WEEKLY ORGAN OF THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

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Roosevelt Speeds War Plans

Revolutionary Course In Spain Can Check Franco

Scurry For

Scapegoats Sought For Series of Heavy **Defeats**

extent to insure a Fascist victory the bourgeois politicians of Loyalist Spain began scapegoats upon whom to place the blame for the catastrophes that have befallen have brought to the unemployed the Loyalist cause.

An "exodus of government officials" has begun from Barcelona, the dispatches report. First among them were Jose Antonio Aguirre, ex-president of the Basque Republic, Marcelino Domingo and Manuel Portela, rightist politicians who were clasped to the bosom of the People's Front while it was shooting down in the streets of Barcelona and other Spanish cities revolutionary workers who wanted to ste a course toward a real anti-Fascist, i.e., anti-capitalist strug-

Prieto Dumped

Premier Juan Negrin has dumped Indalecio Prieto, rightwing Socialist defense minister, whom he hopes the masses will hold responsible for the military debacle. He has assumed "personal command" of the armies for a "last-ditch" fight. That is, Negrin hopes to make sure that it will be the last-ditch and will Power Co. a partial victory 40 per cent raise. not leave until he has effectively prevented any resolute turn in

Most significant of all is the summary dismissal of those heroes of the Communist Party Friday, members of the union natorial election campaign. gular army generals headed by Gen. Sebastian Pozas, who have Bay City, Flint and Lansing. fight as partisans of LaGuardia. Herald-Tribune, competent funcmand. They have been replaced. interestingly enough, by excivilian officers who played a role in the first months when raw militia composed of scantily
Mexican Workers Greet Delegates armed workers turned back Franco's legions.

Pozas Led Terror

Pozas was brought to Barcelona last May to conduct the bonds of solidarity were cement- peasantry of Mexico in their change for a diplomatic alliance brutal repression of the Barce- ed here between the revolution- fight for political and economic with the Roosevelt regime. lona workers. It was he who ary workers of Mexico and the independence from imperialism brought Catalonia under the United States at a mass meeting and for liberation from all ex- audience in the name of the Naheel of G.P.U. terror and as- organized under the auspices of ploitation and oppression. sumed full command of all Cata- the Casa del Pueblo, a revolulonian forces. All the bluster tionary trade union center in the ploiter of the proletariat of our the Casa del Pueblo for having about the front and all the real Federal District, to welcome the country as well as yours, is Am- arranged the magnificent meetbloody terror against the work- international delegation of the erican imperialism. We cannot ing for the international delegaers in the rear are now producing their inevitable results. Fran- United States. co is cutting through a weakened Loyalist force that has suffered from more than just a lack ed by truckloads of peasants who tries fight jointly against exof mechanized equipment. It has came in from the surrounding been deprived of the driving countryside greeted James P. Fourth International. Our (Continued on page 3)

Palestine C. P. Joins Fourth International

The Communist Party of Palestine has announced its withdrawal from the Communist International and its adherence to the Fourth International according to Jerusalem reports which appeared in European newspapers last week.

Leaflets distributed by the Communist Party denounced the Moscow trials and executions.

W.A.A. Gathers Roosevelt In Convention Trims Sails

Safe Cover Progressives To Urge Militant Program As Reply
To Policies of Popule's Fronters To Policies of People's Fronters

> NEW YORK .- The convention | Alliance delegations to the relief of the Workers Alliance of bureaus. In addition, a new rule Greater New York opened at the was set up that emergency cases Hippodrome on April 7.

This convention marks a year per week. The former rule that Having utilized the of "successful" People's Front new applicants must be investi-People's Front to the fullest activity on the part of the Alli- gated within 48 hours was allowance leadership, and a year of ed to lapse, and there are now steadily worsening conditions delays of three to ten days. for the unemployed.

Chief success of the past year last week to flee like scurry- Mayor. Thus the unemployed was the election of "labor's" ing rats or to cast about for have a "friendly" president, a "friendly" mayor. Let us see what these political "friends" during the past year.

The "Successes"

First, the Relief Administration appointed by these "friends" cut down the number allowed on

POWER PLANTS

To Head Off New Sitdown Strike

when the C.I.O. Utility Workers Organizing Committee was policy that could still mobilize granted exclusive bargaining peacefully took over the plants

(Continued on page 2)

On two day's notice, an au-

Cannon, national secretary of the

cent R. Dunne, prominent Min-

Against Imperialism

The meeting was arranged for

imperialists who are resisting

the distinguished revolutionist

and artist of Mexico, Diego Ri-

the purpose of assuring the Mex-

neapolis trade union leader.

would be heard on only two days

The response of the Alliance leadership to these attacks on the unemployed was to hold an election rally for LaGuardia. "Don't do anything that will em-

Fruits of Victory

then came the fruits of his vic- Mexico. tory. (1) The clothing allowance March, and now for April. (2) checks was stopped.

The response of the Alliance to equitable solution." these cuts was to stage a demonstration in Wall Street against he "sixty-families." Any whisstate and federal officials was an oil blockade and the economic

Then came the 10 per cent cut. In the face of a recommendation purchases. Murphy Steps In Again http:// the Mayor's Committee for increasing relief by 40 per cent, ing light on the maneuver. Yieldthe Board of Estimate, on motion ing to the insistence of the oil JACKSON, Mich. - The first planations" have been given for in many months won workers being that it was made to fore-

Political Jockeying

The Alliance leadership threw fested.

and service stations in Saginaw, themselves into this political (Continued on page 2)

Socialist Workers Party of the triumph over it by ourselves, but tion.

dience of 1,000 workers augment- of all the Latin American coun-

of the Socialist Appeal, and Vin- lished the United Socialist Re-

the nationalization of the oil ence, which cheered the Fourth

Of The Socialist Workers Party

our victory is assured if the

masses of the United States and

Challenges Toledano

ican workers of the solid support | Toledano, to speak in the name | for the Fourth International. The

gle against Yankee and British gainst "Trotskyism." The en-world revolutionary movement,

vera, James. P Cannon told the as he denounced the Moscow condemns the assassination of

S.W.P. stood shoulder to should- the Latin-American peoples to jackal Joseph Stalin."

thusiastic response of the audi- Leon Trotsky.

of the Stalinist agent, Lombardo ence when he called for a cheer

Vast Army Games To Help In Oil Fight

Tries Tacking To Meet Threat of Storm In Mexico

Pres. Roosevelt, master of mass deception and political double-crossing, has again demonstrated his incalculable importance to the cause of Yankee imperialism. "From the driver's seat of his new car" on his vacation trip, he announced with a professional smile his "satisfaction" with the progress of the governor, and a barrass our friends," was the Mexican discussions. As a special humanitarian act he let it be known that the companies can "only" on compensation LaGuardia was re-elected. And for their actual investments in

> Secretary of State Cordell was cut to practically nothing Hull, who three days before had for the months of February and sent a note to Cardenas demanding in the language of an ulti-The previous policy of paying matum immediate compensation rent for new W.P.A. workers for oil and land expropriations, until they got their first pay suddenly declared his "belief... in a rapid, satisfactory and

Silent On Threats

Both, however, kept a signific per of criticism against the city, ant silence about the threat of strangulation of Mexico through This silence throws a reveal-

of LaGuardia, put through the companies, Washington had prostarvation cut. A number of "ex- ceeded too quickly So quickly that even Congressman O'Connell was major use of the sit-down tactic the cut, the most plausible one forced to declare: "The transaction reeks of oil and more oil. striking against Consumers stall any effective fight for the Hull's ultimatum threatened prematurely to tear the mask of pacifism from the Roosevelt administration, which is preparing Over this cut was waged a po- at top speed for its imperialist the masses for a stand against rights for all employees and the litical squabble between LaGuar- intervention in the next world company renewed the contract dia and Governor Lehman, which war. The protests of American expiring April 1 until August 4. was recognized by all informed trade unions piled up. Even in Within a few hours after the people as political jockeying for fascist Chile and Brazil active collapse of negotiations last advantage in the coming guber- sympathy for Mexico was mani-

> According to the New York (Continued on page 4)

> > Union Leaders Speak

Parade Today, Die Tomorrow!

This years' anniversary of America's entry into the World War of 1914-18 is being employed by the Roosewelt administration as an especially appropriate occasion for whipping up mass patriotism in support of the new war of imperialist banditry which is now being actively and consciously prepared.

New York is to be treated today, to a flag-wagging Army Day parade of 25,000, comprised of enlisted armed forces, organized reserves, veterans and members of patriotic societies.

Conscious Preparation For War

That Roosevelt himself conceives this patriotic demonstration as part of his preparations for the coming war is indicated all too clearly in his letter to Rear-Admiral Reginald R. Belknap, U.S.N., retired, who is in charge of the parade.

Roosevelt wrote that the observance of Army Day this year was particularly appropriate because of "the disturbed condition of the world" and would serve to

(New York Times, April 3.)

Admiral Belknap's views, quoted by the same paper, were even more pointed. He declared that Army Day observance "has a most salutary effect in clearing the air of confusing doctrines which have been preached by those who do not have at heart the best interests of our national defense. By making it (the parade) both interesting and instructive, we mean to stimulate attention to national preparedness.

Meaning of "Preparedness"

How ominous these words sound when it is recalled that "preparedness" was the slogan of American imperialism when the "pacifist" Woodrow Wilson was preparing to plunge this country into the last big rob-

The workers of America must reply to the patriotic war-mongering of their exploiters with slogans of their own, the slogans of the socialist revolution which alone can save mankind from the horrors of war.

Down with imperialist war! The enemy—imperialism—is in our own country!

