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LAUNCH FIGHT TO SAVE U.A.W.

People's Front Deserts Spanish Anti-Fascist Struggle

Negrin, Azana Dicker Capitulation Terms

Seek to Save Skins of Government Leaders While Abandoning The Anti-Fascist Cause

BASE TREACHERY AT END

American, English, and French press services continued over the week end to make specific references to Loyalist government negotiations for surrender to Franco. Formal denials by People's Front leaders were not taken seriously. Even the consistently pro-People's Front correspondent H. L. Matthews has finally, in a Perpignan dispatch of February 10, reported that "the Negrin government seems to be wavering in its decision to continue the fight."

Can Negrin and Mija get the half-million soldiers in central Spain to surrender? It is one thing to induce soldiers to make retreat after retreat without a fight, as happened in Catalonia on the basis of declarations by the government that it would make a stand farther north. It would be an entirely different task for Mija and Negrin to call upon the soldiers to lay down their arms in their present positions in central Spain. For this reason, it is likely that the pattern laid down in Catalonia, of pretending to continue the struggle but actually abandoning the basic positions, may now be attempted by Mija and Negrin in central Spain.

ROOSEVELT AGAIN COVERS UP CUT IN RELIEF FUNDS

Gives Pretty Speech To Hush Protest Movement

In a special message on relief, sent to Congress last Tuesday, President Roosevelt tried to clear his skirts of responsibility for the drive against the unemployed which he launched in November and which is now being carried forward by a division of labor between him and Congress.

Basic Aim Accepted
The special message makes startling reading. Roosevelt's protest is directed only against the rate and manner of the Congressional plans to reduce relief, while it accepts fully the basic Wall Street aim of cutting the unemployed to the bone. In effect, Roosevelt is merely arguing that his own way of conducting the drive against the unemployed is more effective than that of Congress, and will cause less trouble.

"I call your attention," the message reads, "to the fact that the rolls have already been reduced by 350,000 since the last week of last October." But this cut was, of course, engineered by Roosevelt alone, without any participation on the part of Congress; when, in fact, Congress was not even in session.

Were these 350,000 "re-absorbed into private industry"? The message gives the answer: "As no new assignments have been made during this period, there has been a large accumulation of able-bodied people certified to us as in need of relief—people, however, who have not been able to secure places on the work program." That is to say, the 350,000 were thrown on the street.

Does Roosevelt then propose that the WPA rolls be increased to a point where they could take care of all those in need? Not in the least. He says only that "the rolls . . . ought not to be reduced during February and March." After that, reductions can start again, with the full consent of the President.

Fears Sharp Opposition

But Roosevelt is afraid that the rate of reduction planned by Congress will excite too sharp an opposition. A more gradual rate, he figures, would paralyze resistance from the unemployed. He uses Colonel Harrington's estimates to show that the \$725,000,000 appropriated by Congress will necessitate either an immediate cut of 1,000,000 from the rolls on April

(Continued on Page 8)

Minorca Surrendered
The heavily fortified stronghold of Minorca, the island base held by the Loyalists since the war began, was surrendered intact to the fascists on Tuesday, government officials trading it in return for safe passage on the British cruiser Devonshire. British officials arranged the parleys leading to the surrender.

Reports persist, despite denials, that General Mija, commanding central Spain, has secured a French visa on his passport and asked the French government to assure his safe departure.

President Negrin's capitulation to Franco, indignantly denied by the Stalinists who were his close associates in the People's Front government, was finally admitted by the Stalinist Daily Worker on Feb. 8. The day before, it had displayed a skyline banner, "In complete agreement with Negrin, says Azana," and had denounced as "capitalist press lies" the fact that Azana had fled to Paris and called for surrender.

Negrin's Terms
Premier Negrin, his first offer to cease resistance on three conditions having been rejected by Franco, is reported by the Associated Press as ready to capitulate on the sole condition that his associates in central Spain do not face Franco's firing squads.

Negrin's original terms, as the *Socialist Appeal* pointed out in its last issue, were merely a face-saving device, the "demands" for the country's independence from foreign control and for a plebiscite having already received lip-service from Franco. The Stalinist

(Continued on Page 4)



LEFT WING WINS IN MINE WORKERS UNION ELECTIONS

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—A victory for the progressive elements in the election for officers of the Progressive Mine Workers of America was recorded here in the tabulation of votes made public by the official organ of the union. The P.M.W., which broke away from the United Mine Workers union in a fight against the Lewis bureaucracy a few years ago, and recently received a charter for the A.F.L., has the main body of its membership in Illinois.

The election results showed that Dave Reed defeated the retiring secretary-treasurer, Claude E. Pearcey, for the presidency of the state and national organization. Another prominent progressive was elected to the Executive Board.

The defeat of Pearcey is seen as doubly significant. The Pearcey-Ozanne faction had succeeded in converting the P.M.W. from a rank-and-file militant organization into one committed to the most reactionary and bureaucratic policies—at least so far as the leadership was concerned. At the same time, it bitterly opposed the aspirations of the best elements in the union to achieve a restoration or fighting unity with the United Mine Workers union. Reed and Battuello represent the growing forces clamoring for that unity.

This demonstration of success was organized at a meeting yesterday morning at Schiller Hall, called by Local 271. More than 600

men were present out of a possible total of 900 drivers who work during busy season. The meeting rang with cheers as teamsters officials, J. M. ("Red") O'Laughlin, Bert Brennan, Harry Apers and General Organizer John F. English addressed them. Frank S. Ford, Sr., President of Local 271, was in the chair.

Martel Sure To Go
When this battle ends, it is the general opinion here, Frank "X-X" Martel, President of the Detroit Federation of Labor, will be among the casualties. Martel's strictly prejudiced arbitration decision against the teamsters brought around his ears the wrath of Dan Tobin, International Union president. Tobin took the matter before the Executive Council of the A.F.L., now meeting in Miami, and backed by 400,000 organized drivers and the decisions of A.F.L. conventions awarding brewery drivers to the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, secured a repudiation of Martel's decision from the Executive Council.

