An Open Letter

TO MEMBERS OF THE **COMMUNIST PARTY**

We address ourselves to those workers and militants within the ranks of the Communist Party who in their own minds and hearts still preserve the aim and ideal of the workers' revolution, who remain within the Communist Party because they believe that by doing so they are serving the cause of socialism.

We know that there are such members of the Communist Party. We know that they have, in reality, nothing whatever in common with the cynical, deprayed, corrupt bureaucrats who, at the bidding of the Kremlin, direct the Party, nor with the horde of petty bourgeois' riff-raff which has swarmed into the party during the past two years of Popular. Frontism.

To these workers and militants, we say:

Comrades, what is your answer to the Trial of the 21? By this trial, Stalin has now wiped out the last of Lenin's intimate colleagues. Through the trials and the purges, he has executed virtually the entire membership of Lenin's Central Committee, of the Central Committee which led the October Revolution.

You do not have to take our word for this. The membership of the Central Committee, the names of the close associates of Lenin, are a matter of public historical record. You can check up easily for yourselves.

Do You Believe In The October Revolution?

In 1917 and 1918 the imperialists and reactionaries everywhere told us that the Russian Revolution was made by a gang of cut-throats, bandits, spies, murderers.

Do you believe this? Or do you believe with us that the Russian Revolution was the greatest and most magnificent event in the entire history of mankind?

Today Stalin tells you exactly the same story that the imperialists and reactionaries told us in 1917 and 1918. If you believe Stalin now, then you must believe that the imperialists and reactionaries were right to

Vyshinsky states that Yagoda was a poisoner, a brutal sadist, a liar, a depraved and degenerate tyrant.

But for a decade Yagoda was Stalin's right-hand man, acting directly under Stalin's orders Look back through the official press and you will find that this is clearly and unquestionably true.

Yagoda prepared and managed the Trial of Zinoviev-Kamenev, According to Vyshinsky himself, therefore. the Trial of Zinoviev-Kamenev was prepared and managed by a poisoner, sadist, liar, and tyrant.

Is This Socialism?

Let us suppose that the trials are true. Stalin tells you that socialism has irrevocably triumphed within the Soviet Union. What kind of "socialism" is it, then. that turns all of its founders and builders into mad dogs, that makes them prefer to work for the blackest fascism rather than for the "socialist" regime? What kind of man, then, must Stalin be if everyone who works for him very soon develops such a hatred that he spends all his time plotting to kill him?

But, of course, the trials are not true. You yourselves know in your hearts that they are not true, that they are a gigantic frame-up.

Do you really believe that the cause of socialism can be served by frame-ups, by lies, by assassinations?

Why then are you silent?

Why not stand up in your Party units and demand answers to the questions which in your own minds shout for replies? Why not read the books, histories, pamphlets, newspapers which can put the facts about the Russian Revolution into your possession? Why not discuss, argue. compare? You know from Marx that action which is blind is a thousand times useless for the working class.

Truth Alone Serves Our Cause

Are you afraid of the truth? If you are afraid of the truth, how, then, will you have strength to face the

But there is no reason to fear the truth. Illusions. shams, treacheries—these are shattered and smashed by the truth. But our great movement, the movement for the emancipation of humanity, is nourished and grows strong by the truth and by the truth only.

You must act, comrades, and act quickly. You read the general press. You will see that no one believes this new trial. You will see also, however, that they are using this new trial to launch a vast campaign against the socialist ideal itself. The trial proves, they say, "the intellectual and moral bankruptcy of socialism." And their conclusion is: to submit once more and forever to the tyranny of capitalism.

By your silence you aid this reactionary campaign, which threatens to destroy the entire Marxist move-

Stalinism, Not Socialism, Is Bankrupt

This campaign is a lie from start to finish. The trials in no slightest degree involve the ideal of socialism. The trials are the direct contradiction of socialism. What they prove utterly and completely is the final bankruptcy of Stalinism; what they prove for all time is that Stalinism and everything it represents is the destroyer, not the continuator, of the revolution.

This is the only possible answer that can be given to the campaign of reaction. No other answer can stand up under the attack, no other answer can vindicate the ideal of socialism.

And if you do not give that answer, you yourselves will be compelled to abandon your ideal. You will slip down once more into the ranks of the passive, broken slaves of imperialism.

Do not abandon your ideal! Join with us to defend it against all of its enemies. Only that ideal, the ideal of the classless socialist society, has hope or promise

You will find that ideal guarded untarnished within the growing regiments of the Fourth International. In the face of the nightmare trial, in the face of the yawning crisis, the march of totalitarian reaction, the black clouds of the approaching war, let us carry forward our ideal, to a sure and lasting triumph!

Workers of the World

Unite

Socialist Appeal

OFFICIAL WEEKLY ORGAN OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

For the Fourth

International

Vol. II. - No. 12.

Saturday, March 19, 1938

Five Cents per Copy

Lenin's Aides Shot

Anti-War Struggle Only Reply To Hitler

Navy Departs GPU Court Decrees FASCISM LASHES AUSTRIAN LABOR For Pacific

Drive Toward General War Conflagration Given Impetus By Latest Triumph of Swastika; Move Loses Wave of Chauvinism

On Wednesday, March 9, Kurt Schuschnigg, then Chancellor of Austria, tried a last desperate bluff to preserve his own despetism against the encroachments of his giant rival to the north and announced a plebiscite on Austrian independence to be held the fol-

Hitler and his Austrian Nazi cohorts, realizing that the Schuschnigg-contro'led plebiscite would undoubtedly return a majority for the West Coast. Cooperating in independence, immediately sent their gangs into the streets of the the exercises are some 500 war Austrian towns and villages.

On Friday, March 11, Schuschnigg was presented with a series stations from San Diego to Puof ultimatums from Berlin, demanding the calling-off of the p'ebiscite, Schuschnigg's resignation, the formation of a Nazi cabinet and full freedom for the Nazi party in Austria.

Loyalist Spain In

Following up the recapture

of Teruel, Franco's troops

mined drive to carve the

into two isolated segments.

Reports as we go to press in-

dicate that little effective re-

sistance is being offered to

the new fascist offensive, and

that the Franco forces have

already reached a point less

than forty miles from the

There are ominous rumors

f secret negotiations between

sentatives of Franco's camp

behind the scenes of the new

military crisis. The Socialist

Appeal will publish next week

an extended analysis of the

whole situation and its rela-

(Continued on page 3)

tion to the European crisis.

government heads and repre-

Mediterranean coast.

Nazism Triumphs

Schushnigg yielded on every point, but the nachine set in motion was not in the least prepared to stop with any concesions. That night the German rmy, in accordance with plans long ago worked out in meticulous detail, rolled across the Austrian border. On Saturday German tanks, airplanes, and mechanized regiments took over the Austrian cities.

The clerical-fascism of Schuschnigg yielded its final fruit: the full-blown tyranny of Nazism. On Sunday, after a thousand years at the center of European history, the sovereignty of Austria was proclaimed at an end, and the nation was incorporated into the German Reich.

On Monday, Hitler rode in triumph through the streets of Vienna, as his police herded thousands from their proscribed lists into prison and concentration camps, as the frenzied gangs of Nazi students and demoralized middle class ruffians beat aged enthusiasm for their "liberation." Jews into pulp, ransacked the Jewish shops and restaurants, applied cat-o'-nine-tails to work- of the abrogation of Article 88a ers who failed to show proper

War 'Games'

Record Maneuvers Will **Cover Vast Triangle** in Western Ocean

Proceeding under a shroud of secrecy which indicates the closeness of war, the greatest peacetime naval operations in the history of the United States got under way this week as more than 150 warships steamed out into the Pacific from their bases on planes, naval bases and shore get Sound and from Alaska to Samoa, merchant vessels plying the Pacific, and commercial airliners. Navy personnel totalling more than 60,000 officers and men are participating in the exercises which are scheduled to last until Per l Of Collapse the end of April.

Actual time for the commencement of the maneuvers was kept a closely guarded secret and, unhave embarked upon a deterlike previous exercises, press reresentatives have been rigidly territory of Loyalist Spain lebarred from accompanying the The imperialist government at Washington, consciously preparing for war against Japan, is determined that results

Scope of Maneuvers

official secret.

of the exercises shall remain ar

Another indication that war with Japan is looming on the DENOUNCE TRIAL horizon is the decision to extend | ULITUUITUL the exercises both farther west and farther south than ever before. Approximately 12.000,000 Pago, will figure in the navy Leon Trotsky. On Saturday there had been

issued an insolent announcement moves. (Continued on page 4)

Frame-ups? So What? Says Anna Strong

NEW YORK-"Suppose the Moscow trials are frame-ups -so what?" said Anna Louise Strong, professional "Friend of the Soviet Union," at a lecture to the forum of the Community Church last week. Her audience, composed largely of Communist Party members and sympathizers, sat in shocked and dumbfounded silence The first to recover began to boo and John Haynes Holmes, the chairman, had to rise to restore order.

The flustered Miss Strong tried to swallow her unintentional slip by launching into a discourse about Soviet economy. She neglected to mention, however, that all the economic gains of which she spoke were carried out under the direction of men who have now been shot as "wreckers," 'saboteurs" and "Fascist

NEW YORK. - Two thousand square miles of the Pacific will people jammed the Hotel Center neuvers will, as usual, center protest the new Moscow framearound Hawaji, the American Sa- up at a mass meeting held under moan Island group with the best the auspices of the American harbor in the South Seas, Pago | Committee for the Defense of

(Continued on page 3)

Last of Lenin's Staff Victims of Stalin's Executioners: Rakovsky Spared For Future Frame-up Charges

Death For Eighteen

After Farcical Trial

TRIAL WAS FLIMSIEST OF ALL

Eighteen of the twenty-one have been sent to their doom! Climaxing a decade of repression against the opponents of his reactionary regime, marked at its high points by the Zinoviev-Kamenev trial and executions in August, 1936, the Radek-Piatakov trial and executions in January, 1937, and the execution of the Red Army generals a few months later, Stalin has now physically exterminated almost the last of the authentic representatives of Russian Bolshevism.

