

# THE FIGHTING WORKER

WORKERS OF THE WORLD  
UNITE!



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

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## Treachery of Peoples Front; Aid from Germany Italy, Portugal; and Soviet-Blum Neutrality Bolster the Counter-Revolution in Spain

### CIO Gives Up Steel Drive

#### Peace With Green Likely

Persistent reports say the CIO has abandoned the drive to organize the steel workers. No announcement to this effect has been made by the CIO. But it is definitely known that for the past few weeks organizing efforts have been concentrated on the organization of workers in small plants which CONSUME steel such as foundries. It is also reported that the CIO is organizing workers such as retail clerks into the CRAFT unions of the A.F. of L.

#### SIGNS OF PEACE

The abandonment of the steel drive indicates that Lewis is going to make his peace with Green. This is not the only sign. The press is full of predictions from a number of sources of a peaceful ending to the struggle. More important have been the statements of the leaders of the needle trades unions that they were ready to abide by any decision of the Tampa convention, when they knew that they could muster only a minority of the delegates.

It has been known, too, that Roosevelt has been opposed to a split in the A.F. of L. Although he was lending behind-the-scenes support to Lewis as a lever against the Morgan owned steel trust, he does not want a strike of the dimensions which such a struggle would have to take, nor its consequences. Nor does Roosevelt want a split which would give his Republican opponents an opportunity to get a wedge into the labor vote.

Industrial union structures are what the workers need. But they aren't enough. CLASS STRUGGLE POLICIES, fighting leaderships and industrial union structures are the program for the struggle to organize the American workers.

### Streeter Trial Oct. 21

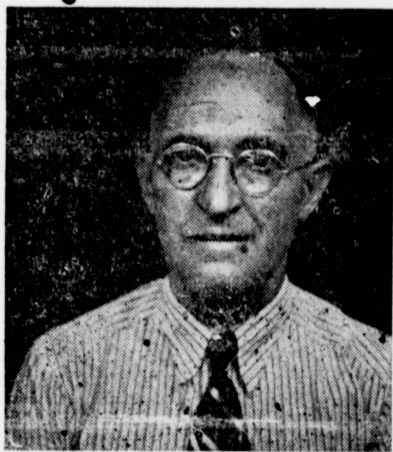
Bill Streeter, National Secretary of the Young Workers League, and Sid Clarke, member of the youth League, were arrested some time ago in Chicago, for "speaking without a permit" at an open-air meeting in the Workers Vote Campaign.

The Socialist lawyer, Albert Goldman, advised them to plead guilty. They refused. At the trial on September 17 Goldman asked the judge, Dougherty, to postpone the trial on the ground that at a similar trial of a number of Stalinists a few days before he stated that he "could not handle these people impartially." The judge agreed. The trial will take place on Oct. 21 before another judge.

### WORKERS VOTE CANDIDATES

For President

For Vice-President



SAMUEL GARRETT



LOUIS ROBERTS

### Presidential Campaign A Fight for Farmers' Votes

#### Green and Lewis Swing Labor Vote for Roosevelt

What are the issues in the presidential campaign?

"Long Term Upswing Forecast By Roper In Warning Of Boom" says the New York Journal of Commerce. Steel production is running at over seventy per cent of capacity. Great Lakes shippers say this is the biggest year since 1929. Southern Pacific Railroad will spend twenty two million dollars for new equipment. Packard auto is spending five million to double its output. Copper producers are turning down orders. Every day tells the same story. Capitalism is pulling out of the crisis.

There are still over eleven million unemployed. Are they going back to work? Much of the huge sums being spent is for labor saving machinery. Steel mills are putting in continuous roll mills which are throwing thousands out of work. Coal producers announced some time ago that with the introduction of new labor saving machinery half the miners now at work would be displaced in ten years. Every day tells the same story.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT BIGGEST ISSUE

Unemployment is the biggest issue in the country. Are Roosevelt and Landon fighting over policy for the unemployed? No. They have the same policy! To shift the burden of relief to states and local communities.

Roosevelt has the labor vote sewed up tight. The trade union leaders have done a pretty thorough job. Landon concedes the labor vote to Roosevelt by not making any public effort to win it.