Bosses Settle Quickly
Committees of Local 271 went into the management this morning and declared that they were all members of Local 271 and would not drive trucks unless all 271 men were reinstated and scabs imported by the phoney Local 38 of the brewery union put off the trucks. In all cases, with the exception of Tivoli's, the management capitulated to this demand. In many instances, trucks were tied up in the barns for an hour or two until the committee forced the bosses into line. Tivoli's will probably get into step before 24 hours have passed.

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Will Picket City Hall
Flint auto workers are planning a campaign to recall the commissioners who voted for the picket bill, and are going to post a picket line at the Flint city hall.

This move on the part of the Flint City Commission indicates the intention of General Motors to take advantage of the U.A.W. faction fight to smash the union by means of a vigorous anti-union campaign. It serves to warn once again that a union split serves the interest of the bosses.

Many auto workers have already come to realize this fact, and have launched a campaign to preserve the unity of the U.A.W.

Calling for all locals to attend the Cleveland C.I.O. convention, and fight the irresponsible Martin and Executive Board factions who plunged the union into the present split situation.

Won't Rely on "Lobbying"

Rank-and-file sentiment in Flint

is demanding immediate militant action to force rescinding of the Flint anti-picketing law, and to teach the manufacturers that the auto workers are an organized power which cannot be beaten into submission.

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POLICY OF THE S.W.P. IN THE U.A.W. SITUATION

STATEMENT OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE

However, this perspective, though in our opinion decisive in the longer run, did not in itself answer the specific questions raised by the open split and the calling of two separate conventions; in particular it did not answer a crucial question now posed before the auto workers: which convention to go to?

The lead editorial published in the January 28 issue of *THE SOCIALIST APPEAL*, oriented toward attendance at the Detroit convention, was drawn up immediately following the calling of the two conventions. At the time of its formulation it represented an opinion opposed by many party members. Subsequent to its formulation and just prior to its public appearance there took place the recognition by the C.I.O. leadership of the Cleveland Convention and Martin's publication of his letter of withdrawal from the C.I.O. Executive. In the opinion of many members of the N.C. and of a decisive majority of

the party members actively engaged in the party's work in auto, these events clinched the argument against an orientation on the Detroit Convention and demanded an orientation on Cleveland as the only effective way in which to carry out the general perspective in consonance with the aim of preserving the unity of the progressive industrial union movement.

Thorough discussion and consultation, though it did not remove differences of opinion, led to the practical conclusion that the Detroit orientation contained in the party's earlier policy must be abandoned in favor of a Cleveland orientation as stated and motivated in the current issue of *The Appeal*.

Quite independently of any differences, we believe that the most hopeful sign for the long term future of the U.A.W. is to be read in the news reports of the concrete beginnings of the

formation of a new and independent progressive grouping. If this continues and gains real scope, it will solve the problems, however difficult and acute, of the preservation and extension of the union in auto.

We are aware that these sudden shifts that our party has made in the policy it has presented have created a certain temporary confusion. But decision has now been reached and will be vigorously carried out.

The difficulties created by the delay in arriving at a definitive decision and the inconsistency occurring during the past three weeks, serious as they have been, are, however, outweighed in our estimate by the benefits obtained through adhering to a regime in our party under which decisions are reached through democratic collective effort and not by bureaucratic decree.

**POLITICAL COMMITTEE,
Socialist Workers Party**

(Continued on page 2)

Three Automobile Locals Reject Martin, Stalinists, Favor C.I.O.

Call For Immediate Action To Save Union From Suicidal Battle of Martin And Stalin Factions

HIT DISRUPTIVE LEADERS

DETROIT, Feb. 8—Interest in the auto situation was focussed today in all local newspapers on the statement issued by John Anderson, vice-president of Fleetwood Local 15, on behalf of his own and two other locals, announcing the formation of a third grouping distinguished from the Martin and Stalinist factions by its clear-cut militant program.

Martin could not be reached for comment on this important development. R. J. Thomas, asked to comment particularly on the demand for an impartial arrangements committee which would seat all bona fide delegates, "including Martin and his supporters" at the March 27 Cleveland convention, refused to say anything except that "any delegates elected in a constitutional manner will be seated."

DETROIT, Feb. 6—The most promising sign for the future of the auto workers union appeared this week when a third group, representing the interests of the rank and file and fighting for a militant program against the unprincipled cliques, publicly announced its position.

The group is solidly for the C.I.O. and its delegates will attend the Cleveland convention on March 27th. But it is dead-set against the Frankensteen-Addes combination directed by the Communist party wreckers and controlled by the Lewis-Hillman bureaucracy.

Locals Back Program
Three locals have already voted for the program set forth by this group, and the volume of support is beginning to swell as the rank and file is informed of its program and aims. The locals are Willard Storage Battery (Local 88), Weatherhead (Local 463) of Cleveland and Local 15, (Fleetwood Fisher Body) in Detroit. Chevrolet Transmission of Saginaw, Mich. (Local 467) voted to attend the C.I.O. convention but refused to commit itself to either faction while sentiment ran high for the program of the independent group.

Representatives of the United Automobile Workers Union led the protest demonstration, in which the workers gave most militant evidence in every way of their determination to fight the new law.

Will Picket City Hall
Flint auto workers are planning a campaign to recall the commissioners who voted for the picket bill, and are going to post a picket line at the Flint city hall.

This move on the part of the Flint City Commission indicates the intention of General Motors to take advantage of the U.A.W. faction fight to smash the union by means of a vigorous anti-union campaign. It serves to warn once again that a union split serves the interest of the bosses.

Many auto workers have already come to realize this fact, and have launched a campaign to preserve the unity of the U.A.W. calling for all locals to attend the Cleveland C.I.O. convention, and fight the irresponsible Martin and Executive Board factions who plunged the union into the present split situation.

Won't Rely on "Lobbying"

Rank-and-file sentiment in Flint

is demanding immediate militant action to force rescinding of the Flint anti-picketing law, and to teach the manufacturers that the auto workers are an organized power which cannot be beaten into submission.

A Call To Action
The program of this group, (printed elsewhere in this issue), is a call to action to all honest and progressive auto workers against the "Stalinist Executive Board Majority . . . and the Martin gang."