Sentence on the defendants, who were dragged into court March 2 on demonstrably false charges of sabotage, treason and murder, was passed last Saturday in the totalitarian courtroom in Moscow after a trial universally conemned as a monstrous travesty of justice; a trial in which the charges rested, as in previous trials, and contrary to Soviet law, exclusively upon the "confessions" of the defendant-witnesses — confessions forced from Stalin's broken victims in the foul dungeons of the G.P.U. and then repeated in the courtroom; a trial in which there was no defense; a trial planned in advance, in all its details, by Stalin; a trial in which contradictions and absurdities abounded by the carload; a trial featured by the most fantastic falsehoods and an almost unbelievable rewriting of the history of the Russian Revolution -

A trial which, translated into the language of honest be covered. Although the ma- auditorium last Wednesday to and normally intelligent people, was a FRAME-UP!

The Victims

Nikolei Bukharin, Alexei Rvkov, C. F. Grinko, N. N. Krestinsky, A. P. Rosengoltz. V. I. Iva-The speakers, including Suzan- nov, I. A. Zelensky, Old Bolshe-Some units are expected to ne LaFollette, Eugene Lyons, viks and colleagues of Lenin. were sentenced to death. Like-

wise doomed were Stalin's loathsome creature. Henry Yagoda, (former head of the G.P.U.), M. Chernoy (former Commissar of Agriculture), F. Khodzhaev (former chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of Uzbekistan), B. B. Sharangovich (former secretary of the Communist Party of White Russia), Akmal Ikramov (member of the Stalin Constitution commission). P. Zubarev. V. Maximov V. Kruchkov, Bulanov, Drs. L. I. Levin and I. N. Kazakov.

Christian Rakovsky, one of the most illustrious of the older generation of Russian revolutionists and the last of the Oppositionists to canitulate to Stalin, was sentenced to prison for 20 years. S. A. Bessonov, former secretary to the Soviet Embassy in Berlin, was given 15 years, and Prof. D. D. Pletney 25 years. These men, especially Christian Rakovsky, who told an unfinished Japanese spy-plot story involving diplomats not vet brought to trial, are doubtless being saved for another frame-un, as forecast in more detail elsewhere in this issue of the Socialist Appeal.

The fate of the defendants was ealed before they entered court. Stalin had already written the death sentences for the eighteen and the prison sentences for the (Continued on page 4)

SOVJET CONSULATE PICKETED IN FRISCO

SAN FRANCISCO-Members and sympathizers of the Socialist Workers Party picketed the Soviet Consulate here on March 10 to protest the judicial murders

Moscow "Defend the Russian Revolution against Stalinism," the Moscow Frame-ups," Hands off Trotsky," were some of the slogans on the placards carried by the pickets.

Officials at the consulate said the consul was "not in" when a delegation demanded entry to make their protests directly to the representative of Stalin's government.

Lenin's General Staff of 1917

STALIN, THE EXECUTIONER, ALONE REMAINS



KOLLONTAI

Missing?

LOMOV



URITSKY

SHOMYAN



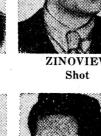
KRESTINSKY

BERZIN



SMILGA

Disappeared





ARTEM

Dead





KAMENEV



STASSOVA Disappeared



BUBNOV

Disappeared

TROTSKY

In Exile

Missing



SOKOLNIKOV

MILIUTIN TO COL



JOFFE

Mooney Wages New Battle To Gain Liberty

State Assembly Passes Resolution For A Full Pardon

SACRAMENTO, Cal. — Tom Mooney, America's most famous class war prisoner, last Thursday faced the California State Assembly, the law-making body of the State that has kept him behind prison bars for 21 years, and told the legislators once more that he was the victim of a frame-

"The only crime I am guilty of," declared Mooney, "is attempting to organize the 2,200 employes of the United Railroads in San Francisco.'

The State Assembly, after two days of debate, early Saturday passed a resolution introduced by Assemblyman Paul Richie, designed to grant Mooney, convicted, with Warren K. Billings, of the Preparedness Day bombing in 1916, a "full and complete pardon." Acting the same day, the State Senate killed the measure by an almost unanimous voice

Merriam Has Pardon Power

The "pardon," without legal status even if passed, was introduced by liberal legislators in an effort to put pressure on Governor Merriam, in whose hands rests the only bona-fide power of pardon. In connection with this plan, Mooney was brought from San Quentin penitentiary on a subpoena issued by the State As-

Mooney, old and gray from fearless, spoke for several hours to the crowded Assembly and galleries packed with his supporters. He outlined in detail his part, as a well-known labor organizer, in the strikes prior to the 1916

bombing. "I was in bad repute with most of the labor leaders in San Francisco," Mooney stated, explaining that the old line labor fakers tice, in my opinion, will be fully were opposed to the militant served if Mr. Beal is rendered a struggles that the workers in the pardon by the Governor of North West were conducting at that Carolina."

Mistrusts Courts

Mooney, whose defense in the tain his freedom.

Mooney story was not a new one. heartily in that effort." In California and throughout the nation it has long been establish- International Labor Defense ed that Mooney and Billings are organization have deserted Beal absolutely innocent; that their in his hour of need because he conviction was obtained on a has become an opponent of the vicious and thoroughly exposed conspiracy between the unionleven further, they are working thing to get new jobs to employ thing to get new jobs to employ thing to get new jobs to employ conspiracy between the union- even further, they are working these men, thus only adding to hating industrialists of California and the San Francisco courts efforts being made to bring about and police.

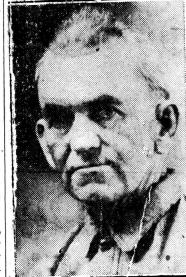
Goff Demurs Alone

At the time of Mooney's appearance not one of the assemblymen attempted to portray Mooney as guilty. The next day Captain Charles Goff, San Francisco ty. policeman and one of the last survivors of the frame-up gang,

between Mooney and me," he Morris Ernst, Charles Yale Har-

frame-up has been a continual Quincy Howe, Dr. Alvin Johnrevelation to the working class son, Ferdinand Lundberg, Prof. of the travesty on justice as John L. Childs, August Claespracticed by the capitalist courts. sens, Prof. George W. Hartman, Despite a mass of incontrovert- Prof. A. A. Friedrich. ible evidence showing the inno- Endorsement of the commitcence of the two men, Mooney tee's work has been announced and Billings remain in prison. by the national executive com-Only the might of the organized mittee of the Social Democratic workers can force open the prison | Federation at its recent session gates and free them.

Fights On



TOM MOONEY

Labor Leaders Offer Backing For Fred Beal

AFL Head Aids Defense; **Dubinsky**, Others Join Up

The voice of organized labor was heard last week in defense of Fred E. Beal, leader of the 1929 textile strike in Gastonia years in prison, yet erect and North Carolina, who is serving a 20-year prison sentence on a frame-up charge.

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a letter to the Non-Partisan Committee for the Defense of Fred E. Beal, made public last week, declared in effect that Beal was a victim of frame-up and said: "The ends of simple jus-

Dubinsky Speaks Out

David Dubinsky, president of past has been led by the most the International Ladies Garment militant sections of the working- Workers Union and a prominent class, told the legislators that his C. I. O. leader, wrote the comcase had been a "political foot- mittee: "Fred Beal was railball," and declared his distrust of roaded to prison because he led the various court actions, that a strike. The least that Amerihave consistently failed to ob- can labor can do is to unite be- placing men on painting jobs, hind the effort to obtain his and open neglect in protecting the To most of the legislators the speedy release. Naturally I join

> The Communist Party and its might and main to destroy the Beal's release. All this notwithstanding their admission that Beal is a victim of frame-up and the fact that in 1929 he was a Communist working under the direction of the Communist Par-

More Join

But the campaign in Beat's beappeared to deny Mooney's half is acquiring added force. Latest among those to join the democratic union. "You can take your choice Non-Partisan Committee are rison, Rev. Frank Olmstead, Max The long history of the Mooney Eastman, Charles R. Walker,

in Washington.

St. Louis Unionists Spike Fake 'Unemployment' Plan

the unemployed came to nothing | Unfortunately-for the sponswhen alert trade unionists ex- ors-the public meeting was at- Communist Party fraction, any charges. As many as 10 and 12 posed the "company union" tended by leaders of the local one voting for the secret ballot strikers have been crowded into features of the proposed Co- C.I.O. movement. They pointed was charged with being a stooge cells built to accommodate not operative Employment Council. out the reactionary nature of the for the employers. Nevertheless, more than four prisoners. Police the Public Library the sponsors danger of such a "cooperative" of the Council, a Mr. Chestley venture ending by outright scab- limists were forced to break up if picketing continues. and a Mr. Gill, explained how the herding. principle of "no jobs for women whose husbands are working, and put by a representative of the passage of the amendment. The workers, but funds are needed only one job to a family" would C.I.O. Electrical Workers union, "employers' paid stooges" had a urgently for feeding and other create vacancies for the unem- Mr. Chestley admitted that his clear majority. ployed. Then the Council, run chief supporters were officials of

men of St. Louis did this plan Screw and Bolt Co. and the appear that they volunteered to supply Mr. Chestley and Mr. Scullin Steel Co.—all notorious Gill with the necessary funds to strike-breaking outfits-the meetget the Council going. Member- ing was adjourned in a uproar.

ST. LOUIS.—A novel plan to ship in the Council is, of course, docile labor from the ranks of are "loyal American citizens."

At a public meeting held in idea, and made clear the potential Local 1011 passed the amend-

by and for the unemployed, would the Montsanto Chemical Co., the International Shoe Co., the Cent-So appealing to the business- ury Electric Co., the St. Louis

ST. PAUL, Minn. - Paul A. Rasmussen, former field representative of the C.I.O. in Minnesota and a well-known member of the Socialist Workers Party, has been completely exonerated on all charges brought against him five months ago by James Porter acting for the state council of the C.I.O. and for the Stalinist slander machine.

The charges preferred by Porter alleged that Rasmussen, with an honorable record of militant struggle in the ranks of the workers' movement, was a spy and a disrupter in the United Packinghouse Workers, C.I.O. affiliate, of which he was a member.

