful, but a conviction on the basis of rebellion against capitalism with a vicious 16 year sentence for the majority of the defendants is a powerful blow delivered against the Spanish revolutionists. The conviction of those who fight for Socialism in Loyalist Spain has established the necessary precedent to begin a class war against the Marxists who stand for Communism and against the Syndicalists who stand for Anarchism as soon as the necessary conditions for sell out and compromise with the Fascists exist.

If the POUM leaders can be convicted for the May Insurrection which they opposed, then next the CNT-FAI can be convicted for Rebellion, for the heroic acts of the workers and peasants in taking over the factories and land and establishing of the Anti-Fascist Committees against Capitalism. Today the Anglo-French imperialists through their Loyalist stooges select the weak POUM; tomorrow they will, with the aid of the Stalinists, do the same to the CNT-FAI.

The conviction of most of the POUM defendants and the release of two is done to leave an air of "fairness." Daniel Rebull was not in Barcelona at the time of the May Uprising. Jose Escuder was

virtually a prisoner from the beginning to the end of the uprising, surrounded in the La Batalla building.

The convicted POUM leaders were at the Party's Barcelona headquarters doing everything possible to call the workers off the barricades, to stem the tide of workers revolt.

The Loyalist Government has exposed itself for its true worth in convicting those who are against capitalism. The Loyalist Capitalist Government is the agent of Anglo French imperialism against the workers and peasants, against the proletarian revolution.

SELL OUT IMPENDING

The Trotskyites in dealing with this question in the Socialist Appeal state that the Stalinist frame-up was defeated. The Trotskyites don't understand that the victory against the Stalinist frame-up was accompanied with a defeat as dangerous because it is a forerunner to a big sell-out and a drive against the workers. That is what revolutionists must point out. Not divert it to an anti-Stalinist fight.

R.W.L. Addresses

Chicago

1904 W. Division Street

New York

66 E. 12th St. Room 3

Philadelphia

329 Pine Street

Cleveland

2071 E. 30th Street

For information on other units and groups of the R. W. L. address communications to the National Office, 1904 Division, Chicago.

Corrections

The Editorial Board of the FIGHTING WORKER wishes to correct two formulations in the December issue.

The article entitled "Election Results a Blow at Workers" is open to the false impression by the lead paragraph that the defeat of the New Deal in the election was a blow to the workers.

There is no fundamental class difference between the New Deal and the "Old Deal" in spite of the different METHODS used by the left and right arms of the capitalists to control the workers. The blow at the working class consists of the fact that because the reformists and centrists were able to canalize the pressure of the workers into parliamentarism, into the Democrat and Labor Parties, and were able to liquidate much of its independent class action, the underlying shift to the left in American class relations and the discontent of the masses found no expression in the elections.

The article on the Trotskyite "Fourth International" states in opposition to the Trotsky "Transition Program" which claims that the main danger is Fascism, that the main danger is reformism.

ANTI-CAPITALIST ORIENTATION

This is a false formulation. In such countries as the U. S. and England, contrary to the Stalinists and now the Trotskyites, the main danger today is not Fascism. The main enemy is capitalism: within the framework of an anti-capitalist approach the immediate danger in the US is the growth of reformism which

helps pave the way for fascism. But in France the question must be posed as a sharpening struggle between the working class (Communism) and Fascism. The same is true in Spain for the whole last period of armed conflict.

The RWL presents an anti-capitalist pro-communist orientation. We reject such formulations as Stalinism is the main danger, Fascism is the main danger, reformism is the main enemy, etc. The working class must struggle against capitalism, against both the left arm of capitalism ("democracy") and its right arm (Fascism). Within this framework, in each country, with each given stage and shift of the class relations, the growth of reformism may be the immediate danger or the struggle may reach the stage of one between Communism and Fascism.

FOURTH INTERNATIONAL FEBRUARY ISSUE

Special Convention documents

Anglo-American Antagonisms

Anglo-American Trade Treaty

THE FIGHTING WORKER

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Special three months subscription rate of 25 cents in blocs of four or more.

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VOLUNTARY LABOR

Class Defense Brings Negrete Release Closer

(Continued from Page 1)

tacted the I. W. W., the S. L. P., and the S. P., of Australia and are working up us broad a protest as possible.

Letter to M. Olay from the Juridico-Social Section of the CNT, Barcelona.