It examines the accusations and charges made by the self-seeking officials against each other which have all but disgraced the U.A.W. in the state of Michigan. It finds that the record of failure, incompetence and negligence in General Motors, in organizing the union.

The practical union-building program of the rank and file group includes a fight for the 30-hour week with no reduction in pay; an aggressive drive to organize the Ford Motor Co. and the mass production workers we must remain part of that movement."

"We stand for one union in the industry. We stand for one convention, but inside the C.I.O. We therefore call upon all locals to attend the Cleveland convention and to insist upon the formation of an impartial arrangements committee which will seat all bona-fide delegates including Martin and his supporters on the Executive Board."

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Yet the strongest sentiment current is antagonism and hatred on the part of large sections of the rank and file for all 24 Executive Board officers who brought their union to the brink of disaster.

The large Chrysler local failed to take a vote after a lengthy meeting in which both sides presented their case. William Marshall, president of that local, openly declared that he was sitting on the fence. In the Dodge local, meetings continued from week to week and a definite position for the C.I.O.

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In the Trade Unions

V. R. Dunne Asks Unity Convention For Auto Workers

Progressives Cannot Support Dual Union Move

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)

MINNEAPOLIS — "Progressives in the Auto Workers Union must gather their forces and force the Martin and Thomas groups to meet jointly in a unity convention," declared Vincent R. Dunne, noted labor figure and organizer for the militant Drivers Union, Local 544 of Minneapolis.

The split in auto, the crisis in textiles, and other trade union matters deserve and obtain serious study from progressive unionists.

However, the life and death question of the attitude of trade unions towards war seems much neglected, especially in comparison to the history of the labor movement from 1914-1918.

In the days of Woodrow Wilson, the anti-war sentiment was so strong that the Democratic president was re-elected on a "Keep America Out of War!" program. Hundreds of thousands of militant workers expressed their opposition to war at union meetings, mass meetings, and other forms of protest.

Eugene Debs grew in stature to a historical figure in the annals of the working class because of his fight against imperialist war.

Militant workers understood very well the implications of a "War to Save Democracy" in 1917.

War-Mongering In the Unions

Today, the foreign exchange and stock market prices jump around at every rumor of war! Confidential Wall Street bulletins speak of 1939 as the "war year!"

Roosevelt blunders and admits his plan to make "France America's frontier!" Another war to make the world safe for "democracy" with American workers dying in the same trenches in France is in the offing.

How different labor today is reacting to this crisis! Recently, we made a survey of the number of unions that have passed anti-war resolutions. They seem like a mere drop of water compared to the ocean tides of protest that swept the country in 1917.

War-mongering is more common in unions today than anywhere in the country because of the power of the Stalinists who are determined to chain the working class to another imperialist war.

Yet, M Day will bring a virtual fascism of the union movement. And death on the bloody battlefields of imperialist war will be the lot of millions of union militants, not only here but in every country.

War Means End Of Unions

"Save the Unions!" is the slogan of every serious unionist in fighting the Stalinist rule-or-ruin policy on concrete issues today. Too few unionists understand, however, that the union-wrecking tactics of the Stalinists are part and parcel of their political line. And that unions can be saved only by combining the fight against the bosses with the struggle against the Stalinists and their war-mongering.

"Save the Unions!" from the trap that the U.S. General Staff has planned in war-time. No strikes, no shop committees, no direct negotiations, no union meetings if it can be helped. There is only one way to fight this danger. A clear and unambiguous struggle against imperialist war is the method.

Both the C.I.O. and A.F.L. top leadership are for support of Roosevelt's war plans. Conservative labor leaders in every union also will support the war! And when the federal government suppresses all unionism in war-time, the same people will make feeble criticism too late.

Time to Get Tough

The job of every progressive unionist has become tougher. The union wreckers from within the labor movement, the class enemies from without, are determined to crush the workers in the interests of Wall Street and its profit.

Now is the time to take stock of the situation, tighten up the belt another notch, and "get tough." The union struggles of today are preliminary training bouts to the real battle ahead. It is time to get in shape now for the knock down, drag-out fight with capitalism and its war dangers.

Workers Educational Forum

Presents

KARL SCHOLZ

Noted economist

on "Conflicting Forces in Europe Today"

Thursday, Feb. 23rd, 8:30 P.M.

810 Locust Street

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.

AT YOUR SERVICE!

THE APPEAL

POSTER SHOP

ONE CONVENTION --- ONE UNION ONE FIGHT AGAINST THE BOSSSES!

An Independent Program of Action for the United Automobile Workers Union of America in the Crisis Created by Martin's Pull-Away from the C.I.O. and the Stalinist Wrecking Crew

The U.A.W. faces the worst crisis of its history. Will it destroy itself and bring back the open shop? Or will it survive the crisis and go forward as a fighting organization to improve and protect the interests of the automobile workers?

Dunne reported this to a large Socialist Workers Forum last Sunday at Socialist Workers Party headquarters, 919 Marquette. He had recently arrived from Detroit where he had conferred with leading figures in the auto situation.

"We will support the March 27 Cleveland convention, and whether or not to send delegates to Martin's convention in Detroit March 4, is purely a tactical consideration," said Dunne. "No progressive can support Martin in his move for a dual union and his plan to carry off a segment of the auto union into either the A.F.L. or into an independent set-up like Dubinsky's International Ladies Garment Workers Union. The I.L.G.W.U. succeeded from the C.I.O. for the same reason Martin is now threatening to—ability to deal with the Stalinist union busters on principled basis."

Dunne advanced a minimum four-point program around which the struggle for unity must be fought: the organization of Ford, the renewal of the contracts with the auto bosses, the organization of the parts plants and the organization of the unemployed in the auto centers.

It is our considered judgement that BOTH ACCUSATIONS ARE TRUE! Let us look at the record of the Martin outfit and the Communist Party-dominated Executive Board majority.

General Motors

Dozens of key union men and stewards have been fired by the management out of the G.M. plants because the International Executive Board (the entire 24) submitted to G.M. a letter giving the company permission to "discipline" union men. Result: Chaos in G.M. locals and a worse contract now in existence than over a year ago and present negotiations with the company completely at a standstill.

Who is responsible? Obviously both groups on the board!

Organize the Unorganized?