The executive board of Local 62 of this union, after sifting all the "evidence" against Rasmussen and hearing his defense, decided unanimously "that we find Brother Rasmussen not guilty of the charges brought against him by the State C.I.O. Council through James Porter." The board port to the five councilmanic canfurther unanimously resolved didates of the Farmer-Labor that we will, as workers and Party. union members, do everything in our power to restore to him his union membership, his good name and standing in the industrial union movement.'

1,000 PAINTERS FIGHT MACHINE **RULE IN UNION**

Hold Mass Meeting To Denounce Weinstock Leadership

NEW YORK. — Over 1,000 union painters, members of locals under the jurisdiction of District city council.... Council No. 9, met last Saturday at the Central Opera House to protest the ruthless dictatorship of the Stalinist machine entrenched in the New York District of the Painters Union.

The meeting, called under the auspices of the Inter-Local Painters League, a loose federation of opposition groups representing various shades of opinion, marked the first mass action against the ruinous policies of Louis Weinstock, secretary - treasurer of D.C. 9, and chief Stalinist tool in the union.

Weinstock Pilloried

Weinstock, elected on a program of economy and trade union democracy, was charged by speakers with wasting the union funds. favoritism and discrimination in

Speakers urged members to attend their local meetings and take back control of their own union. They charged that Weinstock had flooded the union with new members, but had done nothe already crowded list of unemployed members.

William Kitt, member of Local 51, addressed the meeting as representative of the Painters Educational Society, a group of milit-

Fight Called For

"The housing plans," said Kitt, many of us, are, at the same time, to be used in an attempt to cut our wage scale. We must rally all members of the Painters Union for a real fight by all the building trades unions. We must clean house in the Painters Union to make that fight possible."

the Communist Party machine is gas into their midst. supply St. Louis employers with limited to those unemployed who likely to find it difficult to get a

job working at his trade. the meeting in order to prevent When, in reply to a question the chairman from declaring the intimidate the cruelly exploited

> SUBSCRIBE NOW TO THE SOCIALIST APPEAL 116 University Place New York City

OF FAKE CHARGES S.W.P. Candidate Polls Healthy Vote In St. Paul SAN FRANCISCO.—Presenting the views of revolutionists within the maritime unions, Maritime Truth official organ of

Stalinists Are Slapped By Farmer-L'abor **Politicians**

BY CARL O'SHEA

ST. PAUL, Minn.-The Socialist Workers Party in St. Paul polled 559 votes in the primaries for its mayoralty candidate, Jules Geller. Ten thousand S.W.P. manifestoes were distributed on behalf of the revolutionary candidate, calling for support of the S.W.P. and the Fourth Inter-

The entire slate of Labor-Progressive (Farmer - Labor) candidates were nominated. The S.W.P. had given critical sup-

C. P. Gets Slapped

The Communist Party, running Leon Cuthill for the sixth councilment to the F.L.P. ticket.

The pay-off came the day after election when the Labor-Progressive campaign manager issued the following statement: "It has come to my attention that the the Communist Party by us; that city during the closing hours of the primary campaign with both pamphlets and handbills urging the voters to support the Labor-Progressive ticket and to vote for the Communist candidate for

Nothing New

this political trick, but its re- people it is most ardently woocurrence every two years has ing.

Candidate



manic post, polled only 1,968 become nauseating.... There votes, despite the fact that Cut- no way that we can combat these hill advertised himself as a mem- trouble makers other than to reber of the Parent-Teachers' As- pudiate them publicly and to sociation, and one whose grand- point out their tricks as they dad fought in the Civil War. The occur. It is not possible to em-C.P. gave unstinting endorse- barrass them. It is not possible to shame them, for they have neither a sense of shame nor an understanding of political decency.... All we can hope to do is to inform the public that there

Comment: (1) The F.L.P.

against the C.P. (2) It is a cosmic jest that the C.P. despite its degeneracy and grovelling before anyone whom it can even make look like a liberal, gets a "There is really nothing new in boot in the rear from the very

Goodrich Locals Prepare

employed, C.I.O., A.F. of L.

 will participate on Saturday. Leading the employers in their anti-labor drive is the Goodrich Co., ably assisted by the Greater Akron Association with a constant

Strike Six Weeks

SAN ANTONIO, Texas.-More than 5,000 of America's poorest the Goodrich situation depend the ant and class conscious progres- paid workers, the pecan shellers living standards of the workers sives. Making clear that he was of San Antonio, have been on in all the other rubber plants only invited to represent the strike for about six weeks in for the bosses hope to continue group to which he belonged, Kitt | protest against a 20 cent wage | a wage-slashing program nationadvocated a conscious program to cut which would bring their al- ally on the basis of the Goodbuild a fighting, progressive and ready miserable earnings down rich workers' defeat. Thereupon week and less.

Prior to the cut, their pay averaged less than \$2.50 per week that have been so characteristic which should furnish jobs for from 60 to 80 hours of labor. of the industry in the past. Pay envelopes containing sums as small as 74 cents for a full week's work have been seen by union be the signal for similar moves leaders.

Police Terror Rages

The right of the workers to picket has been denied. Police Kitt urged the adoption of the have beaten, clubbed and kicked secret ballot, a measure now be- workers, both men and women. ing voted on in a referendum A 66-year-old man was knocked throughout the locals. Progres- down at the city jail and kicked sives were, forced to advocate the by a policeman. On one occasion, secret ballot because of the in- the police lined up the strikers, timidation and coercion practic- men, women and children-included by the Stalinist officials. Any ing mothers with babies in arms member who dares to vote against | - and without warning shot tear

Over 700 arrests have been made. Scores of strikers have been In a leaflet circulated by the kept in jail for days without have threatened to set up conment, and in Local 261 the Sta-centration camps for the strikers

> The police terror has failed to relief. Donations should be rushed to J. Austin Beasley, secretary-treasurer of the Pecan Workers' Emergency Relief Committee, Box 1861, San Antonio, Texas. Beasley is international organizer for the United Cannery, Agriculttor the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America and is in charge of the San Antonio strike.
>
> MINNEAPOLIS
>
> MINNEAPOLIS
>
> WANTED: OFFICE FURNITURE for the SOCIALIST APPEAL—
> Desks, Shelves, Typewriter tables, Filing Cabinets. Address Socialist Appeal, 116 University Pl., N.Y.C.



JULES GELLER

in Ramsay county covered the we do not want their support, and that we have nothing in common with them.' shrewdly waited until after the primaries to issue its blast

To Oppose Wage Slashes

AKRON.-With the full impli-|barrage of weasel-worded news-| gressives had demanded militant cations of the rubber barons' paper advertisements. Goodrich, drive against the United Rubber pleading the loss of its competi-Workers becoming clearer every tive position within the rubber day, Goodrich local here is hold- industry, boldly states that the ing division meetings daily this union must accept a wage reduccoming week in preparation for tion from an average of \$1.00 to voting down a company-proposed \$1.15 per hour to 90-95 cents an program of wage slashes, and hour for men, for women a drop Convention, the Allentown Stahour increases on March 20. The from 70-75 cents to 60-65 cents linists had insisted on the necesweek will culminate with an out-per hour. Furthermore, hours sity of forcing these locals into loor mass demonstration in which must be more "flexible," that is, the one they controlled in order all Akron labor—employed, un-stretched up to 40 from 36.

Threatening to speed up decentralization plans by investing \$1,500,000 outside of Akron if the ultimatum is not accepted by the union, Goodrich hopes to intimidate the largest and strong-If labor gives in, Goodrich "promises" a written contract, no and saving the jobs of 5,000 rubber workers.

Hingeing on the outcome of to an average of two dollars per they would launch themse'ves again into another of the bitter

> Acceptance of the wage cut in the Akron rubber plants would in other major industries, and C.I.O. leaders realize this. Company officials privately admit that Akron was chosen as the battleground on which to smash already accomplished more than the name of the comrade who got the C.I.O.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Insertions in this column are 25 cents for five lines. Copy must be in at the APPEAL office before six o'clock Monday evening.

MINNEAPOLIS

SAN FRANCISCO.-Present-Maritime Truth, official organ of the Maritime section of the Socialist Workers Party, made its initial appearance on the waterfront here recently.

The feature article of the first gram for building national unionism and to assure an aggregative the New Republic, T. R. B., the Fight New Cut In Wage ism and to assure an aggressive journal's Washington corresponstruggle against the ship-owners. dent, charged that a new attempt It called upon all genuinely milit- to deport Harry Bridges, leader ant, progressive and class con- of the West Coast longshoremen,

tions for 25 copies during the

11, San Francisco, Calif.

CHARTERS FROM FOUR WAA Mr. Bruce Bliven, LOCALS IN PA. The New Dear Sir:

Stalinists Force Split In the city. Allentown: League Takes Lead

ALLENTOWN, Pa. - After rying unsuccessfully to force four locals of the Allentown Workers Alliance into the Stalinist-controlled Central Branch, the State Committee of the Pennsylvania Workers Alliance (also controlled by the Stalinists) removed their charters.

The four locals in questionthe 9th, 10th, 12th and 13th Ward Branches-were under the leadership of Socialist Workers Party members and progressives in sympathy with their policies. The official reason given for lifting the charters was that their refusal to enter the Central Branch violated the State constitution of the Alliance, but the action came only after the proclass-struggle action from the State Committee.

Aimed At Militants

It was obviously a move to drive the "Trotskyites" out of the Alliance. At the last State to destroy the influence of the Trotskyists.

The expelled locals immediatly called a city-wide convention and set up a functioning organization, the Lehigh County Unemployed League, with an aggressive class-struggle program similar to that of the Allentown Unemest local union in the U.R.W.A. ployed Leagues before their merger with the Workers Alliance in 1936. Resolutions were decentralization for six months, passed against the Roosevelt war time when it is even more urprogram and imperialist wars, gent that we have a permanent and embodying demands for all war funds for the unemployed, Hitler's coup in Austria, the refor union wages on the housing project that is being initiated. for opening of the mines under workers' control, and the like.