#### FARM PROBLEM INSOLUBLE

The campaign fight is taking place around the question of farm

policies. All the plans and schemes of the Roosevelt administration to solve the farm problem have produced nothing but further misery for the farmers. This problem capitalism cannot solve. In order to export manufactured goods the U. S. must import raw materials and the produce of agricultural countries. Government policy is always trying to walk the tight rope of increasing exports without importing commodities which compete with American farm production.

#### FARMERS GET IT IN NECK

The policy of capitalism is to make the farmers pay the bill for export of manufactured goods. That's what's behind the new trade treaties, crop reduction and all the hocus-pocus of the New Deal farm program. The farmers don't understand the question but they know they are getting it in the neck. They raise bumper crops—the market goes down. They curtail crops — foreign competitors expand production, crowd them out of the world markets.

Roosevelt is trying to win the farm vote on the basis of drought relief, soil conservation and his "democratic" personality. Landon is trying to make capital of the obvious contradictions in the Roosevelt position. Neither Landon nor Roosevelt can solve the problem.

Only a Communist society which eliminates the profit motive from society, socializes the land and industry, organizes production for use on a world scale and establishes security for all can solve the contradiction between agriculture and industry which capitalism creates.

TO CREATE A BETTER LIFE OVERTHROW CAPITALISM

### Workers Must Seize State Power

The sustained offensive of the counter-revolution in Spain after ten weeks of bitter fighting can be explained mainly by the policy of the peoples Front Government, the direct aid given it by Italy, Germany and Portugal, the indirect aid by Russian, French and British "neutrality," and pressure by American imperialism on the Madrid government.

The most powerful factors in the civil war are not military but social. The task of the workers is to take away from the counter-revolution its popular support. The direct class enemies cannot be won over but must be exterminated. But the peasants and oppressed colonials and those who, like the Basques, have been fighting for the right to decide their own national destinies, can.

These can be won to the side of the workers who alone can lead them to achieve the solution of their problems. The peasants can be won by a policy of confiscating the land of all large landholders and giving it to the land-hungry peasants. This would win the peasants to the side of the workers politically and take away the base of the counter-revolution in the countryside, causing desertions and raising powerful revolutionary forces in the rear of the rebels.

The Basques and Moors could have been won, can still be won, by proclaiming their right to determine their own existence. The Moroccan policy of the Peoples Front, no different from that of the monarchy and Zamora, drove the Moors into the camp of the counter-revolution. The policy of temporizing with the nationalist aspirations of the Basques enabled their bourgeoisie to swing the Basque peasants to the side of the rebels at a critical moment. Where, as in Catalonia, autonomy has been recognized the peasants are among the most valiant fighters against the counter-revolution.

Nationalization of all industry and banks and workers control of production, would result in greater, more economical and efficient production and distribution, and constitute a powerful lever to unify the working class.

The treacherous neutrality of Blum and Stalin which is a screen for the Nazis and Italy to aid the counter-revolution can be smashed by appealing directly to the French workers over the heads of their government to take the path of revolutionary action to overthrow French imperialism; by appealing directly to the Russian workers to unseat the Stalinist bureaucracy.

These things can be done. But they can be done only if the workers control social, economic and political life. Only if the workers establish the organs of the reorganization and administration of society—Soviets. Only if the workers overthrow the capitalist Peoples Front Government by force of arms and establish their own state rule, the dictatorship of the proletariat.

To overthrow the government and establish the dictatorship of

the proletariat the workers need a Marxist party.

Such a party does not exist. The Socialist and "Communist" parties are agencies of capitalism.

#### THE POUM

The Workers Party of Marxist Unification (POUM) of which Andres Nin, former Secretary of the Red International of Labor Unions, is the leader, calls consistently for the creation of Soviets and the establishment of a workers government. But it demands the creation of a transitional, coalition government made up of all working class parties including the Stalinist and Socialist organizations and, also, the Left Republicans.

In the vital question of the creation of a Marxist party the POUM declares the "Communist" and Socialist parties bankrupt traitors but sees the road to the new party through fusion with these organizations "if they correct their errors". While declaring for a new revolutionary international the POUM maintains membership in the centrist London-Amsterdam Bureau now known as the Bureau of Revolutionary Socialist Unity which include such well-known "revolutionary" organizations as the Independent Labor Party of England. The Marxists in the POUM can do their duty if they lay down the Marxist line for the creation of the party and the conquest of power, fight it out in the POUM, and together with revolutionary workers whom they can win from the other working class parties, create the party of revolutionary victory.