What progress has been made in the organization drive supposed to have been launched among the unorganized workers of the aircraft and automotive parts industries? Zero! No progress! And that goes for the Martin Regional Directors as well as for the Mortimer-Frankenstein Regional Directors. Both gangs are too busy playing shoestring politics to bother about organizing the unorganized.

Ford Drive

For over six months Frankenstein was director of the Ford Organization Campaign. During this period he spent thousands of dollars of our money. How many Ford workers were he organized?

For 14 years speed-up on the Beef Kill has been an outstanding grievance of the Fargo workers. Today it is ended.

In its customary high-handed way, the Armour management sent home all workers of the Beef Kill when the Grievance Committee protested against the speed-up.

Rallying to the support of the Beef Kill other departments put in their protests. One after another, every department in the plant was shut down. The Armour workers were locked out. Three days were enough to show Armor that it was playing with fire. Telegrams poured into Fargo from Armour plants all over the country insisting that the plant reopen and the grievance be settled at once.

The Fargo unionists themselves stood firm. The avalanche of wires that struck the management made it clear that P.W.O.C. locals stick together. There was nothing for the company to do but GIVE IN. It did!

But the Stalinist controlled Executive Board majority, which ac-

cuses Martin of conspiring to build a "company union" at Ford's, themselves sanctioned the Martin negotiations and instructed him several days previous to making their charges to continue the negotiations. This same Stalinist crew hails with joy THE SAME KIND OF A BACK-STAIRS DEAL WHICH JOHN L. LEWIS ENGINEERS WITH MYRON C. TAYLOR OF U.S. STEEL.

The Ford campaign has become a political football of the two unprincipled factions, while the interests of the Ford workers have been completely forgotten.

Union Democracy?

Both gangs are guilty of the worst autocracy towards the rank and file. Each ruthlessly squelches all opposition members. Both Martin and Mortimer voted to kick out of the union two members of the Lansing Fisher local.

These men were expelled without trial. Martin, when in power, automatically appointed administrators over the Flint local and many other locals. The Stalinist controlled Executive Board majority automatically took charge of elections at the Packard local and other locals when they were in power. Both gangs are guilty of destroying democracy in the U.A.W.

Which Convention?

We must openly condemn the flat step Martin proposes to take to split the automobile workers from the C.I.O. We are against the autocratic rule imposed on the U.A.W. by Lewis, Hillman and Murray. But the C.I.O. is the industrial union movement of America, and as mass production workers we must remain part of that movement. We must remain part of the C.I.O.

We stand for ONE UNION IN THE INDUSTRY. We stand for ONE CONVENTION, but inside the C.I.O. We therefore call upon all locals to attend the Cleveland convention and to insist upon the formation of an impartial arrangements committee which will

join with US TO DEFEAT UNION WRECKERS WITH A UNION BUILDING PROGRAM.

If your local is in agreement with this program of action, notify us at once. Send all communications, letters, etc., to: 12808 Shaw Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.

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OFF THE RECORD

By Dwight Macdonald

Twenty years ago, Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht were murdered by reactionary army officers acting in collusion with the Social Democratic government of Berlin. As we draw steadily nearer to another world war, as reformism once more prepares a blood bath for the masses, the tragedy of Luxemburg takes on contemporary overtones. I can think of no better beginning for this column of comment on the events of 1939 than to reprint a "newsreel" I compiled last year on the death of Luxemburg in 1919:

From the New York Times, Jan. 18, 1919

Berlin, Jan. 16 (Associated Press)—Dr. Karl Liebknecht was killed by soldiers yesterday while he was trying to escape from custody.

Rosa Luxemburg was beaten into insensibility by a mob and afterward was shot to death. . . . Virtually the entire Berlin press regards the fate of Dr. Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg as having "something of divine justice in it," as the *Tageszeitung* phrases it. . . . The press in general deplores the lynching of Rosa Luxemburg, but declares that she fell a victim of the basest passions which she herself had awakened. . . .

The whole city is now swarming with soldiers, wearing steel helmets, carrying loaded rifles, and with hand grenades hanging on their belts. . . . Karl Kautsky, former Under Secretary in the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Ebert Government . . . was arrested yesterday morning. He was liberated later.

From the New York Times, Jan. 19, 1919

Berlin, Jan. 16 (via Copenhagen)—Dr. Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg were arrested last night and while being transported to the Moabit Prison were thrashed by infuriated people and shot like mad dogs, the latter by an unknown man whose pistol may have saved her from a worse fate. . . . Their end, however cruel, will certainly do much for the restoration of peace and order. . . . Military Governor Noske is conducting a sharp investigation for the Social-Democratic government, but it seems that the soldiers' conduct was faultless in both cases.

From the N. Y. World, Jan. 18, 1919

Berlin, Jan. 17—I went to Gustav Noske, military governor of Berlin, and asked him how it was possible, with 40,000 troops in the city, that a crowd could get a prisoner away from the soldiers and kill her. Herr Noske replied: "Only a few soldiers were with each automobile, as such an attack was unexpected; the crowd, roused to intense anger by weeks of agitation by both the victims, were too much for the soldiers to handle." "Unfortunately," I said, "the incident is going to make a bad impression abroad. . . ." "It is regrettable," Herr Noske replied, "but they are dead and we can now only make an inquiry." . . . "Do you expect it will lead to agitation again here?" "If it does," Gov. Noske replied, "we must put it down."

From the New York Times, Jan. 25, 1919

Amsterdam, Jan. 24.—The body of Rosa Luxemburg, the Spartacist leader who was killed by a mob recently, was found yesterday in the Landwehr Canal, according to a report from Berlin. The body was terribly mutilated. The news is being kept secret for fear of anarchistic reprisals.

From the London Times, May 22, 1919

Berlin, May 21—The leading facts leaked out gradually, and there was little inclination among those in power to make a fuss over the end of a pair of rebels. But these rebels were the idols of the people, and their passionate sincerity had commended them to many prominent radicals whose support the Government required. And so after months of waiting, the Government decided that some sort of trial was necessary.

Herr Scheidemann remembered that the accused were soldiers and that the Peace had not been signed. The form of trial he selected was a court-martial, the court being appointed by the Garde-Schutzen Division to which the accused men belonged. . . . The adherents of the victims refused to take any part in the proceedings.