Unemployed Benefit

the Stalinists have only their an ever increasing number of Baltimore, Md., Jack Rubin.... 10 intra-industry price cutting wars own splitting tactics to blame, readers. is to be regretted, but the unemthe vigorous action of the new lish the total sub and bundle Unemployed League freed from order increases since the drive tion policies of the Pennsylvania have failed to send in the names Alliance.

In the short period since the ponsible for getting the subs, we City Convention, the League has suggest that each branch send in which was recently shut down, that the branches send in. re-opened, and is carrying on an aggressive campaign for a real housing project. The membership of the League is growing, and the Allentown politicians are again on the spot.

kers in the Next War?"
Mar. 27: FELIX MORROW, "Is
America Ripe for Revolution?"
Sundays, 3 P.M., Socialist Workers Party Hall, 669 Second Ave.
North. Admission 10 cents.

BOSTON

PUBLIC FORUM, SUNDAYS, at 8 P.M., Workers Center, 16 La Grange Street. e Street. 20: ANTOINETTE KONI-"Is Stalinism Practical?"

NEW YORK

MUSICALE EXTRAORDINARE! Washington Heights Branch and City College YPSL Auspices, Sat. Mar. 19, at 1723 Amsterdam Ave. (145 St.—Room 5), Admission 25 cents.

WANT ADS

NEW SWP MARITIME PAPER IS ISSUED 'New Republic' Evades Challenge By Cannon

Fails To Name Alleged Stove Workers Win Provocateurs In S. W. P. Ranks

In the February 23 issue of scious maritime workers to unite for such a campaign.

was being based on affidavits HATBORO, Pa. — Despite a made by ""Stalinites who have brutal attack by vigilantes, arm-Pertinent articles on the war turned Trotskyist." In a letter ed with tear gas, guns and clubs, in the Far East, the menace of to Bruce Bliven, editor of the C.I.O. workers of the Roberts the proposed government media- New Republic, which appeared in and Mander Stove Co. won a detion and other problems confront- the March 5 issue of the Social- cisive victory, when, after a fiveing the maritime worker round ist Appeal, James P. Cannon, na- week sit-down strike, officials of out the neatly mimeographed tional secretary of the Socialist the company agreed to recognize little magazine. Regular publi- Workers Party, challenged the the Steel Workers Organization cation is planned and subscrip- journal to reveal the names of Committee as the sole bargainthese alleged Trotskyists. Re- ing agency for the 800 employes. year may be obtained for one plying in a letter dated Feb. 24, Bliven said "we have every reas- Saturday, was signed after an Communications should be ad- on to believe that the statements unsuccessful attempt by the lressed to 310 Clay Street, Room made by T.R.B., our Washington company to break the strike by correspondent, are true. Natur- ousting the sit-downers, who had ally, we cannot reveal the source occupied the plant since early in of confidential information." Fol- February. lowing is the text of Cannon's rejoinder, dated March 9, 1938: in the plant last Wednesday, a

The New Republic.

I received your letter of February 24 after an absence from

source of any confidential infor- 500, protected by over 100 local mation. I asked you to give the and state police, bombarded the names of those Trotskyists wing plant with bricks and tear gas. are alleged to have furnished affidavits to aid the deportation of pebbles and the powerful jet of Harry Bridges. Do you have a fire hose, but the fumes of the such names? If so, let us have them please.

I assure you that we are deeply interested in this question and we intend to follow it up to the bers of the American Federation end. If some provocateurs have of Labor Molders Union who depenetrated our organization, we sired to go "back to work," but want to know who they are so this was denied by E. J. Lever, that we can get rid of them. You field director for the S.W.O.C., have made the accusation. We

want you to tell us who they are. 800 workers employed by the I haven't the slightest doubt company were members of the C. that you will fail to make good I.O. union. on this second challenge. Your contemptible slander in your issue of February 23 had no basis company-fostered plan particiin fact. You are now trying to cover yourself up by reference men, "hired gunmen and vigilto "confidential source of infor-

you protest against the reference labor policies.' to the New Republic as an organ of Stalinism. My dear Mr. Bliven, your rotten and cowardly onduct in this case is Stalinism. Sincerely,

(signed) James P. Cannon National Secretary

THE SOCIALIST APPEAL

SUBSCRIBE NOW TO

Sit-Down Victory

Of \$2.50 Weekly; 700 In Jail

HATBORO, Pa. — Despite a

The agreement, reached last

As negotiations proceeded withcrowd, led by the discredited remnants of the old company union and armed with tear gas and guns supplied by the company, attempted to intimidate the strikers into capitulating to the bosses.

When the strikers remained I did not ask you to reveal the firm in their demands, the mob of gas overcame them and police took over the plant.

Spokesmen for the company described the vigilantes as memwho pointed out that 702 of the

Union spokesmen exposed the 'back-to-work movement" as a pated in by the office staff, salesantes composed of local businessmen who have always been align-In your letter of February 24 ed with the company in its anti-

ANTI-WAR MASS-MEETING

March 18 - 8 P. M. MANHATTAN PLAZA 66 E. 4th St.

Appeal Army

We are entering the fourth week of the Appeal Drive at a increase in Appeal circulation. percussions of the latest bloody Moscow Trial and the general world situation must be explained and analyzed by Marxists for the benefit of those who do not understand. The Appeal is al-Local, Literature Agent, Increase The break in the unity of the ready filling this need. Now it is Allentown unemployed, for which your job to make it available to Chicago, Ill., Karl Shier

And don't forget the prizes. In Toronto, Canada, Geo. Keene 15 ployed have already profited by next week's Appeal, we will publication, England, Margaret the do-nothing, class-collabora- was started. Since most branches Total increase in bundle ordof the comrades who were resin the entire previous year with- the most subs during the first cause of its inactivity, is waking in the Alliance. It has succeed- month of the drive and the prizes up. Abe Miller, now in charge ed in getting the W.P.A. sew- for the first month will be award- of literature, has cooked up all ing project employing 270 women, ed on the basis of the figures sorts of schemes for pushing the

The third week of the drive Not only has New York started

		6	Subs	5			
Nev	You	k C	ity		 	 	 1
Min	neapo	lis			 	 	 ļ
St.	Paul,	Mi	nn.		 	 	 1
Nev	vark,	N.	J.		 	 	 ļ
Pat	erson,	N.	J.		 	 	
Det	roit,	Mich	ı		 	 	 5

Philade'phia, Pa. Newcastle, Pa. Chicago, Ill. Boston, Mass. Azusa, Calif. Total subs for week ending March 11

Bundle Orders

Philadelphia, Pa., Sol Thomas 10 Johns

ers for week ending March

1.1

New York, which has always been the butt of criticism be-Appeal during and after the drive. a real sub drive-but Comrade

tional purposes - and pays for One more month to go for doubling the circulation! It's not impossible and it's going to be done even if Karl Shier in Chi-

cago has to do it alone.

Miller orders literally thousands

of Appeals each week for promo-

Socialist Appeal 116 University Place New York City I enclose \$..... for which please send me the Socialist Appeal. One year—(\$2.00); Six Months—

I enclose \$..... as my contribution toward building the Socialist Appeal. Name

FASCISM LASHES **AUSTRIAN LABOR**

(Continued from page 1)

of the Versailles Treaty, the article forbidding "anschluss" bet-

ween Germany and Austria. stone knocked from under the expansion of national effort shattered structure of the 1919 "settlement" - that settlement which was advertised to the world as the triumph of democracy and freedom, and which in practice

coup only a temporary advantage cratic imperialisms decide the in political prestige, a loud talking point to quiet for a brief time the underground murmurs of discontent which, spurred by deception! the intolerable plight of the German people, must sooner or vacuum. He is the natural, inlater break to the surface. Far evitable product of the worn-out from solving the economic crisis social system now in its frightof German capitalism, the incor- ful death throes. He was nourishporation of Austria will in many ed and called into being by these ways only deepen that crisis. same "democratic" imperialisms, Austria supplies neither the raw who thought that their own posimaterials, the consumer market, tions could be permanently ennor the fields for investment sured by fastening on the defeatwhich German capitalism im- ed Central Powers the straight periously demands. On the con- jacket of Versailles. The Versailtrary, as carved out by Versail- les system only hid for a short les, Austria is an industrial and while an internal putrescencebanking community faced to an shared by the entire world order even greater degree with the of capitalism-which soon had to

the Germany economy.

War Drive Speeded ialisms to the bold stroke of Hitler | most directly and heavily in that of the arms program by desisting -himself and his acts in large responsibility: for it was the sodegree the product of their own cial-democracy which strangled mands, following this up with a crimes—was not long in coming. in blood the German workers' re- pledge to defend Czechoslovakia ing not only over Europe but over conquests of the Russian Revolu-With one voice Washington, London, and Paris called for a redoubled pace and scale in rearmament, pointing headlong toward the war to defend their own spoils and privilege, their own

the threat of the upstart. The entire press of the "democratic" imperialism unleashed a German revolution, and led the whirlwind of vicious chauvinism, German working class to bitter, utilizing the Austrian crisis to abject defeat in 1933. whip up an uncontrolled jingo spirit leading the masses toward Hitler and Nazism to birth and a Holy War to bolster up the to power unite once more for a shaken positions of the victors Holy War, and call upon the of the world slaughter of 1914- workers of the world to follow

Here was a heavenment opportunity to turn the resentment of their own peoples away from the exploiters at home, away in every country to totalitarian from the social system which endictatorship. Such a war will be sures that exploitation, and to direct it against the "foreign"

Social-Patriots In Line

The imperialists and their di rect spokesmen were ably sec-stability," Versailles, the League onded, nay far surpassed, by their within the ranks of the working crucial illusion that the masses class. The social-patriots outdid can gain anything from the supeven their own past performances. port of any capitalist govern-In France, Leon Blum, head of the French Socialist Party and leader of the Second International, again took the helm of the imperialist state, calling for na-French capital.

coolies of Hongkong.

Chamberlain accepted the offer Austrian workers.

