

Emergency Conference Is Held

The Emergency Conference of the Fourth International, attended by mandated delegates of ten national sections, has been successfully concluded!

Called on the initiative of its United States, Mexican and Canadian sections, the Conference addressed the working class of the world in a resounding manifesto urging the toilers of all lands to make an end of the imperialist war by initiating the world socialist revolution.

The mandated delegates to the Conference represented sections of the Fourth International in the United States, Germany, Belgium, Canada, Mexico, Spain, Cuba, the Argentine, Porto Rico, and Chile. Fraternal delegates were seated from the Australian and Chinese sections and from the editorial board of the Bulletin of the Russian Bolshevik-Leninists Opposition. Organizations affiliated with the Fourth International in England, France, China, Switzerland, and Bulgaria, unable to send representatives or mandates because of conditions of illegality and other adverse factors, sent declarations of solidarity. The ravages of war and of ruthless internal suppression made it impossible for the affiliates of the Fourth International in Holland, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Scandinavia, Palestine, Lithuania, Rumania, Indo-China, South Africa, and Brazil to be contacted in time to obtain representation.

The World Emergency Conference met in strictest secrecy, due to the conditions engendered by the war, "somewhere in the Western Hemisphere" on May 19-26. Gathering in the tense atmosphere of the engulfing war, the Conference constituted the genuine voice of proletarian internationalism.

Only We Speak Out

Neither the decrepit Second International nor the perfidious Third International, nor the international federation of centrist squeezed lemons known as "International Workers Front" have made themselves heard by as much as a whisper in this gravest hour in the history of the world

(Continued on Page 7)

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BOSS PARTIES AGREE ON CONSCRIPTION

Stalinists Confess Attempt to Kill Trotsky

Mexican Police Announce Confessions From Band of GPU Assassins

Body of Sheldon Harte, Trotsky Secretary, Is Found, Spiking Stalinist Attempt To Implicate Him As Accomplice

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)

MEXICO CITY, June 25—The body of Robert Sheldon Harte, Leon Trotsky's secretary-guard who had been kidnapped by the Stalinist GPU attackers when they attempted to assassinate Trotsky, was found today. Friends positively identified the dead boy.

The Stalinist slander that Bob had been in league with them in the attack on Trotsky is now exposed as an attempt to discourage a search for the boy and thus to save the arrested GPU agents from being tried for his murder.

The Trotsky household sent the following telegram to Jesse S. Harte, father of the slain young man, in New York City:

"My wife, my collaborators, I, bow in deep mourning before the grief of the mother and father of our dear Bob. Only consolation in these bitter hours is that the wild slander against Bob through which the assassins tried to conceal the assassination is now unmasked. As a hero, Bob perished for ideas he believed in. "Natalia and Leon Trotsky, Joe Hansen, Harold Robins, Charles Cornell, Jake Cooper, Otto Schuessler, Walter O'Rourke."

THE S.W.P. SALUTES SHELDON HARTE

A STATEMENT BY THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE, SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

To the many thousands of devoted revolutionists slain by Stalin's GPU must now be added Robert Sheldon Harte, the secretary-guard who was kidnapped by the GPU gangsters when they attempted to assassinate Leon Trotsky.

Robert Sheldon Harte was a member of the Socialist Workers Party. He came from a wealthy family, but his hatred of a world where cruelty, war, exploitation and hate reign supreme led him to search for a solution. He found the solution in the program of the Fourth International.

No sooner did he join the party than he threw himself wholeheartedly into its work. He was completely devoted to the revolutionary movement, never hesitating to do even the menial tasks required.

Robert's appearance, his modesty, all of his actions, bespoke a character of exceptional sincerity and idealism.

The agents of the GPU at first tried to cast suspicion upon Harte, intimating that he was connected with the gang of assassins who made the assault on Trotsky. That was only to throw the authorities off the track and to save themselves from a charge of murder.

Robert Sheldon Harte is not the first co-worker of Leon Trotsky who was murdered by the GPU. The list includes Erwin Wolf, Rudolph Klement, Trotsky's son, Ignace Reiss, Moulou and almost the entire cadres of the Fourth International in Spain and Russia.

But Stalin and his GPU cannot murder the ideas of their revolutionary victims. Thousands of others, young as Robert Sheldon Harte, idealistic and devoted as he, will enter our ranks. They will carry on the struggle in which our comrade has fallen.

MEXICO CITY, June 20—Four of the Stalinists who participated in the May 24 attempt to assassinate Leon Trotsky have admitted their complicity.

About thirty implicated in the attempt, most of them directly connected with the Communist party, are under arrest; four other Stalinists, identified by the confessions as the leaders of the armed band, are fugitives from justice and are being sought together with a number of foreigners, agents of the GPU, who also took part.

All the men involved had been in the Stalinist armed forces in Loyalist Spain.

So complete was the case made by the Mexican police, and so damning the admissions of the five Stalinists, that even "El Popular," Lombardo Toledano's paper, yesterday was constrained to publish an account, covering most of a page, which conceded that the perpetrators of the crime have been found. Toledano, head of the CTM (Mexican Federation of Workers), has been the front for the Stalinist campaign against Trotsky and, until yesterday, had violently proclaimed Stalinist innocence of the crime.

David Alfaro Siqueiros, Mexican painter, a Stalinist for more than fifteen years, a "colonel" in the Stalinist forces in Loyalist Spain and president of the Union of Mexican ex-combatants in Spain, has been identified as the leader of the armed attack.

Siqueiros has fled together with his brother, Jesus, Juan Zúñiga Camacho and Antonio Pujol. These four, together with a number of foreign GPU agents, who are also being sought, have been described as the directors of the attempted assassination of Trotsky.

Story of the Attack

The story told by the four who admitted their complicity provides the main outlines of the entire plot to assassinate Trotsky.

The declarations made to the police by these four were given to the press June 18 by General Jose Manuel Nunez, Chief of the Mexican police, when he called reporters in to announce that the case had been solved.

Louis Mateos Martinez, a 28-year-old teacher and member of the Communist party, admitted

that David Serrano, a Stalinist leader, had assigned him to get hold of some police uniforms. He conceded that Serrano was undoubtedly implicated in the attempted assassination, but denied that the Communist party was responsible for the attempt. Martinez added that he knew Serrano to be a "man capable of any enterprise of the type of the attack against Trotsky." The other leaders of the Communist party, Dionisio Encinas, general secretary, Rafael Carrillo, editor of the Stalinist organ, "La Voz de Mexico," and Andres Garcia Saigado, had left Mexico, said Martinez, on May 26, two days after the attempt on Trotsky, to take part in a conference with leaders of the Communist party of the U.S., and had returned on June 2.

Plotter Attempts Suicide

Martinez attempted to commit suicide when arrested. Asked to explain why, Martinez said he had been depressed because his wife was pregnant and in ill-health and would now find herself uncared for.

At Serrano's house when he was told to get the uniforms, Martinez said he met an engineer named Graves, who was the one assigned to make the bombs for the attack.

Women Corrupted Police

Julia Barradas de Serrano, former Communist party employee, and former wife of David Serrano, by whom she has a daughter named Sovietina, said she had been assigned by Juan Zuniga Camacho to act as a spy on the Trotsky household. Ana Maria Lopez, formerly a stenographer in the Communist party district headquarters, at the direction of Antonio Pujol joined Julia in this work. They began this work in January. Pujol got them a house

in Coyoacan, near the Trotsky household, and the two women reported to Pujol, to Camacho and to David Alfaro Siqueiros, Camacho paying them 25 pesos a day.

On a number of occasions they reported to Siqueiros at the headquarters of the Stalinist-controlled Electrical Workers Union in Mexico City.

Julia made the direct statement that Siqueiros had told her the generous pay they were receiving was coming from the Communist party.

The women told the detailed story of their work over nearly five months. They had succeeded in becoming close friends with the small police guard stationed outside Trotsky's house; the police, also under arrest, admitted they had been intimate with the women. In this relationship the women had been able to pump from their friends complete details about the routine and layout of the Trotsky household. Among other things they had secured a photograph of all the five police stationed there, to be used by the attackers to make sure, the women said, that they had all the police.

Night of the Attack

On the night of May 23 Camacho instructed Julia to go to the police house outside Trotsky's home and to stay there until 1:30 to make sure that the usual routine of the police and the Trotsky household was going on. She did so, reported afterward to Camacho, that everything was as usual, and at 4:00 a.m. the attack was carried out. Camacho had instructed the women that, as soon as they heard the shots, they should leave the house and make their way to a hiding-place, which they did.

Yesterday the women were

(Continued on Page 8)

Enlistment Lag Forces Compulsion

Faced by the bald fact that voluntary enlistments are way below schedule—the recruiting sergeants got less than half the number they sought last month—both the Republicans and Democrats have openly come out for compulsory conscription for military service.

That fact alone blows to smithereens their hypocrisy about democracy! They've got to force the unwilling young men to undergo military training.

The young men of this country are not pacifists. They are not cowards. Most young men are interested in the military arts and would not be averse to learning them.

But the young men of this country don't trust the government's purpose in seeking to train them; they feel it would be training to be cannon-fodder for Wall Street's war and in no sense a war to defend their homes. That's why they don't enlist and that's why they will undoubtedly resent any conscription law passed by this government. And they're right. It's not just an accident that the man who has already introduced the bill for conscription is Democratic Senator Burke, who came back from Germany in 1938 singing the praises of Hitler.

That bill wasn't written by Burke. It was written by the Joint Army and Navy Selective Service Committee which was established in 1926 for the purpose of drawing up a draft act together with regulations to put it into effect when it becomes law. The act and the regulations have since been on file, held for the time the U.S. entered war. Now the act is taken out, adjusted for "peacetime" conscription, and introduced by Burke in the Senate and by the Republican, Wadsworth, in the House.

What they don't introduce and what the public doesn't know about, are the regulations for administering the bill if it becomes law, which were drawn up with the bill by the Joint Army and Navy Selective Service Committee. Those regulations are NOT AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC, and for good and sufficient reasons!

Here is one example of those regulations. They set up a Class II, of men considered irreplaceable in industry, agriculture, commerce and government, and whose conscription is therefore deferred. To enter a claim for occupational deferment, a worker will have to submit two affidavits, one by his immediate superior, another by the executive head of the company by which he is employed.

Just think how the bosses will use that! Militant trade unionists will get sent off to war, or in peacetime to the training camp, by the simple device of the bosses refusing to sign their affidavits. Finks will be rewarded with affidavits. It's the chance of a lifetime for union-busting bosses!

These secret regulations for applying the draft act, if the government were forced to publish them, would be sufficient answer to the propaganda that universal military training is the "democratic" way of training an army. It's no more democratic than the army itself, with its rigid hierarchy which puts officers and men in about the same relation to each other as existed between the nobility and their serfs in medieval times.

But make no mistake about it, our opposition is not that of pacifists. We've got nothing but contempt for the sniveling crew of pacifists, who tell the workers never to use force and even condemn a militant picket line as incompatible with pacifism—but these same pacifists practically always turn up yelling for the boys to enlist, when war starts.

No, we're not pacifists. We believe in the good strong arm of Labor and we want to see it used. We would like to see every worker become an expert in the use of arms so that he can best defend the interests of the working class.

Our opposition to the Roosevelt and Burke draft proposals is a class opposition.

We would have no objection whatever for the trade unions to undertake the military training of every member. In fact, we strongly advocate that method of military training.

Meanwhile let workers remember this: when they are conscripted, let them not waste the period they spend in the army. They must learn everything there is to be learned about military training, so that when the time comes, they can use that training for the interests of the labor movement.

French Abandon Allies

Believing Britain Is Doomed, They Take Hitler's "Peace"

By GEORGE STERN

The military phase of the war in continental Europe ended at 12:35 a.m. on June 25 with the total capitulation of the French to Hitler.

That the French ruling circles chose this road after the defeat of their armies showed that they had no hope whatever in Britain's ability to withstand the Nazi assault.

Nothing prevented them from abandoning France, setting up a government-in-exile like their many predecessors, and with their fleet and colonial armies continuing in the war.

Instead, to the angry dismay of the British, the French rulers decided to throw themselves wholly on the mercy of Hitler and his satellite in Rome, Mussolini.

Hitler exploited his advantage to the last drop of irony implicit in the reversal of historic roles. His choice of Compiègne, where the humiliated Germans signed the armistice in 1918, his use of the same railway car used by Foch to receive the German emissaries, and the extreme harshness of the terms imposed upon the conquered adversary, formed the mixture of a potion bitter indeed to the defeated French.

But along with the crow they have to eat, the French rulers have hopes of getting a few more edible morsels from the table of the new master of Europe. In the Hitlerite reorganization of Europe a potent section of the French capitalist class can hope to play a role, even if only a subordinate one. And France, of all countries, has no lack of venal politicians ready to scramble for the crumbs of office.

What Price Patriotism!

To the capitalist class, patriotism is like a spigot, to be turned on and off when needed. It called for patriotism from the masses it herded to the slaughter. It entered upon the conflict with a positively myopic disregard of the real relationship of armed strength. Now that hundreds of thousands of workers paid with their lives for this "error," the French bourgeoisie will be concerned mainly in seeing what it can save of its profits and its wealth. By capitulating to Hitler now, they hope for more of a share than they could expect if they waited until Hitler had

(Continued on Page 7)

FDR PICKED RIGHT MAN FOR THE JOB

Stacy May, assistant director of the Rockefeller Foundation, has been appointed by Roosevelt to be head of the statistics and economics department of the National Defense Council.

Mr. May was one of the thirty signers who issued a statement on June 10 favoring the immediate declaration of war against Germany.

Behind the Lines

Withdrawal of U.S. Fleet From Pacific Heralds Abandonment of Asia

by GEORGE STERN

On June 25 hostilities came to an end in France. But even more significant news that day was the "casual," unexplained announcement that units of the main U.S. fleet had begun to leave Hawaii, heading apparently for the Panama Canal and the Atlantic.

Almost as though they had been waiting for the "full speed ahead" which sent the U.S. battle wagns returning eastward, the Japanese imperialists on the other side of the Pacific began the same day to put the real heat on the French and British.

Part of the South China fleet of the Japanese Navy was ordered to Haiphong in French Indo-China. Around Hongkong Japanese troops began a new drive deliberately designed to cut the rich British colony off entirely from the Chinese hinterland. Aggressive demands on Britain to stop the traffic to China through Burma were handed to the British ambassador.

In other words, although U.S. diplomatic policy vis-a-vis Japan remains formally unchanged, in practice the complete reversal of U.S. war strategy has already begun to take place. Hitler's victory in Europe—his imminent victory over Britain and the uncertainty as to the fate of the British fleet—forces the U.S. to put its full weight in the Atlantic. As far as Washington is concerned, the Western Pacific now is Japan's, to do with what it will or what it can.

Congress has put through bills authorizing the building of 1,250,000 more tons of naval shipping to form a two-ocean fleet at the astronomical cost of \$4,000,000,000. But it will take years to build and in those years events will not stand still.

Thus the process of formation of three great continental imperialist blocs begins to gain speed. Hitler has completed the crushing of France and stands poised for his assault on Bri-

tain. No serious observer has been willing to give British resistance more than twelve weeks. After Britain probably comes Stalin's turn.

On the other side of the world Japan is already in motion to pick up the spoils left free for grabbing by the development of the European war in Europe. From the defeated French, Japan last week extracted an "agreement" which amounts to the virtual establishment of a Japanese protectorate over Indo-China. Japanese army, navy, and civil officials are henceforth to "supervise" the trade routes leading from Indo-China into that section of China ruled by the Kuomintang. The Japanese navy is moving in to "observe" the exercise of this control. In Shanghai the French have likewise given way to the Japanese. Demands for similar "supervision" over the Burma route have been filed with the British and will no doubt be enforced as soon as Britain is reduced, like France, to a defenseless state.

When these two Chinese lifelines are choked off, the Japanese will hope to force a peace in China which it could not impose in three years of relentless attack—three years, incidentally, which come to a close on July 7. At the same time the East Indies, Malaya, and in due course the Philippines, will await the plucking.

Between Japan and Germany lies the United States and between Germany and Japan lies the Soviet Union. The transformation of the general relationship of forces is compelling revision, therefore of both American and Soviet strategy. This brings over the more or less immediate horizon the possibility of "parallel" policies in Washington and Moscow. Of the Soviet shift in this direction there have already been multiplying indications. Of the American shift with respect to Moscow signs will not be long in forthcoming.

The Negro Question

by Robert L. Birchman

Negro Paper on Commencement Day

The Chicago Defender (June 22) in an editorial "Diplomas For What," after mentioning that thousands of youth are now graduating from the schools and colleges states: "The diploma says they are qualified. But life itself asks, 'Qualified for what?'"

"There are no jobs. The thousands who were graduated last year and the year before and for several years before that, are in the ranks of the unemployed. There are no jobs for youth—unless you are thinking of war. That is a big job. Youth can trade the diploma for a gun. That is all that is offered. No education of the kind youth has just completed is needed in Flanders field. There is no future there, among the dead.

"Mothers may say, 'I did not raise my boy to be a corpse upon a European battle field.' But there are no jobs. War can help ease the unemployment situation. What? The mothers of America are against it, you say. Then let them speak out, let them cry to the house-tops. Tell Washington: Not war, but peace and the jobs of peace are on the order of the day. This is not our war.