F.L.P. Becomes Cog In Roosevelt Machine

Stalinist-Benson Clique Presents Hand-Picked Convention With Class Peace Program

MEXICO, D. F.—The closest | er with the proletariat and | American imperialism in ex-DULUTH, Minn.-The Stalin- | Minnesota unionism, had taken ist-Benson clique in control of its stand on the basic questions Max Shachtman addressed the Labor Party utilized the biennial the war danger, it had adopted tional Committee of the S.W.P. "Our common enemy, the ex- and thanked the leadership of The trade union leaders spoke return the Farmer-Labor ma- 11, and has issued a program of with deep feelings of joy at the chine campaigned for Roosevelt demands on the governments of ploitation under the banner of the presence of their North Ameri- The bloc with Roosevelt has state and nation. That program can comrades. Comrade Genaro actually been maintained ever points out the swift deepening emancipation is guaranteed," he Gomez, secretary of the Casa del since, and the tone of the con- of the crisis and accordingly de-S.W.P., Max Shachtman, editor concluded, "when we have estab- Pueblo, declared that the pre- vention leaves no doubt that a mands new Federal works prosence and speeches of the United deal with the Democrats is planpublics of North and South States comrades were enough to ned for the Fall elections. On and W. P. A. budgets from and certain great financiers in citizens anywhere in the world refute the vile attacks of the the basic questions of war and Federal and state governmental the City of New York, in which Stalinists against the unions of unemployment, the Stalinists agencies; union rates on all the proposal had been made that

Cannon challenged the right ous "Viva" came from the audi- form acceptable to Roosevelt. Praise Roosevelt

of the Fourth Internationalists of the whole Mexican labor mo-same cry was heard when Diego of the United States in the strug- vement in his vicious diatribe a- Rivera acclaimed the leader of hand-picked convention was indicated the first day, when a telegram was dispatched to Roosevelt, praising him for a recent Benson clique included none of The temper of the audience and holdings of the foreign exploit- International to the echo, was of the Casa del Pueblo unions speech in which "he lays bare these demands of the Minneapolis a demonstration of the most im- was indicated by the 10-foot banlabor movement! the heart of our present economic In the main address of the pressive kind against the Stalin- ner brought to the meeting which stalemate.... and places himself evening, which was translated by ists and their G.P.U. agents. ead: "The Marble and Associated squarely on the side of the de-The crowd cheered the speaker Workers Union of Mexico City mocratic philosophy as opposed to the feudal philosophy of special privilege."

enthusiastic assembly that the bureaucracy for its attempt to sell the old revolutionists by the The Minneapolis labor movement, unquestionably leader of

the machinery of the Farmer- just prior to the convention. On convention, March 25-26, at a militant resolution (printed in Duluth, to transform the party the Socialist Appeal of April 2), still further into the Minnesota directly and explicitly opposing section of the Roosevelt machine. the Roosevelt administration. On In the 1936 elections Benson the economic crisis, the Central made a deal with Jim Farley Labor Union, together with the whereby the Democrats with teamsters, printers and building drew in favor of the Farmer- trades joint bodies, has called a Labor ticket in the state and in gigantic mass meeting for April jects; increased funds for relief ary officers of the United States the Casa del Pueblo. A thunder- Benson clique adopted a plat- W.P.A. and other projects; no a regular campaign, amply figovernment chiseling and under- nanced, should be undertaken in mining of the unions; no pauper's the way of propaganda to make oath for W.P.A. jobs and 100 this country war-minded. The line to be taken by the per cent unionization of all building construction jobs. The platform presented to the

convention by the Stalinist-

Stand On War (Continued on page 4) Diplomatic, Are Pointing U.S. Toward **New World Conflagration**

Many-Sided Preparations, Military, Naval, and

WILL BUILD SUPER-WARSHIPS

The war preparations program of the "peaceful" Roosevelt administation is being speeded up on all fronts. With the greatest peace-time navy maneuvers in the country's history still going forward along a 5,000-mile line, from Alaska to Samoa by way of Hawaii, the announcement was made last week-end of pending army and air force maneuvers which are to last until Fall.

Described by the New York Times as "the largest mobilization and concentration of men in the South since the World War'" a single phase of the military exercises. involving "virtually all of the military forces in the thirteen states of the Fourth and Eighth Corps areas," will embrace 80,000 men, half of whom will be National Guardsmen and the others regular army troops and reserve officers.

Make Country War-Minded

Appeal of February 26 describ- parations, coinciding with the ng a secret meeting in New army and navy maneuvers, was York of high military and naval brought to light with the anofficers, financiers, and key of- nouncement from Washington ficials to discuss a war propa- April 1 that the navy hopes to ganda campaign in this country start work before the end of the was confirmed on the floor of year on two of the super-battlethe United States Senate on ships which the "democratic" March 30 by Senator Clark of powers, following Japan's refusal

Senator Clark said that heand not he alone-had positive the London Naval Treaty, have

At War Conclave?



NORMAN H. DAVIS

knowledge that such a meeting had taken place, "attended by certain eminent naval and milit-

He strongly hinted that Norman H. Davis, President Roosevelt's ambassador-at-large, had presided over the meeting.

The meeting discussed a campaign to "educate" the American people into "the use of war as

On the war question, the plat- recent meeting between President robber aims of American imperform as adopted comes into Roosevelt and four reading news- lialism, wherever these may be head-on collision with the resolu- paper publishers with whom he involved. tion of Minneapolis labor. Nor discussed plans for the propaganda campaign.

At least one demonstration of the aerial might of dollar imperialism is being reserved for the inhabitants of New York. Some 350 planes of the army's General Headquarters Air Force -the largest number ever concentrated for maneuvers in the army's history, will fly over a large section of the Eastern seaboard, with operations centered at Mitchell Field, Long Island.

Another phase of the war preto continue observing the "qualitative" limitations imposed by

These newest war weapons, described as the costliest, largest and most formidable ever constructed, will, according to navy circles, have a tonnage of from 43,000 to 45,000 and will mount 16 or 18-inch guns-12 to each

Hull Reveals Purpose

Those still clinging to the ilusion that the armed might of American imperialism is being primed and augmented for 'peaceful" purposes alone, in order to defend America's shores against some "aggressor" from beyond the seas, should take note of the remarks contained in a letter by Secretary of State Cordell Hull to the Senate Naval Affairs Committee. Hull. according to the New

York Times (April 2), "opposed a stay-at-home policy for the United States Navy, contending it must be left free to defend the rights of American citizens in any part of the world. The Secretary of State told the Senate Naval Affairs Committee that establishment of a 'naval frontier' beyond which United States warships should not operate would erect 'an imaginary Chinese Wall' and 'expose American outside this wall.

It is only necessary to substitute, in this quotation, "imperialist interests and profits" for "American citizens" and "the rights of American citizens" in order to get a true picture of the purpose for which the growing American fleet, and the Army, and the air force are to be used. Not for any idealistic aims, nor, primarily, for the dean instrument of national policy." | fense of the United States against The Appeal also reported a an "aggressor" — but for the

(Continued on page 3)

Workers Resist Scab-Herding Police in Detroit Battle

Force Closing Of Screw Plant

Thousands Join Strikers To Prevent Movement Of Scabs

DETROIT-Two days of bitter picket-line battles involving injury to 25 strikers and strike sympathizers as a result of clashes with the police, shut down tight the plant of the Federal Screw Workers here last week. Militant members of the United Automobile Workers put to rout the scabs and their police protectors.

The 300 strikers were aided in holding the picket line firm by nearly 5,000, sympathizers, mostly residents of the industrial neighborhood around the plant. Cops and scabs were bombarded with a barrage of bricks from the huge crowd of workers.

Fight Wage Cut

The strike was called Monday of last week by the U. A. W. members when the company arbitrarily cut the wage-scale ten per cent. Tuesday morning, police, using their clubs freely and armed with tear gas, broke through the picket line and escorted 20 scabs into the plant.

At closing time the police again brutally clubbed their way through the picket line and hurried the scabs away.

News of the encounter swept through the neighborhood, and Wednesday found the strikers prepared for a real battle. A first-aid tent was set up, the pickets nailed their placards on heavy-sticks, and the huge crowd of neighborhood residents gathered, in solid sympathy with the strikers

Scabs Escorted

At closing time, the police aand 15 mounted officers attemp- other. ted to escort the scabs to their | The Progressive Group, gatherautomobiles parked five blocks ing around themselves all honest away, they were forced to fight members of the Union, have an

the officers were numerous.

sixteen treated for injuries at tion. the union's first-aid tent. That In the election held last year, the real victory lay with the strikers was shown when the company announced that the plant would remain closed. Negotiations between the union and having had no previous experithe company are expected to begin shortly.

WORKERS HOLD POWER PLANTS

(Continued from page 1) Foremen and supervisors were ejected, but operations were maintained, with power still flowing throughout this vast industrial area.

Governor Frank Murphy, returning from a sojourn in Florida, promptly called a conference between the strikers and the company in Detroit, where the agreement was reached this Monday. Evacuation of the plants was the first demand of the company, and Murphy backed them that the seizure of the plants was "indefensible, illegal and cannot be justified." Such aggressive and significant strike tactics cannot be condoned by of March 28. even a "labor-loving" governor.

The union was demanding the renewal of a contract won a year | Civil Liberties Union to the | Mediation Board and the interago, when a similar strike shut political quack, Jeff Burkitt, vention of Mayor LaGuardia. The off the power for twenty-four were celebrating the demise of union, plagued by unemployment gels in defense of Stalinism. The hours, and a guarantee of no an ordinance that had been used and Stalinist leadership, has Daily Worker reported that at wage cuts.

weapons has been the Indepen- the workers of this industrial dent Power Employes Associa- area. Only last December, six tion and the state apparatus. tion, Inc., a paper union fostered C.I.O. members recived jail by the company. This outfit, sentences for violating the ordin- have failed, and the workers face meeting. equipped with high-powered legal advisers, is demanding a National Labor Relations Board elec- Court, which held that the town to starve the workers into sub- order to confuse me," Miss Strong tion. The maneuver has only one of Griffin, Ga., violated the con- mission. with the C.I.O. union.

Trailing along on this path is A.F. of L. affiliate, which is movement. Jersey City, along disadvantageous position the fur also demanding an election and with Dearborn, Mich., represents, workers still find themselves in. to receive a response to a comthe company signs with the C.I.O. pression by city ordinances, but instigated a frame-up trial Reverand John Haynes Holmes, exposed when the real union men thers throughout the nation in ers union in Toronto, Canada, Miss Strong's meeting in Com-

Electrical Workers Score Fine Victory

MINNEAPOLIS.—The electrical workers have smashed the union-busting scheme of the Northern States Power Company, the full story of which was published in the Socialist Appeal of March 26.

After all its bluster, the company resumed relations with the union under the existing agreement, and abandoned its demand for the ousting of militant union leaders.

The union, Local 292 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, is in better shape than ever. The crisis precipitated by the company's action in breaking off relations and its demand for ousting of the union leaders, actually served to rally the union membership in solidarity with the leaders, and to cement together the Utilities Section and the Inside Workers, who were in two separate unions a year ago.

The whole membership is toned up by the short and successful fight, and the company is faced with a firm body determined to secure every concession to be gained on the basis of the agreement, which has another year

FOOD WORKERS TO TAKE POLL ON APRIL 12

NEW YORK .- The election of officers in Waiters Union, Local Garden, April 12. This election members of the Union and to the entire union movement of New York. It is a clear-cut fight. All rank-and-file organizing commitgain prepared to evacuate the progressive and honest elements strike-breakers from the plant in the Union on the one side, but this time the strikers were and the Communist Party and

battle lasted over 45 minutes remnants of the Coulcher gang, and extended over the entire five and their corrupt Stalinist allies. The platform of the Progressive While the scabs escaped, the Group calls for one industrial cops got more than a taste of union of all food workers in New

> after the merger of the Stalinistcontrolled Independent Food Workers Union, Local 119, with Local 16, members of the latter, ence of the activities of Stalinence has convinced the progressives that between Browder's followers and Coulcher's gang. followers and Coulcher's gang.

there is no choice. The progressives have put up full slate against the Stalinist racketeer fusion slate. They are confident that the members A MCHGAN are confident that the members of Local 16 will unite with them in cleaning these harmful elements out of office.