House of Commons, he declared: 'I am confident that we would be supported in asking that no one, whatever his preconceived notion may be, shall regard him-Thus was one more foundation self as being excluded from any which may be called for. Stalinists To Fore

greedily. In his speech to the

Throughout the world the Stalinists announced their readiness period of reaction in the world's for war. They made clear that they will recruit for any impe-Hitler, however, gains from his rialist army whenever the demo-

> Nazi rival. What a tragic and terrible

Hitler did not grow from a

same conflicts which entangle force its way to the surface. But not alone the "democratic" imperialisms are responsible for Hitler. The brave social-patriots The reply of the rival imper- of the Second International share

volution which alone could have

Stalinism Aids Fascism

And how mighty a share have also the Stalinists in that respreserves of exploitation, against ponsibility! For their fatal and hopeless policy of the "Third Period" once more shattered the

Now all of those who brought

Such a war, far from wiping out Nazism, can only complete directed solely, from both sides, interests of the masses.

In reality, the lesson of the Austrian crisis is the final blow 'capitalist to all illusions of ment, any imperialist war.

The Revolutionary Road

The Austrian crisis, with iron the moods of the masses. tional union and the "ultimate fist, drives home the inescapable sacrifice" in the interests of conclusion: there is one answer and one only to fascism, to Naz- the employers and the masses. In England, the Labor Party ism-the workers' revolution! So Rather than let the masses surge railed against the too "peaceful" long as the working class does forward to give their own anspolicy of Chamberlain, and an- the bidding of its own imperial- wer to the questions of the day, nounced itself ready at any mo- ists, that long will fascism con- he will drive all the more rapidment to swing the British work- tinue its victories. The enemy is ly toward war. protect the British Empire—to ing that enemy—our own bourge- shoved aside the Stalinist de- ky defense movement and the every tendency in the labor moveprotect, that is, the enslavement oisie—we strike the only effect- mands for participation in the Dewey Inquiry Commission which of India, the Near East, Egypt, ive blow at fascism and render government not only reveals the grew out of it. the natives of South Africa, the the only genuine aid toward the growing schism between the So-

Fund Mounts For Chinese Comrades

The campaign of the S.W.P. to raise funds to assist the Communist League of China through the present difficult period, and to insure the extension of the work of the Chinese Fourth Internationalists, has already produced gratifying results.

ceived by the national office: Astoria Branch Lower East Bronx Branch \$7.70

Chelsea Branch

Minneapolis Branch St. Louis County Branch TOTAL: \$87.71 Of the foregoing sum, \$75.00

St. Paul Branch
Wm. P. K. Gates
Boston Branch
Newark District
Los Angeles Branch
Sellerville Branch
Denver Branch
Quakertown Branch
East Side Branch
Collected by Local N. YPSL Boston Circle
Collected by Sol Lankin
Brownsville Branch
Minneapolis Branch

Boro Park Branch Upper West Side Branch St. Paul Branch

Following the announcement has already been transmitted to close. That is why the present is Stalin. If anyone poisons the movement to stop the bloody in the February 19 issue of the our Chinese organization. In Blum government is and can only ranks of the revolutionary van- hand of the Stalinist bureaucracy Socialist Appeal and the sending order that a further sum may be a stopgap. The regime that guard by treachery and betrayal, that is undermining the socialist of collection lists to Party locals, be remitted in the nearest future, is seeking to bamboozle the it is Stalin. Were united world re- movement throughout the world the following sums have been reparty branches—especially those French workers into going to action to seek an agent of its own and besmirching the socialist the matter—are urged to push ism can only pave the way for a suited than Stalin. The Moscow 2.30 the collection of funds and remit regime that will be prepared to trials represent the lone attempt them without delay to the na- lash the workers as soon as they in history to deceive all mankind.





LEON BLUM **BLUM CABINET** TO STEM CRISIS

Franc Dives As Regime **Tries Desperately**

To Save Itself French capitalism called again last week on the Socialist Leon Blum and he responded once more with a new effort to stave

off the revolutionary crisis that threatens France. The disastrous fall of the franc only served to underline the blankness of the impasse that

faces the French capitalist re

Prepares For War Blum's first act upon taking from making "unreasonable" de-

Such a government will follow does not, the French Francos in country. the General Staff will mobilize the Rights and the Fascists to im- alone, such as Hitler's invasion appropriateness on the 67th an- storm until the inevitable movernment they want.

Is there not something ominously prophetic about Blum's in-

efforts within the frame-work of against imperialist war. the subjection of the masses with- French "democracy," Blum is preparing the characteristic against imperialist war and for the coming war. forms of totalitarian rule. Before the French Francos clap him against the lives and hopes and into a concentration camp they may thank him for his service!

Treachery and Betrayal

The new cabinet resembles only in its most superficial aspects of Nations, collective security, the honeymoon People's Front Carlo Tresca, Bertram D. Wolfe hirelings and by the traitors imperialist democracy, and the government that Blum brought and Max Shachtman, laid bare into power in June, 1936. Since the contradictions in the Trial of then two years' of continued the Twenty-One, revealing the crisis, of shameful treachery and roots of the latest judicial farce betrayal of the workers' will to struggle for revolutionary solutions have wrought their changes of solidarity and congratulations in the objective situation and in from Leon Trotsky was read from

now to find common ground for Horace M. Kallen.

certainty.

Soviet Pact Doomed

Helpless before the crisis precipitated by Hitler's bloodless conquest of Austria, France awaits Britain's lead. It will scrap its pact with Moscow should Britain demand it in the interest: of an understanding with Hitler to the general effect: Attack the Soviet Union—leave Czechoslovakia alone.

which have not so far acted in war once more for French capital- choice, it could find no one more ideal. show signs of striking back.

Minnesota Farmer-Labor Group Takes Militant Anti-War Stand

Anti-War Campaign

The following is the complete text of the anti-war resolution adopted last week by the Third Congressional District Convention

of the Minnesota Farmer-Labor Party: WHEREAS there is growing danger of the outbreak of another World War, as is so clearly revealed by the actions of the National Administration in launching a gigantic program of naval and military expansion, including over a billion dollars for arms in the regular budget, an additional billion or more for new warships, and other military bills now being drafted

at the direction of the Administration, and WHEREAS the government's preparations for war are a mortal danger to the organized workers and farmers, as is revealed by the plans for a military dictatorship in war-time embodied in the Sheppard-May Bill with its provisions for compulsory conscription, prohibition of strikes, control of the press and

regimentation of labor, etc., and WHEREAS what is in store for opponents of war was even more clearly revealed by the boldness with which the Administration organized a lynch spirit against the Farmer-Labor congressmen and others who supported the Ludlow Amendment requiring a popular referendum before Congress can declare

BE IT RESOLVED that the Third Congressional District Convention of the Farmer-Labor Party goes on record against the war preparations, and against the specific bills in which these preparations are embodied, and all other bills of the same kind, and instructs the Convention Arrangements com-

Mark Commune Date By office was to call upon the workers to "facilitate" the speed-up Anti-War Mass Meeting

mittee to give this resolution the widest possible publicity.

With a new world war hover- the defense of the remaining

ed more clearly than ever the working class rule.

against Hitler, thus showing that America, the Socialist Workers tion, will be presented by a list prevented Hitler's rise to power. France is heading swiftly toward Party is calling a mass rally of prominent speakers including: "Against the Coming War" this Maurice Spector, associate ediof imperialist war. This is the Friday, March 18, at Manhattan tor of the New International; the Sheppard-May Bill, and has real meaning of Blum's effort to Plaza, 66 East 4 St., at 8 P. M. Nathan Gould, national organizer form a national union govern- This rally is a high point in the of the Young Peoples Socialist course of the campaign against League; James Burnham, prothe coming imperialist war now fessor of philosophy at N. Y. U.; pro-war line of the Communist the present transitory cabinet being conducted by the Socialist James Rorty, noted writer; and Party. which Blum has set up. If it Workers Party throughout the James Casey, former managing editor of the Daily Worker. Events of the past few days This meeting falls with especial are attempting to weather the

of Austria and the close of the niversary of the Paris Commune, ment when the war crisis aplatest Moscow trial which reveal- the first example in history of proaches a climax and the Farmisolation of the Soviet Union in | Commemorate with us the line. This was the Stalinist mo-

novation in his new government a hostile capitalist world, raise glorious memory of these heroic tivation for silence on the war with special sharpness the urgent fighters of the past, and join question at the recent Farmer Even while he continues his need of an effective program with us in raising their banner Labor convention, even to the ex-Such as effective program, standard now in the fight against militant ("Trotskyist") anti-war

2,000 Meet To Protest Frame-up

the platform. There were also Blum will be even less able wires from Norman Thomas and

Winding up Affairs

Announcing that the Committee was winding up its affairs, Secretary George Novack summarized the results of the Trots-

Max Shachtman summed up, the liberation of the German and cialists and the Stalinists but historic achievements of the Ameven more significantly reflects erican Committee, and delivered the fact that French foreign a spirited rejoinder to those who policy remains suspended in un- are seeking to make anti-Bolshevik capital out of the debacle of on March 13, express our vehe-Stalinism.

The full text of Trotsky's message to the meeting follows:

Trotsky's Message

by the proletariat, Stalin deals methods of the G.P.U., and we socialism such blows as no one demand that the blood bath of ever, only partial. The basic cause slaughts. has yet dealt. If anyone sabotages the revolutionists in the Soviet of the fact that the capitalists the economic and cultural develop- Union should stop. We call upon ment of the U.S.S.R., it is Sta- the Canadian workers and upon In either case it is understood lin. If anyone undermines the mi- the international proletariat to a joint onslaught on the left that war has drawn frighteningly litary power of the U.S.S.R., it solidarize themselves in a mighty wing, is the raging economic "However, if there is no limit

horrified conscience are awakening. Progressive mankind is preparing to disgorge the venom of Stalinism. In our thoughts, Natalia and I are present at your meeting of protest and challenge. We see in your ranks the spirit of Leon Sedov fallen at his battle post. With us or without us you will lead our great liberating struggle to victory."