### National Office Moves to Chicago

In line with the decision of our national convention to concentrate the activity of the League in the industrial heart of the country, the Great Lakes area, our national headquarters have been moved to Chicago. The new address is 2159 W. Division St., Chicago, Ill.

The New York organization will continue at its present address: 28 East 14th St., N. Y. C.

The October issue of the Fourth International will be published in New York, all future issues in Chicago.

Until further notice the Fighting Worker will be published in New York.

Since July the national headquarters of the Young Workers League has been located at the W. Division St., address in Chicago as has been the Call to Action, the League's organ.

## Soviet Masses Press for Aid to Spanish Workers

### Stalinists Frame Trotsky; Murder Zinoviev

For some time evidence has been accumulating of dissatisfaction by the workers in the Soviet Union with their conditions and the policies of the government. Tourists bring back stories of strikes, news of which is suppressed by the Stalinist censorship. Stakhanovists, speed-up artists, who are being coddled as an aristocratic stratum of the working class and a prop of the bureaucracy, are being murdered.

The causes are not far to seek production of food, clothes, etc. is inadequate. Their quality is poor.

**CONCESSIONS TO PEASANTS**  
The workers bear the costs of the war preparations. Defense of the proletarian dictatorship is their duty as it is of every class conscious worker. But the workers who make the sacrifices see the lot of the peasants improved by reduction in their taxes, and other measures. They see enormous concessions made to the peasants and other strata of the population which increase their weight and voice in the economic and political life of the country. A new constitution legalizing these concessions is being imposed on them.

But the magnificent struggle of the Spanish workers raised new hope in the Russian workers. They reacted spontaneously holding factory meetings and raising funds for their class brothers in Spain.

The frightened Stalinists bureaucrats put themselves at the head of the movement to keep it from getting out of bounds and misled it into supporting the capitalist government of Azana. At the same time the bureaucrats who shipped oil to Italy during the rape of Ethiopia refuse to permit arms to be shipped to the Spanish workers.

### FRAME-UP

As in the past, when faced by discontent with its policies the bureaucracy resorted to the vilest methods of capitalism to defend itself. This time it dragged from jail two broken men, Zinoviev and Kamenev, who had once stood with Lenin at the head of the revolutionary movement of the entire earth; tortured "confessions" out of them; made them "implicate" their former comrade-in-arms, Trotsky, in a plot which never existed; and then shot them together with fourteen others, some of whom were revolutionists and others riff-raff which the bureaucracy sharked up for the occasion.

Abroad the bureaucracy made a united front with Norwegian Fascists to hound Trotsky out of Norway. There the Socialist government, unable to carry out the bureaucracy's wishes, served it in another way. It interned Trotsky, preventing him from carrying on political activity. This is the thanks that Trotsky gets for dissolving the revolutionary groups of his followers into the Second International.

### NEW COMMUNIST PARTY

This infamous business did not frighten the Russian workers. The latest reports show that money is still being collected for the Spanish workers and that food and clothes are being sent to them.

In the conflict of the Russian workers with the Stalinist bureaucracy we are on the side of the workers. What the workers need is a new revolutionary party to remove the Stalinist bureaucrats and restore the dictatorship to the path laid down for it in Lenin's day. Such a party will be, of course, the Russian section of the Fourth Communist International.

## Govt Prepares for War with England

### Speeds Coast Defense

Every day brings some new wrinkle in the war preparations. We take some of the most recent. The gold which is housed in the federal treasury in Washington is going to be transferred to a specially prepared vault, surrounded by moats and thick walls, protected by specially installed machine guns and tear gas apparatus—on army territory in the geographical center of the U. S., Kansas.

There it will be safe from destruction or capture following naval attack. From what country can there be anticipated an attack strong enough to reduce Washington? Only one. That country which sacked Washington and burned the Capitol in the war of 1812-15—England.

A canal will soon be completed making possible direct, inland water connections through Chesapeake Bay between Philadelphia, Baltimore and Hampton Roads in Virginia. The channel under the Tri-Boro Bridge in New York between Queens and Randall's Island is to be deepened to permit warships to move from New York to Boston by the inland water route.

These moves and many more are designed to facilitate the defense of the coast against air and sea attack. That means preparations for war against England, in the first place.

But that also means an increase in the ability of the capitalist government to use military and naval armament against revolutionary uprisings by the workers. The capitalists prepare long in advance for the coming civil war.