Jersey Law Void. High Court Rules

Leaflet Distributors **Need No Permits**

bill distributors "covered" Mayor workers organized in a separate completely in this. He declared Hague's City Hall last Saturday union, and designers, foremen as the dictatorial city govern- and pattern-makers. ment found its rigorous antihandbill ordinance declared in out instituted early in February valid by a Supreme Court ruling by the Associated Fur Coat and

with crushing effectiveness a-One of the campany's chief gainst all attempts to organize

purpose-to give the company a stitutional guarantee of freedom legal cloak for refusal to sign of the press in requiring persons ident of the union, is a well ing the hall she announced to distributing circulars or advertise- known Stalinist, and the policies one of our comrades selling the ments to obtain a license, is of of the Communist Party play no Appeal that she intended to sue the Electrical Workers Union, an national importance to the labor small part in accounting for the our paper for libel. threatening to call a strike if not an isolated instance of re- Only recently this same Gold munication we addressed to the Such tactics are completely a common practice of city fa- against a leader of the fur work- who presided as chairman over

Chicago Office Workers Reject C. P. Attempt To Oust Organizer

the United Office and Profession- ground. al Workers of America, C.I.O. the rank-and-file administered an overwhelming defeat to the rule or ruin tactics practiced by the Stalinist leadership for the past six months.

The test occurred on the proposal of the Stalinist executive board to abolish the post of paid organizer for purposes of to remove the organizer, Sandra Slotkin, because she could not be swung into the line of the Communist Party in its attempt to force its views on the union membership.

Why Stalinists Won

The Stalinists had obtained the majority of the executive board at the last election chiefly because the progressives and to combat them. The net result to a point where attendance at tion. meetings has fallen to less than half that prior to their administration.

The membership who voted the wages and conditions.

"Every member an organizer" was their slogan. To effect this, tees were set up. At the head of tee was placed an incompetent

CHICAGO.—At a recent mem- ganizer of the local was pushed into several smaller ones, with bership meeting of Local 24 of more and more into the backthe aim of controlling each one separately.

Committees Disintegrate

Almost every committee rapidly disintegrated and very few Stalinist member of the executive members were brought into the local. Although these committees that the trouble was being causwere supposed to be a step in the ed by a lot of Reds who had got direction of union democracy, they into the union. But such "explawere allowed no initiative, held nations" have acted as boomerno discussions to plan their work, angs against the Stalinists. They economy. The real purpose was but were called together primar- will therefore attempt the other ily to be given assignments.

The local has been suffering financially for some time now. Its expenses rise constantly, and it cannot pay the excessively guard against any moves for high per capita tax to the International. But the local has a propose. Such a policy is suicidal good foundation and good pos- at the present time. Against sibilities for growth, which alone can overcome the financial dif- bureaucratic control of the leadficulties.

The leadership, however, seizmilitants had organized too late ed the present situation to strike a blow at the progressive eleof their leadership has been to ments. Remove the organizer and alienate the general membership save money—that was their solu-

In this move, they had forgotten to reckon with the member-Stalinists into office are now ship which has the union at heart voting with their feet. The aver- The last meeting was the largest age member had no interest in membership meeting in over a long discussions on affiliation to year. The members turned out the American League for Peace in full force because they unand Democracy, or an investiga- derstood that without full-time tion into the Women's Charter. organizers the union cannot He felt that the union had no grow and overcome its present interest in his problems, his job, critical condition. By a vote of two to one, they defeated the The present leadership, upon proposal of the executive board 16, will take place at Palm getting into office, began to and instructed the budget com- been expected, the American Lais of vital importance to all ganizing upon the membership. necessary expenditures the main- being "deeply sympathetic" to commission. tenance of an organizer in the

the general organizing commit-smash the opposition (and that means the majority of the memready. When 150 foot policemen racketeer combination on the who could not even call a meet | bers), they will undertake to ing to order, let alone lead the destroy Local 24. They will pro- Union, was secured on a framework of organization. The or- pose to divide our small local

away, they were forced to fight every foot of the way. The excellent chance to defeat the Chinese Garment Workers Strike in San Francisco

NEW YORK .- The New York members of the International Fur Workers Union answered the strike call issued by the union's Joint Council Thursday

the previous week, and affected 14,000 fur workers, 2,500 floor JERSEY CITY, N.J.-Hand- boys, several thousand Greek fur

The strike came after a lock-Trimming Manufacturers, Inc., Distributors, ranging from followed by weeks of fruitless representatives of the American negotiations through the State

a long fight with the manu-The decision of the Supreme facturers, who apparently intend a barrage of questions at me, in

A. L. P. SEC'Y GIVES BACKING Proposal Voted Down

SAN FRANCISCO-A deter-| Union, an A. F. of L. affiliate,

mined strike by 100 Chinese are respecting the picket lines ment. "Cracked heads" among is for democracy in the Union, plemented by picket lines around and against domination of the their retail stores in this city, Ten strikers were arrested and union by any political organiza- marks a real step forward in the

workers in this area.

Industry Paralyzed By Strike Action

of last week.

Ben Gold, international pres-

forced to undergo hospital treat- to all racketeering elements. It National Dollar Stores, Ltd., sup- leaving the retail stores without retary, Alex Rose, declares that ed after testifying against union salespeople.

organization of the Chinese I.L.G.W.U. Board, under the downtrodden and oppressed, there orkers in this area.

The strike was called by International Ladies Garment ed toward the end of last year in view of the fact that as a Workers Union after the Chinese in organizing the National Dollar political party we have our own owners of the National Dollar Store factory, largest Chinese program Stores, a retail chain of 37 stores, dress factory in San Francisco. achieve. had broken the agreement cov- Chinese labor, employed mainly Rose, however, adds that his ist stooges, elected a number of ering their factory workers. by their own Chinese boss class, letter may be used by the Comthem to office. A year's experi- Members of the Retail Clerks has long been kept in docile sub- mittee for "enlisting the support

In face of nearly insuperable American Labor Party may al- case.

NEW YORK. - Timidly and

Rose Sends Letter Of

Support To Defense

Committee

They tried to smash the op-

position by calling it "Trotsky-

ite"-but that failed. A leading

board explained to a newcomer

Members-On Guard!

The membership must be on

division which the Stalinists

such policies, and against the

ership, the membership must

method-ruin Local 24.

now organize.

the case of Fred E. Beal, leader of the 1929 Gastonia textile The plans of the Stalinists are strike, who is now serving a 10-Carolina prison. The sentence, years by escaping to the Soviet up charge.

difficulties, the San Francisco ways be found on the side of the and objective

jection by appeals to national of any of our affiliated trade unions.

Tie Up N.Y. Shops Pastor Holmes Confirms 'Appeal' Story On Strong

In our issue of March 19 we in a letter of April 4, "the initial carried a report of a meeting report in the Socialist Appeal is miles around turned out for the limentary. There seems to be a held at the Community Church in New York, in which Anna City fur industry was closed Louise Strong, the speaker, was down completely when 20,000 quoted as saying: "Suppose the Moscow trials are frame-upsso what?"

Miss Strong has been covering the country assiduously since The general strike was voted then, continuing her campaign of "enlightenment" on the ticklish subject of the trial. Her itinerary took her to Boston on March 23.

She Got Indignant

There, speaking before 300 people (whereas she has always managed to attract upwards of tearing literature from their 1,200 on past occasions to hear hands and engaging in their about her Halliburton-like peregrinations through Stalinland), she once again took up the cudconsistently avoided any form of this meeting Miss Strong indigmilitant activity, but has sought nantly repudiated our "slanderthe aid of the City administra- ous" charge that she had cast aspersions on the validity of the All such efforts of "mediation" trials in her Community Church

"The gang in New York threw explained, in reference to the New York meeting. Before enter-

It was reassuring, therefore, go on strike and demonstrate fighting working class organiza- which succeeded in disrupting munity Church. "You are quite

accurate.

Go Ahead-File!

Appeal outside the Boston meetthreat of a libel suit, he urged rural communities in war time. very strongly that she proceed opportunity.

The Stalinists who arranged Miss Strong's Boston meeting, however, evidently felt that her threat had to be reinforced by something more immediate and substantial. They therefore proceeded to attack our comrades of the Socialist Workers Party, usual repertoire of hooliganism. We take this form of argumentation as a much more revealing confession than even

Miss Strong's inadvertent slip of the tongue at her New York BOB STILER, "On the Coming meeting.

Off the Press LEON SEDOFF Son-Friend-Fighter

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SAN FRANCISCO-Author-

Newsmen On Coast

Vote Strike Action

ity to call a strike against four San Francisco and one Oakland newspapers if they fail to comply with demands presented by the Northern California Newspaper Guild was voted overwhelmingly here Sunday of last week after an enthusiastic mass meet-

ing of the newspaper workers. A vote of 247 to 16 for strike action followed a report on negotiations, during which the publishers have repeatedly refused to consider the major demands of the Guild.

About 700 workers will be affected if a strike is called. Members of the unions in the mechanical departments were present at the Sunday meeting as observers, and it is likely that the mechanical workers will support the strike, if called.

Steps to set up a Guild newspaper which would be published during the strike have already been taken and a committee is now working out plans for such a project.

Marine Unions Hit By New Fink Hall TO BEAL GROUP

Crews Shipped Out By Maritime Body

NEW YORK .- The Maritime Commission struck at the most vital function of the seamen's unions with the opening last half-heartedly, as might have week of a government shipping hall, designed to replace union hiring halls in the manning of throw all responsibility for or- mittee to include as one of its bor Party has gone on record as the 38 ships operated by the

men."

Two ships, the Independence Committee which is working for Hall and the Algic, have already in an uncompromising defense installment of Trotsky's letter Beal's liberation, and which has been manned by this fink hall, of the actions of the Bolsheviks. received endorsement from nu- after members of the National In the same issue, Max Eastmerous working class organiza- Maritime Union had refused to man addresses an open letter to tions and scores of liberals and sail the ships. The Algic crew Corliss Lamont, replying to Laintellectuals, the A. L. P., refused to work with two stooldressmakers in the factory of the manned by the Chinese strikers, through its state executive secthough the sympathies of the members in the famous "Algic

The crew of the Independence against union members. Officials of the N. M. U. charged that A. F. of L. seamen, on orders from the Maritime Commission, replaced the N.M.U. crew and sailed the ship.