"Dear Comrade:

"We have the documents you have sent us in your letter of the 4th., with regard to Russel Blackwell.

"We are immediately sending copy of your letter to the Sub-National Committee in Valencia so that it may work for the release of the above mentioned comrade.

"With fraternal greetings", etc.

For the NATIONAL
COMMITTEE
R. Inigo,"

The Phila. unit of the RWL, together with the LRWP and the Revolt group have formed a Negrete United Front Defense Committee along the lines of the committees formed in Chicago, New York and other cities. On Friday Dec. 16 they held a mass protest meeting, at which speakers of other organizations including a representative of the I. W. W. spoke.

Stalinists Attack R.W.L.

The Chicago Stalinists were just bursting with "democracy" as they organized a demonstration to welcome the boys from Spain, who fought so valiantly to preserve Spanish capitalist "democracy." This new democracy, is a very special one — it only works for capitalists and stalinists but revolutionists must not make use of it...

Organized Stalinist squads attempted to beat up several of the girl members of the RWL who were distributing issues of the Fighting Worker dealing with Spain. Not successful in their attempts to destroy the literature and morale of the comrades, they appealed to the police to stop it, on the grounds that the paper was against "democracy". The police, well satisfied to let the stalinists do their dirty work for them refused to budge. It is worth commenting on that one comrade, even though thrown to the stone floor, and mobbed by at least 6 stalinist strong arm hooligans, didn't call the police to fight against workers.

FOURTH INTERNATIONAL JANUARY ISSUE

Pre Revolutionary Crisis in France
The Internal Crisis and Class Relations in the U. S.
Munich and the October Revolution
Documents from Europe and Australia

Claridad Proletaria

January Issue

Theoretical Organ of the
Revolutionary Workers League,
In Spanish

— Centrist Program of
Trotskyites
— Revolutionary Defeatism

Communism or Fascism in France

De spite the heroic response of over a million workers in the one day General Strike of the French working class against the Daladier decrees increasing hours, inflating the currency, etc., the strike was viciously smashed by Daladier's Mobile Guard and Navy. After the strike hundreds of thousands of workers were dismissed from their jobs for their militancy. Here and there new strikes developed. The Navy was called in, and it completed the strikebreaking job of the Mobile Guard.

Again for the third or fourth time since the working class routed the Fascists after February 6th, 1934, France faces a pre-revolutionary situation. Only one of two forces can be successful in the present conflict, either the open dictatorship of capitalism-Fascism, or the successful proletarian revolution, Communism.

BONAPARTISM IN FRANCE

M. Daladier plays only a transitory role, a Bonapartist dictator who by his open anti-working class measures prepares the way for Fascism. He is the French equivalent of Herr Bruening, Von Schleicher, and Von Papen, who prepared the way for Hitler in 1933. He delivers a dozen blows against the working class, smashing its strikes, lowering its wages, threatening to suppress its Parties and later its Unions — and then delivers one meek blow or threat at the extreme right in order to keep his position.

The French Hitler — whether it be De La Rocque, Doriot, or some other butcher — finds it difficult to gain power. The French working class has fought back with remarkable heroism. Unfortunately its leaders have betrayed it at every step.

The People's Front has sapped the energy of the French masses. It helped liquidate the sit-down strikes of 1936. It stopped the workers from using the sit-down tactic in the present strikes. It has only one answer to the present situation — Parliament. Instead of really organizing the strike, most of the CGT leaders — Stalinist, Socialist, and Jouhaux — called on the workers to be peaceful, and called the strike off almost before it had begun. Instead of developing the strike with revolutionary perspectives against capitalism, against the whole capitalist state, the People's Front STILL tells the working class to depend on the capitalist Parliament.

PEOPLES FRONT COLLAPSES

But despite all of the treacheries, of the People's Front, the French capitalists at least for the time being no longer have need of it. The militancy of the workers has been dissipated to the point where a more open and brutal — and more profitable — puppet can be placed in power to pave the way for Fascism.

The Stalinists and Socialists who betrayed the working class, who ordered them into the imperialist army, who raised the war budgets, who helped the continued oppression of the colonial masses, in order to achieve a "Franco-Soviet" Pact, have now seen that Pact tossed into the discard. The People's Front itself has been destroyed. Nevertheless the lackeys of the capitalists still tell the working class to depend on the capitalist state — Parliament.