"One of our weekly contemporaries is offering graduating students \$5 for success stories. The graduate who gets a job is regarded as a real 'story.' But the story which should be printed is: Why is it that millions of jobless youth can't get work? That's America's story. Why are there no jobs?

"Will these boys and girls be called fifth columnists if they demand that their government assume toward them a responsibility equal to the responsibility it assumes toward those who are receiving and are to receive billions for war subsidies?

"Shall we malign that youth whose years in school were filled with the hope that by graduation time we would have learned how to cure the ills of unemployment in the midst of untold natural resources? We have failed them, not they us. Why not tell them the story of our failure?

"Commencement Day! Will it be the end of hope? Negro youth faces the hardest future. If there are a few jobs, it comes last. Black America is the most forgotten man.

"Is it any wonder it questions the mental competency of its elders? We have no cure, or have we and are we afraid to fight for posterity?

"It would indeed be a bankrupt world if there were no jobs outside the ranks of armed men and the grave diggers who plow them under. Youth graduates! It demands! We have got to answer! Europe has no answer for our youth upon its battlefields."

Negroes O.K.—For Cannon Fodder

"But last week, as Hitler's legions forced the Allies back against the walls of the English channel, the recruiting officers were advised to scuttle the war department's 'no Negroes wanted' refrain for a theme which might induce approximately 70 young Negroes of Kansas City to answer the call to the colors." So ends an item dated from Kansas City appearing in the Negro press last week-end. This is but one indication of what will become more and more apparent as the day for America's entry into the war draws nearer. That when America's Sixty Families need Negro youth for cannon fodder to protect and expand their interests, the color bar will be forgotten—for cannon fodder.

British Drop Colonial "Improvement"

The British Colonial Office announced last week that the colonial development plans that were embodied in the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the West Indies and in a statement of policy by the Colonial Office would not be carried out because of the intensity of the war in Europe. The British Government previously had decided to appropriate the miserable sum of £1,000,000 annually for a period of twenty years for the purpose of initiating public health, housing, slum clearance, social welfare and agricultural reforms throughout the West Indies. This sum amounted to an average of a penny per native annually.

British imperialism is forcing the exploited and oppressed colonial peoples to bear greater and greater burdens of the war, in the form of increased taxation, higher cost of living, longer hours, and finally with their lives to guarantee that their enslavers will remain their masters.

Ethiopians Distrust British "Help"

A dispatch from London appearing in the Chicago Defender last week, reporting that the Ethiopians are attacking the Italian troops, states:

"The Emperor, after four years of betrayal and neglect by Britain, was suddenly invited to come to London from his modest home in Bath for a conference with British government officials.

"While determined to utilize the present situation to press the armed struggle for Ethiopian independence, the natives are reliably reported to be highly suspicious of Britain's intentions regarding Ethiopia, in the event of an Allied victory."

Recording of Song Insulting WPA Workers Stopped by Union

The Boston Guardian reports: "that vulgar, barrel-organ song about the WPA ('Sleep while you work, while you rest, while you play, lean on your shovel to pass time away') is no longer to be recorded, owing to the decision of the New York Local of the American Federation of Musicians to condemn it. For a long time this record has insulted colored and white workers, whom unemployment, created by the depression, has compelled to work on the projects initiated in the early years of the Roosevelt administration, to provide the jobs which private industry could not furnish."

War! It's Wonderful

Profits of leading corporations zoomed skyward even before the latest gigantic armament appropriations got under way. Jumps ranging from 25 per cent to 2,500 per cent are recorded for the 1st quarter of 1940, as compared to the same period of 1939. Some figures compiled by the CIO Economic Outlook:

Company	1st quarter 1939	1st quarter 1940	% profits increase
U.S. Steel	\$ 660,551	\$17,113,995	2,500
Bethlehem Steel	2,409,059	10,891,139	350
Republic Steel	532,899	3,111,723	480
Studebaker	56,914	511,503	800
General Motors	53,177,928	67,028,461	26
Chrysler	11,638,290	15,742,388	35
Douglas Aircraft	771,552	1,804,877	131
Fairchild Aircraft	56,254	209,102	274
Glenn L. Martin	682,496	2,162,670	218
General Electric	7,373,431	11,951,450	62

Even these figures don't tell the whole story. For instance—the 26% increase of General Motors' profits is an increase over what was a world's record for corporation profits!

Mpls. Labor Movement Fights War Drive

MINNEAPOLIS, June 21—The labor movement of this city, some of whose members are still serving terms in the federal prison at Sandstone because, in last summer's WPA strike they violated Roosevelt's edict that "You can't strike against the government," isn't being taken in by the patriotic war drive.

The most outspoken voice of the workers here is the "Northwest Organizer," weekly organ of the Minneapolis Teamsters Joint Council. In this week's issue a blistering editorial takes the measure of Roosevelt's cry for "national defense." It says, in part:

"National defense, for an imperialist nation, has never been anything but a slogan to justify war, to make war appear as legitimate and just.

"To endorse the idea of national defense is to approve the war for which the machinery of 'national defense' will be used. To endorse national defense is to approve all the repressive measures directed by the government and industry against organized labor under the guise of strengthening national defense—such as the use of G-men against unions and strikers, the jailing of union men and women, the outlawing of strikes, big slashes in wages, lengthening of hours, the campaign against aliens.

"It is true that the average worker does not at all think of national defense in this way. When the worker or farmer thinks about national defense, he is thinking about defense of his wife and children and relatives and friends, defense of his home and neighborhood and the school where his kids go—defense of these things from some vague invader, from bombs, parachutists and poisonous gas. At most he thinks of national defense as meaning the defense of the border of the United States—the two coasts and the Mexican and Canadian borders.

"But when the industrialist and his general staff, his newspapers, his educators, his news-reel and radio commentators, speak of national defense, they mean the seizure of colonies and markets abroad. They mean diverting funds from the unemployed to war, they mean

Seniority Rights In New Union Contracts Protected In War

MINNEAPOLIS, June 21—A number of new contracts signed by General Drivers Union Local 544 carry a new clause, safeguarding seniority rights against the contingency of war-time service in the army.

One such clause, appearing in a contract signed this week between Local 544 and 28 excavating companies reads as follows:

"Employees shall not suffer any loss in their seniority standing by reason of their enlistment or induction into any branch of the military or naval service of the U.S.A. in event of an official declaration of war by the United States."

A similar clause appears in a contract signed last week by Local 544, St. Paul General Drivers Local 120, the two filling station attendants, locals of the Twin Cities, and eighteen major oil companies operating in the Twin Cities.

Old-timers remember how "patriotic" bosses around here urged their employees to go over there in 1917, promising them their jobs when they came back—and when the survivors came back they didn't get their jobs back. Minneapolis workers are perhaps more anti-war than anywhere else in the country, and if they're going to be dragged off to war they're determined to have jobs to come back to.

the opportunity to whip up hysteria against those unions who oppose war, such as the vile Mooney-Billings frame-up at the Preparedness Parade in San Francisco in 1916; they mean dealing smashing blows at organized labor of the type that organized labor would not tolerate in peacetime.

"That is the REAL meaning of national defense.

NEW YORK COPS CLUB PICKETS AT AIR KING

The strike at the Air King Radio Corp., Brooklyn, N. Y., conducted by the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers Union (CIO), took on the aspects of a battle to preserve the right to organize and picket, as La Guardia's police force fought several pitched battles with the pickets at the plant in Brooklyn last week.

Captain Leahy, of Brooklyn's 68th precinct, has been promising that if no mass picket line was put around the plant, he would allow mass picketing in case scabs tried to enter the plant. The workers took him at his word and abstained from mass picketing until Lieberman, owner of the shop, took a large group of scabs into the plant on June 12.

The workers then tried to throw a mass picket line around the plant. Whereupon Captain Leahy declared, "I know why you want a mass picket line. Now that Italy is in the war the Italians in your ranks want to tie up American industry." The captain's statement, providing a pretext for breaking the picket line, shows how "anti-alien" moves are really directed against labor.

Police Attack

The police then attempted to break the back of the strike in one of the most brutal attacks that has ever been seen in New York City. Over 100 police officers, under the direction of Captain Leahy, with 4 riot cars, 5 motorcycles and a squad of police on horseback drove against a group of 1,000 unionists and their friends who were trying to form a mass picket line around the plant. The police charged the line with night sticks flying and beat everybody that they could reach mercilessly. Young girls were struck on the head and face with sticks, and when they fell to the ground unconscious they were kicked by the police. The cops on horseback, riding up onto the sidewalk chased young men and women down the street and swung sticks at their heads in a manner reminiscent of a cavalry charge.

One of the girls, Kathleen Kramer, suffered a bad leg fracture and was lying in the street unconscious when several officers came over to her and beat her with clubs and kicked her. Captain Leahy, standing close by, directed this brutality. When a male striker tried to assist his fallen fellow worker he was brutally beaten and knocked unconscious. In the attack officer No. 7667 was especially brutal.

One mounted cop even went so far in the pursuit of his "duty" that he rode on horseback into a live poultry shop in pursuit of a girl and injured the proprietor.

About 20 of the strikers were seriously injured and 4 were arrested. Paul Goldblatt and James Lustig were charged with disorderly conduct. At the hearing at night court Lustig had the additional charge of "inciting to riot" placed against him. Two other workers who were engaged in a routine stopping of trucks in front of the plant were arrested and a frame-up charge of grand larceny was placed against them.

But the strike goes on, the ranks firm.

COPS CLUB AIR KING PICKETS



Preparing the war for democracy—New York cops ruthlessly clubbed pickets outside the Air King Radio Corporation plant in Brooklyn, N. Y., last week. The striker stretched out above was one of 13 injured in the attack by hundreds of policemen.

MILITANT CAFETERIA WORKERS DEFEAT STALINIST CANDIDATE

The members of the Cafeteria Workers Union of New York, Local 302, delivered a decisive defeat to the Communist Party machine dominating the local, when William Kincheloe, Progressive, was elected president by a margin of 240 votes over his Stalinist opponent. Almost 5,000 workers voted in the special by-election, held on Tuesday, June 25, after the incumbent president had resigned to assume his post as Executive Manager of the Local Joint Board.

The election aroused tremendous interest among the cafeteria workers and food workers generally, for Local 302, with a membership of 10,000 is the most important in the Hotel and Restaurant Workers International. Local 302 had remained a Communist Party stronghold after decisive defeats in Local 16 and Local 326, and even after the Opposition had broken through in the regular elections last December and elected 2 Business Agents. Now, for the first time, with a majority turning against the C.P., their complete elimination from the leadership of the union in the regular elections in December is confidently looked forward to.

In the four-year domination of the union by the Communist Party, it has been completely exposed as an agency of the bosses within the ranks of the workers. Rebuilding the Bosses' Association, acceptance of an arbitration board and breaking down of job security, signing of a two-year contract, and non-enforcement of union conditions in the shops were some of the crimes of the Stalinist administration, and their defeat was long overdue.

In the election campaign, the Stalinists, seeing the handwriting on the wall, resorted to the most unscrupulous nationalist demagoguery, appealing to the large Greek membership to vote for their candidate because he was a Greek. Kincheloe, the Progressive candidate, had the support of a coalition of opposition groups, calling themselves the United Orange Ticket. He also had the support of William Mesevich, the resigned president, who broke with the Stalinist machine after supporting it for three and one-half years.

The big task of the Progressives now is to prepare for the elections in December, when the Stalinists can be completely swept out. The by-laws must be democratized, the two branches of the union must be united into one, and the progressive program of the Opposition must be put into effect.

TOLEDO, Ohio—Bakery Workers Local 302 of this city declared its solidarity with the anti-war stand taken by its brother union, the Ohio State Butchers and Meat Cutters, denouncing the present war now raging in Europe as imperialistic and in the interests only of the profits of the few. There were 150 present at the meeting on Saturday, June 15.

After a full discussion a unanimous standing vote was taken in favor of the resolution. Copies papers, and the union's delegates to the AFL Central Labor Union of this city were given permission to present it there.

The text of the resolution follows: WHEREAS, there is now in progress a war in Europe which threatens to engulf the whole world, and

WHEREAS the present war being fought is an imperialist one, and

WHEREAS as workers we can have no common interests with the aims of those countries involved in the slaughter of the workers fighting their wars for the profits of the few,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we support the Ludlow Amendment for a referendum vote on war.

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Perk up! There is a PICNIC WE'RE SAILING FOR CLOVE LAKE (Statens Island) on

SUNDAY, JUNE 30 MEET AT SOUTH FERRY 10 A.M.

Take Bus No. 6 to Clove Lake (near Silver Lake) Boating-Tennis-Games Home Cooked Food Grand drawing of World's Fair Souvenir Book Auspices: West Side Br.

St. Paul, Minn.

Anti-Alien Drive Revival of Palmer Raids

By MATTHEW ROAN

The present government drive against aliens brings to mind the similar attempts of the government, after the last war, to break the solidarity of the workers by creating a hysteria directed against our foreign born brothers.

With the spread of revolution in Europe and the great strikes in coal and steel on this side of the ocean in 1919, the bankers and bosses began to quake with fear. They raised the cry of "foreign-born agitator" in an attempt to break the workers' unions.

Congress obligingly appropriated \$2,600,000 to Attorney-General Palmer, with instructions, as the report of the Attorney-General of the United States explicitly declared, to give special attention to the coal and steel disturbances.

Palmer called in as his chief assistant William J. Flynn, head of a labor-spy detective agency, to help in this government-sponsored strike-breaking. He and J. Edgar Hoover—who still runs the FBI—did the job.

They found one special excuse for attacking America's organized workers when, on May 1, 1919, some two dozen bombs were "found" in the mail. The same thing happened on June 3rd of the same year. Who sent those bombs was never clearly determined. The best guess points to government provocateurs. But Palmer and Flynn stated to the press that they would get the "Bolsheviks and Anarchists" who were responsible.

Typical Example of Those "Red" Raids

On November 7, 1919, second anniversary of the Russian revolution, which Flynn considered the psychological date on which to attack, raids were made in the principal cities of the United States. The raids in New York City are typical of those which occurred throughout the country in their brutality and terrorism.

On that night a gang of terrorists and hoodlums descended on the Peoples House, a school and assembly hall operated by the Federation of Unions of Russian Workers of the United States. Classes were in session and all was quiet, when suddenly the government agents broke in. Swinging clubs and breaking heads, even though they met with no resistance, they arrested all the workers that they found in the building and, without even a single warrant, threw them all in jail. They carted away a truckload of "subversive" literature, including not a few mathematics textbooks. At the prison they submitted the arrested workers to a third-degree. The packed cells were full of moaning victims of police brutality.

The same scenes were duplicated in all the raids which occurred throughout the country. Thousands of arrests were made. In January, 1920 further raids were conducted in the search for "weapons." 2,500 were imprisoned at this time. The total haul of weapons were four rifles, about two hundred years old, which were used by an amateur theatrical group.

In the series of raids 6,350 warrants were issued for alleged deportable aliens; 3,000 arrests were made. Of all of these only 271 were actually deported, so flimsy were the charges against them. 249 of these were of Russian birth and the government arranged that they were all to be deported at one time on the S.S. Buford, an old unseaworthy crate. The refined cruelty of the government agents was shown once again at the sailing. Not only were the deportees not permitted to take their families, but the families were not informed of the time of the sailing so they could say good-bye. Those women and children who managed to come to the pier were scattered and driven away by soldiers.

Typical of many of the deported was a young worker who was not a radical or a member of any radical organization. He had been attending a class in mathematics at the Peoples House the night it was raided and this was held sufficient grounds for deportation.

Attorney General Palmer made no bones about his strike-breaking role in the great coal miners' strike of 1919. He announced himself "ready to curb radicals and protect working miners," and proceeded to secure a federal injunction prohibiting the United Mine Workers Union from paying out strike benefits. The courts obliged, of course. Whereupon Palmer boasted:

"No strike can go on without being directed, and if this injunction is obeyed this strike of the coal miners cannot continue, for this restraining order acts to make it leaderless so far as the national scope of it is concerned." (New York Times, November 1, 1919).

They're Just Repeating 1919

It must be said that the 1919-1921 wave of "anti-alien" and "red" persecutions largely achieved what the bosses wanted from it. Millions of foreign-born workers were terrorized into accepting wage-cuts, and foreign-born and native workers stood divided and therefore powerless to fight back against the wage-cuts. Then things quieted down, it became fashionable to be ashamed of the "excesses" of Palmer's red raids, and the Assistant Secretary of Labor, Louis F. Post, wrote a book about it entitled "The Deportation Delirium."

But the bosses didn't forget the bag of tricks they had learned. And now, with a reluctant working class being pushed toward war, those tricks are brought out again. And the same man, J. Edgar Hoover, still heads the FBI, which is charged with the dirtiest work connected with the revival of Palmer's red raids.

The bosses didn't forget. The workers also must not forget. Defend the alien workers against the FBI and against all these "anti-alien" laws! For they are all, in reality, directed against all workers, foreign-born or native.

WORKERS' FORUM

Write to us—tell us what's going on in your part of the labor movement—what are the workers thinking about?—tell us what the bosses are up to—and the G-men and the local cops—and the Stalinists—send us that story the capitalist press didn't print and that story they buried or distorted—our pages are open to you. Letters must carry name and address, but indicate if you do not want your name printed.