The accused were not brought to the dock in the usual way, but were introduced from the Judge's rooms. They arrived laughing and radiant, their breasts decorated with orders. Throughout the trial, they conducted themselves nonchalantly, one of them reading a newspaper when he felt bored, another eating sandwiches, a third playfully trying to get hold of some hand-bombs which one of his chums in uniform happened to have in his pocket. . . .

On the evening of the murders, soon after sunset, Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg were taken to the Eden Hotel, where they spent some hours in charge of their guardians. There was . . . a good deal of conversation, some of it animated, in which the two victims discussed and defended their views. Orders were received that they were to be transferred to the Moabit Prison, and Liebknecht was taken to the back

door of the hotel, where a military car was waiting. As they were leaving, one of the company cried out: "See that these swine do not reach the prison alive!"

As soon as Liebknecht got into the car, Private Runge aimed two blows at him with the butt of his rifle. One blow missed, the other cut his head open. Ober-Lieutenant von Pfugk-Hartung, the officer in charge, then got into the car. (He told the Court that he had taken quite a fancy to Liebknecht in the hotel, thought that for a Socialist he had interesting views, and a good way of putting them.) He drew his revolver and told him that he would shoot him if he tried to escape. . . . Presently, in a dark corner of the Thiergarten, the car stopped. Liebknecht was shot and killed, and evidence was accepted as satisfactory that he must have been running away. Pfugk-Hartung was acquitted, with great applause. . . .

About an hour later, Rosa Luxemburg was taken to the front door of the hotel. . . . There, for some reason that was not inquired into, Private Runge was also waiting for her. As soon as she got into the car, he swung his rifle and clubbed her on the head. It was doubtful if his blows had actually proved fatal, and it was suggested that he was mentally defective. And it was given two years' imprisonment.

Lieutenant Vogel, the officer in charge of this party, then got into the car, accompanied by two other officers. "Fraulein Luxemburg," he testified, "received two violent blows on the head from the butts of rifles of helmeted soldiers. She collapsed, and when we came to a bridge the thought came to us all to throw her body into the river." According to the other officers, however, she was shot through the head by Lieutenant Vogel. He testified that he threw the body into the river "to save the honor of the Garde-Schutzen Division." . . . He was given a sentence of two years and four months imprisonment. Already, however, his escape had been contrived. A man in officer's uniform drove up in a motor car to the prison, presented a forged warrant and released the prisoner.

The Freiheit, the organ of the Independent Socialists, is alone in denouncing the proceedings. The other newspapers think that in a case of this kind, "where political feelings are involved," perhaps the whole story has not been sifted, but they are satisfied that substantial justice has been done.

From a statement, signed "Hussar Otto Runge," printed in Freiheit, Jan. 9, 1921

On January 15, 1919, between seven and nine o'clock in the evening, I was stationed as sentry before the chief entrance of the Eden Hotel. Cavalryman Drager was with me. About nine o'clock there was a great to-do and excitement: it was rumored that Liebknecht and Luxemburg had been brought in. Several orders were at once given me by officers and sergeants, and the remark was dropped that these creatures must not be allowed to leave the hotel alive.

Concerning Liebknecht, I received strict orders from officers to knock the fellow down with the butt of my rifle. . . . As for Frau Luxemburg, officers came to me and said: "I order you to see that Luxemburg does not leave the hotel alive. Mind you swallow that!" Lieutenant von Pfugk-Hartung made a note of my name and said to me: "First Lieutenant Vogel will send her straight to you; all you'll have to do is to strike hard." When Frau Luxemburg was being dragged into the motor, somebody jumped up behind just as it was driving off and sent a bullet into her head. I could see that very clearly, as I was only a short distance away. He then jumped down and re-entered the Eden Hotel from the Nurnberger Strasse. . . . Meanwhile the others had returned and were boasting: "We've done for Liebknecht nicely. A trick was played on him. We got him to try to escape." . . . Of Luxemburg it was said: "The old sow is already afoul."

Editorial from the New York Times, Jan. 18, 1919

LYNCH LAW IN BERLIN

Regrettably as is the manner of death, the work of private violence, not the law, that came to Dr. Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg, it was to be expected, and does a summary, if irregular, justice to the fomenters of robbery, murder and anarchy. . . . These two leaders, the man violent but weak, the woman a tempestuous of the familiar revolutionary type, have perished miserably by the sword they drew. The defeat of the imitation Bolsheviks, the victory everywhere where elections have been held of the parties of order—Conservatives, Centrists, Democrats, Majority Social Democrats—are of the bestomen for a representative moderate National Assembly, for a responsible and stable government. The Allies and the United States have hardly less interest than Germany itself in such an outcome.

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Rank and File Fur Unionists Condemn Jr. Council Regime

Progressive Group Hits Slanderous Charges

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)

NEW YORK—In a sharply worded letter addressed to the Furrier's Joint Council, the United Progressive Furriers, a rank and file group in the union, charged the Council with being responsible for a dictatorial regime in the union.

The letter was sent as an answer to the accusation of strike-breaking made by the Council against the Progressives. The Progressives assert that they were found guilty without being given an adequate opportunity to answer the base calumny in a democratic fashion.

Trial Threat Falls

Having attempted at a long drawn out trial, lasting close to three months, to obtain confessions from the Progressives, the administration gave it up as a bad job. Instead, it wrote the Progressive group a long letter in which the latter were denounced in vicious language and then warned not to misbehave on pain of having action against them.

The letter sent by the United Progressive Furriers to the Joint Council reads, in part, as follows: "We regret very much that you have rejected our proposal for an impartial committee of the Labor Movement to examine the charges and counter-charges and to let the committee pass judgement. Instead, you have chosen to appear as the accuser and the judge. . . .

Charges Against Council

"We accused the administration of squandering the Union treasury. We accused the administration of carrying through a dishonest election, of making a secret supplementary agreement with the bosses. . . .