In Austria in 1934, while Dolfuss' Heimwehr was already shooting workers in the streets, Otto Bauer, Austrian Socialist leader was trying to negotiate with Dolfuss, to make a deal. The French reformists are playing the same role. While Daladier was calling out the Mobile Guard against the strikers, Jouhaux and the rest tried vainly to gain some compromise with the government.

COMMUNISM OR FASCISM

The economic situation in France must continue to grow worse. The capitulation of France and England to Germany at Munich cuts deeply into French investments and trade in central Europe. By raising the armaments budget the crisis is sharpened still further.

The French workers are not defeated yet by a long shot. Victory is still within their reach if only they strike out on an independent line, if only they can build a new Communist Party in France, a new Communist Fourth Internationalist Party.

The immediate road ahead lies not in placing any faith on bourgeois Parliament — which is itself being discarded by the bourgeoisie — but in organizing

out of the various strike actions Committees of Action, in organizing in each factory Factory Committees democratically elected by all the workers in the Factory, Union and non-union alike. The Committees of Action must be composed of actual delegates from the various factories, not merely from the trade unions, which are controlled by the bureaucrats.

NEED PARTY AND SOVIETS

The present period is one in which the Fascists are fighting desperately for the support of the middle classes and the oppressed colonial peoples. With a correct program the Communists — organized in a new Communist Party — can easily win the support of the small shopkeepers, the peasants, the oppressed masses in the colonies.

The working class must fight in France today for the elimination of the debt of the French farmers, for government subsidies to the farmers to help market their goods, to be administered by Farmers Committees. The working class must penetrate into the farm areas and help organize Workers and Farmers Committees of Action (Soviets), to take over the land from the large land-owners, to take steps towards the

socialization of the land.

The People's Front shut its eyes completely to the oppressed colonials. It permitted the most disgraceful exploitation of the colonies. It offered them nothing. The Revolutions extend to the colonial masses the right of self-determination, and call on the colonial proletariat to organize a struggle for a Workers and Peasants Government—a Dictatorship of the Proletariat — in the colonies.

The urban lower middle class can be won to the side of the working class by a resolute struggle against the system which constantly pauperizes the middle class, which bankrupts it and crushes it to the wall

AGAIN A PARTY

With a Revolutionary Marxian Party in France, victory can be gained. The Key, the nub of the problem, is the organization of such a Party. Revolutionists in all countries must aid in its establishment — a section of the Communist (4) International. Such a Party in France will be able to turn the tide in Spain and aid the Marxian elements in the Soviet Union in getting rid of Stalinism. Such a Party IN FRANCE will contribute enormously to the establishment of a Union of Socialist Republics of Europe.

U.S., Britain Use Nazi Pogroms To Gain Support For War Plans

The vicious pogroms unleashed by Fascism in Germany and central Europe is a further sign of the decay of capitalism in general and German economy under "organized starvation" in particular. The "Peace" of Munich not only aggravated the situation for the Anglo-French imperialists, but also accelerated the general pressure of Fascism in its vain attempt to solve its contradictions. At the expense of part of its economy, the Jewish petty-bourgeoisie, the Fascists hope to release some of the unbearable pressure within German economy.

The United States and the other "democratic" imperialist nations are utilizing the Fascist pogroms against the Jews to line up their own workers and middle class for more armaments. At the same time they give lip service to the needs of the persecuted Jews. Yet, not one of these powers will carry out any practical solution for the Jews in Central Europe. They speak of allowing them to settle in the colonies. They are attempting to organize another "Palestine" and use the Jews for their domination of the colonies.

ONLY RICH AIDED

Of the five hundred thousand Jews in Germany the "democratic" imperialists will only take those few who are fortunate enough, in spite of the Hitler decrees, to have some money left. This condemns the majority of the Jewish workers, as well as the expropriated Jewish petty-bourgeoisie, to a living hell under Fascism.