Spector Speaks On Trials In Toronto

TORONTO, Ont.-The Labor Temple was filled on Sunday, March 13, with workers of nearly ingly endorsed by the 500 workers present said in part:

trous frame-up of the builders accept the confessions extorted militant union leaders. "From inside the fortress won from the accused by the brutal

> SUBSCRIBE NOW TO THE SOCIALIST APPEAL

Issue Cuts Through All State Politics; 544 Leads Drive

MINNEAPOLIS. - The war question is a burning issue in the daily political life of Farmer-

Laborite Minnesota. It is already obvious that the struggle against war is leading to a realignment of forces in the labor movement and the Farmer-

Labor Party.

Left wing leaders of Minneapolis trade unions have been developing an anti-war campaign which has already led to repercussions in the Farmer-Labor Party. A systematic campaign against Roosevelt's war preparations is being waged by the Northwest Organizer, organ of the Teamsters Joint Council, the electrical workers, the furniture and warehousemen's unions, etc. One important result of this campaign was the adoption of a militant anti-war resolution by the Third Congressional District Convention of the Farmer-Labor Party (the full text appears elsewhere in this issue).

Stalinists Losing Out

An immediate result of this campaign is a split developing in the top leadership of the rmer-Labor Party, dividing ne pro-war Stalinized elements and Stalinists from the rest. Yesterday the pro-Stalinist Governor Benson combination appeared to be unbreakable. But pressure from the left is dividing them. The Farmer-Labor de legation in Congress voted for the Ludlow Amendment. Benson himself is campaigning against Roosevelt's naval program. All

this is in direct opposition to the

The Stalinists very well understand what is happening, and er-Labor tops swing back into of the class struggle as our tent of not voting against the resolution in the Third Congressional District Convention, But the harder the left presses along its independent line, thereby forcing the Benson-pacifist wing to declare itself, the more dif-(Continued from page 1) to baseness, there is a limit to ficult it will be for the two secgullibility. Strangled thought and tions in the ruling bloc of the Farmer-Labor Party to hang together during the next months.

On April 11, a gigantic mass meeting in the Auditorium sponsored by all the joint bodies of organized labor-the Central Labor Union, the Teamsters Joint Council, the Building Trades Council, the Printing Trades Council-will deal with the problems of the present economic crisis and the war crisis.

Bosses' Offensive

As part of the preparations for war, as well as a result from the desperation of capitalists in the face of the economic crisis, the labor movement here is conment who came to hear Maurice fronted by a bosses' offensive Spector speak on the Moscow But it is significant to note that, trials. A resolution overwhelm- unlike the usual capitalist on slaught against militant section: of the labor movement in a de veloping war crisis, the capital "We workers, assembled at a ists have as yet secured no aid mass meeting at Labor Temple from reformists in an onslaught against militant union leaders. ment protest against the monstion are the strength and militof the Russian Revolution, per- ancy of the trade union movepetrated by the Stalin regime in ment, and the deep roots struck the Moscow trials. We refuse to into the mass movement by the

These explanations are, howhave been unable to secure reformist aid on a large scale for ists into a general attack on all the sections of the labor movement, militant and reformist This combination of chrcum-

stances presents the revolutionists with unusually favorable opportunities for assuming the leadership of the masses in a

SOVIET UNION NOTES

Stalin On His Onetime Allies—He Sheds Blood On In Minneapolis He Said Opposition Wanted—The

Mystery of Postyshev By JOHN G. WRIGHT

Stalin and Molotov on Bukharin — in 1926

In 1926, when Stalin and Molotov were in a bloc with Bukharin and Rykov, the State Publishers issued a pamphlet, first edition-200,000. This pamphlet is entitled "A Reply to the Opposition." The authors are: J. V. Stalin and V. M. Molotov. The contents are the summary speeches delivered by Stalin and Molotov at the Fourteenth Party Congress on the Political Re-

port of the Central Committee. In his speech, Stalin revealed a "plot" hatched allegedly in 1923, after the Twelfth Party Congress, to "destroy the Political Bureau," and to "turn the Secretariat into a political and organizational leading organ, composed of Zinoviev, Trotsky and

Commenting on this "plot," Stalin indignantly said: "What is the import of this platform? What does it means? It means to lead the party without Rykov, without Kalinin, without Tomsky, without Molotov, without Bukharin. Nothing came of this platform at that time not only because it was unprincipled but also because it is impossible to lead the party without the abovenamed comrades." ("A reply to the Opposition," Moscow 1926,

Echoing Stalin, Molotov accused the Opposition (among them Krupskaya) of seeking to exaggerate mistakes and foist "deviations" upon "comrade Bukharin, member of the Political Bureau, editor of our central organ." And then Molotov added the following: "This is no longer a desire to correct mistakes but rather a desire to exaggerate mistakes, a desire to create such a situation in the party as would create distrust toward the best members of our party, one of whom, as is recognized by the entire party, is comrade Bukharin." (Idem, page 34.)

In 1926, Stalin swore that it was "impossible to lead the party without Bukharin, Rykov and Tomsky." In 1938, Stalin swears that they are "conspirators who served the interests of capitalism all their lives." (Pravda, Feb. 28, 1938.)

Stalin and "Bukharin's Blood"

In the self-same speech in 1926, Stalin accused the Opposition of "hounding" Bukharin, and of demanding, no more, no less, "Bukharin's blood."

Stalin said: "How explain this unbridled baiting of comrade Bukharin? What do they really want of Bukharin? They are demanding comrade Bukharin's blood. That is just what comrade Zinoviev demands, by aiming the barb of his attack in his summary against Bukharin. You demand Bukharin's blood? We will not give you his blood, you might as well know it." (Applause. Cries: Hear! Hear!) (Idem, p. 26.)

Stalin on the "Policy of Lopping Off"

Again, in this 1926 speech, Stalin revealed yet another conspiracy-this time, to expel Trotsky from the party. The leaders in this conspiracy, if one believes Stalin, were Zinoviev and Kamenev, who, at the end of 1924, proposed to expel Trotsky from the party. Stalin, together with the majority of the Central Committee, would not agree to this proposal. Shortly thereafter, Kamenev proposed to expel Trotsky from the Political Bureau. And Stalin comments: "....We did not agree with this proposal of the Opposition either. We obtained a majority in the Central Committee, and limited ourselves to removing comrade Trotsky from the post of People's Commissar of War. We refused to agree with comrades Zinoviev and Kamenev because we knew that the policy of lopping off is pregnant with great dangers for the party, that the method of lopping off, the method of blood-letting-and they were demanding blood-is dangerous and contagious. Today you lop off one, tomorrow another, the next day a third-and what will then be left of our party?" (Applause.) (Idem, p. 22.)

In his concluding statements, Stalin once again returns to this theme. He says: "We are against lopping off. We are against the policy of lopping off.... We are for unity and against lopping off. The policy of lopping off is revolting to us." (p. 30.) Comments are hardly necessary.

The Postvshev Mystery

The defendants in the trial of the sixteen (Zinoviev-Kamenev et al) in August, 1936 confessed that among the victims of their plot, Postyshev's name figured prominently. His name is mentioned in the indictment as one of those marked for assassination. Vyshinsky in his summary speech repeated his name time and again. The defendants were shot, in part, for "conspiring" against Postvshey's life. In the trial of the seventeen (Radek-Piatakov et al.) Jan. 1937, Postyshev's name was again referred to as that of a prospective victim of the terrorists (see Verbatim Report, Eng. Edition p. 328; p. 348; p. 358 etc.).

Meanwhile, Postyshev has not only been removed (together with Rudzutak) from the Political Bureau, but even from the minor party post to which he had been demoted. It is reported that he is under arrest. No doubt he plotted with the executed defendants and the defendants-to-be to "assassinate" himself as a fiendish ruse to cover up his complicity. Just as we are asked to believe that Yagoda arrested, exiled, tortured and killed thousands of Oppositionists for years in order the better to disguise the fact that they were his fellow-conspirators.

struggle against war, hunger and unemployment. The response to the proposal of Drivers Local 544 for the gigantic mass meeting of all labor to discuss unemployment and war-this is indicative of the enormous possibilities which oren to us, to rally labor against the capitalist on-

GALA SECOND APPEARANCE The Red Puppets in

"Oscar Gets The Pretzel Benders Daughter" and "Kremlin Prelude" SAT., MARCH 19th, 8 P. M

Dancing To Swing Music Lower East Side Branch 159 Rivington Street Sub. 20c, Children 5c

GENE FREY

MINNEAPOLIS. — Workers here are mourning the death of Gene Frey, Socialist Workers Party member, who passed from the ranks of the movement on February 28, following a brief illness. Comrade Frey was active in the Federal Workers Section, and was a member of the General Drivers Local 544.

All his life he was a rebel. He was a member of the old Socialist Party; active in the days of the Non-Partisan League; at the time of his death, a Fourth Internationalist. He was active on every picket line of recent years in Minneapolis. The staff of the Federal Workers Section attended the funeral.

SPEAKERS:

Maurice Spector

James Casey Ex-Managing Editor, Daily Worker

Co-Editor, New International

Nathan Gould

National Organizer, Y.P.S.L.

Mass Rally

AGAINST THE COMING WAR!

Manhattan Plaza, 66 E. 4 St. FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 8 P. M.

Auspices: Socialist Workers Party

SPEAKERS:

James Burnham

Co-Editor, New International

James Rorty

Writer, Lecturer

THE STALINIST ON CONSTITUTION

THE MOST DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUTION
THE WORLD SOCIALISM HAS BEEN
FINALLY AND IRREVOCABLY ESTABLISHED.

Stains That Won't Come Off

TO COLORS

SOCIALIST APPEAL

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> MAX SHACHTMAN Editor.

HAROLD ROBERTS FRANK GRAVES Associate Editors. BOB BROWNE Business Manager.

Debacle of People's Frontism

Events of world significance crowded into the brief space of two weeks and occurring in the Soviet Union, Austria and Spain, have served to emphasize with all the sharpness of historical reality the horrible bankruptcy of the People's Front policy in reply to the continuing decay of world capitalism and the mad onrush of the dark forces of fascist reaction.