WIDICK SPEAKS TO FARMERS IN OLIVIA of view. A press run increased

OLIVIA, Minn.—B. J. Widick, exhausted and orders still come labor secretary of the Socialist in for more. Unfortunately we Workers Party, spoke here before a large group of farmers and unemployed, Wednesday. to list have started coming in, March 30. Farmers from many too-all enthusiastic and compmeeting, in spite of a heavy

snow storm. The meeting was marked by the extreme interest shown in If you get behind the Appeal as We can now add our voices to the war question by those in at you have this past week, six or that of the comrade selling the tendance. Comrade Widick was asked many questions pertinent too distant future. ing. In response to Miss Strong's to the plight of the farmers and The meeting was sponsored by to file it at the earliest possible the Olivia local of the Socialist Workers Party.

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.

NEW YORK

THE RED PUPPETS-The Low er East Side Branch presents them again in "Fireside Chat" with Roosevelt, Hearst, Brow der, Saturday, April 9, 1938.

War," plus full length feature film, "Potemkin," Friday, April 8, 8 P. M., Irving Plaza, Irving Pl. and 15 Street. Auspices, Y.P.S.L.

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Sub. 25 cents. Children 5 cents.

CABARET, SWING BAND, FLOOR Show, Bar and Snacks, Sat. Apr.9 9 P.M. 916 Ninth Ave. at 58th St Cover charge: 35 cents. Upper West Side Branch, S.W.P.

PHILADELPHIA ANTI-WAR MEETING, Friday,

April 22, 8:20 P. M. 431 Pine Street. Speaker: Maurice Spector. Auspices: Socialist Work ers Party. Admission 20 cents.

LOS ANGELES

SPECIAL FOR THIS WEEK ONLY, WHAT HITLER WANTS, by Leon Trotsky. 25 cents. Orders filled promptly. 5 cents extra for postage. Modern Book Shop. 509½ W 5th St., LosAngeles

WAA Convention Opens At Hippodrome In N. Y.

(Continued from page 1)

With this record of political victories" - actually steady losses in relief conditions for the unemployed-the Stalinist leadership of the Alliance comes before the convention.

If this leadership was docile and meek in the face of the steadily worsening conditions of the unemployed, they showed real ruthlessness to critics of their own administration. Leading members who proposed militant policies were brought up on all sorts of trumped-up charges.

Progressives Rally

Responding to the needs of the unemployed and the threat of expulsions, progressive members of the Alliance formed a Progressive Group and succeeded in checking the expulsion campaign for the time being.

Also by their aggressive criticism they have compelled the leadership to make some moves against the 10 per cent cut. Faint-hearted and weak though these moves were, they will have far more effect in winning back the 10 per cent cut than all the behind-the-scenes diplomacy of the leadership.

Progressives at this convention coming an effective organization have been made. Whether these of the unemployed.

I threats will simmer down to the usual slander and red-baiting attacks by the Stalinist leaders, or develop into a move for expulsions, remains to be seen. In any case the Progressive Group must be on guard against any attempt to split the Workers Alliance.

For A New Course

It is now the task of the Workers Alliance to turn its back on the past line of the leadership and consciously seek to restore the morale and fighting spirit of the unemployed by:

(1) Practicing and teaching reliance first and foremost on the organized strength of the unemployed themselves.

(2) Working for the closest cooperation with the organized trade union movement. (3) Rejecting the People's

Front policy of reliance on "progressive" politicians. (4) Restoring democracy to the organization. The practice of bringing critics of the administration and political opponents of Stalinism up on phony charges

must cease. These two fundamental points: Democratic procedure within the organization, and a fighting policy, will place the Workers Al-Threats of "action" against the liance back on the road to be-

April New International Contains Timely Articles

Captain Grenville Conway, paign waged by the Anarchists, local director of the Maritime Mensheviks and other opponents Commission, stated that appli- of Bolshevism around the "Kronquite clear now. If they cannot 20 years' sentence in a North cants would be required only to stadt issue" in an article entitled produce their licenses indicating "The Hue and Cry Over Kronwhich Beal evaded for nearly ten fitness for duty. "We are not stadt" in the April issue of The concerned," he stated, "with the New International, which came union views or affiliations of the off the press last week. The real issues of the Kronstadt revolt 17 years ago are made clear

> mont's circular letters attacking The regular feature, Com-

ments on the current scene by the editor, this month is devoted to the Trial of the 21, viewed in

Leon Trotsky reviews the cam- loving" nature of the great democracies is made by Maurice Spector and his findings revealed in "The Record of the Democracies." Dave Cowles analyzes the current economic situation and answers the question whether the new depression is A Strike of Capital?"

In the valuable "Archives of the Revolution" the concluding on the problems of the Chinese Other articles by Jack Weber,

S. Stanley and Walter Held, and book reviews by W. Keller, George Novack and Bernard Wolfe, round out the 32-page is-Single copies sell for 20 cents

and yearly subscriptions may be obtained for \$2.00 by writing the New International, 116 Univer-

Appeal

Last week's eight-page antiwar issue of the Socialist Appeal was a success from every point by thousands has already been cannot fill the orders that came in late. Comments too numerous growing sentiment in favor of a six or eight-page paper every week instead of now and then. eight pages it will be in the not

New York continues to lead the field in getting subs and increasing its bundle orders. Here are the increases for the week ending April 1st:

Chicago, Ill. Louisville, Ky. Worcester, Mass. Detroit, Mich. Minneapolis St. Paul St. Louis Billings, Mont. Plentywood, Mont. Camden, N. J.

Newcastle, Pa. NEW YORK BUNDLE ORDER INCREASE Boston, Mass. Louisville, Ky. Wiseton, Canada Billings, Mont. Chicago, Ill. Gardner, Mass. 200 New York City Columbus, Ohio 15

TOTAL INCREASE The above figures do not include the extra copies of the antiwar issue ordered by locals all over the country, nor do they include the copies ordered for promotion purposes. Don't forget that the success of the Appeal drive is a reflection of the Party's success in its Anti-War Cam-

And don't forget that May Day is only three weeks off. Plans should be made immediately for a mass distribution of the Appeal. We will give you a good paper if you will give us the orders for it. We expect bundle orders to be at least doubled and you

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Socialist Appeal. One year—(\$2.00); Six Months— I enclose \$..... as my contribution toward building the Socialist Appeal.

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New Crisis Looms As Blum Totters Again

COUP IN FRANCE

National Union Government Will Pave Way For French Indo-China, Ta-tu Thau, Saigon in 1931 he founded La the Stalinist Party in Paris Repression of Workers To Help Capital Meet Deepening Crisis

countries.

economy and the instigators of

The "saboteurs of national

civil war" are none other than

the workers themselves, who,

tired of dilatory parliamentary

tactics, have recourse to direct

action. The ranks of the strikers

begin to swell as new textile

strikes break out in Lille, ac-

companied by bloody conflicts.

Meanwhile the call of the

bourgeoisie for the replacement

of the costly People's Front sys-

tem by "a regular capitalist

of groups, sub-groups, commit-

and party cells...," becomes increasingly urgent. This govern-

Program of National Union

What the program of such a

transitory National Union gov-

intensive exploitation of the working class, at a level and

tempo incompatible with the

hesitant course of the People's

Back At Starting Point

Thus the working class has

It remains to be seen whether

Jouhaux will dare to carry

through his threats. He knows

the mass organizations.

By ARGUS

As these lines were being written, the cabinet of Leon Blum was about to disappear. Its imminent fall was greeted by the Parisian stock exchange with a sharp rise in the value of the franc, in anticipation of the longdesired government of Public

A bourgeois correspondent has accurately described the Blum government as a bull being chased by the toreadors of the right wing in the parliamentary arena. Indeed, Blum's financial proposals represent nothing but the "intention... of being defeated" in the least dishonorable way.

The French reaction has permitted the People's Front government only one function: the stif- democracy" freed of the "control ling of workers' strikes. Completely sabotaging all parliamentary tees, delegations, trade unions activity, the senators of the future National Union shouted in chorus at the government: ment of Public Safety, leaning "What about strikes? What on the armed fascist detachments, about the sit-downs?" The Cit- will have to break the power of roen sit-down strikes have spread until there are now 45,000 involved in strikes around Paris.

Clashes Loom

At the same time the class ernment has to be is explained contradictions advance irresistib- by the well-informed Swiss ly toward a violent clash. A newspaper Neue Zuricher Zeigives the key to the present si- united right wing parliamentar-Northern France, "a mass meet- ed with a call for a Union gobers.... of the Socialist Party declared their intention.... to (1) Break with the Communists. ioin (the fascist) French Social (2) Reconciliation with Franco Party 'rather than starve with by means of the strictest non-Blum'." Having excluded the intervention. (3) Rapprochement Socialist mayor of Calais from with Mussolini through recognidenouncing the People's Front "monopoly." (5) Forceful supprogram as 'a dream' and charg-ing it had accomplished not strikes. (6) Formal abrogation

of the 40-hour week law. This symptomatic incident constitutes a most pitiless ac- situation has reached a decisive Front and reveals its responsibil- bourgeoisic needs complete freeity for the growth of French dom for maneuvering in its in 1929. He participated in a de- indiscriminately at the Trotskyfascism. The unemployed, poten- foreign policy along with Eng- monstration organized by that ists and the Stalinists in Saigon tially the most determined cle- land. Public expenditures have group before the Elysee Palace and other cities in the colony. ments of the revolution, are now exceeded 50 per cent of the nabecoming the first victims of the tional income. An "equilibrium hampering of proletarian advance can be reached only through more by the reformist-Stalinist con-

A Danger Signal

Desperately seeking decisive Front. actions, the unemployed fall from the dream of "peaceful penetration" of the capitalist state into the dreadful nightmare of arrived, after two years of fascist "anti-capitalism," The People's Front government, at Calais incident is an impressive the starting point of its fight danger-signal to the French against fascism and reaction. The working class. The revolution has emphatic promises of workers' lost much time. Now it is threat- and peasants' liberation through ened with the loss of important parliamentary democracy now parts of its forces to the fascist face complete collapse. Jouhaux,

But the counter-revolutionary broken one strike after another labor bureaucracy turns an un-through "loyal opposition" to the heeding ear to the warning voice People's Front government, now Threatened with dismissal by the People's Front government should their efforts on proving their 'set it up again by our own sincere concern over France's means." "capacity for defense."