**The only way to defeat imperialist war is through civil war, by the overthrow of capitalism. If we are prepared and bold we will not have to spill oceans of our blood as the Spanish workers are doing.**

## League Campaign on Civil War in Spain

The Revolutionary Workers League and the Young Workers League are conducting a special campaign on the Civil War in Spain. Above all we are presenting a Marxian line in our press and at a series of indoor and street meetings being organized throughout the country. Six hall meetings have already been held in New York, two in Phila; one in Chicago. In Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Detroit both hall and street meetings are being arranged. Youngstown, Columbus, Ft. Wayne, Springfield, Frisco, St. Louis and Kansas City are preparing meetings.

**THE FIGHTING WORKER**, through sacrifice of the members and sympathizers, appeared weekly in the first period of the Spanish Civil War. The September issue of the **FOURTH INTERNATIONAL** is devoted entirely to the Spanish Civil War.

## Muste Rejoins God

Abraham Jacob Muste, former Secretary of the Workers Party, leading Trotskyist, who joined the Socialist Party after helping Cannon liquidate the Workers Party, returned from Europe last month, where he had seen Trotsky and attended an international Trotskyist conference, announced his resignation from the Socialist Party and rejoined the church from whose bosom he had departed years before.

Sic transit gloria mundi!

## Circulation Increases

**LAST ISSUE**  
Regular Paid Bundle Orders 1670  
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## Revolutionary Situation Developing in France

### Blum Checks Workers While Right Prepares

A revolutionary situation is maturing in France. The workers are on the offensive. They are beginning to challenge capitalist property relations boldly and deliberately. They display an intense eagerness and readiness to fight Fascism.

The bourgeoisie are buying homes in Northern Italy and shipping their securities there. Under the pressure of American capitalism gold is being lost by the Bank of France to Wall Street. The cost of living is rising. The trade balance is unfavorable and getting worse.

Internationally France's position is weakened by the spreading influence of Germany in Central Europe, which threatens to undermine the Little Entente. As the oppressed colonials sense the weakening of French imperialism unrest is growing in Algeria and French Morocco. Syria, next door to Palestine, is seething.

### POLICY OF BLUM GOVT.

The workers look to the Peoples Front Government, the Socialist, Blum government for leadership. What is the policy of the Blum government?

This government is a capitalist government dedicated to the preservation of capitalism. Minister Auriol has just made a declaration to this effect. In a desperate effort to maintain the hegemony of French capitalism on the European continent the Blum government is trying to repair its damaged Polish alliance with military and economic assistance. In a burst of Christian selflessness Thorez, leader of the "Communist" Party, declared that Poland must be supported regardless of what kind of government it had. This must have been sweet music to the ears of Rydz-Smigly whose government shoots down Polish workers and organizes pogroms against the Jews.

### TO DEVALUE THE FRANC

Blum is pushing the biggest army program in the history of France requiring appropriations which cannot be met out of the empty treasury the deficit of which is mounting. Blum is heading for the devaluation of the franc which will mean a tremendous rise in the cost of living.

Blum's government does everything in the name of law and order to restrain the workers from pushing their demands while the Fascists are recruiting, arming and drilling. While Blum uses his popularity among the workers to pacify them the army officers are busy laying plans to suppress the workers and do a better job than the Spanish militarists have been able to do.

Foreseeing grave social struggles capitalism, through the Blum government, is trying to free its hands to meet them by buying a respite in the colonies. A few concessions have been made to the Syrian Arabs giving them a show of independence.

The neutrality policy of Blum with respect to Spain is the counterpart of his law-and-order policy in France. It prevents the French workers from assisting their Spanish brothers while the counter-revolution is bolstered by Italian, German and Portuguese military aid and supplies.

The coming struggle in France will decide the fate of Europe. If the workers win the workers of the world can resume their march toward freedom which began with the revolution in October 1917. If Fascism wins it will dominate Europe.

The French workers have courage and revolutionary traditions. They are misled by the Socialists and Stalinists. They need revolutionary leadership. If they can create a Marxist party then victory is assured.

## British Army to Kill Arabs in Palestine

### Germany Fans Revolt

Between ten and fifteen thousand British troops have been sent to put down the Arabs in Palestine, to smash the general strike. England is not going to tolerate any nonsense like national freedom in the area which contains the world's greatest supply of potash, where the great pipe line from the Mosul oil fields ends and whose shores are washed by the Suez Canal. Martial law, troops and blood for Palestine!