The brutal heel of Hitler treads mercilessly on the bowed backs of the Austrian workers, whose social-democratic and Stalinist leaders smoothed the road for Hitler via the dictatorships of Dollfuss and Schuschnigg. The Austrian coup of the "iron chancellor" of the Third Reich, whose advance to one conquest after another could not be stayed by the allegedly invincible People's Front, has given fresh heart to Franco's fascist forces in Spain. Using troops sent by Mussolini as the spearhead of a new drive, Franco is threatening Republican Spain with imminent annihilation. Deserted by England and France, the "democratic" allies whom Stalin so assiduously cultivated at the price of betraying the Spanish revolution, the "democratic" government of Negrin is reported ready to treat with Franco and to sell out the Spanish proletariat to

Closely linked to the Austrian and Spanish events is the recent Moscow trial, in which Stalin, displaying his ardent love of democracy, has extirpated eighteen of the few remaining representatives of the October Revolution. This latest bloody deed of the Kremlin Bonaparte has sent a shudder of revulsion and horror through the ranks of world labor and contributed enormously to weakening the revolutionary struggle against fascism and war at a crucial turning-point in world history.

This, then, is the balance of all those policies summed up in People's Frontism. It spells only one thing-political bankruptcy. The entire world movement of labor is threatened with annihilation by the forces of fascism and imperialist war. The fraud of bourgeois democracy stands completely exposed in the era of declining capitalism as the precursor of fascism and war. Policies built upon the preservation of bourgeois democracy not only cannot bar fascism and stave off war—they actually pave the way for these twin evils.

The path for all honest, revolutionary elements in the ranks of the labor movement is clear. It involves repudiation of bankrupt Stalinism and its criminal policies, a return to the revolutionary line of Marx and Engels, Lenin and Trotsky, a fresh rallying under the banner of the Fourth International for the assault on capitalism—breeder of war and fascism — and the establishment through the socialist revolution of real peace and plenty under the power of the workers.

Liberalism Gets Indigestion

Among the rats sent scurrying for cover by the latest trial, we notice conspicuously those two prime specimens of American liberalism, the *Nation* and the New Republic.

These doughty knights of journalism found themselves able to digest the Zinoviev-Kamenev trial with scarcely a murmur. By swallowing hard, they kept down the Radek-Piatakov successor, the execution of the generals, and the contimuous purge.

Indeed, they performed even greater services by attacking and slandering every attempt to get at the truth of the trials and the purge, or to defend the conscience and future of mankind against

But, somehow, the trial of the 21 seems to have affected them with at least a touch of nausea.

"At the time of the Revolution and ever since, its enemies have said that it was conducted by traitors and mad-men. This is now the official view of the Stalin government," writes the New Republic. "When one looks at Bukharin's picture and reads his words, the whole past of the revolution clamors for defense and vindication," says that pious and noted defender of the Revolution, the Nation.

"The Moscow trial is a world issue," remarks the Nation in passing, after having told us for two years that the trials were a local Russian question over which we should not be concerned. In its March 9 issue, the New Republic protests that "there is no real reason to believe that it (the U.S.S.R.) has been seriously weakened by recent events"; and states exactly the contrary in the issue of the week following.

After having concluded two years ago that a hundred years would be needed to make up our minds about the trials, the Nation now concedes that "the coming weeks in European diplomacy and the next decade in the development of radical thought and action, will determine the real significance of the Soviet trial."

After having on a hundred occasions sung the perfections of Kremlin justice, the New Republic now discovers that the entire judicial system and procedure is worthless and "unconvincing."

A prime function of liberalism is to defend the status quo by providing a critical sauce to make it appetizing to those who might not otherwise find it nalatable. Can it be that the Nation and New Republic are losing confidence in the unshakeability of the Stalinist status

Then the pay-off: After having proved publicly, by their own written words, their own one hundred percent intellectual (not to speak of moral) helplessness and bankruptcy in the face of the challenge of the trials, they conclude that now "political thinkers" must "examine the premises of revolutionary doctrine."

Pardon us if we are incorrio ble. And may we suggest that if our liberal contemporaries really want to do some "honest examining," they have given in their own pages a fairly convincing proof that the "premises" which require it are precisely those of that liberal (not, God forbid, revolutionary) doctrine which motivated, among other things, their iant record on the trials.

On The Hippodrome Meeting

There have been called to our attention two phrases in the article published in the Appeal last week on the "Keep America Out of War" rally which are in error from the points of view both of fact and of political interpretation.

The article referred to the audience as "liberal." Whatever the conscious political opinions of the majority of the audience, it was in considerable part working class, and it was undoubtedly genuine in its anti-war sentiment. The crime of the "Keep America Out of War" committee, and all such movements, is precisely to exploit this sentiment, and to divert it into ineffective and downright 'reactionary channels.

The article also stated that the committee represented "the last attempt of the desperate pacifists...!" Unfortunately, this is far from likely. In the deepening war crisis, we may expect this committee or other similar organizations to continue and to extend their perfidious

Navy Departs For Pacific War 'Games' | Maintenance | State | S hearsal for war.

(Continued from page 1)

operate in the vicinity of Kingman reef and others may aprison of about 20,000 men on the | South Seas. Hawaiian island of Oahu, the The war program of the Am-gress, Maverick had said, and The conclusion for the workers

and considered in conjunction with mocracy.' the unmistakable war policy of the administration, the annual more openly do the patriotic denaval maneuvers this year have fenders of the interests of Amof the New York Times, is mov- munist Party moves with pered to describe them as a "re-

Diplomatic Moves

Other indications of the drive proach Howland and Baker Is- towards war are to be observed lands, near the Equator, or steam in the "peaceful" diplomatic even farther south. A squadron moves of the Roosevelt ("I hate clear and unequivocal position clear. Browder and the Communication of utilization of Rakovsof six naval patrol planes now war") government directed to- either for or against Roosevelt's ist Party trust Roosevelt, chief ky)." permanently stationed at Sitka, ward securing the exclusion of big navy program. But at Cha-Alaska, and other planes and Japanese trawlers from the fish- pel Hill, N. C. on March 3 Earl surface vessels to be temporari- eries in Alaskan waters and like Browder made the C. P. position exploiters and oppressors of the ly based on Kodiak Island, Dutch efforts to settle with Great Bri- perfectly clear. He was reply- American working class, and are Harbor or other Aleutian Island tain the question of sovereignty points, will join in the exercises. over the tiny Phoenix islands Maverick of Texas, an opponent Detachments of the army gar- of Canton and Enderbury in the

defenses protecting the Hawaiian erican imperialists, which is first said quite truly, that "every one is equally clear: The working political line, that he was giving naval base at Pearl Harbor and of all designed to establish Am- of the Communists I know is in class can place no trust in Browthe cable and radio stations and erican hegemony in the Pacific favor of the bill and the reason der and the Communist Party Pan-American Airways station and to guarantee investment and is they think we are going to and must, to insure its own fuon the Midway Islands are also profit opportunities for American take our navy over there and ture, drive these social-patriotic ceeds under the usual smoke- of China because that is a me- ranks,

Coming immediately after the screen of pacifist propaganda inadoption of the more than one tended to deceive the American billion dollar navy budget by the workers into believing they will House Naval Affairs Committee, be fighting for "freedom and de-

> ceptibly bigger strides to first place in the army of imperialist war mongers.

Mask Is Off

For weeks on end, the Stalining to Representative Maury prepared to lead the American of the navy bill who stands for upon which American imperial-"isolation." Speaking in Con- ism embarks.

trial in the near future. How He Spied Then Rakovsky relates how he nev were calculated to serve returned to Moscow "with the credentials of a Japanese spy in First of all, it was necessary my pocket." What spying activity

In sparing the lives of three

of the eighteen defendants in the

Moscow frame-up trial, the

counter-revolutionary Staiin re-

gime displayed neither a sense

of justice nor a disposition to be

merciful. The prison sentences

imposed on Christian G. Rakovs-

ky, S. A. Bessonov and Dr. Plet-

traction of "confessions" from

Role of Rakovsky

alleged Trotskyist conspiracy

September, 1934 (after having

spent six years in jail and exile)

Did Browder deny the charge?

nor even trust its own president

A little illiterate and confused,

spokesman and representative of

the American imperialists, of the

to follow a real peace policy."

ing in mid-air.

nace to Russia."

purely practical ends.

renev and Dmitri Bogomolov, | trial. This is why Rakovsky's life

Japan and China, respectively, An obvious question occurs: If

who have been lodged in Stalin's the trial was honest and above-

with the twenty-one?

Victims Not Ripe

The answer is simple: the G.

P.U. has not had sufficient time

to intervene in Chinese affairs."

China, too, a favorable atmo-

Everything of importance in

Rubens couple now being "inter-

viewed" by the G.P.U. in a

But a frame-up is a frame-up,

and Stalin's new effort will be no

more convincing than its prede-

WANTED

Back Numbers of the Appeal

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these issues which they do not

need or which they are pre-

pared to donate, please send

them in immediately. They

are needed to complete the

Comrades having copies of

Moscow jail.

former Soviet ambassadors to has been spared.

in order to make possible the ex- behalf of Japan? future trial defendants. If all half of 1936, i.e. prior to the trial them to confess. When that stage future victims be persuaded to ed over through Naid five reports into court, broken, to be confront-"confess" in exchange for a promise to spare their lives?

to the Japanese sceret service.

What was the nature of the spy is being "saved" for that purinformation thus transmitted? pose and that purpose alone. (Vyshinsky was not interested, Rakovsky, the ex-oppositionist Secondly, that phase of the re- of course, in asking who "Naid

to spare some of the defendants did he thenceforth engage in on

cent frame-up which relates to an was.) "I handed over material regardwith Japan against the Soviet ing the influence of the aboli-Union, the United States and tion of the rationing system, on International) was needed by the China was not completed. Rakov- the level of wages, on the condi- Jcpanese imperialists "to create sky was the only defendant-wit- tion of the collective farms, on an incident in China" which would by a once eminent revolutionist ness used for the unfolding of the fulfillment of the industrial give the Japanese imperialists "a on the edge of the grave dug for this angle of the "crimes" of the and financial plan. Statements desirable ground for being able him by the counter-revolutionary Trotskyists. He said just suffice and conclusions were deliberately ient to indicate that there was a made sharply pessimistic in thick "plot" and then it was left hang- black colors. I did this in order to whet the appetite of the ag-When he arrived in Tokyo in gressors.