C. P. on Armaments

A decision of the Political too well that direct actions of the Bureau of the Communist Party working class would inevitably of March 18 invoking Stalin's get out of hand. On the other famous declaration to Laval of hand, even if the bourgeoisie suc-1935, "understanding and com- ceeds, with the complicity of the pletely approving France's policy People's Front bureaucracy, in of national defense for the setting up a "moderate," transimaintenance of its armed forces tional National Union governat the level of its security," ment, its class program will perforce lead to an open clash betstated: "the C. P. once more emphasizes that the Communist ween the working masses and Party was right, and in the pre- the bourgeois state with its sent hour, facing the necessity of | fascist auxiliaries. raising the manufacture of armacircumstances, associates itself with the declarations of the Trade Union Confederation (C. Jouhaux and the Stalinist Raca- the Communist League of China mond) in favor of augmenting (Fourth Internationalists) is still production," that is, the practi- mounting-but not fast enough. cal liquidation of the 40-hour

Confounding the interests of \$200, Following are the results the criminal trade-union bureau- to date: cracy and the no less criminal Previously acknowledged \$143.71 G.P.U. with the intentions of Akron Branch the working class, they continue: Lynn Branch "The workers are correct in be- Los Angeles Branch ing ready to act in order to as-

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RIGHT PREPARES Ta-tu Thau, Indo-Chinese Militant, Held In Prison of People's Front

result of hunger strikes in the sions in Indo-China. He was ar- May 10 last year and was releas-People's Front prisons of Saigon, rested and expelled. Back in ed on bail in June. In the interim leader of the Indo-Chinese Fourth Lutte. Internationalists and a member La Lutte and the group around confreres in Indo-China to withof the Municipal Council of Saig- it was unique in the internation- draw from the united front moveon, is serving a sentence of two al revolutionary movement up ment. They quit the group of years' imprisonment imposed until 1937. The newspaper was La Lutte three weeks before Tasure the country of the means of upon him by a People's Front the organ of a united front bet- tu-Thau was scheduled to come defense which it needs, and they court for his leadership of the ween the Stalinists and Trotsky- before the court. He had assumare equally correct in demanding struggle against French imper- ists of Indo-China. They fought ed full responsibility for the that an end be put to the agitation of the saboteurs of national

civil war, agents of foreign Party) and the International Aid for his immediate release. economy and the instigators of

Ta-tu Thau is one of the vet-As editor of La Lutte he has been at the center of all mass ence. struggles in the French colony for nearly a decade.

People's Front Repression

Always the scene of bloody been ground down harder beneath the heel of French oppression than it has been during the past two years of People's Front a Socialist, Marius Moutet, sat fined. at the Colonial Ministry in France directing the blows at the national liberation movement in Indo-China, French North Africa, and other parts of the French

Empire. ing of 1,000 unemployed mem- vernment, presented him with an ist Youth, adherents of the During the winter of 1936-37 unambiguous program of action: Fourth International.

revolutionary movement in Indo- bars. China and it is as the symbol of that movement that the suppression of the popular move- force his release. their meeting, the demonstrators tion of the Ethiopian empire. People's Front regimes of Blum ment in Indo-China was brought unanimously "voted a resolution (4) Destruction of the C.G.T. and Chautemps have relentlessly to bear by the French Communhounded him.

Arrested and Expelled

France's internal and external

His right side paralyzed as a | in 1930 in protest against repres- | Ta-tu Thau was arrested on

side by side in united front ac- editorship of the paper and was A broad campaign is being tions and elections. Ta-tu Thau deserted by them just as he was conducted in France by the led the ticket of this unprecedent- about to bear the full brunt of P.O.I. (Workers' Internationalist ed coalition in an election some the action against the group. two years ago which made him of the Indo-Chinese to independ-

The paper, and in particular its repression, Indo-China has never factor in numerous strike move-

Moutet Orders Suppression

In August, 1936, after the part of the Revolutionary Social- finally released on November 15. great strikes swept the French Ta-tu Thau is the outstanding colony and once more Ta-tu Thau representative of the national was put behind People's Front en faith in the proletarian rev-

French imperialism. The Stalinjoining the group of La Verite police acted and dealt their blows

finally succeeded in getting their

On July 9, after conducting a member of the Saigon Muni-himself as a true revolutionist cipal Council, a body created by before the court, Ta-tu Thau was eran leaders of the national li- the French in a niggardly at- sentenced to two years' imprisonberation movement in Indo-China. tempt to satisfy the aspirations ment. An appeal only succeeded in adding five years' banishment to this sentence.

He was still out on bail awaiteditor, became the target of po- ing the result of the appeal lice attacks which grew sharper when he was arrested for the as the group grew in influence fourth time following a great and prestige as the leading railway strike in Cochin China. Along with him was arrested ments and agitation for political the Stalinist leader Tao. When and civil rights. Arrested in 1935, they were refused liberation on Ta-tu Thau and several of his bail they began a hunger strike. collaborators were held for sev- They fought off forced feeding rule. During most of this period eral months and then heavily for 12 days before finally ending the strike.

Is Paralyzed

While the "Socialist" colonial victory of the People's Front, the authorities in Paris smirked and Lutte group started agitation for told protesting militants that between "democratic" England the creation of committees of ac- Thau was "simulating" his ill- and "Fascist" Italy putting a Directly involved in the per- tion throughout the country ness, the Indo-Chinese leader cross, if they can, over the secution of Ta-tu Thau was As- with the aim of setting up an was actually paralyzed along his Spanish revolution. sistant Minister of Colonies Vio- Indo-Chinese Congress. Orders right side. Medical commissions lette, the same "Socialist" who arrived in September from Mou- which examined him in prison to be said, by the Spanish workplayed a leading role in hound- tet for the suppression of this confirmed that he was in a seri- ing class, and by world labor. ing out of the French Socialist movement. The governor-general ous condition. Nevertheless all The unleashing, even now, of a little note in the American press tung. An assemblage of the Party in 1935 the young rev- promptly arrested Ta-tu- Thau on appeals for his release have resolute revolutionary struggle olutionists of the Seine Socialist | September 28. He went on hung- gone unheard. Instead, an old which will hold out to the worktuation in France: In Calais, in lians, before which Blum appear- Youth Federation who are now er strike for 11 days and was sentence from 1932 was invoked ers and peasants of Spain the against him, increasing his full term to four years.

> has sent out word of his unshakolutionary movement and of his The strongest pressure for dependence upon its support to

ist Party, which had now become raised in behalf of Ta-Tu Thau to the Spanish masses, can still the staunchest flag-waver for as the representative of the na become the most potent factor Ta-tu Thau, as a young stu- ists openly called in their press tional movement in Indo-China. dent in Paris, was one of the first for police action against the Indo- It is the duty of American work-Indo-Chinese revolutionists to Chinese revolutionists. Thus ers' organizations to protest to cusation against the People's turning-point. The French rally to the Left Opposition, spurred, the People's Front all local French consulates and ists of Spain have ceaselessly to the French Embassy in Wash- | said, is the pursuit of the revoington demanding his immediate lutionary aims of the masses and



OSSIP GARBER

who passed to him the phony Ro-

Sharfin apparently knew not

Stalinists Keep Mum

Whether Targun has political Butirky Prison while the G.P.U. ing to light, in the words of a Stalin were spies, assassins, and other materials for use against Garber, Shaw, Helen Ravitch "Donald L. Robinson"), Rubens' in the Far East." attorney, and others.

In view of these facts, the Daily Worker naturally continues silent as the grave on the subject of the Robinson-Rubens-G.P.U.—the Communist Party. at liberty in the custody of his G.P.U. case. And the "fall guy". The indictments made public attorney, M. Edelstein, was Arthur Sharfin, continues equally State Department and navy want

Politicos In Spain Flee For Cover

Scapegoats Sought For Series of Heavy **Defeats**

(Continued from page 1) power of a revolutionary policy and the upsurge of the masses behind it.

Thousands are fleeing and deserting. There is confusion and demoralization at a time when all forces have to be gathered to make a stand against the Fascist drive and its Italo - German spearheads.

"Anarchist Sabotage!"

The leaders who have been responsible for these defeats now seek by all means to divest themselves of responsibility. "Anarchist sabotage," cried Gen. Pablo Martinez, was responsible for the Fascist victories.

But not all the whining in the world can provide enough of a cover for the foul betrayal and treachery of the Stalinist People's Front which is now leading Spain into the hands of Fascism. The military victory of Franco will be complemented by an accord

On this the last word has yet hope of really breaking with the hated bourgeois regime can still From his prison Ta-Tu Thau turn the tide against Fascism.

International Solidarity

Active solidarity by the world working class, applying its own sanctions against the shipments We must add our voices to freely going to Franco, direct those that have already been aid in providing material support in transforming defeat into vic-

But the conditions of such a victory, as the Bolshevik-Leninnot the abandonment of those aims in favor of a bloc with treacherous bourgeois politicians whose only aim is to preserve the capitalist system and to keep

War Movements

(Continued from page 1) The Japanese imperialists disnavy maneuvers, the Japanese Tuesday, March 22. newspaper Hochi April 1 declar-

Pacific offensive operations." administration is built around this prospect. Thus Col. Theodore declared. Roosevelt, former governorgeneral of the Philippines, speaking April 2 before the American Academy of Political and Social Science in Philadelphia, painted that would befall the Philippines if and when they secure inde-

ese menace is not a fable but a been impossible. fact.

Another War Move

tries to decide what to do with staff correspondent of the New wreckers. This would be compar- Ethiopia and Spain. its latest frame-up), Sharfin, York Post, "the little-known able to saying that out of the fact that this country and the 56 American revolutionists who ports sent from Washington to closely in military preparations pendence all but one turned out The U.S. has had no naval

attache in Holland since 1932 and the sudden decision to assign an attache at this time was widely interpreted in diplomatic quarters as meaning only one thing-the to establish closer ties between essential.

SOVIET UNION NOTES

Stalin's Bloody Purge Surpasses All Previous Bonapartist Excesses; Red Army Decimated; Soviet Transportation Disorganized

By JOHN G. WRIGHT

The Purge in Progress

The current blood purge bids fair to surpass all those that preceded. Hardly an issue of Pravda appears without an attack on some department. The "criticism" of the Northern Sea Route Administration headed by Prof. Otto Schmidt has attracted most attention abroad. But it is only one of the departments under fire. In recent days the Soviet press has carried ominous charges against the Commissariat of Transportation, the People's Commissar for Agriculture in White Russia, the Presidium of the Moscow Soviet, its Chairman, H. Sidorov, and its secretary, Dedkov, etc.

The appointment of two new deputy Commissars for Heavy Industry, M. I. Tselischev and P. P. Kucherenko, which is reported in Prayda for March 20, denotes still another purge in that department—for the third time since last October!

According to the leading article in the same issue of Pravda, 132,000 employes in the trade network have been "brought up on charges for alleged embezzlement and dissipation."

The Purge in the Red Army

From top to bottom the Red Army has been decimated by the purge. As was to be expected, the Young Communist League in the army has been hardest hit. So many Y.C.L. units in the regiments have been left without bureau heads and secretaries that the Central Committee of the party and the Central Committee of the Komsomol have abolished the old restriction that only those who have been party members for at least two years were eligible for posts as secretaries of regimental bureaus of the Y.C.L. Savs Pravda. "Members and candidates of the C.P.S.U., regardless of how long they have been in the party, are eligible for the post of secretary of the bureaus of the Y.C.L. and in exceptional cases, even those Y.C.L.'ers who are not members of the party." (Pravda, March

The same leading article goes on to add that another restriction has likewise been abolished. Hitherto "political representatives" in the Army had to be party members. "Henceforth, according to the decision of the C.C. of the C.P.S.U., the most tested and politically qualified Y.C.L.'ers are to be drawn into the political organs of the Red Army as deputies or assistants of the political directors.'