First Effect of Minn. Bloc with Democrats

Editor:

If any conscious Minnesota trade unionist was ever tempted to recommend a coalition between the Democratic and Farmer-Labor parties as a solution to the workers' political problems, he was certainly cured of this temptation if he attended the Olson Memorial Banquet on June 17th. The Banquet held in honor of Minnesota's famous Farmer-Labor governor, Floyd B. Olson who died in 1936, was sponsored

by the Railroad Brotherhoods, the Farmer-Labor Association, a large number of AFL and CIO—and the Democratic Party. Two thousand workers attended the Minneapolis banquet and other thousands of workers attended similar banquets in other parts of the state.

The Democratic program—or lack of program—prevailed in the speeches made at the banquets. No proposal was made for a way out for the workers from the danger of involvement in another bloody war. Rather, each speaker—with the exception of Senator Burton K. Wheeler—emphasized his faith in Roosevelt's program

for keeping us out of war. The only anti-Roosevelt, anti-war speech was made by former liberal, Senator Wheeler. However, even his mild attacks on the war-mongers were wildly applauded by the workers who heard him. His very timid hint at the end of his speech that "a new and great liberal anti-war party will be created unless they (the Republican and Democratic parties) bind themselves in unmistakable terms to a program of keeping the U.S. out of the European war" brought the meeting to its feet.

It should be recorded that the Stalinist stooge, Elmer Benson, also criticized the Administration's war position and pleaded for a stand by Farmer-Laborites against the growing war hysteria. Although his speech was roundly applauded, very few Farmer-Laborites, except the Stalinists, place any confidence in former Governor Benson as a consistent anti-war fighter. It is no secret that Benson is a Stalinist captive. Before the recent change in the Communist Party line, he was whooping it up for collective security and pleading with Roosevelt to place an embargo on the aggressors, etc., etc. If the Stalinists return to this position, Benson will again make an emotional demand for faith in our great leader, F.D.R.

No, there was no speaker at the

Olson Banquet whom the workers could trust as a leader in the fight against war. Vince Day, John Devaney, Dewey Johnson, John McDonough, and even John Boscoe, the President of the Minneapolis Central Labor Union, all swore their allegiance to President Roosevelt, the "flag and the country for which it stands." Old-line Farmer-Laborites shook their heads and said that they had never seen such a chauvinistic display at a Farmer-Labor gathering.

It is very clear that the coalition ticket of Democrats and Farmer-Laborites planned for this fall's state election has already wiped out the traditional anti-war position of the Farmer-Labor movement, at least on the part of the present leaders of this movement. Rank and file delegates from the unions to the coming State Convention of the Farmer-Labor Party must try to write a bold, anti-war, anti-Roosevelt platform. If this fails, Minnesota workers will turn away from the Democratic-Farmer-Labor pro-war ticket this fall. Advanced workers must be on guard to keep this wave of anti-war feeling of disillusioned Farmer-Laborites away from the equally pro-war Republican Party and on the path of independent working-class action.

Grace Carlson

Imperialist War and the Proletarian World Revolution

The Emergency Conference of the Fourth International, the world party of the socialist revolution, convenes at the turning point of the second imperialist war. The stage of probing for openings, of making preparations and of relative military inactivity has been left far behind. Germany has unloosed all the furies of hell in a major offensive to which the Allies are replying in kind with all their forces of destruction. From now on the life of Europe and all of mankind will be determined for a long time by the course of the imperialist war and by its economic and political consequences.

The Fourth International considers that now is the time to say openly and clearly how it views this war and its participants, how it evaluates the war policies of various labor organizations, and, most important, what is the way out to peace, freedom and plenty.

The Fourth International turns not to the governments who have dragged the peoples into the slaughter, nor to the bourgeois politicians who bear the responsibility for these governments, nor to the labor bureaucracy which supports the warring bourgeoisie. The Fourth International

THE GENERAL CAUSES OF THE PRESENT WAR

Technology is infinitely more powerful now than at the end of the war of 1914-1918, whereas mankind is much more poverty-stricken. The standard of living has declined in one country after another. On the threshold of the present war, agriculture was in worse condition than at the outbreak of the last war. The agricultural countries are ruined. In the industrial countries the middle classes are being ravaged economically and a permanent sub-class of unemployed—modern pariahs—has been formed. The domestic market has narrowed. The export of capital has been reduced. Imperialism has actually shattered the world market, breaking it up into spheres dominated by powerful individual countries. With the considerable increase in the population of the earth, the world trade of 109 states on our planet dropped almost one-fourth in the single decade prior to the present war. The turnover in foreign trade of some countries has been cut to one-half, one-third, and one-fourth.

The colonial countries are suffering from their own internal crises, and from the crises of the metropolitan centers. Backward nations which yesterday were still semi-free are today plunged into slavery (Abyssinia, Albania, China, . . .). Every imperialist country must have its own sources of raw materials, above all for war, that is, for a new struggle for raw materials. In order to enrich themselves further, the capitalists are destroying and laying waste everything created by the labor of centuries.

The world of decaying capitalism is over-crowded. The question of admitting a hundred extra refugees becomes a major problem for such a world power as the United States. In an era of aviation, telegraph, telephone, radio and television, travel from country to country is paralyzed by passports and visas. The period of the wasting away of foreign trade and the decline of domestic trade is at the same time the period of the monstrous intensification of chauvinism and especially of anti-semitism. In the epoch of its rise, capitalism took the Jewish people out of the ghetto and utilized them as an instrument in its commercial expansion. Today decaying capitalist society is striving to squeeze the Jewish people from all its pores; seventeen million individuals out of the two billion populating the globe, that is, less than one percent, can no longer find a place on our

THE IMMEDIATE CAUSES OF THIS WAR

The immediate cause of the present war is the rivalry between the old wealthy colonial empires, Great Britain and France, and the belated imperialist plunderers, Germany and Italy.

The nineteenth century was the era of the incontestable hegemony of the oldest capitalist power, Great Britain. From 1815 to 1914—true enough, not without isolated military explosions—"British peace" reigned. The British fleet, mightiest in the world, played the role of policeman of the seas. This era, however, has receded into the past. As early as the end of the last century, Germany, armed with modern technology, began to move toward first place in Europe. On the other side of the ocean an even more powerful country arose, a former British colony. The most important economic contradiction which led to the war of 1914-1918 was the rivalry between Great Britain and Germany. As for the United States, its participation in the war was of a preventive character—Germany could not be permitted to subjugate the European continent.

The defeat hurled Germany back into complete impotence. Disembled, encircled by enemies, bankrupted by indemnities, weakened by the convulsions of civil war, she appeared to be out of the running for a long time to come, if not forever. On the European continent, first violin turned up temporarily in the hands of France. For victorious England, the balance sheet of the war left in the last analysis liabilities: increasing independence of the dominions; colonial movements for independence; loss of naval hegemony; lessening of the importance of her navy through the development of aviation.

Through inertia England still attempted to play the leading role on the world arena in the first few years after victory. Her conflicts with the United States began to assume an obviously threatening character. It seemed as though the next war would flare up between the two Anglo-Saxon aspirants to world domination. England, however, soon had to convince herself that her specific economic weight was inadequate for combat with the colossus across the ocean. Her agreement with the United States on naval

This Manifesto of the Fourth International was adopted at the Emergency Conference, at which ten national sections were represented (see story, page 1), and which was held on May 19-26 'somewhere in the Western Hemisphere.'

News and documents of the Conference were withheld from publication until participating delegates could make their way back to the countries from which they came.

Although more than a month has passed since the Manifesto was adopted, a month in

which events undreamed of by most of the world have come to pass, the Manifesto successfully stands the test of these events, predicting their broad outlines. For it is an estimate, not merely of immediate events, but of this whole epoch of war and revolution.

Symbol of the future is the fact that our Manifesto is the first to be issued by any of the international organizations of the labor movement, estimating the character of the events we are witnessing and—most decisive—it will

remain the only one providing a bold program for leading the international working class out of this chaos into a world of peace and socialism.

This Manifesto includes an all-sided analysis of the world situation. But it is far more than that. It is a call to action to save the human race from extinction.

Every advanced worker in the labor movement must be given the opportunity to read this great document!

turns to the working men and women, the soldiers and sailors, the ruined peasants and the enslaved colonial peoples. The Fourth International has no ties whatsoever with the oppressors, the exploiters, the imperialists. It is the world party of the toilers, the oppressed, and the exploited. This Manifesto is addressed to them.

planet! Amid the vast expanses of land and the marvels of technology, which has also conquered the skies for man as well as the earth, the bourgeoisie has managed to convert our planet into a foul prison.

On November 1, 1914, at the beginning of the last imperialist war, Lenin wrote: "Imperialism has placed the fate of European culture at stake. After this war, if a series of successful revolutions do not occur, more wars will follow—the fairy tale of a 'war to end all wars' is a hollow and pernicious fairy tale." . . . Workers, call this prediction to mind! The present war—the second imperialist war—is not an accident; it does not result from the will of this or that dictator. It was predicted long ago. It derived its origin inexorably from the contradictions of international capitalist interests. Contrary to the official fables designed to drug the people, the chief cause of war as of all other social evils—unemployment, the high cost of living, fascism, colonial oppression—is the private ownership of the means of production together with the bourgeois state which rests on this foundation.

With the present level of technology and skill of the workers it is quite possible to create adequate conditions for the material and spiritual development of all mankind. It would be necessary only to organize the economic life within each country and over our entire planet correctly, scientifically, and rationally, according to a general plan. So long, however, as the main productive forces of society are held by trusts, i.e., isolated capitalist cliques, and so long as the national state remains a pliant tool in the hands of these cliques, the struggle for markets, for sources of raw materials, for domination of the world must inevitably assume a more and more destructive character. State power and domination of economy can be torn from the hands of these rapacious imperialist cliques only by the revolutionary working class. That is the meaning of Lenin's warning that without "a series of successful revolutions" a new imperialist war would inevitably follow. The different predictions and promises which were made have been submitted to the test of events. The fairy tale of the "war to end all wars" has been proved a lie. Lenin's prediction has become tragic truth.

equality signified formal renunciation of naval hegemony, already lost in actuality. Her replacement of free trade by tariff walls signified open admission of the defeat of British industry on the world market. Her renunciation of the policy of "splendid isolation" drew in its wake the introduction of compulsory military service. Thus all the sacred traditions were dusted away.

A similar lack of correspondence between her economic weight and her world position is characteristic of France too, but on a smaller scale. Her hegemony in Europe rested on a temporary conjuncture of circumstances created by the annihilation of Germany and the artificial combinations of the Versailles Treaty. The size of her population and the economic foundation supporting this hegemony were far too inadequate. When the hypnosis of victory wore off, the real relationship of forces surged to the surface. France proved to be much weaker than she had appeared not only to her friends but to her enemies. Seeking cover, she became in essence Great Britain's latest dominion.

Germany's regeneration on the basis of her first rate technology and organizational abilities was inevitable. It came sooner than was thought possible, in large measure thanks to England's support of Germany against the US-SR, against the excessive pretensions of France and, more remotely, against the United States. Such international combinations proved successful for capitalist England more than once in the past so long as she remained the strongest power. In her senility she proved incapable of dealing with those spirits she had herself evoked.

Armed with a technology, more modern, of greater flexibility, and of higher productive capacity, Germany once again began to squeeze England out of very important markets, particularly southeastern Europe and Latin America. In contrast to the nineteenth century, when the competition between capitalist countries developed on an expanding world market, the economic arena of struggle today is narrowing down so that nothing remains open to the imperialists except tearing pieces of the world market away from each other.

The initiative for the new re-division of the world this time as in 1914 belonged naturally to German imperialism. Caught off guard the British government first attempted to buy its way out of war by concessions at the expense of others (Austria, Czechoslovakia). But this policy was short-lived. "Friendship" with Great Britain was only a brief tactical phase for Hitler. London had already conceded Hitler more than he had calculated on getting. The

THE ROLE OF UNITED STATES IMPERIALISM

While Great Britain has exerted every effort since the first months of the war to seize blockaded Germany's vacated positions in the world market, the United States has almost automatically been driving Great Britain out. Two-thirds of the world's gold is concentrated in the American vaults. The remaining third is flowing to the same place. England's role as banker for the world is a thing of the past. Nor are matters in other spheres much better. While Great Britain's navy and merchant marine are suffering great losses, the American shipyards are building ships on a colossal scale which will secure the predominance of the American fleet over the British and the Japanese. The United States is obviously preparing to adopt the *two power standard* (a navy stronger than the combined fleets of the next two strongest powers). The new program for the air fleet envisages securing the superiority of the United States over all the rest of the world.

However, the industrial, financial and military strength of the United States, the foremost capitalist power in the world, does not at all insure the blossoming of American economic life, but on the contrary, invests the crisis of her social system with an especially malignant and convulsive character. Gold in the billions cannot be made use of nor can the millions of unemployed! In the theses of the Fourth International, "War and the Fourth International," published six years ago, it was predicted: "Capitalism in the United States is running head on into those problems which impelled Germany in 1914 upon the road of war. . . . For Germany it was a question of 'organizing' Europe. For the United States it is a question of 'organizing' the world. History is taking mankind directly into the volcanic eruption of American imperialism."

The "New Deal" and the "Good Neighbor" policy were the final attempts to postpone the climax by ameliorating the social crisis through concessions and agreements. After the bankruptcy of this policy, which swallowed up tens of billions, nothing else remained for American imperialism but to resort to the method of the mailed fist. Under one or another pretext and slogan the United States will intervene in the tremendous clash in order to maintain its world domination. The order and the time of the struggle between American capitalism and its enemies is not yet known—perhaps even by Washington. War with Japan would be a struggle for "living room" in the Pacific ocean. War in the Atlantic, even if directed immediately against Germany, would be a struggle for the heritage of Great Britain.

The potential victory of Germany over the Allies hangs like a nightmare over Washington. With the European continent and the resources of its colonies as her base, with all the European munition factories and shipyards at her disposal, Germany especially in combination with Japan in the Orient would constitute a mortal danger for American imperialism. The present titanic battles on the fields of Europe are in this sense preparatory episodes in the struggle between Germany and America. France and England are only fortified positions of American capitalism, extended beyond the Atlantic. If the frontiers of England are located on the Rhine, as one of the British premiers put it, then the American imperialists might well say that the frontiers of the United States are on the Thames. In its feverish preparation of public opinion for the coming war, Washington does not spare noble indignation over the fate of Finland, Denmark, Norway, Holland, Belgium. . . . With the occupation of Denmark the question of Greenland arose unexpectedly as being "geologically" a part of the Western hemisphere and containing by happy chance deposits of cryolite, indispensable in the production of aluminum. Nor does Washington overlook enslaved China, the helpless Philippines, the orphaned Dutch Indies, and open sea routes. Thus philanthropic sympathies for oppressed nations and even considerations of geology are driving the United States into war.

The American armed forces, however, could intervene successfully only so long as France and the British Isles remain solid bases of support. Should France be occupied and German troops appear on the Thames, the relationship of forces would shift drastically to the disadvantage of the United States. Washington is forced by these considerations to speed up all the tempos but likewise to ponder the question: Has the opportune moment not been missed?

Against the official position of the White House are launched the noisy protests of American isolationism which

Munich agreement through which Chamberlain hoped to seal a long time friendship with Germany led, on the contrary, to a hastening of the break. Hitler could expect nothing more from London—further expansion of Germany would strike at the life lines of Great Britain herself. Thus the "new era of peace" proclaimed by Chamberlain in October, 1938 led within a few months to the most terrible of all wars.

is itself only another variety of the very same imperialism. The section of the capitalists whose interests are bound up primarily with the American continent, Australia, and the Far East calculate that in the event of the defeat of the Allies, the United States would automatically gain a monopoly for its own benefit not only of Latin America but also of Canada, Australia and New Zealand. As for China, the Dutch Indies and the Orient in general, it is the conviction of the entire ruling class of the United States, that war with Japan is in any case inevitable in the near future. Under the guise of isolationism and pacifism, an influential section of the bourgeoisie is working out a program for American continental expansion and preparing for the struggle with Japan. War against Germany for the domination of the world, according to this plan, is only deferred. As for petty-bourgeois pacifists such as Norman Thomas and his fraternity, they are only choir boys in one of the imperialist clans.

Our struggle against United States intervention into the war has nothing in common with isolationism and pacifism. We tell the workers openly that the imperialist government cannot fail to drag this country into war. The dispute within the ruling class involves only the question, when to enter the war and against whom to level the fire first. To count upon holding the United States to neutrality by means of newspaper articles and pacifist resolutions is like trying to hold back the tide with a broom. The real struggle against war means the class struggle against imperialism and a merciless exposure of petty-bourgeois pacifism. Only revolution could prevent the American bourgeoisie from intervening in the second imperialist war or beginning the third imperialist war. All other methods are either charlatanism or stupidity or a combination of both.