The Stalinists try to cover up their betrayal of the workers, and their anti-Semitic policy by claiming that they cannot take the German Jews into the Soviet Union because they are ALL petty bourgeois. This is a case where the Stalinists take a lie of the "democrats" and build another story on it. The Stalinist Anti-Semitic policy is nothing new. In the first Arabian landowner and bourgeois pogroms against the Jews in Palestine, instead of fighting against British Imperialism and Zionism, and against the Arabian exploiters, and calling for the unity of the Jewish and Arabian workers and oppressed masses against all exploiters, the Stalinists capitulated to the Arabian exploiters. In Biro Bidjan they have made a mockery of Lenin's policy, and the Stalinists now use the term Trotskyism to cover their Anti-Semitic drive as well as their drive against any and all who oppose them.

alism and Zionism, and against the Arabian exploiters, and calling for the unity of the Jewish and Arabian workers and oppressed masses against all exploiters, the Stalinists capitulated to the Arabian exploiters. In Biro Bidjan they have made a mockery of Lenin's policy, and the Stalinists now use the term Trotskyism to cover their Anti-Semitic drive as well as their drive against any and all who oppose them.

REVOLUTION ONLY REAL SOLUTION

The solution of the Jewish question cannot be had under capitalism. The decay of capitalism will make conditions far worse for the Jews and other minorities, not to speak of the workers. Liberals in developing capitalism had hoped that the Jews would be assimilated. The decline of capitalism has closed this door.

Only the proletarian revolution and the path toward a classless society holds a solution to the Jewish question. The main steps necessary to help the oppressed Jewish masses is for the Jewish and non-Jewish workers to carry on the day to day CLASS STRUGGLE against CAPITALISM.

We demand that the United States Government be forced to open the doors to the oppressed Jewish masses and other minorities of Germany and Central Europe.

Above all practical steps must be taken here in the United States to organize Workers Defense Squads that will act as flying squads to take up the defense of the Working Class and oppressed masses against any and every meeting the Fascists attempt to organize. Don't look to the police as the Social Democrats did in Germany. Rely only upon the organized might of the working class.

FOR A WORKERS
COUNCIL GOVERNMENT

LIMA CONFERENCE

(Continued from Page 1)

FIGHT ON EXPROPRIATIONS

Mexico is endeavoring to have Lima legalize its expropriation policy. Albert Cruchago of Chile has presented a resolution which if carried would legalize Mexico's latest actions, but the United States delegates have already seen to it that they have a majority on the committee and in the conference will put through something suitable for American imperialism.

The United States not only controls the most important committee and has its chairman through the Brazilian representative, but also has placed Diogenes Escalante, the Venezuelan minister to Washington, as Chairman of the second most important committee, the committee on Economics.

After the conference is completed our press will give a detailed analysis of the Lima conference and its relation to the needs of the workers and peasants in Latin America.

MUNICH "PEACE"

(Continued from page 1)

The Imperialist "Peace" at Munich is really the sharpening of the class war against the working class. To carry out his "barter" trade plans, Hitler must raise the hours of his workmen to 60, or more per week. To carry out his rearmament plans, Daladier must not only raise prices, inflate the currency, but raise hours as well. The working class cannot answer this sharpened class war with the class peace advocated by its Jouhaux, Cachins, Stalins, Browders, Vanderveldes and Blums. Fight the imperialist war plans! Fight against the French Decree Rule! Fight the Roosevelt M Day Plans! There lies the road to Peace.

Send all contributions to the
THE NEGRETE DEFENSE
1904 W. Division Street
Chicago, Ill.

Lewis CIO Control Means more Sell-outs

The Committee for Industrial Organization is now the Congress for Industrial Organization. The change is more than one in name. The new outfit vows that it has outgrown its diaper stage, that henceforth it will deal much more sternly with sit-down strikers, with militant workers everywhere. Instead of a somewhat loose organizational form in which the workers were able to push militant action such as the auto strikes of 1937, the new set up is dominated — literally controlled — by three men, Lewis, Hillman, and Murray, and of these three Lewis is practically a law unto himself.

Of the 42 men on the Executive Committee which will meet only twice a year to pass on Lewis' acts, the votes of the above three bureaucrats is sufficient to overrule the votes of the other 39. Each man casts a vote for the number of members in his union. Thus the combined membership of the Mine, Steel, Textile and Garment workers, which these three control, is enough to assure a majority.

The new bureaucracy makes the AFL bureaucrats look like pikers. Lewis can "investigate" any union at will. His decision is binding on all subsidiary unions. He can betray any strike, as he has hundreds of times in the past.