The Crisis in Transportation.

We have already reported the grave condition of Soviet railways. Numerous items in the official press indicate that there has been no improvement in this field. We cite a few instances.

On Feb. 8, Pravda reported that 2,800 automobiles were left standing in the yard of the Gorki automobile plant. On March 17, in the Gorki yard 2,141 cars remained standing. "Some of them are becoming spoiled, others are half-covered with snow and ice... The yard where the finished machines are left standing for months is guarded poorly. Various parts are being stolen from the machines." (Pravda, March 18. Our emphasis.)

Flood threatens on the shores of the rivers Volga, Kama, Viatka, Beloya and others in the Tartar Republic, where valuable freight has been stored: 128,000 tons of grain, 13,149 tons of hay belonging to the state and unspecified quantities of kolkhoz hay, together with car-loads of sugar, salt, lumber, cement, alabaster, brick, etc. At the single station of Sosnovka, on the shores of the Viatka river 1,960 cars of lumber are stranded. The same situation exists on the river Sura. Meanwhile the railways are unable to move this freight. Especially criticized for "inactivity" is the administration of the Kazan railway line. (Prayda, March 19.)

Stalin's remedy: more executions among the railway personnel.

Hook Blasts Moscow Frame-Ups In New York Radio Broadcast

"Certainly anybody who calls occurred, its enemies proclaimed himself a socialist, a friend of it to be the work of madmen, the labor movement, or even a criminals, spies and degenerates. Gain Momentum liberal, must cry out with indignation against these totalitarbecome the official view of the dignation against these totalitar- become the official view of the ian trials which Stalin offers us Russian government. It would as proof that he has established also appear that the muchsocialism," Professor Sidney vaunted achievements of the play growing alarm over the Hook, of New York University, Russian Five Year Plans were expansion of the armed might of stated in a radio address over carried out under the exclusive their great rival. Referring to the station WEVD, New York, on leadership of wreckers... Stalin

ed: "It is only too clear the er, and the very idea of social- borators in all they undertook. United States is practising trans- ism, there yawns an impassable If they are guilty, can be be less gulf. Human hopes for a better so?".... Japan is clearly envisioned in social order everywhere depend Washington as the "enemy." The upon an understanding of the war propaganda of the Roosevelt truth about the Moscow trials, and the lessons they teach," he

Testimony Proved False

who presented the orthodox Sta- be conspiring for the overthrow linist position on the same pro- of the Soviet Union. "The key gram, Professor Hook pointed to the Moscow trials," he said, speaker declared that seizure of Trotsky and the other defendants. only Zukerman but also Attorney the island by Japan was a cert- He showed that in every case tional isolation. ing signs of apprehension. The had proven the alleged commun-

the last trial unfolded a story direction." He reminded his compared to which the Arabian hearers that Stalin has refused From Washington on March Nights is as sober as a grocer's to join the labor boycott of Nazi signed the Declaration of Indeto be British spies....

in the past claimed that the de-"Between Stalin, the execution- fendants were his closest colla-

Stalin Does Not Believe

That Stalin himself does not believe in the fabricated testimony of the trials, Professor Hook asserted, is indicated by the fact that he offers alliances Replying to Mary Van Kleeck, to countries, such as England, of the Russell Sage Foundation, with which Trotsky is alleged to out that the logical structure of | "as Blum pointed out in connecpendence from the United States. the three trials rested on eight tion with the Menshevik trials, Apart from "revolution and defendants who alleged they is the necessity of the Stalin redisorders" in the island, the were intermediaries between gime to find scapegoats for its domestic failures and interna-

He answered the argument of supporters of the trials that they were a blow at fascism by citing Mussolini's greeting of Stalin "as a fellow fascist, crude in his "Instead of offering evidence, ways but traveling in the right

Professor Hook concluded with the warning that Stalin's frameup and slander methods are being imported into the United States. "The Communist Party, "When the Russian Revolution which is the American branch of the Russian foreign office, has the sea forces of the Netherlands begun a campaign to convince us and the United States. In the that whoever opposes any of its policies is a Benedict Arnold or

event of a far Eastern war, joint operation of the Netherlands and American navies would be an Aaron Burr, i.e., a spy and

THE SOCIALIST APPEAL than the current month. It can be done. It must be done!

ments to the heights required by FUND FOR CHINESE COMRADES MOUNTS The fund being raised by the G.T., headed by the reformist Socialist Workers Party to aid

We are still quite a way off the minimum goal set, namely,

3.80

Comrades throughout country are urged to put the col-

lection over the top by not later

In Rubens Mystery Case Garber, Sharfin, Known name of Jacob Schulman, falsely attesting he had been natura-As C.P. Supporters Or Members

Grand Jury Indicts Two

By JUNIUS Arthur Sharfin, member of

guy" for the G.P.U. in the Rosecretary of the C.G.T., who has binson - Rubens frame-up plot sts reside and where the Stambinson - Rubens frame-up plot ist Unemployed Councils, of which was and may still be inheeding ear to the warning voice of the proletarian masses. People's Front government, now movement in this country in some threatens that "if the present kind of "conspiracy," has been strike. indicted by a Federal Grand Jury bourgeoisie, they concentrate resign, his organization would in connection with a series of passport frauds

Sharfin, who has been an employee of the Royal Egyptian Consulate in New York City, helped Adolph Arnold Rubens (alias Robinson), a G.P.U. agent now imprisoned in Mosqow, secure the phony passports made out in the name of Robinson on which he and his supposed wife, also a prisoner in Moscow, travelled last fall to the U.S.S.R.

Garber Indicted

ed in it are arrested. There is reason to believe that the contents of this indictment will confirm statements made from time to time in the Socialist Appeal ever since the case began-statements backed up by well-authenticated facts-that all trails in the Robinson-Rubens "mystery" lead straight to the lair of the American branch of Stalin's

lized in New Haven, Conn., on May 27, 1921. He also had declared that he was married to Massa Woloch, that he had two children, and that he lived at 2427 Matthews Avenue, Bronx. Section XV of the Communist Party in the Bronx and "fall Park East, an expensive apartists reside and where the Stalintended to involve the Trotskyist leader, once conducted a rent which Sharfin was formerly a

New Names Enter

The Sharfin-Garber combination

is linked by the indictments to passport activities carried on in the names of Jacob Rosenberg, and ordered to answer questions 28 E. 55 Street; Gerald Mark put him by the Grand Jury. He Moren alias Marko Filipovic; particularly desired to avoid Ernest Wekin of "Chiles" Street; questions relating to his connec- a harrowing picture of the woes Carl Westerdahl of 468 W. 148 tion with Harry Zukerman, who Street; and Max Schulman of has charged that it was Sharfin 2802 Olinville Avenue, Government officials did not reveal just binson-Rubens passport applicawho these people are or even tions. whether they are alive or dead. It is known that Sharfin was intimately acquainted with one Peter Targun, of the Tenants ainty. "In the Philippines,, "he the testimony of competent per-Along with Sharfin, a Fifth Max Wershow, alias Marshall Research Bureau Inc., 401 Broad- said, "there have been increas- sons and documentary evidence Avenue photographer named Os- Shaw. Under the latter name, way. Zukerman was employed by sip Garber, also a Stalinist and Shaw was active in the Friends that Bureau, and on occasion people now see that the Japan- ications with Trotsky to have formerly of Springfield, Mass., of the Soviet Union. Wershow is Sharfin used its address. has been indicted on a similar the husband of Muriel Wershow, charge. He is one of the few also a Stalinist, who is active in persons who has admitted public- the Bookkeepers Union, having ly that he knew the mysterious formerly been active in the Sta-connections is not yet known, but linist Office Workers Union. It it is already clear that at the 30 came the announcement that bill. The apologists of the Stalin- Germany, still supplies oil to The Grand Jury returned a was apparently in the latter or- heart of the whole affair are a high ranking navy officer had ist trials would have us believe Japan for her war with China, third indictment which is sealed, ganization that she became ac- 14-karat Stalinists-Rubens him- been assigned to the U.S. lega- that of the sixty leading politic- and until a few weeks ago supand which presumably will re- quainted with a Stalinist em- self, his wife (who is still in tion at The Hague, thus bring- al figures around Lenin all but plied Mussolini with gas, oil and main so until the persons nam- ployed by a New York publisher, who has never before been publicly mentioned. Whether this Stalinist, who was acquainted (who accepted the phony pass- Netherlands are cooperating with Rubens, is mentioned in the sealed indictment cannot yet be

Sharfin Evades Questions

Last week Sharfin, who is still show that Garber had used the brought before a Federal Judge'silent.

Socialist Appeal

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MAX SHACHTMAN Editor. HAROLD ROBERTS FRANK GRAVES

Associate Editors. BOB BROWNE Business Manager.

Gerson, Meet Gerson!

This is by way of an invitation to Simon W. Gerson, a member of Browder's Communist Party who not long ago secured, and still holds, a comfortable position as assistant to Borough President Stanley Isaacs of Manhattan. We invite the Gerson of 1938, an adept in crooning "The Star Spangled Banner," to meet the Gerson of 1936.

In 1936—so long ago that he may possibly have forgotten it—Gerson thought, or pretended to think, very little of exradicals who became pensioners of the LaGuardia Fusion administration. In fact they made Gerson highly indignant.

Thus in the Daily Worker of May 10 in that year of grace, when Gerson and his friends still fancied themselves as "Reds" (at any rate, "pinks") we find in his column, "Civic Virtue":

"This is a column about has-beenshas-been radicals now occupying posts in the LaGuardia administration. They're a rather sad lot, these radicals who have tasted of the political fleshpots and found them sweet. Many know better and frequently feel uncomfortable. The social conscience is willing, but the flesh is weak. Most of them try to justify their present situations to themselves with all sorts of quaint theories."

Assuming Gerson to have been sincere—which in the light of his subsequent record we would hardly be entitled to do-Gerson did not think much of the La Guardia administration in those days. He thought still less of the has-been radicals serving it and "going along" with measures such as the sales tax and the beating of unemployed demonstrators.

"Such social conscience as they have left," he declared, "dictates that they cry out against these things. In his heart of hearts your ex-radical in the administration knows that were he not a La Guardia jobholder he'd be protesting these

We do not for a moment suppose "social conscience" is troubling Gerson any more than it did the has-been radicals about whom Gerson wrote so feelingly two years ago. Having himself tasted the political fleshpots and found them sweet, he feels constrained to silence regarding the present-day infamies of the LaGuardia administration, justifying his position with all those "quaint theories" summed up in People's (pardon—Democratic!) Frontism.

We introduce the Gerson of 1938

to the Gerson of 1936. If a Stalinist is still able to feel embarrassment, the face of the 1938 Gerson must be awfully red. Beg pardon—yellow!