The Defense of the "Fatherland"

Almost a hundred years ago when the national state still represented a relatively progressive factor, the Communist Manifesto proclaimed that the proletarians have no fatherland. Their only goal is the creation of the toilers' fatherland embracing the whole world. Toward the end of the nineteenth century, the bourgeois state with its armies and tariff walls became the worst brake on the development of productive forces which demand a much more extensive arena. A socialist who comes out today for the defense of the "fatherland" is playing the same reactionary role which was played by the peasants of the Vendee who rushed to the defense of the feudal regime, that is, of their own chains.

In recent years and even months, the world has observed with astonishment how easily states vanish from the map of Europe: Austria, Czechoslovakia, Albania, Poland, Denmark, Norway, Holland, Belgium. . . . The political map has been reshaped with equal speed in no other epoch save that of the Napoleonic wars. At that time it was a question of outlived feudal states which had to give way before the bourgeois national state. Today it is a question of outlived bourgeois states which must give way before the socialist federation of the peoples. The chain breaks as always at its weakest link. The struggle of the imperialist bandits leaves as little room for independent small states as does the vicious competition of trusts and cartels for small independent manufacturers and merchants.

Because of its strategic position Germany considers it more profitable to attack its main enemies through the small and neutral countries. Great Britain and France on the contrary deem it more profitable to cover themselves with the neutrality of the small states and let Germany drive them through her blows into the camp of the "democratic" Allies. The gist of the matter is not altered by this difference in strategic methods. Between the cog-wheels of the great imperialist countries the small satellites are being ground to dust. The "defense" of the huge fatherlands requires the overthrow of a dozen small and middle-sized ones.

But even with regard to the large states what is involved for the bourgeoisie is not at all a question of defending the fatherland but rather markets, foreign concessions, sources of raw materials and spheres of influence. The bourgeoisie never defends the fatherland for the sake of the fatherland. They defend private property, privileges, profits. Whenever these sacred values are threatened, the bourgeoisie immediately takes to the road of defeatism. That was the way of the Russian bourgeoisie, whose sons after the October revolution fought and are once again ready to fight in every

Only the Workers Can Restore Peace to a Warring World

army in the world against their own former fatherland. In order to save their capital, the Spanish bourgeoisie turned to Mussolini and Hitler for military aid against their own people. The Norwegian bourgeoisie aided Hitler's invasion of Norway. Thus it always was and always will be.

Official patriotism is a mask for the exploiting interests. Class conscious workers throw this mask contemptuously aside. They do not defend the bourgeois fatherland, but the interests of the toilers and the oppressed of their own country and of the entire world. The theses of the Fourth International state: "Against the reactionary slogan of 'national defense' it is necessary to advance the slogan of the

THE "STRUGGLE FOR DEMOCRACY" IS A LIE

No less a lie is the slogan of a war for democracy against Fascism. As if the workers have forgotten that the British government helped Hitler and his hangman's crew gain power! The imperialist democracies are in reality the greatest aristocracies in history. England, France, Holland, Belgium rest on the enslavement of colonial peoples. The democracy of the United States rests upon the seizure of the vast wealth of an entire continent. All the efforts of these "democracies" are directed toward the preservation of their privileged position. A considerable portion of the war burden is unloaded by imperialist democracies onto their colonies. The slaves are obliged to furnish blood and gold in order to insure the possibility of their masters remaining slaveholders. The small capitalist democracies without colonies are satellites of the great empires and glean a portion of their colonial profits. The ruling classes of these states are ready to renounce democracy at any moment in order to preserve their privileges.

In the case of tiny Norway the inner mechanics of decaying democracy have once again been revealed before the whole world. The Norwegian bourgeoisie made simultaneous use of the social-democratic government and the Fascist policemen, judges and officers. At the first serious impact, the democratic heads were swept away and the Fascist bureaucracy, which immediately found a common language with Hitler, became master of the house. With different national variations this same experiment was previously performed in Italy, Germany, Austria, Poland, Czechoslovakia, and a number of other states. In a moment of danger the bourgeoisie has always been able to free from democratic trappings the real apparatus of its rule as the direct instrument of finance capital. Only the hopelessly blind are capable of believing that the British and French generals and admirals are waging a war against Fascism!

The war has not halted the process of the transformation of democracies into reactionary dictatorships but on the

WHAT THE NAZI WAR SLOGANS REALLY MEAN

Hitler's official slogans in general do not warrant examination. The struggle for "national unification" has long since been shown a lie, for Hitler is converting the national state into a state of many nations, trampling under foot the liberty and unity of other peoples. The struggle for "living room" is nothing but camouflage for imperialist expansion, that is, the policy of annexation and plunder. The racial justification for this expansion is a lie; National Socialism changes its racial sympathies and antipathies in accordance with strategic considerations. A somewhat more stable element in fascist propaganda is, perhaps, anti-semitism, which Hitler has given a zoological form, discovering the true language of "race" and "blood" in the dog's bark and the pig's grunt. Not for nothing did Frederick Engels label anti-semitism the "socialism of idiots"! The sole feature of fascism which is not counterfeited is its will to power, subjugation, and plunder. Fascism is a chemically pure distillation of the culture of imperialism.

The democratic governments, who in their day hailed Hitler as a crusader against Bolshevism, now make him out to be some kind of Satan unexpectedly loosed from the depths of Hell, who violates the sanctity of treaties, bound-

THE PREPONDERANCE OF GERMANY IN THE CONFLICT

Whatever may be the war's outcome, the preponderance of Germany has already been clearly shown. Unquestionably Hitler fails to possess any secret "new weapon." But the perfection of all the different existing weapons and the well-coordinated combination of these weapons—on the basis of a more highly rationalized industry—lends German militarism enormous weight. Military dynamics is closely bound up with the peculiar features of a totalitarian regime: unity of will, concentrated initiative, secrecy of preparation, suddenness of execution. The peace of Versailles, moreover, has done the Allies a poor service. After fifteen years of German disarmament Hitler was compelled to start building an army from nothing, and thanks to this the army is free of routine and does not have to drag along obsolete technique and equipment. The tactical training of troops is inspired by new ideas based on the latest word in technology. Apparently only the United States is destined to surpass the German murder machine.

The weakness of France and Great Britain was not unexpected. The theses of the Fourth International (1934) state: "The collapse of the League of Nations is indissolubly bound up with the beginning of the collapse of French hegemony on the European continent." This programmatic document declares further that "England's rulers are increasingly less capable of carrying out their plans," that the British bourgeoisie is "alarmed by the disintegration of its empire, the revolutionary movement in India, the instability of its positions in China." The power of the Fourth International lies in this, that its program is

**Promises Of Both Capitalist Gangs Are Nothing But a Pack of Lies;
Neither the Nazis nor the Western "Democracies" Can Create
a World System Capable of Assuring Security to All**

revolutionary destruction of the national state. To the madhouse of capitalist Europe it is necessary to counterpose the program of the Socialist United States of Europe as a stage on the road to the Socialist United States of the World."

contrary is carrying this process to its conclusion before our very eyes.

Within every country as well as on the world arena, the war strengthened immediately the most reactionary groups and institutions. The general staffs, those nests of Bonapartist conspiracy, the malignant dens of the police, the gangs of hired patriots, the churches of all creeds are immediately pushed to the forefront. The Papal Court, the focal point of obscurantism and hatred among men, is being wooed from all sides, especially by the Protestant President Roosevelt. Material and spiritual decline always brings in its wake police oppression and an increased demand for the opium of religion.

Seeking to gain the advantages of a totalitarian regime, the imperialist democracies launch their own defense with a redoubled drive against the working class and the persecution of revolutionary organizations. The war danger and now the war itself is utilized by them first and foremost to crush internal enemies. The bourgeoisie invariably and unswervingly follows the rule: "The main enemy is in one's own country."

As is always the case, the weakest ones suffer the most. The weakest ones in the present slaughter of the peoples are the countless refugees from all countries, among them the revolutionary exiles. Bourgeois patriotism manifests itself first of all in the brutal treatment of defenseless foreigners. Before the concentration camps for war prisoners were built, all the democracies constructed concentration camps for the revolutionary exiles. The governments of the entire world, particularly the government of the USSR, have written the blackest chapter in our epoch through their treatment of the refugees, the exiles, the homeless. We send our warmest greetings to our imprisoned and persecuted brothers and tell them not to lose heart. From the capitalist prisons and concentration camps will come most of the leaders of tomorrow's Europe and the world!

any lines, rules and regulations. If it were not for Hitler the capitalist world would blossom like a garden. What a miserable lie! This German epileptic with a calculating machine in his skull and unlimited power in his hands did not fall from the sky or come up out of Hell: he is nothing but the personification of all the destructive forces of imperialism. Just as Genghis Khan and Tamerlane appeared to the weaker pastoral peoples as destroying scourges of God, whereas in reality they did nothing but express the need of all the pastoral tribes for more pasture land and the plunder of settled areas, so Hitler, rocking the old colonial powers to their foundations, does nothing but give a more finished expression to the imperialist will to power. Through Hitler, world capitalism, driven to desperation by its own impasse, has begun to press a razor-sharp dagger into its own bowels.

The butchers of the second imperialist war will not succeed in transforming Hitler into a scapegoat for their own sins.

Before the judgment bar of the proletariat all the present rulers will answer. Hitler will do no more than occupy first place among the criminals in the dock.

capable of withstanding the test of great events.

The industry of England and France, thanks to the assured flow of colonial super-profits, has long lagged both in technology and organization. In addition, the so-called "defense of democracy" by the socialist parties and trade unions created an extremely privileged political situation for the British and French bourgeoisie. Privileges always foster sluggishness and stagnation. If Germany today reveals so colossal a preponderance over France and England, then the lion's share of the responsibility rests with the social-patriotic defenders of democracy who prevented the proletariat from tearing England and France out of atrophy through a timely socialist revolution.

"The Program of Peace"

In return for the enslavement of the peoples Hitler promises to establish a "German Peace" in Europe for a period of centuries. An empty mirage! The "British Peace" after the victory over Napoleon could endure a century—not a thousand years!—solely because Britain was the pioneer of a new technology and a progressive system of production. Notwithstanding the strength of her industry, present-day Germany, like her enemies, is the standard bearer of a doomed social system. Hitler's victory would in reality not mean peace but the beginning of a new series of bloody clashes on a world scale. By overthrowing the British empire, reducing France to the status of Bohemia and Moravia, basing herself on the European continent and its colonies, Germany undoubtedly would become the first

power in the world. Along with her, Italy at best might—not for very long—seize control of the Mediterranean basin. But being the first power does not mean being the only power. The struggle for "living room" would only enter a new stage.

The "new order" which Japan is preparing to establish, basing herself on German victory, has as its perspective the extension of Japanese rule over the greater part of the Asiatic continent. The Soviet Union would find itself hemmed in between a Germanized Europe and Japanized Asia. All three Americas, as well as Australia and New Zealand would fall to the United States. If we take into account the provincial Italian empire in addition, the world would be temporarily divided into five "living rooms." But imperialism by its very nature abhors any division of power. In order to free his hands against America, Hitler would have to settle bloody accounts with his friends of yesterday, Stalin and Mussolini. Japan and the United States would not remain disinterested observers of the new struggle. The third imperialist war would be waged not by national states and not by empires of the old type but by whole continents. . . . Hitler's victory in the present war would thus signify not a thousand years of "German Peace" but bloody chaos for many decades if not centuries.

But neither would an Allied triumph result in any more radiant consequences. Victorious France could re-establish her position as a great power only by dismembering Germany, restoring the Hapsburgs, Balkanizing Europe. Great Britain could again play a leading role in European affairs only by refurbishing the game of playing on the contradictions between Germany and France on the one side, Europe and America on the other. This would signify a new and

THE PRESENT WAR AND DEFENSE OF THE USSR

Stalin's alliance with Hitler, which raised the curtain on the World War and led directly to the enslavement of the Polish people, resulted from the weakness of the USSR and the Kremlin's panic in face of Germany. Responsibility for this weakness rests with no one but this same Kremlin; its internal policy which opened an abyss between the ruling caste and the people; its foreign policy which sacrificed the interests of the world revolution to the interests of the Stalinist clique.

The seizure of Eastern Poland—a pledge of the alliance with Hitler and a guarantee against Hitler—was accompanied by the nationalization of semi-feudal and capitalist property in Western Ukraine and Western White Russia. Without this the Kremlin could not have incorporated the occupied territory into the USSR. The strangled and desecrated October revolution served notice that it was still alive.

In Finland the Kremlin did not succeed in accomplishing a similar social overturn. The imperialist mobilization of world public opinion "in defense of Finland"; the threat of direct intervention by England and France; the impatience of Hitler, who had to seize Denmark and Norway before French and British troops appeared on Scandinavian soil—all this compelled the Kremlin to renounce sovietization of Finland and to limit itself to the seizure of the indispensable strategic positions.

The invasion of Finland unquestionably aroused on the part of the Soviet populace profound condemnation. However, the advanced workers understood that the crimes of the Kremlin oligarchy do not strike off the agenda the question of the existence of the USSR. Its defeat in the world war would signify not merely the overthrow of the totalitarian bureaucracy but the liquidation of the new forms of property, the collapse of the first experiment in planned economy and the transformation of the entire country into a colony, that is, the handing over to imperialism of colossal natural resources which would give it a respite until the third world war. Neither the peoples of the USSR nor the world working class as a whole care for such an outcome.

Finland's resistance to the USSR was, with all its heroism, no more an act of independent national defense, than Norway's subsequent resistance to Germany. The Helsinki government itself understood this when it chose to capitulate to the USSR rather than transform Finland into a military base for England and France. Our whole-hearted recognition of the right of every nation to self-determination does not alter the fact that in the course of the present war this right does not have much more weight than thistle-down. We must determine the basic line of our policy in accordance with basic and not tenth-rate factors. The theses of the Fourth International state: "The idea of national defense especially if it coincides with the idea of the defense of democracy can most readily be utilized to dupe the workers of small and neutral countries (Switzerland, to a certain extent Belgium, the Scandinavian countries. . .). . . . Only petty-bourgeois blockheads (like Robert Grimm) from a God-forsaken Swiss village could seriously believe that the World War into which he will be drawn is a means for defending the independence of Switzerland." These words today acquire a special meaning. In no way superior to the Swiss social-patriot Robert Grimm are those pseudo-revolutionary petty-bourgeois who believe that it is possible to determine proletarian strategy in relation to the defense of the USSR through reliance upon such tactical episodes as the Red Army's invasion of Finland.

ten times worse edition of the peace of Versailles with infinitely more malignant effects upon the weakened organism of Europe. To this it must be added that an Allied victory without American aid is improbable, while the United States this time would demand a much higher price for its assistance than in the last war. The debased and exhausted Europe—the object of Herbert Hoover philanthropy—would become the bankrupt debtor of its trans-Atlantic savior.

Finally, if we suppose the least probable variant, namely the conclusion of peace by the exhausted adversaries in accordance with the pacifist formula: "No victors, no vanquished," this would signify restoration of the international chaos which existed prior to the war, but this time based on bloody ruins, on exhaustion, on embitterment. In a short period of time all the old antagonisms would cut through to the surface with explosive violence and break out in new international convulsions.

The promise of the Allies to create a democratic European federation this time is the crudest of all pacifist lies. The state is not an abstraction but the instrument of monopoly capitalism. So long as trusts and banks are not expropriated for the benefit of the people the struggle between states is just as inevitable as the struggle between the trusts themselves. Voluntary renunciation by the most powerful state of the advantage given by its strength is as ridiculous a Utopia as voluntary division of capital funds among the trusts. So long as capitalist property is preserved, a democratic "federation" would be nothing but a worse repetition of the League of Nations, containing all its vices minus only its illusions.

In vain do the imperialist masters of destiny attempt to revive a program of salvation which was completely discredited by the experience of the past decades. In vain do their petty-bourgeois flunkies warm up pacifist panaceas which long ago changed into their own caricature. The advanced workers will not be duped. Peace will not be concluded by those forces now waging war. The workers and soldiers will dictate their own program of peace!

Extremely eloquent in its unanimity and fury was the campaign which the world bourgeoisie launched over the Soviet-Finnish war. Neither the perfidy nor the violence of the Kremlin prior to this had aroused the indignation of the bourgeoisie, for the entire history of world politics is written in perfidy and violence. Their fear and indignation arose over the prospect of a social overturn in Finland upon the pattern of the one engendered by the Red Army in Eastern Poland. What was involved was a fresh threat to capitalist property. The anti-Soviet campaign, which had a class character through and through, disclosed once again that the USSR by virtue of the social foundations laid down by the October revolution, upon which the existence of the bureaucracy itself is dependent in the last analysis, still remains a workers' state, terrifying to the bourgeoisie of the whole world. Episodic agreements between the bourgeoisie and the USSR do not alter the fact that "taken on the historic scale the contradiction between world imperialism and the Soviet Union is infinitely more profound than the antagonisms which set the individual capitalist countries in opposition to each other." (*War and the Fourth International*)

Many petty-bourgeois radicals, who only yesterday were still ready to consider the Soviet Union as an axis for grouping the "democratic" forces against Fascism, have suddenly discovered, now that their own fatherlands have been threatened by Hitler, that Moscow, which did not come to their aid, follows an imperialist policy, and that there is no difference between the USSR and the Fascist countries.