Behing the Arabs' attacks on the Jews and British soldiers is a long story of centuries of oppression by the Turks whose job is now taken over by the British who utilize Zionism as their tool. In Palestine the Arab peasant has no right at all to the land by common or statute law or by tradition. When the Arab landowner can get a good price from the Zionist organizations he evicts the Arab felaheen who in their ignorance of the economic, political and social forces which are shaping their life, see the cause of their misfortunes in the Jew. The Zionist policy is to depend on British

governmental and military might to acquire land for untold thousands of future immigrants regardless of the economic, political and social consequences. Zionism cannot make an ally of the Arab.

### GERMANY VERSUS ENGLAND

In putting down the Arab the British are playing Germany's game and fighting it at the same time. In recent times most of the Jews entering Palestine have come from Germany. Dr. Schacht has used the predicament of the Jews created by his own Nazi gang, to turn it to German economic and political advantage. Through a complicated arrangement between the Reichsbank and the Anglo-Palestine Bank, Jews emigrating to Palestine deposit their capital in the Reichsbank and receive credit in Palestine from the Anglo-Palestine Bank. The latter recovers its money through trade with Germany. The recent 25% "deposit" tax on the capital of Jews in Germany is designed to speed up the emigration of Jews with resulting profit to Hitler's nearly empty treasury.

### GERMAN AGITATION

The Nazis "encourage" immigration into Palestine to increase the friction between the Arabs and Jews to multiply England's difficulties, and strengthen Germany's hand against England in the struggle to recover her colonies. German agitators are busy in Palestine inciting the Arabs against the Jews and the British. Italian agitators are also busy causing trouble for the British Lion in the sharp struggle for control of the Mediterranean.

The "Communist" Party of Palestine incites the Arabs against the Jews and finds itself side by side with Hitler's agents.

Only the unity of the Jewish and Arabian workers and a fighting alliance of this force with the peasants in the Arab peninsula, against British imperialism, the Arab landowners and the Zionist agents of British imperialism, for a Union of Soviet Republics of the Near East, can solve the problems of the Arabs and of the Jews in Palestine.

## Election Laws Bar Workers from Ballot

### Use Workers Vote Lists

Governor Landon is an independent oil millionaire. Behind him in his presidential campaign stands the Morgan group, Dupont, Mellon, Hearst and others.

President Roosevelt is no pauper either. Behind him stands the gigantic Chase National Bank and the Rockefeller dynasty, billions of dollars of oil, and finance capital.

The United States is supposed to be a democracy. On paper the Declaration of Independence "guarantees" liberty to all. But in actual practice—just try to put a Worker's candidate on the ballot!

### FAKE DEMOCRACY

In 29 states there are no provisions for putting a new party on the ballot at all.

In 12 States there aren't even any provisions for putting independent nominees on the ballot.

In Illinois a workers party must get 25,000 signatures, at least 200 from each of 50 counties.

In North Carolina to make an independent nomination 25% of the voters must sign petitions; in New York 12,000 signatures, at least 50 from each county.

To gain official recognition as a party, Alabama, Oregon and Kentucky require that the ticket receive 20% of the total vote; Florida 30%; New York 50,000 votes; Texas 10,000 votes; etc. Washington, South Carolina, New Mexico, Mississippi, Arkansas and Georgia have no provision at all.

The American election laws are aimed to keep workers and their representatives off the ballot and out of office. At each turn the

sham democracy in the United States exposes itself. Workers and poor farmers are disfranchised. Their candidates are barred from the ballot. And the election apparatus is only a small part of the exploiters oppressive measures!

### TO EXPOSE BOSS DEMOCRACY

All workers over seventeen, whether or not they can vote according to the bosses' election laws, if they are citizens or not, can vote for the overthrow of capitalism. All that is required is to sign the Workers Vote lists being circulated by the Revolutionary Workers League. We keep the lists and publish the totals.

This will be the total vote cast for the overthrow of capitalism. Those workers who are allowed by capitalism to vote can go to the polls on election day and write in the names of the Workers Vote candidates: Samuel Garrett and Louis Roberts for President and Vice-President. This vote will be smaller than the vote on the Workers Vote lists. In this way the Workers Vote helps crystallize a force for the overthrow of capitalism and exposes the fake democracy of the bosses.

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