Reorganization Bill

After passage by the narrow margin of 49-42 in the Senate, the debate over the bitterly-contested Reorganization Bill has been transferred to the House of Representatives. Present indications are that it will carry the House in an amended and modified form, and be sent to conference within the next few

The fight over the Reorganization Bill has stepped far beyond the halls of Congress. Spurred on by raging editorials and stormy radio demagogy, a flood of telegrams, letters, petitions, delegations is swamping Washington. All the mighty pressure, direct and indirect, of the Administration is being marshalled against the opposition.

Nothing in the bill itself can explain the passions which have been aroused over it. Its recommendations, particularly in their now amended form, have been commonplaces in Washington for a decade. Hoover, especially, advocated them both while a cabinet officer and while president: a fact which is now causing him not a little embarrassment.

It is true that the bill, under the guise of efficiency and coordination, increases the concentration of power in the hands of the executive, thus exhibiting the universal tendency of bourgeois democracy in its days of decay and breakdown. It is this which justifies the negative votes of the two Farmer-Labor senators.

Ironically enough, however, the outstanding proposal of the bill-elimination of the comptroller-general, and substitution of an auditor-general who would be an officer of Congress—on the whole increases rather than lessens the control of Congress over expendi-

But, in any case, it is not the organizational measures in the bill which are in reality the focus of the fight. As always in crucial political issues, questions of organization are subordinated to underlying political interests.

The problem is not whether to "organize efficiently," but, who is to do the organizing, and for what?

The fight here thus takes its place as a further development of the contest over the court bill last spring, over the wages and hours bill in the special session, and over the anti-lynching bill both in the special session and in January.

As in the other contests, the New Deal forces are aligned against a coalition of most of the Republicans plus the rightwing, chiefly the southern, Democrats. The struggle over each succeeding issue hardens the coalition, and drives the wedge ever deeper between the two groups.

As has been repeatedly stressed in these columns, this development is the most momentous in American politics of the past eighty years. It would be absurd to become lost in the abstract merits of specific bills under consideration. We are witnessing the dissolution of the traditional capitalist party line-ups. The process has now gone so far that nothing short of the outbreak or immediate threat of war-and perhaps not even that-can stop it from maturing before the next presidential election.

LETTER FROM CHINA

Following is the second and not fight in cold weather. concluding installment of a letter received from a Chinese com- is well known to Chiang Kaipresent situation in China. The others that continuance of the sixth took place in 1928!). first installment appeared in last war, in view of the passivity of week's issue of the "Socialist the U.S.S.R., Britain and the Appeal." —Ed.

cided stand in favor of continuing the war, while on the other hand H. H. Kung, who was op- sertions at Nanking. posed to the war from the very beginning, is made president of the reorganized Executive Yuan, with Gen. Chang Chun, notoriously pro-Japanese, as vicepresident. Both appointments are symptomatic of a desire for capitulation to Japan.

This seeming contradiction is explained by the following facts. Continuance of the war is impossible. In my journeyings over the various war fronts I found widespread apathy towards the war. All classes, from workers, peasants, soldiers and merchants, to the petty bourgeois masses and the bourgeoisie, desire peace. The toilers feel keenly the increased difficulties of living, but none of them show any fear of becoming "slaves without a country." They do not care very much whether their oppressor is the Kuomintang or the Japanese militarists. Their demand is for

A Lesson From History

I recall what happened during the German invasion of the Roman Empire, when the slaves and plebeians of Rome even wel-This attitude originates, in part, from the political backwardness of the toilers. More importantly, it proves that the national struggle cannot abolish the class struggle. It is unfortunate that the Japanese militarists are wiser than the "theoreticians" of the liged to register with and sub-Stalinist international. While the mit to the control of the C.C. Stalinists trail at the heels of Group, that is, the Sixth Depart-Chiang Kai-shek in demanding ment of the Military Affairs that the hungry toilers fight for Commission. All partisan troops national independence without struggling to improve their live- ments in the army are dominatlihood, the Japanese robbers give ed by the Blueshirts and the some rice and a little money to C.C. Group. Political prisoners the refugees. In such circums- are not everywhere released, but tances, how can the toilers be only those fortunate enough to expected to risk their heads for have been imprisoned in such big the sake of empty national

hai there has never been a serious Kuomintang and the Communist battle waged by the Chinese Party are not good. Only the soldiers. (This was written offices of the Eighth Route Army prior to the commencement of in the big cities are legalized. Central China for control of the Party in various cities are still ably thin clothing that they can- six week ago, bringing with him

rade in Shanghai, describing the shek. He realizes more than the U.S.A., is impossible. But to At first sight, the present si- end the war now is also quite tuation is quite difficult to under- impossible, for (1) the Japanese stand, for, on the one hand, insist on Chiang Kai-shek's re-Chiang Kai-shek, against the will tirement from politics and (2) of all other leaders, takes a de- Chiang's own army has been all but destroyed in the battles near Shanghai and by the mass de-

Chiang's Danger

If peace were to be concluded now, the Kuomintang government would be dominated by the Kwangsi clique and other military forces, including the Eighth Route Army. Since the commencement of hostilities both the forces of the Kwangsi clique and of the Eighth Route Army have

been greatly strengthened. Chiang Kai-shek's present position may therefore be described thus: Continue the war until the time for capitulation has ripened. When will the time be considered ripe? When Chiang's twenty new mechanized divisions, now being completed and trained in Hunan province, are established!

When that time arrives, Chiang will continue the war against Japan until the final victory only if the international situation has changed in China's favor. Otherwise, with his new army guaranteeing his superiority over other military cliques, he will make peace with Japan. The latter alternative, in my opinion, is the more probable. That is why Chiang takes a strong attitude comed the barbarian invaders. in form, but in fact is quite disposed to compromise.

Masses Feared

The Kuomintang still fears rising of the masses more than it fears the Japanese invaders. All mass organizations are oband political training departcities as Nanking and Hankow, or in places close to the fighting Since the retreat from Shang- fronts. Relations between the the great battle now raging in Organizations of the Communist continued without a revolution- bit of demagogy which is being tion of the trade unions at the Lunghai Railway, in which the obliged to exist secretly and ilthe struggle for national eman- able the Sheppard-May Bill!). were limited to a single vote

rifles and desert. Their only enjoy full "democratic rights." thought is to secure some money | The Stalinists have founded a groups, from the Kuomintang to Leader, which featured the pro- County, casting one-eighth vote and civilian clothes so that they daily paper in Hankow, the Hsin the Communist Party and the posal of Howard Y. Williams each. Yet all votes were viva may run back home. I report Hwa Jih Pao, which devotes National Salvation Association, this by no means in order to much of its space to attacking blame everything on the backslander the Chinese soldiers, but the "Trotskyite bandits." It wardness and passivity of the in order to give you a real pic- slanders the Chinese Fourth In- masses. These gentlemen forget ture of the war. I cannot blame ternationalists as the "hired only one thing: the Chinese the soldiers who - especially dogs" of Japanese imperialism. masses are too hungry and too those provisioned by the pro- This anti-Trotskyist campaign cold to be able to comprehend vincial warlords—are so poorly was started by Wang Ming, who the ideology of the national strug-

that Roosevelt has, in the meantime, succeeded in buying back the Brazilian pupil of Mussolini and Hitler with thoroughly deproletarian revolution, the oil ex- mocratic and peaceful dollars.

For Mexico Liberation!

As faithful lackeys of Ameri-

by the Stalinist Toledano with the United States have as much we have prospects for growth. to understand that the cause of smile of Roosevelt as for the ers and the masses of revolutiontheir independence rests not only democratic hypocrisy of the Sta- ary youth are our recruiting reous role of the American Stalin- linquish the struggle against all complete ruin of the national tarian political party. Comradely,

two instructions: (1) Attack the Now the mood of the soldiers "Trotskyite bandits;" (2) prepare the seventh congress of the Chinese Communist Party (the

Stalinist Slanders Protested

So far as I know, the shameprogressive intellectuals. Publication of a story in their daily Route Army. The Eighth Route Army still

gets a monthly subsidy of \$800,-000 (Chinese currency - Ed.) from Chiang Kai-shek. Numerically, this army has increased greatly, since it has not yet waged any heavy battles against the Japlanese invaders. At the beginning of the war, its prestige grew from day to day. But now its prestige is declining, because of the bureaucratic regime instituted by the commanders and the passivity of the U.S.S.R. towards China's struggle.

A few months ago, about 100,-000 revolutionary youth went to northern Shensi (territory occupied by the Eighth Route Army -Ed.), but during the past few weeks many of them have returned, disillusioned by the bureaucratic control of the Eighth Route Army. The outlook for this army is not bright. Having abandoned its revolutionary social program, it can be no longer distinguished from the armies of the Kuomintang. Soon its revolutionary authority will be completely exhausted.

Regroupment Begins

Within the Eighth Route Army a regroupment has begun. Many revolutionary elements, led by Chang Kuo-tao and Hsiu Hsiangchien (famous as commanders of the Eighth Route Army when it was known as the Red Army -Ed.) openly opposed the new Stalinist policy of capitulation to the Kuomintang. After an internal struggle, Chang Kuo-tao finally capitulated to Mao Tsetung, but the influence of the opposition which he led (not by any means Trotskyist) is still the anti-Trotskyist campaign in Farmer-Labor Party); digs up

territory cipation is not linked with the

provisioned and have such miser- arrived in Hankow from Moscow gle. They can fight for the nation only when they are sure that they will be fighting at the same time for the improvement of their own livelihood. A friend said: The Japanese invaders will they stop looting and ravaging women in the regions which they party and the working class.

Kuomintang Criticized

To some extent, the democratic movement has arisen in Wuhan (Hankow). In analyzing the reasons for military defeats, people begin again to criticize the Kuomintang regime. The idea that "war is the continuation of Details will be announced later. politics by other means" is beginning to be understood by many progressive elements. At the beginning of the war, many revolutionists had the mistaken idea that the Kuomintang regime had become all right just because it was waging war with Japan. gime can never wage a victorious

Our strength (the strength of too small to face adequately these great events. Nevertheless, The disillusioned Stalinist followserves. But still the immediate perspective is not a great one. For in face of the disorganization of the Chinese proletariat and the economy, there is no adequate social base for a Marxist prole-

FU LING.

Shanghai, February 22, 1938.

F. L. P. Becomes Cog In Roosevelt Machine

(Continued from page 1)

was this accidental. Senator Victor Lawson, chairman of the of the war! platform committee, stated that the "peace" plank had taken ful slander of the Stalinists has longest to prepare of the whole won them nothing, but has lost platform; it is therefore an acthe party leadership.

stating that our comrades in sentiment against the Naval Ap-Hsuchow had organized hundreds propriations Bill, there was a clothes troops" of the Japanese openly pro-war Stalinists and munist Party sympathizers to Under strong pressure from the war question, and therefore into

groups have patched up their difbeen developed to enable the prevent a collision with the antiwar unions and farmers. This line was enunciated on the floor of Congress by Representative John T. Bernard in the Naval Bill debate on March 16.