Lie! will respond every class conscious worker—there is a difference. The bourgeoisie appraise this social difference better and more profoundly than do the radical windbags. To be sure, the nationalization of the means of production in one country, and a backward one at that, still does not insure the building of socialism. But it is capable of furthering the primary prerequisite of socialism, namely, the planned development of the productive forces. To turn one's back on the nationalization of the means of production on the ground that in and of itself it does not create the well-being of the masses is tantamount to sentencing a granite foundation to destruction on the ground that it is impossible to live without walls and a roof. The class conscious worker knows that a successful struggle for complete emancipation is unthinkable without the defense of conquests already gained, however modest these may be. All the more obligatory therefore is the defense of so colossal a conquest as planned economy against the restoration of capitalist relations. Those who cannot defend old positions will never conquer new ones.

The Fourth International can defend the USSR only by the methods of revolutionary class struggle. To teach the workers correctly to understand the class character of the state—imperialist, colonial, workers'—and the reciprocal relations between them as well as the inner contradictions in each of them enables the workers to draw correct practical conclusions in every given situation. While waging a tireless struggle against the Moscow oligarchy, the Fourth International decisively rejects any policy which would aid imperialism against the USSR.

The defense of the USSR coincides in principle with the preparation of the world proletarian revolution. We flatly reject the theory of socialism in one country, that brain child of ignorant and reactionary Stalinism. Only the world revolution can save the USSR for socialism. But the world revolution carries with it the inescapable blotting out of the Kremlin oligarchy.

We Must Help Workers of U.S.S.R. to Overthrow Stalin

FOR THE OVERTHROW OF THE STALIN CLIQUE!

After five years fawning on the "democracies," the Kremlin revealed cynical contempt for the world proletariat by concluding an alliance with Hitler and helping him to strangle the Polish people; it boasted with shameful chauvinism on the eve of the Finnish invasion and displayed no less shameful military incapacity in the subsequent struggle; it made noisy promises to "emancipate" the Finnish people from the capitalists and then made a cowardly capitulation to Hitler—this was the performance of the Stalinist regime in the critical hours of history.

The Moscow trials had already revealed that the totalitarian oligarchy had become an absolute obstacle in the path of the country's development. The rising level of the increasingly complex needs of economic life can no longer tolerate bureaucratic strangulation. The gang of parasites is not, however, prepared to make any concessions. In struggling for its position it destroys everything that is best in the country. It should not be thought that the people who accomplished three revolutions in twelve years have suddenly become stupid. They are suppressed and disoriented but they are watching and thinking. The bureaucracy reminds them every day of its existence by its arbitrary rule, oppression, rapacity and bloody vengefulness. Semi-starved workers and collective farmers among themselves whisper with hatred about the spendthrift caprices of rabid commissars. For Stalin's sixtieth birthday the workers in the Urals were forced to toil a year and a half on a gigantic portrait of the hated "father of the peoples" made out of precious stones—an undertaking worthy of a Persian Xerxes or an Egyptian Cleopatra. A regime capable of indulging in such abominations cannot fail to arouse the hatred of the masses.

Foreign policy corresponds to domestic policy. Had the Kremlin government expressed the real interests of the workers' state; had the Comintern served the cause of world revolution, the popular masses of tiny Finland would inevitably have gravitated toward the USSR and the invasion of the Red Army either would not at all have been necessary or would have been accepted at once by the Finnish people as a revolutionary act of emancipation. In reality the entire previous policy of the Kremlin repelled the Finnish workers and peasants away from the USSR. While Hitler has been able to count upon the assistance of the so-called "fifth column" in the neutral countries he invades, Stalin did not find any support whatever in Finland despite the tradition of the 1918 insurrection and the long existence of the Finnish Communist party. Under these conditions the invasion of the Red Army assumed the char-

acter of direct and open military violence. The responsibility for this violence falls wholly and indivisibly upon the Moscow oligarchy.

War is the acid test of a regime. As a consequence of the first period of the war, the international position of the USSR, despite the window-trimming successes, has already obviously worsened. The foreign policy of the Kremlin has repelled from the USSR broad circles of the world working class and the oppressed peoples. The strategic bases of support seized by Moscow will represent a third-rate factor in the conflict of world forces. Meanwhile Germany has obtained the most important and the most industrialized section of Poland and gained a common frontier with the USSR, that is, a gateway to the east. Through Scandinavia, Germany dominates the Baltic sea, transforming the Gulf of Finland into a tightly corked bottle. Embittered Finland comes under Hitler's direct control. Instead of weak neutral states, the USSR now confronts a powerful Germany on the other side of its Leningrad border. The weakness of the Red Army decapitated by Stalin has been demonstrated to the whole world. The centrifugal nationalist tendencies within the USSR have intensified. The prestige of the Kremlin leadership has declined. Germany in the West, Japan in the East now feel infinitely more confident than before the Kremlin's Finnish adventure.

In his meager arsenal Stalin could find but one and only one answer to the ominous warning of events: he replaced Voroshilov by an even emptier nonentity, Timoshenko. As always in these instances the goal of this maneuver is to divert the anger of the people and the army away from the main criminal responsible for the misfortunes and to place at the head of the army an individual whose reliability is guaranteed by his insignificance. The Kremlin has once again revealed itself as the central nest of defeatism. Only by destroying this nest can the security of the USSR be safeguarded.

The preparation of the revolutionary overthrow of the Moscow ruling caste is one of the main tasks of the Fourth International. This task is not simple or easy. It demands heroism and sacrifice. However, the epoch of great convulsions upon which mankind has entered will strike the Kremlin oligarchy with blow after blow, will break up its totalitarian apparatus, will raise the self-confidence of the working masses and thereby facilitate the formation of the Soviet section of the Fourth International. Events will work in our favor if we are capable of assisting them!

THE COLONIAL STRUGGLE AND THE WAR

By its very creation of enormous difficulties and dangers for the imperialist metropolitan centers, the war opens up wide possibilities for the oppressed peoples. The rumbling of cannon in Europe heralds the approaching hour of their liberation.

If a program of peaceful social transformation is Utopian for the advanced capitalist countries, then the program of peaceful liberation for the colonies is doubly Utopian. On the other hand, the last of the semi-free backward countries have been enslaved before our eyes (Ethiopia, Albania, China, . . .). The entire present war is a war over colonies. They are hunted by some; held by others who refuse to give them up. Neither side has the least intention of liberating them voluntarily. The declining metropolitan centers are impelled to drain away as much as possible from the colonies and to give them in return as little as possible. Only the direct and open revolutionary struggle of the enslaved peoples can clear the road for their emancipation.

In the colonial and semi-colonial countries the struggle for an independent national state, and consequently the "defense of the fatherland," is different in principle from that of the imperialist countries. The revolutionary proletariat of the whole world gives unconditional support to the struggle of China or India for national independence, for this struggle, "by tearing the backward people out of the Asiatic system, particularism and foreign bondage, strikes powerful blows at imperialism." (*War and the Fourth International*).

At the same time the Fourth International knows in advance and openly warns the backward nations that their belated national states can no longer count upon an independent democratic development. Surrounded by decaying capitalism and enmeshed in the imperialist contradictions, the independence of a backward state inevitably will be semi-fictional and its political regime, under the influence of internal class contradictions and external pressure, will unavoidably fall into dictatorship against the people—such is the regime of the "People's" party in Turkey, the Kuomintang in China; Gandhi's regime will be similar tomorrow in India. The struggle for the national independence of the colonies is, from the standpoint of the revolutionary proletariat, only a transitional stage on the road toward drawing the backward countries into the international socialist revolution.

The Fourth International does not draw water-tight distinctions between the backward and the advanced countries, the democratic and the socialist revolutions. It combines them and subordinates them to the world struggle of the oppressed against the oppressors. Just as the only genuinely revolutionary force of our era is the international proletariat so the only real program to liquidate all oppression, social and national, is the program of the permanent revolution.

The Great Lesson of China

The tragic experience of China is a great lesson for the oppressed peoples. The Chinese revolution of 1925-27 had every chance for victory. A unified and transformed China would constitute at this time a powerful fortress of freedom in the Far East. The entire fate of Asia and to a degree the whole world might have been different. But the Kremlin, lacking confidence in the Chinese masses and seeking the friendship of the generals, utilized its whole weight to subordinate the Chinese proletariat to the bourgeoisie and so helped Chiang Kai-shek to crush the Chinese revolution. Disillusioned, disunited and weakened, China was laid open to Japanese invasion.

Like every doomed regime the Stalinist oligarchy is already incapable of learning from the lessons of history. At the beginning of the Sino-Japanese war the Kremlin again placed the Communist Party in bondage to Chiang Kai-shek, crushing in the bud the revolutionary initiative of the Chinese proletariat. This war, now nearing its third anniversary, might long since have been finished by a real catastrophe for Japan, if China had conducted it as a genuine people's war based on an agrarian revolution and setting the Japanese soldiery aflame with its blaze. But the Chinese bourgeoisie fears its own armed masses more than it does the Japanese ravishers. If Chiang Kai-shek, the sinister hangman of the Chinese revolution, is compelled by circumstances to wage a war, his program is still based, as before, on the oppression of his own workers and compromise with the imperialists.

The war in Eastern Asia will become more and more interlocked with the imperialist world war. The Chinese people will be able to reach independence only under the leadership of the youthful and self-sacrificing proletariat, in whom the indispensable self-confidence will be rekindled by the rebirth of the world revolution. They will indicate a firm line of march. The course of events places on the order of the day the development of our Chinese section into a powerful revolutionary party.

Tasks of the Revolution in India

In the very first weeks of war the Indian masses exerted their growing pressure, compelling the opportunist "national" leaders to speak in an unaccustomed tongue. But woe to the Indian people if they place trust in high-sounding words! Under the mask of the slogan of national independence Gandhi has already hastened to proclaim his refusal to create difficulties for Great Britain during the present severe crisis. As if the oppressed anywhere or at any time have ever been able to free themselves except by exploiting the difficulties of their oppressors!

Gandhi's "moral" revulsion from violence merely reflects the fear of the Indian bourgeoisie before their own masses. They have very good grounds for their foreboding that British imperialism will drag them down too in the collapse. London for its part warns that at the first display

of disobedience it will apply "all necessary measures"—including, of course, the air force in which it is deficient at the Western Front. There is a clear-cut division of labor between the colonial bourgeoisie and the British government: Gandhi needs the threats of Chamberlain and Churchill in order more successfully to paralyze the revolutionary movement.

In the near future the antagonism between the Indian masses and the bourgeoisie promises to become sharper as the imperialist war more and more becomes a gigantic commercial enterprise for the Indian bourgeoisie. By opening up an exceptionally favorable market for raw materials it may rapidly promote Indian industry. If the complete destruction of the British empire slashes the umbilical cord linking Indian capital with the City of London, the national bourgeoisie would quickly seek a new patron in New York's Wall Street. The material interests of the bourgeoisie determine their politics with the force of the laws of gravitation.

So long as the liberating movement is controlled by the exploiting class it is incapable of getting out of a blind

WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR LATIN AMERICA?

The monstrous growth of armaments in the United States prepares for a violent solution of the complex contradictions in the Western hemisphere and should soon pose point-blank the question of the destiny of the Latin American countries. The interlude of the "good neighbor" policy is coming to an end. Roosevelt or his successor will quickly take the iron fist out of the velvet glove. The theses of the Fourth International state: "South and Central America cannot free themselves from backwardness and servitude except by uniting all their states in a powerful federation. This grandiose historic task is destined to be solved not by the belated South American bourgeoisie, the completely prostituted agency of foreign imperialism, but by the young South American proletariat, the destined leader of the oppressed masses. Therefore, the slogan for the struggle against the violence and the intrigues of world capitalism and against the blood-stained work of the indigenous compradore cliques is: The Soviet United States of South and Central America." Written six years ago, these lines have now acquired a particularly burning actuality.

Only under its own revolutionary direction is the pro-

RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SECOND AND THIRD INTERNATIONALS

The victory of the Spanish revolution could have opened up an era of revolutionary overturns throughout Europe and so forestalled the present war. But that heroic revolution, which contained within itself every possibility of victory, was smothered in the embrace of the Second and Third Internationals, with the active cooperation of the anarchists. The world proletariat became poorer in its loss of another great hope and richer in the lessons of another monstrous betrayal.

The mighty movement of the French proletariat in June 1936 revealed exceptionally favorable conditions for the revolutionary conquest of power. A French Soviet republic would immediately have gained revolutionary hegemony of Europe, created revolutionary repercussions in every country, rocked the totalitarian regimes and in this way saved humanity from the present imperialist slaughter with its countless victims. But the thoroughly debased, cowardly, and treacherous policies of Leon Blum and Leon Jouhaux, with the active support of the French section of the Comintern, led to the collapse of one of the most promising movements of the last decade.

The strangling of the Spanish revolution and the sabotaging of the proletarian offensive in France—these two tragic facts stand at the threshold of the present war. The bourgeoisie convinced itself that with such "labor leaders" at its disposal it could go ahead with anything, even a new slaughter of peoples. The leaders of the Second International prevented the proletariat from overthrowing the bourgeoisie at the close of the first imperialist war. The leaders of the Second and Third Internationals helped the bourgeoisie unloose a second imperialist war. Let it become their political grave!

The Second International

The war of 1914-1918 split the Second International at once into two camps separated by trenches. Every social democratic party defended its fatherland. Not until several years after the war did the traitorous warring brethren become reconciled and proclaim mutual amnesty.

Today the situation in the Second International has changed sharply—on the surface. All its sections without exception are politically on one side of the military lines, in the camp of the Allies: some because they are parties in the democratic countries, others because they are emigres from belligerent or neutral countries. The German Social Democracy which followed a despicable chauvinist policy during the first imperialist war under the Hohenzollern banner, today is a party of "defeatism" in the service of France and England. It would be inexcusable to believe that these case-hardened lackeys have become revolutionists. There is a simpler explanation. The Germany of Wilhelm II offered the reformists sufficient openings for personal sinecures in the parliamentary bodies, municipalities, trade unions and other places. The defense of Imperial Germany was the defense of a well-filled trough in which the conservative labor bureaucracy buried its snout. "Social democracy remains patriotic only so long as the existing political regime secures its profits and privileges," warned our theses six years ago. Russian Mensheviks and Narodniks who were patriots even under the Czar, when they had their own Duma fractions, their own newspapers, their own trade

union functionaries, and hoped for further advances along this road—now that they have lost all this hold a defeatist position in regard to the USSR.

Consequently the present "unanimity" of the Second International is explainable by the fact that all of its sections hope that the Allies will save them their posts and revenues in the labor bureaucracy of the democratic countries and restore these posts and revenues in the totalitarian countries. The social democracy does not go beyond impotent day-dreams about the patronage of the "democratic" bourgeoisie. These political invalids are completely incapable of struggle even where their own interests are involved.

This was revealed most clearly in Scandinavia, which appeared to be the most secure sanctuary of the Second International and where all three countries were governed for a period of years by the sober, realistic, reformist and pacifist social democracy. Socialism was what these gentlemen called the conservative royal democracy, plus the state church, plus the niggardly social reforms made possible for a time by limited military expenditures. Backed by the League of Nations and protected by the shield of "neutrality" the Scandinavian governments calculated on generations of tranquil and peaceful development. But the imperialist masters paid no attention to their calculations. They were compelled to dodge the blows of fate. Upon the USSR invading Finland, all three Scandinavian governments proclaimed themselves neutral so far as Finland was concerned. Upon Germany's invasion of Denmark and Norway, Sweden declared herself neutral so far as both victims of aggression were concerned. Denmark contrived to declare herself neutral even in relation to herself. Norway, under the gun muzzles of her guardian England, alone made a few symbolic gestures of self-defense. These heroes are fully prepared to live at the expense of the democratic fatherland but feel disinclined to die for it. The war which they did not foresee has in passing overthrown their hopes for a peaceful evolution under King and God. The Scandinavian paradise, final refuge of the Second International's hopes, has been transformed into a tiny sector of the general imperialist hell.

The social democratic opportunists know but one policy—that of passive adaptation. Under the conditions of decaying capitalism nothing remains open to them but the surrender of one position after another. The whittling away of their already miserable program, the lowering of their demands, the renunciation of demands altogether, continuous retreat further and further back until there is no place left to retreat except a rat hole. But even there the pitiless hand of imperialism drags them out by the tail. Such is a brief history of the Second International. It is being killed by the present war for the second time and, one must think, this time forever.

The Third International

The policy of the degenerated Third International—a mixture of crude opportunism and unbridled adventurism—exercises an influence upon the working class which is, if possible, even more demoralizing than the policy of its elder brother, the Second International. The revolutionary party builds its entire policy upon the class-consciousness of the workers; the Comintern is preoccupied with nothing

Second and Third Internationals Lead Workers Only to Disaster

The Old Leaderships Bear the Historic Responsibility For Repeated Defeats of Great Revolutionary Movements Which Could Have Re-Made the World After the Last War

but contaminating and poisoning this class-consciousness. The official propagandists of each of the belligerent camps expose, sometimes quite correctly, the crimes of the opposing camp. Goebbels tells a good deal of truth about British violence in India. The French and English press says a great many penetrating things about the foreign policy of Hitler and of Stalin. Nevertheless this one-sided propaganda by itself represents the worst chauvinist poison. Half-truths are the most dangerous kind of lies.