SOLIDIFY BUROCRACY

The "progressive" CIO refused at this convention to guarantee membership to members of revolutionary political organizations. The one protest — by the Stalinist Harry Bridges — against this "oversight" was met with some powerful bulldozing by Chairman Lewis.

The Constitution of the CIO pledges to uphold the American property system, doesn't say a word about strikes, stresses instead collective bargaining and dependence on government aid. It thus puts the stamp of approval on the class collaboration policy by which Lewis, Martin, Hillman (and Dubinsky in his time) sold out and wore down every militant struggle of the past two years.

Hanging over the Convention was the request by President Roosevelt for "unity" with the A. F. of L. Despite the fact that the CIO was organized on a "permanent" basis at Pittsburgh prospects for unity with the AFL are by no means closed especially with the Administration continuing its pressure for such a unity. The new bureaucracy of the CIO merely means that Lewis has consolidated his position for a bid for leadership of any such unified organization.

One of the most important aspects of the CIO convention was the open jingo spirit put forward by Lewis and Hillman and the other Roosevelt imperialist stooges. Within the A. F. of L. and the CIO the capitalists are preparing the workers long in advance for the coming imperialist war, a struggle for the redivision of the earth in which the United States will play one of the major roles.

The RWL stands for the unification of the trade union movement upon the basis of a class struggle program and industrial unions, against the capitalists and their labor agents within the trade unions.

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Chicago Squads Smash Fascist Meetings

The increased activity of the Fascists and reactionary elements in Chicago and other large industrial centers and the increased wave of pogroms and anti-Semitism in Europe has brought forth a healthy counter action in the workers ranks in spite of the Stalinist attempts to confine action against Fascism to legal channels.

Four meetings organized by Silver Shirt groups and the Nazi Bund in workers neighborhoods in Chicago have been broken up by the spontaneous action of workers. There is no doubt that much of the activity has been conducted by Jewish workers who more than

others realize the real danger of Fascism. Groups of cab drivers, other workers, students, social club members, who brought with them semi-hoodlums made quick work of these meetings. The Stalinists present tried to stop the workers from breaking up these Fascist meetings; but last summer the Stalinists tried to organize pool hall boys to break up RWL; SLP; and IWW meetings.

So far, when these cases have been brought to court the judge has dismissed the charges against the anti-Fascists. But one Judge has already warned those arrested, that if they are against un-American activity, they should also see that Communism does not spread as well as Fascism.

Because the anti-Fascist forces are not under the ideological in-

fluence of the Marxists, and because they already have some hoodlum elements with them, there is a danger, in their reaction against the false Stalinist line, of becoming prey to a few big shot Jewish politicians in the Kelly-Nash machine, and their education under this influence will make some of them anti-working class and later Fascists forces.

This healthy reaction in the working class against Fascism and against the pacifist policy of the Stalinist must be developed out of its present channel where capitalist politicians and hoodlums can use the movement. It must be placed upon a working class program, of WORKERS DEFENSE SQUADS with the workers organizations taking an active part. Revolutionists must push these committee of defense to be used for all workers defense: against Fascism, in strikes, and to defend workers' meetings, etc.

THE DEMOCRATIC FRONT IS A CLOAK FOR SOCIAL PATRIOTISM



Stockyard Truce Aids Companies

Chicago — The 14 day strike of the 600 Union Stockyard workers has resulted in a few gains for the workers despite the sellout policies of the C. I. O. leaders. The strike demands were for the 40 hour week, 62½¢ minimum wage, time and a half for overtime, the closed shop and the check-off system. The refusal of the packing-house workers to handle shipments thru the struck stock yard put the strikers in a strong position but the union leaders settled for recognition as the sole bargaining agency with an agreement to negotiate wage and hour demands and draw up a written contract after the men went back to work. At no time was an attempt made to extend the strike.

The inclusion of the demand for the check-off system helped to alienate the AF of L workers in the yards and weakened the strike. It put the AF of L workers in the position of either helping the CIO collect from them dues they did not want to pay or walking thru the picket line. Despite this, the AF of L leaders were able to muster only 40 men who would report for work although they claimed to have half the stock yard workers in their local.

The militancy of the strikers was indicated by the action taken when the settlement was voted. The meeting, attended by about 400 of the workers involved,

voted to reserve the right to strike if a contract were not signed in ten days and also voted not to work with men who did not join the union within ten days. However, the agreement to return to work before negotiations has weakened the workers. What must be done now is to cement unity on a class struggle basis between the CIO workers and AF of L workers and develop a leadership which will fight consistently and boldly for the workers rights.