"During the strike you placed the most inexperienced people in the leadership of the strike halls just because they were good followers of your political party lines. You . . . made the workers lose faith in the ability of your leadership to win better conditions and if anyone was guilty of strikebreaking activity it was you, the leaders of the last general strike. But in order to cover up your deeds, in order to confuse the issue you are now trying your utmost to build up a case against us. But, although you rehearsed your acts you don't dare put on a show. You handed down your decision to us in the dark. . . .

Squander Money

"You collected three days' wages from over 12,000 fur workers, a sum that is far over \$300,000; you even put a special committee in charge of that money. Yet, before the strike was declared, two-thirds of the money was gone and when the strike was on you starved the furriers out, and borrowed an additional \$100,000, adding another burden on the shoulders of the fur workers. While you kept on denouncing everyone as an enemy of the union who dared ask a few cents more benefit, you paid out to your hand-picked committee men from nine to fifteen dollars a week. To cover up these squanderings you are trying to divert the attention of the fur workers from you to the opposition. . . .

Cannot Deceive Members

"Your letter to us expresses concern that our group may be degenerating into an unprincipled clique that may become a tool of the bosses. You need shed no tears about that, as the history of our fight against you shows distinctly that it is precisely because of your class collaborationist policies, your bureaucratic methods and your disregard for the needs of the workers that we are fighting against you. . . .

"We were not tried and we were not found guilty. It was you who exposed yourselves as the party guilty of disruption and factionalism. We therefore disregard the circus which you call a trial. You may be able to pull the wool over the eyes of your close followers, but you can never do that to the membership at large. . . . You are a bureaucratic machine which functions with the blessing of the Communist Party.

Cited as an example of C.I.O.-A.F.L. cooperation is the joint battle these two groups are waging against the Mid-Continent Petroleum Company in Tulsa, where the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and the C.I.O. oil workers unions are giving this labor-hating outfit the battle of its life.

In Minneapolis, however, the commissioners who direct the C.I.O. locally are forcing the I.O.W.U. into a jurisdictional battle with Local 977. These misleaders have demonstrated beyond a doubt that they are the organizers only of defeats for the workers. In defiance of their blind followers into one pitch after another. This move to place the lessees into the C.I.O. union, will only furnish the bosses with another means to fight the A.F.L. unions of this city.

Stirs Faction Fight

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Judge Issues Injunction Against Chi. News Guild

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)

CHICAGO, Feb. 8.—The strike of all white collar departments of the Chicago Herald and Examiner is now in its tenth week. In an effort to break the strike the Hearst management is supplementing its appeal to the courts by vicious gangsterism.

Superior Court Judge Niemeyer has issued temporary injunction forbidding the Chicago Newspaper Guild, which is conducting the strike, from interfering with relations between advertisers and the Hearst papers, from picketing advertisers, and from interfering with the distribution of the papers. The injunction limits the number of pickets at the Hearst plant to two.

Continuing the gangsterism against the union which has marked the strike from the beginning with sluggings of union men, a union truck was hijacked from its garage and dumped in the river.

In addition, the Hearstlings broke the race issue "wide open" when they induced the Medina Club to cancel its lease to the Guild for a strike benefit dance on the grounds there would be Negroes present.

The strike was called to secure the reinstatement of two Elizabeth workers, Frank Bailey and Hurley Middleton, leading unionists, discharged after being framed and assaulted by company foremen and stooges at a company-sponsored Christmas Eve party.

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11. Workers Defense Guards against Vigilante and Fascist attacks.

The Auto Union Crisis

The present crisis in the Automobile Workers Union demonstrates once again that Stalinism is a rotten cancer that eats away at the vitals of the labor movement. Either all honest union men will join ranks and destroy Stalinism or Stalinism will destroy the labor movement. There is no third road.

This is lesson No. 1 for all union progressives. Once they have grasped this, they will know how to organize the broadest anti-Stalinist group of all genuine militants to fight for the honesty and integrity of the union movement.

For two years, Martin and his supporters have attempted to fight the Stalinists, not as union militants, but as reactionary union politicians. If the Stalinists were dictatorial, Martin fought them by his own dictatorship. If the Stalinists signed rotten union agreements with the employers, Martin fought them by signing equally rotten union agreements.

With what results? Martin made the auto workers easy game for the demagogic and slander campaigns of the Communist party and finally succeeded in pushing the most progressive sections of the union into the arms of the Stalinist-controlled Executive Board.

Last year Martin had every opportunity of rallying the majority of the membership behind him and beating the Stalinists hands down. But by his dictatorial methods, his rotten relations with the corporations, his campaigns against "unauthorized" strikes, his incompetent and discredited reactionary co-workers, he turned the rank and file against him and missed his opportunity.

The struggle of the last year demonstrates one thing if it demonstrates anything at all: You can fight Stalinism successfully only in one way—By daily preaching and practicing a militant and democratic brand of unionism. Neither Martin, nor the pitiful Lovestoneite politicians have ever understood this. Their futile reactionary campaign has only succeeded in building and expanding the Stalinist strength for the last year.

Lacking the support of the decisive sections of the membership, Martin was inexorably forced into his suicidal step of breaking with the C.I.O. and calling his own anti-C.I.O. convention in Detroit. Martin is now definitely headed towards an alliance with the reactionary leaders of the A.F. of L. Executive Council and an attempted deal with the Michigan automobile manufacturers. *The automobile workers cannot and will not follow Martin on this road.*

In spite of the top bureaucracy of Lewis, Hillman and Murray, the C.I.O. still represents the industrial union movement of America and therefore the most progressive section of American labor. *The automobile workers must remain part of the C.I.O.*

It is therefore the obvious duty of all progressives of the U.A.W. to attend the Cleveland Convention and to reorganize the ranks of the progressive for a new fight against the Stalinist cancer—not by lining up with discredited reactionaries, nor by preaching "respectability," but by an educational campaign for a responsible and aggressive union-building program which will command the support of the rank and file and rebuild the auto workers' union.

Let Us Rejoice!

While Congress and the President quibble over the exact depth to which relief appropriations can be lowered without creating "internal disturbances"—the needs of the unemployed naturally are of no concern to these gentlemen—the unemployed can rejoice and find comfort in the fact that profits continue with a merry tinkling ring to lift the dollar sign in the cash registers of the wealthy.