The entire present propaganda of the Comintern belongs to this category. After five years of the crudest fawning upon the democracies, when the whole of "communism" was reduced to the monotonous indictment of Fascist aggressors, the Comintern suddenly discovered in the autumn of 1939 the criminal imperialism of the Western democracies. Left about face! From then on not a single word of condemnation about the destruction of Czecho-Slovakia and Poland, the seizure of Denmark and Norway and the shocking bestialities inflicted by Hitler's gangs on the Polish and Jewish people! Hitler was made out to be a peace-loving vegetarian continually being provoked by the Western imperialists. The Anglo-French alliance was referred to in the Comintern press as the "imperialist bloc against the German people." Goebbels himself could have cooked up nothing better! The enigre German Communist Party burned with the flame of love for the fatherland. And since the German fatherland had not ceased to be Fascist it turned out that the German Communist Party held—a social-fascist position. The time had finally come when Stalin's theory of social-fascism took on flesh and blood.

At first sight the conduct of the French and English sections of the Communist International appeared to be diametrically opposite. In contradistinction to the Germans they were compelled to attack their own government. But this sudden defeatism was not internationalism, but a distorted variety of patriotism—these gentlemen consider their fatherland to be the Kremlin, on which their welfare depends. Many of the French Stalinists behaved with un-

SOCIAL DEMOCRATS, STALINISTS, AND THE COLONIES

Parties tied up with the exploiters and interested in privileges are organically incapable of carrying on an honest policy with respect to the most exploited layers of the toilers and the oppressed peoples. The physiognomy of the Second and Third Internationals, therefore, is revealed with especial clarity in their attitude towards the colonies.

Acting as an attorney for the slaveholders and a shareholder in the profits of slavery, the Second International has no sections of its own in the colonies, if we ignore casual groups of colonial functionaries, predominantly French free-masons, and "left" careerists in general who sit on the backs of the native population. Having renounced opportunely the unpatriotic notion of rousing the colonial population against the "democratic fatherland" the Second International has gained for itself the prerogative of supplying the bourgeoisie with Ministers for the colonies, that is, slave-drivers (Sidney Webb, Marius Moutet, and others).

In a brief period of time the Third International, which began with a courageous revolutionary appeal to all the oppressed peoples, has likewise prostituted itself completely on the colonial question. Not so very many years ago when Moscow saw an opportunity ahead for an alliance with the imperialist democracies, the Comintern advanced the slogans of national emancipation not only for Abyssinia, Albania, but also for Austria. But for the colonies of Britain and France it modestly restricted itself to wishes for "reasonable" reforms. At that time the Comintern defended the Indians not against Great Britain, but against possible attacks by Japan, and Tunis against the fangs of Mussolini. Now the situation has changed abruptly. Complete independence for India, Egypt, Algiers!—Dimitrov will accept no less. Arabs and Negroes have found their best friend in Stalin once again, not counting, of course, Mussolini and Hitler. The German section of the Comintern, with that brazenness characteristic of this gang of parasites, defends Poland and Czecho-Slovakia against the plots of British imperialism. These people are capable of and ready for anything! With a new change in the Kremlin's orientation towards the Western democracies they will again respectfully solicit London and Paris to grant liberal reforms to their colonies.

In contrast to the Second International, the Comintern, thanks to its great tradition, exercises unquestionable influence in the colonies. But its social base has altered in accordance with its political evolution. At the present time the Comintern in countries of a colonial nature rests on the stratum which is the traditional base of the Second International in the metropolitan centers. The crumbs that drop from its super-profits have enabled imperialism to create the semblance of a native labor aristocracy in the colonial and semi-colonial countries. Insignificant in comparison with its prototype in the metropolitan centers it stands out, however, against the background of general poverty and maintains a tenacious grip on its privileges. The labor bureaucracy and aristocracy of the colonial and semi-colonial countries, together with the state functionaries, provide especially servile recruits for the "friends" of the Kremlin. In Latin America one of the most repulsive representatives of this type is the Mexican lawyer, Lombardo Toledano, whose intimate services the Kremlin has

questionable courage under persecution. But the political content of this courage was smirched by their embellishment of the rapacious policy of the enemy camp. What must the French workers think of it?

Revolutionary internationalists have always been portrayed by reaction as agents of a foreign enemy. The Comintern created a situation for its French and English sections that made them provide the very grounds for such an accusation and thereby forcibly drove the workers into the patriotic camp or condemned them to confusion and passivity.

The policy of the Kremlin is simple: it sold Hitler the Comintern along with oil and manganese. But the doglike servility with which these people allowed themselves to be sold irrefutably testifies to the internal corruption of the Comintern. Neither principles, nor honor, nor conscience have been left to the Kremlin's agents—only a supple spine. But people with supple spines have never yet led a revolution.

Stalin's friendship with Hitler will not endure forever, nor even for any length of time. Before our Manifesto reaches the masses the foreign policy of the Kremlin may undergo a new turn. In that case the character of the Comintern's propaganda would also change. If the Kremlin draws close to the democracies the Comintern will once again dig out of its warehouses the Brown Book of National Socialist crimes. But this does not mean that its propaganda will assume a revolutionary character. In changing labels it will remain as servile as before. Revolutionary policy demands that above all, the masses be told the truth. But the Comintern lies systematically. We turn to the toilers of the world and say: Do not believe the liars!

rewarded by elevating him to the decorative post of Chairman of the Latin American Trade Union Federation.

By posing the questions of the class struggle point-blank, the war creates for these jugglers and weather-vanes an increasingly difficult position, which genuine Bolsheviks must utilize in order to sweep the Comintern out of the colonial countries forever.

Centrism and Anarchism

By testing everything that exists and discarding everything rotten, war represents a mortal danger to the out-lived Internationals. A considerable section of the Comintern bureaucracy, especially in case of reversals for the Soviet Union, will unfailingly turn to their own imperialist fatherland. The workers, on the contrary, will move more and more to the left. Under such conditions splits and crack-ups are inevitable. A number of symptoms also indicate the possibility that the "left" wing of the Second International will break away. Centrist groupings of different origin will merge, break up, create new "fronts," "camps," etc. Our epoch will disclose, however, that it finds centrism intolerable. The pathetic and tragic role played in the Spanish revolution by the POUM, the most serious and honest of the centrist organizations, will always remain in the memory of the advanced proletariat as a terrible warning.

But history is fond of repetitions. The possibility is not excluded of new attempts to build an international organization on the pattern of the 2½ International, or, this time, the 3¼ International. Such beginnings merit attention only as a reflection of far more profound processes taking place in the working masses. But it can be stated with certainty in advance that the centrist "fronts," "camps," and "Internationals," lacking any theoretical foundation, revolutionary tradition, or finished program, will have only an ephemeral character. We shall assist them by mercilessly criticizing their indecisiveness and half-heartedness.

This sketch of the bankruptcy of the old working-class organizations would be incomplete if we failed to mention anarchism. Its decline constitutes the most incontestable phenomenon of our epoch. Even before the first imperialist war the French anarcho-syndicalists succeeded in becoming the worst opportunists and the direct servants of the bourgeoisie. In the last war most of the international anarchist leaders came out as patriots. In the heat of the civil war in Spain the anarchists took posts as Ministers of the bourgeoisie. The anarchist phrase-mongers deny the state so long as it does not need them. In the hour of danger they, like the social democrats, become agents of the capitalist class.

The anarchists entered the present war without a program, without a single idea, and with a banner dirtied by their betrayal of the Spanish proletariat. Today they are incapable of introducing anything into the ranks of the workers save patriotic demoralization flavored with humanitarian lamentations. In seeking a rapprochement with the anarchist workers who are really prepared to fight for the interests of their class, we will at the same time demand that they make a complete break with those leaders who in war as well as in revolution serve as the messenger boys of the bourgeoisie.

it among the working masses. It is impossible to perform this filthy chore so long as workers' democracy within the trade unions is maintained. The regime in the unions, following the pattern of the regime of the bourgeois states, is

becoming more and more authoritarian. In war time the trade union bureaucracy definitively becomes the military police of the Army's General Staff in the working class.

But no zeal will save it. War brings death and destruction to the present reformist trade unions. Those trade unionists who are in their prime are mobilized for the slaughter. They are replaced by boys, women, and old men, that is, those least capable of resistance. All countries will come out of the war so ruined that the standard of living for the workers will be thrown back a hundred years. Reformist unions are possible only under the regime of

THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL SWIMS AGAINST THE STREAM

The proletarian vanguard is the irreconcilable enemy of imperialist war. But it has no fear of this war. It accepts battle on the arena chosen by the class enemy. It enters this arena with its banners flying.

The Fourth International is the only organization which correctly predicted the general course of world events, which anticipated the inevitability of a new imperialist catastrophe, which exposed the pacifist frauds of the bourgeois democrats and the petty-bourgeois adventurers of the Stalinist school, which fought against the policy of class collaboration bearing the name of the "People's Fronts," which pilloried the treacherous role of the Comintern and the anarchists in Spain, which irreconcilably criticized the centrist illusions of the POUM, which continued to steel its cadres unceasingly in the spirit of the revolutionary class struggle. Our policy in war is only a concentrated continuation of our policy in peace.

The Fourth International builds its program upon the granite theoretical foundations of Marxism. It rejects the contemptible eclecticism now dominating the ranks of the official labor bureaucracy of the different camps and which most frequently serves as a cloak for capitulation to bourgeois democracy. Our program is formulated in a series of documents accessible to everyone. The gist of it can be summed up in two words: *proletarian dictatorship*.

Our Program Founded on Bolshevism

The Fourth International stands completely and wholeheartedly on the foundation of the revolutionary tradition of Bolshevism and its organizational methods. Let the petty-bourgeois radicals whine against centralism. A worker who has participated even once in a strike knows that no struggle is possible without discipline and a firm leadership. Our entire epoch is permeated with the spirit of centralism. Monopoly capitalism has brought economic centralization to its ultimate limits. State centralism in the guise of fascism assumed a totalitarian character. The democracies more and more attempt to emulate this pattern. The trade union bureaucracy is ruthlessly defending its powerful machine. The Second and Third Internationals are brazenly utilizing the state apparatus in their struggle against the revolution. Under these conditions the elementary guarantee of success is the counterposing of revolutionary centralism to the centralism of reaction. It is indispensable to have an organization of the proletarian vanguard welded together by iron discipline, a genuine selection of tempered revolutionists ready for self-sacrifice and inspired by an unconquerable will to victory. To prepare the offensive systematically and painstakingly, and when the decisive hour strikes to throw the entire strength of the class on to the field of battle without faltering—only a centralized party which does not falter itself is capable of teaching this to the workers.

Shallow sceptics delight in citing the degeneration of Bolshevik centralism into bureaucratism. As though the entire course of history depended on the structure of a party! As a matter of fact it is the fate of the party that depends on the course of the class struggle. But in any case the Bolshevik party was the only party which proved in action its capacity for accomplishing the proletarian revolution. It is precisely such a party that is needed now by the international proletariat. If the bourgeois regime comes out of the war with impunity, every revolutionary party will suffer degeneration. If the proletarian revolution conquers, those conditions which produce degeneration will disappear.

In the conditions of triumphant reaction, mass disillusionment

CONDITIONS FOR WORKERS' REVOLUTION ARE PRESENT

The basic conditions for the victory of the proletarian revolution have been established by historical experience and clarified theoretically. (1) The bourgeois impasse and the resulting confusion of the ruling class; (2) the sharp dissatisfaction and the striving towards decisive changes in the ranks of the petty-bourgeoisie without whose support the big bourgeoisie cannot maintain itself; (3) the consciousness of the intolerable situation and readiness for revolutionary actions in the ranks of the proletariat; (4) a clear program and a firm leadership of the proletarian vanguard—these are the four conditions for the victory of the proletarian revolution. The main reason for the defeats of many revolutions is rooted in the fact that these four conditions rarely attain the necessary degree of maturity at one and the same time. In history, war has not infrequently been the mother of revolution precisely because it rocks superannuated regimes to their foundation, weakens the ruling class and hastens the growth of revolutionary indignation among the oppressed classes.

bourgeois democracy. But the first to be vanquished in the war will be the thoroughly rotten democracy. In its definitive downfall it will drag with it all the workers' organizations who served as its support. There will be no room for reformist unions. Capitalist reaction will destroy them ruthlessly. It is necessary to warn the workers of this at once and loud enough for everyone to hear.

A new epoch demands new methods. New methods demand new leaders. It is possible to save the trade unions in only one way: by transforming them into fighting organizations which will set as their goal victory over capitalist anarchy and imperialist banditry. The trade unions will play a paramount role in building socialist economy, but the preliminary condition for this is the overthrow of the capitalist class and the nationalization of the means of production. The trade unions can escape burial beneath the ruins of war only if they take the road of socialist revolution.

sionment and mass fatigue, in a political atmosphere poisoned by the malignant decomposition of the traditional organizations of the working class, in the midst of heaped-up difficulties and obstacles, the development of the Fourth International of necessity proceeded slowly. Isolated and at first sight much broader and more promising attempts at unifying the left wing have been undertaken more than once by centrists who disdained our efforts. All these pretentious attempts, however, crumbled to dust even before the masses had a chance to memorize their names. Only the Fourth International, with stubbornness, persistence, and increasing success keeps on swimming against the stream.

We Have Withstood the Test!

What characterizes a genuine revolutionary organization is above all the seriousness with which it works out and tests its political line at each new turn of events. Centralism is made fruitful by democracy. In the fire of the war our sections passionately discuss all questions of proletarian policy, testing methods and brushing off in passing those unstable elements who joined us only because of their opposition to the Second and Third Internationals. Separation from unreliable fellow-travelers is the inevitable overhead expense in the formation of a genuine revolutionary party.

The overwhelming majority of our comrades in different countries have withstood the first test of the war. This fact is of inestimable significance for the future of the Fourth International. Every rank and file member of our organization is not only entitled but is duty bound to consider himself henceforth an officer in the revolutionary army which will be created in the flame of events. The entry of the masses into the revolutionary arena will reveal at once the insignificance of the opportunist, pacifist and centrist programs. A single real revolutionist in a factory, a mine, a trade union, a regiment, a warship, is worth infinitely more than hundreds of petty-bourgeois pseudo-revolutionists steaming in their own juice.

The politicians of the big bourgeoisie are far better at orienting themselves on the role of the Fourth International than our petty-bourgeois pedants. On the eve of breaking off diplomatic relations, the French ambassador Coulondre and Hitler, seeking during their final interview to frighten each other by the consequences of the war, were in joint agreement that the "only real victor" would be the Fourth International. Upon the launching of hostilities against Poland the major press of France, Denmark and other countries carried dispatches saying that in the workers' quarters in Berlin placards appeared on walls: "Down with Stalin, Long Live Trotsky!" This means: "Down with the Third International, Long Live the Fourth International! When a demonstration was organized by the more resolute workers and students of Prague, on the anniversary of national independence, the "Protector" Baron Neurath issued an official declaration placing the responsibility for this demonstration upon the Czech "Trotskyites." The correspondence from Prague which appears in the newspaper edited by Benes, the former President of the Czecho-Slovak Republic, confirms the fact that the Czech workers are becoming "Trotskyites." As yet, all these are only symptoms. But they indicate unmistakably the trend of development. The new generation of workers whom the war will impel on to the road of revolution will take their place under our banner.

THE TRADE UNIONS AND THE WAR

While the magnates of monopoly capitalism stand above the official organs of state power, controlling them from their heights, the opportunist trade union leaders scurry around the footstool of state power, creating support for

War as well as revolution is made first and foremost by the younger generation. Millions of the youth unable to find access to industry began their lives as unemployed and therefore remained outside of political life. Today they are finding their place or they will find it on the morrow: the state organizes them into regiments and for this very reason opens the possibility for their revolutionary unification. Without a doubt the war will also shake off the apathy of the older generations.

The Fourth International Sounds the Call to Struggle!

THE PROBLEM OF WORKERS' LEADERSHIP

There remains the question of leadership. Will not the revolution be betrayed this time too, inasmuch as there are two Internationals in the service of imperialism while the genuine revolutionary elements constitute a tiny minority? In other words: shall we succeed in preparing in time a party capable of leading the proletarian revolution? In order to answer this question correctly it is necessary to pose it correctly. Naturally, this or that uprising may end and surely will end in defeat owing to the immaturity of the revolutionary leadership. But it is not a question of a single uprising. It is a question of an entire revolutionary epoch.

The capitalist world has no way out, unless a prolonged death agony is so considered. It is necessary to prepare for long years, if not decades, of war, uprisings, brief interludes of truce, new wars and new uprisings. A young revolutionary party must base itself on this perspective. History will provide it with enough opportunities and possibilities to test itself, to accumulate experience and to mature. The swifter the ranks of the vanguard are fused the more the epoch of bloody convulsions will be shortened, the less destruction will our planet suffer. But the great historical problem will not be solved in any case until a revolutionary party stands at the head of the proletariat. The question of tempos and time-intervals is of enormous importance; but it alters neither the general historical perspective nor the direction of our policy. The conclusion is a simple one: it is necessary to carry on the work of educating and organizing the proletarian vanguard with tenfold energy. Precisely in this lies the task of the Fourth International.