6th Plenum Extends League Activity

The sixth plenum of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Workers League was held in Cleveland over the Thanksgiving week-end. After a long agenda the Plenum made provisions for the third national convention of the League to be held in Chicago. Following the Plenum the Political Committee was given two months to prepare and publish the documents for the convention so that there can be a period after that of not less than two months for discussion by the membership.

On the agenda were such points as the general European war situation; the U. S. role in the world crisis; the crisis in France; the crisis and class relations in the United States; Spain and the question of defense of comrade Negrete held by the Loyalist government; and a number of other questions. The documents

Ferrero

The Stay of Vincent Ferrero was up on December 6th. On the ninth a letter was received commanding him to report at two o'clock on Dec. 13th to sail on the Rex next day. Since Ferrero was not in New York then this was not possible. The committee is sending out letters and telegrams to individuals and organizations to protest once more against this outrage against right of asylum.

The Committee must begin a wide campaign of picketing and protest meetings to protest this outrage.

on these questions are being published in the December, January, and February issues of the Fourth International, theoretical organ of the League.

FULL PRINCIPLED AGREEMENT

The Plenum noted that there were no fundamental or principled differences before it. The entire set of documents introduced by the Political Committee carried.

Organizationally plans were laid down for more systematic penetration into mass organizations, for improving the press, and for a number of campaigns including the intensification of the campaign to free Negrete.

This was the first Plenum of the League in Cleveland. The Cleveland comrades did a commendable job in handling all the arrangements.

LAND OF THE FREE

PASS THE COLLECTION PLATE PLEASE!

61 Americans reported incomes over one million dollars last year.. Trinity Episcopal Church in N. Y. is suing its rent collector for 7 millions that haven't been accounted for... John D. Rockefeller left 27,733 shares of worthless silver mining stock. Wonder how many he was able to sell?... General Motors very humanely restored the 30% pay cuts to men getting more than \$50,000.00 a year salary... To keep them off relief we suppose... Republican senators and representatives-elect celebrated their victory at the polls with a \$10.00 a plate dinner. And food prices still going up!...

IN THE GOOD OLD U. S. A.

Half the people of the South have incomes of less than \$300 a year, and the average income is \$314.00 a year. Just enough for 30 dinners Republican style... Learners in the Valparaiso Hoopery Mills in Florida, receive no pay while learning how to run the machinery. The company sees that it takes 10 to 12 weeks to learn... There's profit in them thar mills!.. The U. S. Treasury debt is now \$303.00 for every man, woman and child in the country...

JEFFERSON ESTABLISHED A DEMOCRACY OH!

A school teacher in Indiana was dismissed because he read to the class excerpts from a modern history of the U. S. A. and quoted sections of a best seller novel... Nebraska boss rule has succeeded in passing anti-picketing laws, and arresting peaceful picketers wholesale; armed hooligans and scabs are on the state roll of honor... C. C. Davis of the Federal Reserve System says "We have millions of unemployed; we have the greatest endowment of natural and mechanical resources known to the world, and we have the monetary basis for an expansion of productive activity far greater than heretofore existed". Coming from him it is sound economics. Coming from a Revolutionary it becomes an American subversive propaganda... Yoo, Hoo, Dies Committee!

FACTS AND FINANCES OF LIFE

There were 29,400,300 families in the U. S. in 1935-1936. The range of incomes are as follows: 14% of all families received less than \$500. a year, 87% less than \$2,500. 2% received between \$5,000 and \$10,000 per yearly income, and less than 1% had incomes of \$10,000 and over... In simple language, 5,387 individuals received more than twice as much money as the total for 2½ million families — or about 10 million people. Seven-eighths of the families in the richest country in the world live on a scale considered below the Federal authorities' figures for a minimum standard of living...

Figures available from the recent Syphilis campaign show that relief clients, who have the lowest income, rate the highest percentage of infection, while the percentage progressively decreases as the amount of income increases... Relief clients showed 13.9% infected. College and school pupils showed 0.6% infected. The industrial tabulations show that those working in the industries requiring hard physical labor with small wages, showed the largest percentage of syphilitic infection.

For a new COMMUNIST (4th) INTERNATIONAL.