Bernard At Work

For the record, Bernard and the other Farmer-Labor congressnen recorded themselves against the bill, but Bernard as their spokesman devoted himself to a defense of Roosevelt's main policy, going so far as to declare that "the suggestion that he Labor Review, to include in the (Roosevelt) contemplates foreign aggression is a vicious slander.' In the same spirit, the conven-

tion platform recorded itself against increased armament, but was silent on Roosevelt's motivation for expansion of war armament. The peace plank "advocates cooperation with all forces genuinely seeking peace" (which by Bernard's definition and the tion of all war munition plants" warring nations" "aggressor (thereby enabling the governgrowing. Just because of this, ment to choose sides in any war Wang Ming and his cohorts need with the prior benediction of the

Actually, the proposal to "draft seems to have been at least tem- occupied by the Eighth Route struggle for a better life for the wealth" is a transition to open and petty-bourgeois ward clubs porarily bolstered—Ed.) At the Army. But the top bureaucrats toiling masses—then the war is participation in conducting the were apportioned the main body first sound of the enemy's guns, of the Communist Party, such as doomed to failure and the Eighth war. A further step in this di- of voting power. Of the 1,200 the soldiers throw away their Wang Ming and Chou En-lai, Route Army will share this fate. rection was taken by the March delegates present, 400 were from Political leaders of various 26 issue of the Farmer-Labor Stalinist - controlled St. Louis tion) for "democratising" the cept the voice of labor.

Sheppard-May Bill by having workers' representatives taken into partnership in the conduct

Stand On Relief

The platform committee had them the sympathy of many curate index of the war line of the Minneapolis labor movement, but instead brought in a per-At the height of the anti-war functory plank providing for continuation of W.P.A. and reof peasants to serve as "plain- temporary cleavage between the oath, of unionization, of union rates on W.P.A., etc.! Walter imperialists, caused many Com-the semi-pacifist Benson wing. Frank, himself a Benson man, speaking for the Minneapolis send in strong protests to the workers and farmers of Minne-Building Trades Council, receiv-Hankow office of the Eighth sota, the Farmer-Labor delega- ed short shrift in an attempt to tion came into conflict with the amend the plank from the floor, Roosevelt administration on the being voted down by the trained seals. It was only when the conflict with their Stalinist al- Stalinist floor-leaders took fright at the reception this plank would get in the unions, that has become clear that the two Frank was called back to make his motion again. It was then ferences. A "clever" line has voted up by the same people who had voted it down a few minutes Farmer-Laborites to support earlier! But that this was pure Roosevelt in essence and yet to lip-service was made clear when Frank and others tried to amendments, providing for a State Housing Authority Act, a special session of the state legislature to deal with relief, etc. All such amendments were voted down in short order.

Support Supreme Court

The conservative, not to say rewas indicated by the debate and vote on the proposal of Roblev Cramer, editor of the Minneapolis platform a call upon Congress and state legislatures to repudiate the right of the U.S. Supreme Court to veto leglislation. "Let's not tear down everything," cried the spokesman for the platform committee. Another spokesman declared "we" judges influenced by "neither money nor votes"-as if independence of the will of the people convention telegram includes made judges more impartial! To Roosevelt!); favors "nationaliza- | cap it all, the convention voted to delete a previously-adopted (that hoary demagogic slogan amendment providing for elecbased on the false theory that tion of federal judges, going not all capitalists but only the back to the position for appointmunitions makers seek war); ive judges, the "radical" item calls for prohibition of sales to being to reduce their terms from life to ten years!

A Packed Convention

Demands presented to the Farmer-Labor State Committee preparing the seventh congress the threadbare slogan of the by a committee of the Minneaof the Chinese Communist Party.

American Legion, "draft wealth polis Board of Union Business in time of war" (precisely the Agents, for adequate representaary social program, that is, if employed to make more palat- convention were ignored. Unions (vice-chairman of the conven- voce! Every voice was heard ex-

National Committee Plenum Meeting In N. Y. Next Week

of the National Committee of the evening, April 14, as a prelimin-Socialist Workers Party will take ary to the National Committee place here from April 15 to 18 in of mine very aptly summed up order to review the work of the convention of the party in Chi- bers of Local New York can turn be welcomed by the people once cago and to take up the vital out for the mass meeting in full matters currently facing the

> The agenda will include Labor Party developments, trade union particular emphasis on specific

Mass Meeting Scheduled

Hotel Center, 108 West 43rd West.

NEW YORK .- A full meeting | Street, will be held Thursday plenum.

All branch meetings and other party activities for April 14 are force.

Among the speakers will be James P. Cannon, National Secretary of the S.W.P., and Max problems, and the war crisis, with | Shachtman, editor of the Socialist Appeal, just returned from tactics in the anti-war struggle Mexico, one of whom will report in this country and the tasks of on the Mexican crisis revolving Fourth Internationalists through- around the expropriation of the out the world. Some of the ses- oil fields. Other speakers will sions will be open to all members include Vincent Ray Dunne and of the S.W.P. and the Y.P.S.L. | Farrell Dobbs, of Minneapolis, and B. J. Widick, Labor Secretary of the party who has just completed a two months tour A large mass meeting at the through the East and the Middle

Mass Rally DOWN WITH THE WAR-MAKERS! HANDS OFF MEXICO!

James P. Cannon National Secretary, S.W.P. Max Shachtman Editor, Socialist Appeal Farrell Dobbs Mpls. Trade Union Leader

Albert Goldman Labor Attorney B. J. Widick Labor Secretary, S. W. P. Lois Orr Just Back From Spain

THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 8 P. M. HOTEL CENTER

108 West 43rd Street New York City

Roosevelt Trimming Sails In Mexican Oil Struggle

(Continued from page 1)

tionaries of the Strate Department, who originally intended to confine themselves for the present to mere economic reprisals, were frightened by the perspective of "unwanted consequences... rupture of diplomatic relations, anti-American.... warlike measures, civil strife," which "might have impaired. American relations with other Latin American countries.... undoing.... patient effort.... in developing the 'good neighbor' policy."

At a pace unforeseen by the State Department, there arose the danger of violent collisions, the responsibility for which would have fallen, directly and in the eyes of the whole world, upon the New Deal government.

Cardenas' Note

Cardenas' note to Hull provides unmistakable clarification in this respect. He said:

"The Mexican Nation has liv ed in these last few days through moments of trial in which it did not know whether it would have which Yankee imperialism hopes to give rein to its patriotic feel- to gain, by diplomatic maneuvers, necessity of direct dealing with justice of the neighboring coun- old. try represented by your Excellency.

detachments of organized workbeing armed and trained by army have made recent investments. oil companies, preparing for pull British chestnuts out of the their holy war, were busily at work disrupting the workers' ranks, and arming the fascist

Cardenas Was Willing

Cardenas was all the more willing "to ease the tension" by ly played a certain role in the an "exchange of diplomatic compliments" since his efforts are directed toward confining the conflict within limits which will preserve the sympathies of the workers for his bourgeois regime, check the warlike Mexican re- gether with a New York financiaction and prevent a final show- er, Smith, "injected a new element down with foreign imperialism. in this situation—the possibility

bourgeois press, "whether the leum immediately," thus giving exchange of amenities is merely the government adequate funds. an interlude in the battle," seems | (This statement was made by to us very much in order. The fumes of Roosevelt's pacifist in- Oil, and he must know.) cense are intended to divert the attention of the workers from the still existing anti-Mexican economic sanctions through

Indeed, the newspapers report- a small part of the total two people.

dangered by an incautious or violent move. Moreover, the American oil investments are mostly of ancient date, long since repaid by fabulous profits.

British Are Losers

fire. And the last resort-a civil war for exclusively "internal" reasons-still remains in Rockefeller's pocket. American arms for the Mexican reaction continue to flow over the Rio Grande. Another factor has undoubted-

verbal retreat of the State Department. The apparently successful negotiations between the Mexican government and the British adventurer in international oil intrigues, Rickett, to-The question asked by the that Mexico could sell her petro-Kluckhohn, oracle of Standard

Rickett's Role

On whose account Mr. Rickett works is as yet unclear. In any on their class liberation. event he freed Cardenas of the

ed the day after the presentation billions of American investments Keeping the anti-imperialist common sense. Against the im- corrupt, and oil magnates, how-

aries of his capitalist regime, people, they find not a single Cardenas has at his disposal only word to say. They tremble for a limited range of maneuvers only one reason: they fear that the present situation when he three months since the founding being called off, so that the memwith rival imperialisms. The Hull's economic war "will weaken Rickett deal would give him a and isolate the influence of Amethe same time, it shows that the exploitation) in Latin American The real losses are suffered national bourgeoisie of a semi- affairs as a factor for promoting occupy. ers throughout the country were by the British competitors, who colonial country, when it ad- peace (that is, the maintenance vances two steps in its anti- of American imperialism). It will officers. On the other hand, the Roosevelt has no inclination to imperialist struggle, must im- aid the German, Italian and mediately retreat one step by Japanese instigators of fascism leaning upon another foreign and encourage them to proceed financial group. It remains to more boldly in Central America be seen whether the oil rivalries and South America along the operating behind the scenes will path undertaken in Brazil.' precipitate new internal upheav-

als in Mexico. Effect On Workers From the point of view of the

propriations are of two-fold importance: first, the Mexican masses have learned that foreign imperialism is not invulnerable; and second, the taking over of can imperialism, Foster and They did not know a rotten rethe oil fields by the national Browder climax their appeal hasten class differentiation in and Latin America safe for de-Mexico. The workers and mocracy! Enforce the good the Communist League-Ed.) is peasants, now living in illusions neighbor policy!" of "national unity" — sanctified quotations from Lenin—will learn contempt for the "good neighbor" on the fight against foreign im- linist leaders. They stand un-

of Hull's provocative note that in Mexico, which would be en- fight always within the bound- perialist slavery of the Mexican ever "democratic" or fascist.

certain breathing spell. But, at rican democracy (read: colonial

They merely forget to mention

bourgeois state will inevitably with a war cry: "Keep Mexico war.

The class-conscious workers of perialism but also and above all reservedly for the complete liberation of Mexico from the im-In this connection the treacher- perialist yoke. They will not reings or to applaud an act of new concessions to replace the Japan and deprived the "demo- ists merits a few words. In a measures of the Roosevelt adcracies" of Standard Oil and declaration of the Central Com- ministration, economic or military, The \$150,000,000 invested in the Shell of an important instru- mittee, issued April 1, 1938, open or secret—devised in the expropriated oil fields are only ment in the deception of the Foster and Browder addressed a interests of American landhumble appeal to Roosevelt's owners, however "honest" or