The greatest error is committed by those who, in seeking to justify pessimistic conclusions, refer simply to the sad consequences of the last war. In the first place, the last war gave birth to the October Revolution upon whose lessons the labor movement of the whole world lives. In the second place, the conditions of the present war differ profoundly from the conditions of 1914. The economic position of the imperialist states, including the United States, is infinitely worse today, and the destructive power of war is infinitely greater than was the case a quarter of a century ago. There is therefore sufficient reason to expect this time a much more rapid and much more decisive reaction on the part of the workers and of the army.

The experience of the first war did not pass without deeply affecting the masses. The Second International drew its strength from the still almost untouched democratic and pacifist illusions of the masses. The workers seriously hoped that the war of 1914 would be the last war. The soldiers allowed themselves to be killed in order to spare their children a new slaughter. Only thanks to this hope could men have withstood war for more than four years. Today almost nothing remains of the democratic and pacifist illusions. The peoples are suffering the present war without any longer believing in it, without expecting anything more from it than new chains. This applies also to the totalitarian

states. The older generation of the workers who bore, on their backs the burden of the first imperialist war and who have not forgotten its lessons are still far from eliminated from the arena. In the ears of the next to the oldest generation, which went to school during war time, the false slogans of patriotism and pacifism are still ringing. The inestimable political experience of these strata who are now crushed by the weight of the war machine will reveal itself in full force when the war compels the toiling masses to come out openly against their governments.

Our theses, *War and the Fourth International* (1934), state: "The exposure of the utterly reactionary, decaying and murderous nature of modern capitalism, the collapse of democracy, reformism and pacifism, the unpostponable and burning need of the proletariat to find a way to salvation from inescapable ruin places the world revolution with a new force on the order of the day."

Today it is no longer a question, as was the case in the nineteenth century, of simply assuring a more rapid and more healthy development of economic life: today it is a question of saving mankind from suicide. It is precisely the acuteness of the historical problem that completely cuts the ground from under the feet of the opportunist parties. The party of the revolution, on the contrary, finds a well-spring of inexhaustible power in the consciousness of the fact that it carries out inexorable historical necessity.

Moreover, it is impermissible to put on the same plane the present revolutionary vanguard with those isolated internationalists who raised their voices at the outbreak of the last war. Only the Russian party of the Bolsheviks represented a revolutionary force at that time. But even the latter, in its overwhelming majority failed, except for a small emigre group around Lenin, to shed its national narrowness and to rise to the perspective of the world revolution.

The Fourth International in numbers and especially in preparation possesses infinite advantages over its predecessors at the beginning of the last war. The Fourth International is the direct heir of Bolshevism in its flower. The Fourth International has absorbed the tradition of the October Revolution and has transmuted into theory the experience of the richest historical period between the two imperialist wars. It has faith in itself and its future.

War, let us once again recall, speeds up enormously the political development. Those great tasks which only yesterday seemed long years, if not decades away, can loom up directly before us in the next two or three years, and even sooner. Programs which are based on habitual peacetime conditions will inevitably remain dangling in mid-air. On the other hand, the Fourth International's Program of Transitional Demands which seemed so "unreal" to near-sighted politicians, will reveal its full significance in the process of the mobilization of the masses for the conquest of state power.

At the beginning of the new revolution, the opportunists will once again strive, just as they did a quarter of a century ago, to imbue the workers with the idea that it is impossible to build socialism on ruins and devastation. As if the proletariat is free to choose! It is necessary to build on those foundations which history provides. The Russian Revolution showed that workers' rule can raise even a very backward country out of deepest poverty. All the greater are the miracles open to the proletariat of the ad-

WHAT TO DO NOW?

This Manifesto is adopted by the Emergency Conference of the Fourth International at a moment when, after overwhelming Holland and Belgium and crushing the initial resistance of the Allied troops, the German armies are rolling like a tide of fire towards Paris and the Channel. In Berlin they are already hastening to celebrate victory. In the camp of the Allies there is alarm, verging on panic. Here we have neither the possibility nor the need to engage in strategic speculations concerning the next stages of the war. Hitler's tremendous preponderance is in any case now placing its seal upon the political physiognomy of the whole world.

"But isn't the working class obliged in the present conditions to aid the democracies in their struggle against German fascism?" That is how the question is put by broad petty-bourgeois circles for whom the proletariat always remains only an auxiliary tool of this or that faction of the bourgeoisie. We reject this policy with indignation. Naturally there exists a difference between the political regimes in bourgeois society just as there is a difference in the comfort between various cars in a railway train. But when the whole train is plunging into an abyss the distinction between decaying democracy and murderous fascism disappears in the face of the collapse of the entire capitalist system.

By his victories and bestialities Hitler provokes naturally the sharp hatred of workers the world over. But between this legitimate hatred of workers and the helping of his weaker but not less reactionary enemies is an unbridgeable gulf. The victory of the imperialists of Great Britain and France would be not less frightful for the ultimate fate of mankind than that of Hitler and Mussolini. Bourgeois democracy cannot be saved. By helping their bourgeoisie against foreign fascism the workers would only accelerate the victory of fascism in their own country. The task which is posed by history is not to support one part of the imperialist system against another but to make an end of the system as a whole.

Workers Must Learn Military Arts

The militarization of the masses is further intensified every day. We reject the grotesque pretension of doing away with this militarization through empty pacifist protests. All the great questions will be decided in the next

vanced countries. War destroys structures, railways, factories, mines; but it cannot destroy technology, science, skills. After creating its own state, correctly organizing its own ranks, drawing into the work qualified forces bequeathed by the bourgeois regime and organizing production according to a unified plan, the proletariat will not only restore within a few years everything destroyed by war, but will also create conditions for the greatest blossoming of culture on the foundation of solidarity.

epoch arms in hand. The workers should not fear arms; on the contrary they should learn to use them. Revolutionists no more separate themselves from the people during war than in peace. A Bolshevik strives to become not only the best trade unionist but also the best soldier.

We do not wish to permit the bourgeoisie to drive untrained or half-trained soldiers at the last hour onto the battlefield. We demand that the state immediately provide the workers and the unemployed with the possibility of learning how to handle the rifle, the hand grenade, the machine gun, the cannon, the airplane, the submarine and the other tools of war. Special military schools are necessary in close connection with the trade unions so that the workers can become skilled specialists of the military art, able to hold posts as commanders.

This Is Not Our War!

At the same time we do not forget for a moment that this war is not our war. In contradistinction to the Second and Third Internationals, the Fourth International builds its policy not on the military fortunes of the capitalist states but on the transformation of the imperialist war into a war of the workers against the capitalists, on the overthrow of the ruling classes of all countries, on the world socialist revolution. The shifts in the battle lines at the front, the destruction of national capitals, the occupation of territories, the downfall of individual states represent from this standpoint only tragic episodes on the road to the reconstruction of modern society.

Independently of the course of the war, we fulfill our basic task: we explain to the workers the irreconcilability between their interests and the interests of bloodthirsty capitalism; we mobilize the toilers against imperialism; we propagate the unity of the workers in all warring and neutral countries; we call for the fraternization of workers and soldiers within each country, and of soldiers with soldiers on the opposite side of the battle front; we mobilize the women and youth against the war; we carry on constant, persistent, tireless preparation of the revolution—in the factories, in the mills, in the villages, in the barracks, at the front and in the fleet.

This is our program. Proletarians of the world, there is no other way out except to unite under the banner of the Fourth International!

Fourth International Holds Conference

(Continued from Page 1)

working class, when for the second time within a generation the monstrous tanks of militarism and a thousand new horrors of war sweep over the battlefields, crushing the bodies of millions of workers in uniform and scattering millions of others in civil life to the four winds in search of refuge.

Only the Fourth International, gathered in a World Conference, has raised its voice to explain to the workers everywhere in the clearest terms the situation confronting them; to show them the revolutionary way out of the crushing disaster that is overtaking society disorganized by capitalism; to speak out to them in the voice of courage and hope which is the voice of the coming world socialist revolution.

The Balance Sheet

Meeting two years after the founding of the world party of socialist revolution on September 3, 1938 at Geneva, Switzerland, the Emergency Conference of the Fourth International drew the balance sheet of the intervening period of war preparations and the outbreak of war itself. It was able to establish the gratifying fact that the overwhelming majority of its sections and members throughout the world had withstood the test of these trying times in exemplary fashion. The Conference unanimously reaffirmed the principles adopted at the first World Congress and elaborated for fifteen years preceding it within the "Trotskyist" movement.

While the organizations of the opportunist internationals were everywhere showing signs of deep-going disintegration and complete paralysis, the Conference was presented with evidence that the Fourth International not only held its own, but could register a distinct increase in numbers and activity in the two years past, despite the illegalization of several of our sections since the conclusion of the Munich Pact.

Growth In Latin America

Particularly heartening was the Organizational Report, which recorded considerable growth of our movement in Latin America, where in particular our Chilean comrades, after a process of unification with large groups of proletarians breaking with the reformist Socialist Party, are rapidly building a mass organization.

A new section has been constituted in Bolivia. In the Argentine and in Cuba, our sections are developing their influence in the mass movement and striking root in the trade unions. In other South American countries new groups have been formed or are in the process of formation.

In Australia our young Communist League has made particularly gratifying headway in winning over a whole leading cadre of militants from the Stalinist party.

In War-Torn Europe

In France, despite the convulsions of the war, our section has been reinforced by the adherence to it of the bulk of the active members in the left wing of the Centrist PSOP (Workers and Peasants Socialist Party).

In England, our section obtained such significant successes in the Labor Party that the reformist bureaucracy felt impelled to ban our members from affiliation even before the war had entered its critical stage and brought with it governmental repressive measures.

In Ireland, the organization report indicated, a substantial group has been formed, requesting affiliation with the Fourth International. Similar developments are reported in numerous other countries with which the Fourth International previously had no contact.

In general, the Organization Report presented a picture of a live international party growing despite tremendous obstacles and functioning as a single unit, a veritable organized vanguard preparing to lead into battle the mil-

lions of toilers everywhere whose backs are even now straightening up from under the heel of capitalism.

The Manifesto

The chief work of the Conference was the preparation of a Manifesto to the world working class. After considerable discussion, the draft proposed by the Executive Committee was adopted with only minor amendments.

This document (printed in this issue) is a unique revolutionary achievement. It comprises an all-sided panorama of the world in the throes of war; an analysis of the factors making for the transformation of this war into a civil war for a Socialist United States of Europe on the road to a World Federation of Socialist Republics; as well as a call to action which contains strategic and tactical directives.

Greetings to Trotsky

The Conference met in the shadow of the Stalinist G.P.U.'s attempt upon the life of the outstanding leader of the Fourth International, Leon Trotsky. In a resolution adopted by acclamation, the Conference congratulated Comrade Trotsky on his miraculous escape from the hands of the Kremlin's assassins. It greeted Comrade Trotsky and his companion, Natalie Sedov, in heartfelt words which expressed the profound appreciation of revolutionists the world over for their devotion to the cause of the world working class and anxiety for their continued welfare and safety.

Recalling the great names of such martyrs in the struggle of the Fourth International, as Leon Sedov, Rudolph Klement, Ernst Wolf, and Ignace Reiss, heroes felled by the hand of Stalin's gunmen and killers, the Conference paused to send greetings to the stout-hearted and fearless militants of the Fourth International now languishing in the concentration camps and prisons of Hitler's Germany; to comrades Rigal, Steve, Weitz and their

friends in the jails of French imperialism; to the heroic soldiers of the Fourth International imprisoned by Vargas' Brazil, Metaxas' Greece, Franco's Spain; to our brothers in the British colonies, clamped into dungeons by Churchill's England; to the dauntless Bolshevik - Leninists tortured but unyielding, in the grip of the Kremlin oligarchy; to our brave comrades placed behind prison walls in Minnesota by Roosevelt's FBI and to the class war prisoners everywhere.

Condemns Deserters

Meeting in the main to arm the Fourth International for the coming great battles against capitalism, and for the struggle to win the world working class to our banner, the Emergency Conference also had another task: to pass judgement upon those weak-kneed petty-bourgeois elements formerly in our ranks who at the first test of the unfolding war run for cover. It had to deal with those who deserted under the pretext of proposing a "concrete" revision of our program on the question of unconditional defense of the USSR, a revision which developed into open surrender of the Marxist theory and the principles and traditions of Bolshevism, upon whose foundations the International had been constructed.

The Conference unanimously condemned this revisionist, petty-bourgeois tendency as represented by Burnham and Shachtman in the Socialist Workers Party of the United States and by Lebrun, Johnson, Trent and Anton in the International Executive Committee. It charged them with betraying the trust placed in them by the organizations of the Fourth International. The Conference denounced their futile effort to split the international organization as contemptible treachery. It called upon the Socialist Workers Party of the United States to set a time limit of one month, within which all those suspected for participating in the split action are to signify their acceptance of the decisions of the SWP convention or

else suffer unconditional expulsion from the party.

Taking note of an extensive report from the French Section of the Fourth International, the Emergency Conference condemned the political line of the Gilbert tendency in that organization, a tendency which holds a defeatist view in regard to the USSR, similar to that of the Shachtman-Burnham minority of the SWP, as contrary to the program and policy of the Fourth International. But while warning against the centrist character of this group, the Conference commended the Gilbert tendency for its organizational loyalty in condemning the announced split of Shachtman and Burnham and in declaring themselves categorically for "respect in action for majority discipline and democratic centralism."

Sections Support Stand

The Conference noted that every section and group which had taken a decision in the matter and communicated with the Executive had already unreservedly declared themselves for the maintenance of the slogan of the Unconditional Defense of the USSR and against all attempts to revise the program of the Fourth International.

Based upon this authority, the Emergency Conference elected an International Executive Committee with representatives from all sections, charged with executing the program and policies of the Fourth International in the course of the war, and with the calling of a full world congress as soon as conditions make such a step feasible.

The Emergency Conference of the World Party of Socialist Revolution closed its sessions, firm in the conviction that it had successfully accomplished the work of consolidating the international organization, of providing it with a functioning and authoritative leadership, and of arming it with a line of action which alone can initiate the workers' own emancipation from the toils of horrifying war and ruthless exploitation.

FRENCH GOV'T ABANDONS BRITISH ALLIES

(Continued from Page 1)

crushed Britain too.

The British were furious and badly frightened. When it became clear after the fall of Paris on June 14 that the French armies were smashed and that the retreating French government would sue for peace, the British made desperate efforts to prevent it. They even offered France a "union"—an offer which amounted to inviting France to become part of the British Empire. But the French capitalists were not buying any British Empire stock just then. They were all already thinking that Hitler, Preferred, was a better buy. The British emissaries were turned back. Even Churchill himself, by report, flew over to plead. But to no avail. The armistice went through.

Thieves Fall Out

Then the dirt began to fly. Overnight, the gallant, heroic, indissoluble ally was transformed in the British press and in the speeches of Churchill into a venal and traitorous knave-in-the-back. The positively faultless French High Command was uncovered as a gang of blunderers who were really responsible for the debacle of Flanders. The matchless leaders of the French people only yesterday were now revealed in unlovely nakedness as office-grabbers, grafters, do-nothings, and outright traitors who had been selling the country short down the river for years.

From Bordeaux came reports that the British were really responsible for the disaster because they hadn't sent enough men or guns over and were in no position to dictate to the French what to do.

The British immediately set in motion a campaign to split the French colonies from France and to pull in such French warships

and fighting men as they could lay their hands on. Under direct British inspiration, a General de Gaulle began a movement in London to form a government-in-exile. British newspapers suddenly remembered there was a French parliament and pointed out that the Petain ministry had acted without sanction of the chambers. Even the dead corpse of democracy has its uses! This split from the British was

the prime card the French rulers had to play when they sat down at the far end of Hitler's table. And it is a card of no small use to the Nazi chieftain. With it his play against Britain becomes even more of a sure thing. France, totally stripped of resources and remaining fighting equipment, becomes now the jumping-off place for the invasion of the British Isles.

Speed Appeal Funds

A total of \$323.70 came in this week for the two-a-week Appeal—a good-sized amount if it were an early week in the campaign, but now we're on the last lap and way behind.

Just read the scoreboard, see where your branch stands, and do something about it!