The United Fruit Company, only one of the many pirate enterprises operating in the Caribbean Sea, reports to its shareholders that the take for last year was not less than ten and a quarter million dollars, and that each share of common stock in the family vault of its owner gathered not only dust but the

not insignificant sum of \$3.54 the year's idleness. This, of course, does not take into consideration the take on treasury stock nor such other transactions in the company books as do not rise to the level of "fit for publication."

Both the abysmally paid Latin-American workers who sweat out these good round profits under the rifles of company-supported dictators and their brothers in the United States whose relief allowances are now being slashed far below the starvation level, will be overjoyed at the good news of United Fruit's superprofits. Once again they will wonder comfortably with the lucky shareholders as this \$10,272,746 take is distributed: How can you want a revolution in a country as rich as the United States?

Twelve Dictators

The opening barrage of high explosives in the coming war will shatter first of all England's last remaining pretense to democracy.

This is not just a revolutionary apothegm on the nature of capitalist democracy from one of the many articles in the Fourth International press warning the workers that war is an inevitable part of capitalist democracy, but a cold, deliberate pronouncement from one of the official government spokesmen of one of the world's greatest democracies.

Sir John Anderson, Minister for Civilian Defense, told the House of Commons in session on February 2nd that "democratic" England will convert itself into an open dictatorship second to none immediately upon the declaration of an "emergency" condition by the present government.

England, Scotland, and Wales will be divided into twelve regions and over these twelve regions twelve dictators will rule, each with a power over his region as absolute, arbitrary, and authoritarian as that wielded at any time during the bloody careers of Mussolini and Hitler.

Most of these dictators will be APPOINTED by next month. They will be ready at instant notice to replace the entire "democratic" process, all the "democratic" representatives of the people, and every one of the "democratic" institutions. This is of course quite understandable. Precisely so long as the danger to their existence is not great, the capitalist owners permit the workers to choose which capitalist agent shall rule them. To the exact degree that danger to their domination nears, the capitalists abrogate that democracy, and under war conditions they rip democracy away from the naked reality of their dictatorship like a fouled garment from a hideous body.

This was true during the last world war. Now democratic England's rulers have affirmed that it will be true in the next world war. England's rulers have no illusions. They are preparing for the coming slaughter like any other professional butcher.

All the venal slush about the "democratic" nations lining up against the "fascist" dictatorships is just that—VENAL SLUSH.

In the coming war there will be no capitalist "democracies" to defend against capitalist dictatorships. All the workers of the capitalist democracies will suffer under a yoke as rigid and bitter as that under which the workers of Italy and Germany are now bleeding. The choice between the concentration camps of the fascist nations and the concentration camps of democratic England, of democratic France, and—yes!—of democratic America will be the choice between a long hangman's rope and a short one.

Twelve dictators over democratic England! The enemy is not across the national boundary lines. The enemy is at home!

Can Spain Still Fight?

We agree 100% with the following estimate of the possibilities for continued struggle in Central Spain:

"The position of the Central Zone for resistance is strategically good. The army numbers around 500,000, the population is around 8,000,000 and the territory is protected by natural defenses in the mountain ranges of Nevada, Morena and Guadarrama.

"... By adapting their forces to the new situation the Loyalists can resist..."

Yes, we agree to this estimate, appearing in the Feb. 8 issue of the *Daily Worker*. These facts damn the Peoples Front government, Negrin, Azana, General Mijia, etc., who instead of resisting are capitulating to Franco. These facts damn, above all, Stalin and the Spanish Stalinist machine, who were primarily responsible for putting the Spanish masses into the hands of the traitors who are abandoning the struggle.

When, tomorrow, the *Daily Worker* tries to find an alibi for these traitors, justifying their failure to continue the struggle, remember its own estimate of the possibilities in Central Spain.

Dr. Benes Comes To Town

Dr. Eduard Benes, former President of Czechoslovakia, has come to town and immediately hailed the United States as "democracy's last great and truly powerful bulwark."

Not so long ago he hailed the regime he headed in Czechoslovakia as another great and truly powerful bulwark of democracy.

Somehow, the bulwark didn't seem to hold up very well when it was given a stiff blow from Fascism on the outside and its Czech lickspittles on the inside. The other great democratic bulwarks, France and England, which Benes served so faithfully and lauded as fulsomely as he now praises the United States, didn't seem to hold up very stoutly either. So Dr. Benes decided that the "democratic institutions" of Czechoslovakia were either not worth fighting for, or else beyond saving. Anyway, he abdicated and took the next boat-train West.

Now he is headed for the University of Chicago, to lecture on democracy, democratic institutions, and how to keep them going. We can't imagine anyone better qualified by experience and record for such a job. By the same token, we suggest that the University invite the leader of Tammany Hall to lecture on "Civic Virtue and How to Preserve It."

By Leon Trotsky

For Grynszpan: Against the Fascist Pogrom Gangs and Stalinist Scoundrels

It is clear to anyone even slightly acquainted with political history that the policy of the Fascist gangsters directly and sometimes deliberately provokes terrorist acts. What is most astonishing is that so far there has been only one Grynszpan. Undoubtedly the number of such acts will increase. We Marxists consider the tactic of individual terror inexpedient in the tasks of the liberating struggle of the proletariat as well as oppressed nationalities. A single isolated hero cannot replace the masses. But we understand only too clearly the inevitability of such convulsive acts of despair and vengeance. All our emotions, all our sympathies are with the self-sacrificing avengers even though they have been unable to discover the correct road. Our sympathy becomes intensified because Grynszpan is not a political militant but an inexperienced youth, almost a boy, whose only counselor was a feeling of indignation. To tear Grynszpan out of the hands of capitalist justice, which is capable of chopping off his head to further serve capitalist diplomacy, is the elementary, immediate task of the international working class!

The Stalinists have inherited, here as elsewhere, the filthiest tradition of reaction. The Fourth International may, justifiably, be proud that the reactionary scum, including the Stalinists, now automatically links with the Fourth International every bold action and protest, every indignant outburst, every blow at the executioners.