Spy Information

as head of a Soviet delegation to Rakovsky had nothing to say the International Red Cross Conregarding the payment he reference, he was, he said, met by ceived for this wonderful "spy trial. "an important Japanese public information," which, incidentally, figure." The pair discussed drawthe Japanese imperialists could this new amalgam is already sufing Rakovsky "into work as a have gotten quite cheaply and ficiently clear. Trotsky and his spy, an informer of a certain easily by reading the New York followers, in China and the U. government." Rakovsky's reluct-Times' Moscow dispatches, the Inance to specify the Japanese goternational Press Correspondence, vernment surrounds the "plot" with the necessary aura of mys-There were more mysterious conversations, and Rakovsky mentions the names of C. C. Yu-Japan and thereby laid a basis for a new trial.

How did he involve them? He related that after speaking with By no means! Said he: "And in the "important Japanese public fighting the huge naval appro-figure" whom he met in Tokyo, priations, this is done by empha- he talked with Yurenev, the Sosizing a hundredfold precisely viet ambassador to Japan. Yurethat condition which furnishes nev showed him a letter from the chief influence behind these Piatakov (shot in January, 1937). the frame-up. huge expenditures, namely the The letter, of course, was not conviction that in a hostile and produced, but "in it, side by side war-mad world the United States with the text written in ordinary the Far East will be furnished, in part at least, by the Robinsoncan cooperate with and trust no ink, was another text written in other nation, people or group, invisible ink."

What did the invisible message say? "It is very likely a certain government will itself take steps ists refrained from taking any but the meaning is abundantly in this direction (i.e., in the di-

He "Helped Britain"

Continuing his testimony, Rakovsky said that "Piatakov wrote Yurenev regarding Bogomolov, workers into any robber war the Ambassador to China, pointing out that a certain government was dissatisfied with his more help to Britain than to the

government in question. Piatakov is dead, but presumably Yurenev and Bogomolov are expected to participate directly capitalists in the Far East, pro- fight Japan and get Japan out agents of imperialism out of its still sufficiently alive to be brought into a new treason

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STALIN EXECUTES ANOTHER EIGHTEEN

(Continued from page 1)

other three, as in previous trials, and had proclaimed them in his totalitarian press: "No mercy for the mad dogs!"

White Guard Prosecutor

earned the privilege of framing- over night with G. P. U. inquisiup and befouling the records of tors in the blood-bespattered celrevolutionary fighters by his own lars of the Lubianka Prison, record of fighting in the White could not and did not destroy the Guard armies during the Civil force of his original statement in War which followed the Bolshe- court. vik revolution, endeavored in his summation to distract attention alone—the first declaration of from the cracks and fissures in Krestinsky and the "last word" the fraudulent trial structure by of Bukharin-have destroyed the a stream of invective surpassing last lingering doubts regarding in vulgarity and malice anything Stalin's "justice." For these two talitarian court-room.

as "a stinking heap of human scum." Bukharin, who alone of all the defendants bore himself with some human dignity and firmness, he described as "a cross between a fox and a pig." To no avail! The hysterical declamations of this venal tool of Stalin, directed against Lenin's coleagues, architects of the first workers' state, did not and could not convince the world, especially the world of labor.

Bukharin, maintaining an unexpected nobility of bearing, some last shreds of independence (much to the irritation and discomfiture of Stalin's prosecutor, who had reason to fear that a monkey-wrench might be thrown Stalin Saves Rakovsky nto the machinery of the frameblasted holes in the flimsy fabric of the trial both in his For New Frame-up Trial "testimony" and in his last speech to the court. Reading between the lines of his speech, one could discern a bitter hatred of the discern a bitter hatred of the criminal Stalin regime.

Exposes Falsehoods

jails for several months and who, board (which no honest and in- ously denied that he was a murreportedly, may be brought to telligent person believes), why derer and stoutly repudiated the January 10, 1937, Trotsky was were not Yurenev and Bogomolov testimony of Sharangovich that aboard the tanker "Ruth" bound confronted in court with Rakovs- he had given the latter instruc- for Mexico. The Dagbladet quotky's testimony? Why did they tions for spying in the interests ed the present Norwegian chief not occupy the defendants' bench of Poland. Going still further, of police, who accompanied Trothe denied even knowing Sharan- sky on the trip, as affirming that govich or the members of the the revolutionary exile had not bloc" whom Sharangovich alle-been permitted to use the tanker's gedly represented. Sharangovich, playing out to the end the one but a Stalinist would con-"During 1935 and in the first in which to break them and force role assigned to him, promptly tend that the Norwegian authorcalled Bukharin a liar. Bukharin ities, who interned Trotsky and were killed, how could Stalin's of Kamenev and Zinoviev, I hand- is reached they will be hailed treated the interruption with held him virtually incommunicado merited contempt - by ignoring | for three months, are friendly

Even more revealing was Bukharin's declaration that he had "confessed" to the crimes charglast of the capitulators, had, of prison. "It was not the evidence course, to involve Leon Trotsky, that broke me down," he said. too. Trotsky, through the Com-"It was the solitude in prison." munist League of China (Fourth

(New York Times, Mar. 13.) These precious words, spoken Meanwhile, a furious campaign of last doubt any honest, intelligent provocation and villification is person may have harbored conbeing conducted in China against cerning the character of the the Chinese revolutionists, who trial. They rip open the frameare charged by the Stalinist up at the seams. Not all of Bukallies of Chiang Kai-shek with harin's equivocal and hazy admissions of guilt in general, inbeing paid agents of Japan. In terspersed as they are throughout the trial proceedings and sphere is needed for the coming Bukharin's final address to the court, can destroy this damning indictment of Stalinism.

Daily Covers Up

That delectable organ of "de- tims. S.A., are responsible for the Japanese invasion of China. At mocracy" in this country, the the Moscow Pravda, or the Isves- the same time, they plotted with Stalinist Daily Worker, which is fendants, including the absent tia. This is unimportant, anyway. the Japanese imperialists against merely an extension abroad of "defendant" Leon Trotsky. was What was important was that the Soviet Union and the United Stalin's prostitute press, printed pithily characterized by a foreign Rakovsky involved the jailed So- States. Rakovsky, Yurenev and on March 14 the "last state- observer at the trial of the viet ambassadors to China and Bogomolov will be Stalin's wit- ments" of Stalin's latest victims, twenty-one: "Everything is true nesses in Moscow. Persons arrest- and managed to do so without but the facts." (New York Times, ed recently in China and dubbed giving a single word of Bukha- March 14.) "Trotskyists" by the Stalinist rin's accusatory assertions! Honpress (although they are not and est members and followers of the never have been members of the Communist Party must ask them- dulent. Eighteen of the twenty-Communist League—see Socialist selves why, for other papers carlone are dead. The other three Appeal, March 5) will by their ried them in full. confessions, posthumous or other-

mencement of the trial proceed- to redeem them.

ings, when the former vice-commissar of foreign affairs repudiated his "confession" and declared that he had "confessed" at the preliminary investigation only in order to secure opportunity to proclaim the trial a fraud in open court. Krestinsky's retraction of this repudiation the fol-Prosecutor Vyshinsky, who lowing day, after being shut up

These two incidents in the trial previously heard in Stalin's to- leading defendants not only stamped the trial a fraud-they He described all the defendants also revealed, with an authority which only the victims could impart, the technique by which "confessions" are extracted from Stalin's helpless tools.

A New Failure

The effort of Vyshinsky to link Leon Trotsky with the defendants in a web of "conspiracies" to murder Stalin and his satellites, to wreck Soviet economy, and to hand over Soviet territory to the imperialist enemies of the U.S.S.R., as with similar efforts in previous trials, met dismal failure:

The defendant Bessonov testified that he had written Trotsky in December, 1936, and had received a reply a few days later, destined for Krestinsky, another of the defendants. This crude falsehood crumbled when the testimony" and in his last speech Norwegian Passport Office told the newspaper Dagbladet that from September, 1936, to December 19 of that year, the day he sailed for Mexico, Trotsky was under the strictest police surveillance and could not possibly The former chairman of the have communicated with his al-Communist International vigor- leged co-conspirators in Russia.

From December 19, 1936 to radio throughout the voyage. No to Trotsky or partial to his cause.

No Real Evidence

As in the previous trials, there was no real evidence. single letter, not a scrap of paper was produced. There were only "confessions" and "conversations about conversations." All the 'plots" lacked flesh and blood. earlier trials, a few corpses were exhumed-disintegrated corpses at that. Stalin realized that the corpse of Kirov had already been worked far beyond any limits of credibility.

And yet the trial showed that the "conspirators" had accomplished virtually nothing beyond demonstrating their own extreme ineptitude-that is, if one excludes the breakdowns in Soviet economy and the failure of the Kremlin's foreign policy, sins of Stalin which the "beloved leader' deemed it necessary to load on to the backs of his pitiful vic-

The evidence against the de-

Conclusion: This trial, like its predecessors, was false and frauhave gone to a living death. But Bukharin's damning indictment history has already nailed the wise, furnish the China angle of of Stalinism must be taken in executioners and their masters conjunction with Krestinsky's to that eternal pillory from The links between Moscow, the accusatory statement to the which all the prayers of the Sta-U.S.A., Mexico (Trotsky) and court on March 2 at the com- linist high priests will not avail

Trotsky On Hearst

The APPEAL has received the following communication from Leon Trotsky:

"During the Moscow trial the London Daily Express asked me to give them an exclusive article upon the trial. Cabling the article. I did not have the faintest idea that it would return from London and appear in the Hearst papers.

"Let the various bigots who support Stalin-Vyshinsky make what they can of this occurrence. I am not greatly moved. It is by no means a question of literary "collaboration" with Hearst. My task and that of my collaborators during these days was to launch into world circulation through all accessible channels the greatest possible number of facts and arguments against the executioners and thus attempt to stay their hand. If I should have to post placards, warning the people of a cholera epidemic, I should equally utilize the walls of schools, churches, saloons, gambling houses, and even worse establishments.

"LEON TROTSKY."