It was so, similarly, with the International of Marx in its time. We are bound, naturally, by ties of open moral solidarity to Grynszpan and not to his "democratic" jailers, or the Stalinist slanders, who need Grynszpan's corpse to prop up, even if only partially and indirectly, the verdicts of Moscow justice. Kremlin diplomacy, degenerated to its marrow, attempts at the same time to utilize this "happy" incident to renew their machinations for an international agreement among various governments, including that of Hitler and Mussolini, for a mutual extradition of terrorists. Beware, masters of fraud! The application of such a law will necessitate the immediate delivery of Stalin to at least a dozen foreign governments.

The Stalinists shriek in the ears of the police that Grynszpan attended "meetings of Trotskyites." That, unfortunately, is not true. For had he walked into the milieu of the Fourth International he would have discovered a different and more effective outlet for his revolutionary energy. People come cheap who are capable only of fulminating against injustice

and bestiality. But those who, like Grynszpan, are able to act as well as conceive, sacrificing their own lives if need be, are the precious leaven of mankind. Seek Another Road!

In the moral sense, although not for his mode of action, Grynszpan may serve as an example for every young revolutionist. Our open moral solidarity with Grynszpan gives us an added right to say to all the other would-be Grynszpans, to all those capable of self-sacrifice in the struggle against despotism and bestiality: *Seek another road!* Not the lone avenger can free the oppressed but only a great revolutionary movement of the masses which will leave no remnant of the entire structure of class exploitation, national oppression and racial persecution. The unprecedented crimes of fascism create a yearning for vengeance wholly justifiable. But so monstrous is the scope of their crimes, that this yearning cannot be satisfied by the assassination of isolated fascist bureaucrats. For that it is necessary to set in motion millions, tens and hundreds of millions of the oppressed throughout the whole world and lead them in the assault upon the strongholds of the old society. Only the overthrow of all forms of slavery, only the complete destruction of fascism, only the people sitting in merciless judgment over the contemporary bandits and gangsters can provide real satisfaction to the indignation of the people. This is precisely the task that the Fourth International has set itself. It will cleanse the labor movement of the plague of Stalinism. It will rally in its ranks the heroic generation of the youth. It will cut a path to a worthy and a more humane future.

To be sure, most of them being elderly ladies and gentlemen, they would probably have to repeat what Henry Hyndman, the English social democrat, said during the last war: "If I were not 72 years old I would go out and fight myself." But thank God they do have enough strength left with which to exhort the more able-bodied conscripts of imperialism to fight to the death in the coming war.

If the joints of some of them are properly lubricated by a little Democratic money—not much; they are modest folk—their strength is as the strength of ten, and their zeal even greater. There is the case of Max Braun, exiled leader of the Saarland social democracy, who was exposed last year by the German socialist Max Sievers. Together with two bourgeois emigrants, Braun approached the French government for financial aid to his paper and "movement" in return for a promise to impress upon the exiled German youth the desirability of joining the French army.

One, At Least, Found His Sympathies Profitable

Another great lover of the "new fatherlands" is Albert Grzesinski, former socialist police president of Berlin, now in the United States, where he has just published a book on Germany. According to the same Sievers, Grzesinski found while he was in Paris that the secret supplying of arms to the Loyalists in the Spanish War for Democracy was a highly profitable enterprise, at least until the scandal became widely known to make a sea voyage desirable.

Most of the German S.P. leaders, however, seek no personal gain in the business of promoting a new War for Democracy. They are moved only by the loftiest of motives. They want, you see, to free prostrate Germany from the heel of fascism.

When they had a magnificent opportunity, at the head of an army of millions of free, organized workers, to prevent Hitler from coming to power, they demonstrated their complete bankruptcy. They couldn't and didn't do the job of winning socialism. They couldn't even do the job of preserving capitalist democracy, or their very own conservative labor movement.

To make up for all that, they have developed the ingenious idea of asking the capitalist class to do the job at which they failed! What Weis and Stampfer and Hilferding didn't do, they are asking Chamberlain and Daladier and Roosevelt—that is, the General Staffs of the English, French and American armies—to do for them. They wouldn't organize the German workers to smash fascism at the right time and bring liberty, peace and plenty to the land. Now these hopeless people hope to bring liberty to Germany on the point of foreign imperialist bayonets!

Stampfer Comes Here To Try His Luck

It is this kind of a holy crusade, another "War for Democracy," that is preached every week in the *New Leader* by the emigrated social-democratic Reichstag member, Mme. Tony Sender. Another former member, Gerhard Segers, does his stint in the columns of his *Neue Volkszeitung*.

When France and England failed to launch a war against Germany a few months ago, during the Munich days, Mr. Stampfer's *Neue Vorwärts* was positively purple with rage and indignation at this outrageous betrayal of its fondest hopes.

Now Mr. Stampfer has come to the United States to try his luck here. Rabid war-monger and provider of socialist cannon-fodder to his Royal and Imperial Majesty Wilhelm II from 1914 to 1918, he is ready to act now in the same capacity for the Democratic Trinity. He wants, he indicates in his first interview, to see the United States "supporting Europe's democratic nations." He boasts of a considerable force behind him in Germany, ready to overthrow Hitlerism from within. No doubt he will generously offer to put this force at the disposal of the United Democracies to help them win the sacred war of Justice, Decency and Humanity.

Whatever may be the reception he gets from the American ruling class whose notorious love for democracy he seeks to enlist, we hope the working class salutes him with the contempt that an imperialist recruiting-sergeant deserves.

Labor Looks Through The Press

By ARTHUR HOPKINS

The figure of Lenin which will top the palace of the Soviets, now under construction in Moscow, will be twice as high as the Statue of Liberty. The building will be taller than the present world's tallest building, the Empire State. The teachings of the grand old revolutionary, however, will continue to remain buried by the Soviet regime.

Eugene Lyons, author of "Assignment in Utopia" and new editor of the American Mercury, upon hearing a description of Doris Duke's palatial new mansion in Honolulu, sighs: "It's enough to make one a Trotskyite. I say this because in these days a person doesn't know what to be, as a protest." You can join Max Eastman in his contemplation of his navel, but we Trotskyites will continue to build the labor and revolutionary movements.

G-man Hoover (Public Fink Number 1), lays the blame squarely at the door of parental over-indulgence for one of the greatest factors in crime.

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