SCOREBOARD

Branch	Pledged	Paid	%
Chicago	\$ 100.00	\$ 105.00	105
Upstate New York	50.00	50.00	100
Akron	10.00	10.00	100
Rockville	5.00	5.00	100
Texas	5.00	5.00	100
St. Paul	200.00	200.00	100
Boston	177.00	154.00	87
Maritime Workers	780.00	645.00	83
Lynn	50.00	40.00	80
Flint	105.00	75.00	71
Minneapolis	300.00	200.00	67
Toledo	40.00	25.50	64
Detroit	75.00	46.35	62
Newark	100.00	60.20	60
Philadelphia	25.00	13.00	52
Los Angeles	100.00	51.50	51
New York City	950.00	422.00	44
Buffalo	5.00	2.00	40
Baltimore	25.00	10.00	40
East Chicago	50.00	20.00	40
Portland	7.50	2.50	33
New Haven	55.00	11.50	21
San Francisco	100.00	10.00	10
National Office	550.00	50.20	9
Omaha	25.00	0.00	0
Seattle	15.00	0.00	0
Indianapolis	10.00	0.00	0
Oakland	10.00	0.00	0
Lorain	5.00	0.00	0
TOTAL	\$3925.50	\$2213.75	56

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Fight with the Socialist Workers Party for:

1. A JOB AND A DECENT LIVING FOR EVERY WORKER.
2. OPEN THE IDLE FACTORIES — OPERATE THEM UNDER WORKERS' CONTROL.
3. A TWENTY-BILLION DOLLAR FEDERAL PUBLIC WORKS AND HOUSING PROGRAM.
4. THIRTY-THIRTY—\$30 WEEKLY MINIMUM WAGE—30-HOUR WEEKLY MAXIMUM FOR ALL WORKERS ON ALL JOBS.
5. \$30 WEEKLY OLD-AGE AND DISABILITY PENSION.
6. EXPROPRIATE THE SIXTY FAMILIES.
7. ALL WAR FUNDS TO THE UNEMPLOYED.
8. A PEOPLE'S REFERENDUM ON ANY AND ALL WARS.
9. NO SECRET DIPLOMACY.
10. AN INDEPENDENT LABOR PARTY.
11. WORKERS' DEFENSE GUARDS AGAINST VIGILANTE AND FASCIST ATTACKS.
12. FULL SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY FOR THE NEGRO PEOPLE.

stupid level of a Nazi campaign against the Jews. The House is turning what ought to be the serious study of some real problems into a dangerous and emotional hunt for an 'alien' scapegoat. . . .

But all this was said before the present war drive. These same people—Congressmen Coffee, Celler, Geyer, etc.—voted for the very same bill Saturday night!

Two conclusions are forcibly driven home:

1. The "alien" bugaboo is the most useful disguise which the reactionaries now have for adopting measures against the labor movement; this terrible danger is hardly as yet recognized by the trade unions, as witnessed by the fact that few of them were even aware what was being adopted in the Smith bill under the guise of anti-alien legislation.

2. Yesterday's "liberals" have joined the unholy alliance for "national unity," and there is not a single Congressman in Washington who can be now called a friend of the labor movement.

WPA Purge

The government is proceeding against all militants in the labor movement, not only under the "anti-alien" formula, but also under the guise of attacking Communists and Fascists. Witness the provision in the new Relief Appropriations Act which bars Communists and Fascists from employment on WPA.

Already, in setting in motion the machinery for purging those he considers to come under the law, Colonel Somervell, head of the WPA in New York, announced that "a person does not have to be a member of the Communist party to be ineligible for WPA employment. He said he regarded Trotskyists as Communists within the meaning of the law, and indicated that other "splinter groups" would be subject to a similar interpretation." (New York Times, June 23).

Furthermore, the affidavit which must now be signed by all WPA workers rules out of WPA employment all workers "who advocate or belong to any organization that advocates the overthrow of the government." Under this provision anybody, even a milk-and-water socialist, can be thrown off WPA because he wants to change the government. It is the identical formula which was used during the last war-time period to prosecute labor leaders under the criminal syndicalism laws.

An army of stoopigeons is being asked for by Col. Somervell: "I expect," he said, "at least 50,000 letters from persons reporting WPA employees as Communists. . . . All of these letters, if signed by responsible individuals, will be given careful attention."

Many workers were not particularly excited about this provision because they thought it would only apply to agents of Stalin and Hitler. They will now discover that its real aim is directed against all militant workers.

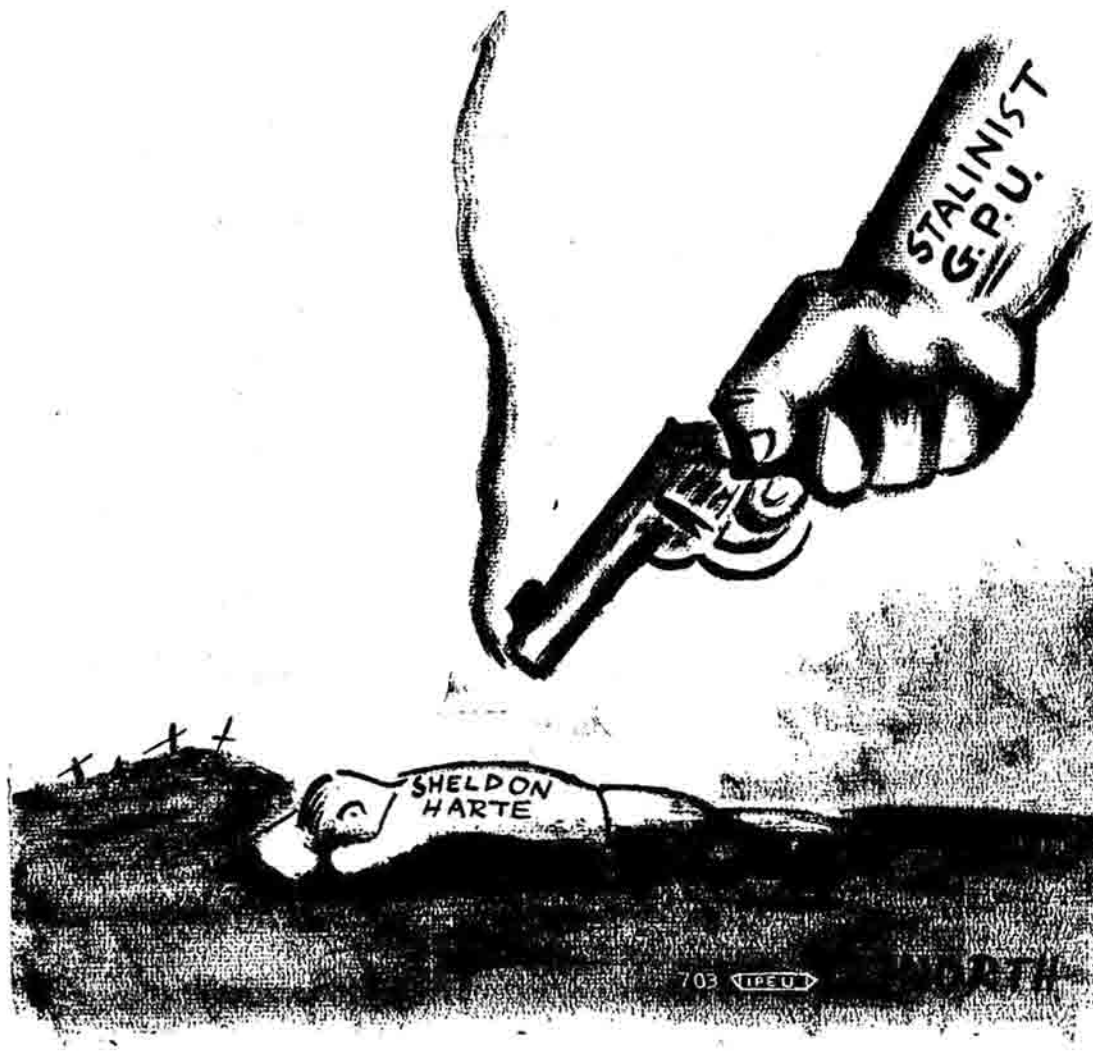
Christian Front. . .

Commenting on the trial of Christian Frontists, we predicted in our issue of June 8: "As the course of the whole trial nears its conclusion it becomes evident that the whole case is being converted into a farce." For, we pointed out, "the mask of defending the United States against the 'reds' is the primary defense upon which the fascist defendants rely—and is conceded to be a virtue by the prosecution as well as the defense!"

As a result, nine of the thirteen defendants have been acquitted of the charge of conspiracy to overthrow the government, ten have been acquitted of the second count in the indictment, accusing them of conspiracy to steal government property—the ammunition and guns they stole from armories—and the jury could not agree on the others.

And this was the trial which, the Social Democratic *New Leader*, the Jewish *Daily Forward* and others of similar stripe told us, was to be the death-blow against the Christian Front!

Once again the workers can see the lesson clear: fascism cannot and will not be fought by this "democratic" government; woe to the workers if they depend on the government to stop the fascists. Only the working class, by its own independent methods, carried out against the protection afforded the fascists by the government, can smash the fascist gangsters.



Stalinists Confess the Attempt To Assassinate Leon Trotsky

(Continued from Page 1)

shown the statement above summarized, which they had made the previous day, and they ratified it.

Assailant Confesses

The fourth confession was obtained from Nestor Sanchez Hernandez, who was arrested when his name and address was found in David Serrano's home, in a note to Serrano from David Alfaro Siqueiros. The note has asked Serrano to tell Hernandez to take Siqueiros' place at a meeting.

Police then found a valise of Hernandez containing one of the police uniforms used in the assault and a revolver taken from the police guard. Whereupon Hernandez made a clean breast of it.

He had been in Spain with Siqueiros and Serrano. He denied membership in the Communist party, but shared its attitude that Trotsky was a counter-revolutionary. In April, he said, he had met Siqueiros who offered him an important role in the attempt, since Siqueiros knew him as one extremely daring in the Spanish battles.

The Attack

At eleven o'clock on the night of May 23 he met Siqueiros, Pujol and others, and together they went to a house where individuals soon arrived with valises containing the police uniforms and a machine gun. Hernandez was given a uniform and a revolver. They all had rubber gloves to avoid fingerprints. Siqueiros donned the uniform of an army major, Pujol one of a lieutenant of police, and Pujol carried the machine gun. These three were joined by two of the others in a new automobile waiting outside. Hernandez was handed a packet containing, he found afterward, 250 pesos, as his pay for participation. All the others that he saw got the same amount.

Near Coyoacan they were joined by Camacho, who reported Julia's information that things were as usual at the Trotsky household. Siqueiros told his group they were first to seize the police guard. Siqueiros kept looking at his wrist-watch; on the hour, from other directions four other groups appeared, each carrying a machine gun. There were at least 25 men. The four other groups, said Hernandez, were led by foreigners.

Alfaro Siqueiros placed himself at the head of all and they proceeded to the guardhouse. After the police were disarmed, Hernandez was put in charge of keeping guard over them.

Through the window, he said, he saw the outer door to Trotsky's house open and Siqueiros lead his men in; then for some minutes came the rat-tat-tat of the machine guns and the noise of the pistol shots.

Foreigner In Charge

Then the two autos of the Trotsky household came out the door, one of them stopping and an unknown person, with a marked French accent, told Hernandez: "Tell Alfaro (Siqueiros) to come with us."

An extremely interesting declaration was made to the police by David Serrano, prominent Communist party leader, who in Spain went under the name of Miguel Julio Justo.

When arrested, Serrano denied that he had anything to do with the assassination attempt, or that he had instructed anybody to get police uniforms. On the contrary, declared Serrano, he himself was one of those in the Communist party who had been carrying out an investigation to find out what had happened in the attack on Trotsky.

Scapegoats Named

Serrano then proceeded to characterize Alfaro Siqueiros as an undesirable person who is considered "half crazy." Serrano stated that he believes that Alfaro, together with his brother and their friends Luis or Leopoldo Arenal and Antonio Pujol, are implicated in the attempt on Trotsky. The Communist party, he said, for some time had been suspicious of them. He did not know about the complicity of Rosendo Gomez Lorenzo, said Serrano, but in any event the latter has been expelled from the Communist party.

As for his wife, Julia, Serrano "imagines that she is implicated," but he has not seen her for five or six months.

Flaws In His Story

At the time of the above declaration, it appears that Serrano had not been told that his party colleague, Martinez, had named him as having assigned Martinez to get police uniforms; or that Julia had told of Serrano's coming to get his daughter Sovietina the day before the attack; or that his present wife, Agueda, had told of frequent visits of Alfaro Siqueiros to see Serrano.

Thus, while Serrano, obviously under instructions from higher up in the Stalinist apparatus, is laying the crime at the door of Siqueiros, Pujol and a few others, it is likely that in the next few days the Communist party will add Serrano himself to the scapegoats who will be sacrificed for the crime, while the Stalinist apparatus attempts to attribute the crime to them as mere individuals who did it without connection

with the C.P.

Yesterday Serrano, learning that Martinez had named him as having ordered the uniforms, withdrew his denial of that point and said he denied the uniforms for a raid on the headquarters of Almazan, reactionary presidential candidate.

Stalinists Cannot Escape

Even without the demonstrated complicity of Serrano, a prominent figure whom the Communist party cannot possibly disown with any plausibility, the Stalinists will find it impossible to limit responsibility for the crime to seven or eight scapegoats. Serrano speaks of a C.P. investigation which for some time pointed to Siqueiros and his associates as the criminals; but the very last issue of the Stalinist organ "La Voz de Mexico," to appear before the police announced the solution of the crime, had defended Siqueiros as innocent! The attempt to clear the party's skirts of Lorenzo, because he was once expelled—it was in 1930!—is ludicrous because he has been closely associated with the C.P. here in the intervening years. And so on. The Stalinists will not get out of this.

Stalinist Assassination Record

As for Serrano's "theoretical" argument, that Stalinism does not employ the weapon of assassination, that is likely to be a deadly boomerang. For it was proved beyond doubt in a Swiss court and corroborated by the French police that Stalin's GPU assassinated Ignace Reiss, a GPU foreign agent who had broken with Stalin and declared for the Fourth International. The GPU kidnapped August Klement, secretary of the Fourth International, in Paris on July 13, 1938, and killed him. They killed Trotsky's former secretary, Erwin Wolf, in Barcelona in September of 1937, as they had already done to Moulins, leader of the Spanish Fourth Internationalists. Every section of the labor movement—anarchist, syndicalist, left and right wing socialist—has testified to Stalinist assassinations in Loyalist Spain. To answer the concrete evidence now adduced in Mexico with the general assertion that the Stalinists never assassinate anybody is going to convince exactly nobody!

The interrogations of the prisoners continue today and thereafter. But already the complete picture is clear: a carefully-organized, well-financed attempt by the Stalinist apparatus to murder Trotsky. The attempt was undoubtedly under the general direction of the GPU's foreign section, but with the direct aid of the Communist party of Mexico.

Would Revolution Let the Enemy Invade U.S.?

By ALBERT GOLDMAN

There is always one question sure to be thrown at me whenever and wherever I speak on the war question. Naturally during the main speech or lecture I explain that in a war between imperialist countries our party urges the workers to continue the class struggle even to the point of revolution regardless of the effect that the struggle of the workers might have on the military front. And I also explain that this policy applies as well in a war between the "democratic" imperialist countries and Hitler Germany.

"Wouldn't you,"—so the question runs—"by this tactic, permit Hitler's armies to conquer the democracies? While the workers would be struggling against the capitalists wouldn't Hitler's armies march in and take over everything?"

Invariably the questioner is troubled. He is perfectly willing to fight for the workers to take governmental power into their hands, but he is afraid that to do so in the midst of war would play into the hands of the fascists.

I must admit that my answer based on socialist fundamentals does not always or very frequently convince the questioner. My answer is generally as follows:

Revolutionary workers, as a matter of principle, cannot and must not support their own government in an imperialist war. If continuing the class struggle at home with the possible effect of a defeat at the front is an evil, then supporting an imperialist government with a victory at the front is a greater evil and we are compelled to choose the lesser of the two evils.

Then I proceed to explain that a successful attack on the enemy at home is so all-important that the workers must take the risk of having the foreign enemy take advantage of the confusion and weakening of the military front which must inevitably come as a result of a revolutionary struggle. If the revolution should be successful then the workers, after a short period of disorganization, can better defend themselves against a foreign army.

Another argument that I advance is that even if "our democratic" imperialist government should defeat the fascist countries, fascism would result if the workers failed to take power into their own hands.

France's Fate Underlines Our Answer!

The surrender of the French army furnishes revolutionary Marxists with a very telling practical argument. Here was an army touted by every expert as the finest army in the world. "The Germans could easily defeat the Polish army but wait until Hitler comes up against the French army." So the experts expressed their wishful thinking.

But the French army did no better than the Polish or Norwegian army against the mechanized forces of Hitler.

Neither the French nor the Polish bourgeois governments could furnish adequate leadership for the defense of France and Poland.

This does not mean that the Hitler government is unbeatable by any other capitalist government. Given a sufficient period of preparation the United States with an industry more powerful than Germany's could in all probability be victorious over Hitler.

But it could do so only if it adopts the same fascist regime that Germany has. It could do so only by suppressing every right the workers enjoy at present.

On the other hand a working-class regime has forces at its disposal that no capitalist government can possibly muster.

It would muster the burning enthusiasm of the masses who, conscious that they are fighting for their own interests, would be capable of devotion and sacrifice that they would not possibly exert when in the army of a capitalist government.

And what is of the greatest importance, a workers' government could appeal with tremendous effect to the soldiers and workers of the enemy army.

It is very significant that the English and French imperialist governments very soon after the war gave up the idea of appealing to the German people over the head of the Hitler government. They soon adopted the line of blaming the German people as well as the German government.

No wonder! Why should the German workers listen to the French and British imperialists? What can the German workers expect from the British imperialists?

An appeal from a French or British Soviet government, on the other hand, would inevitably have a tremendous effect upon the German masses. They would know that to defeat Hitler would not mean their enslavement by the French or British imperialists but a union with their French and British brothers.

The lesson of the conquest of France by Hitler is clear and should be taken to heart by every worker. The French armies were not defeated because the workers disorganized it by revolution. They were defeated because there was no revolution.

If there is any way to defeat Hitler and Hitlerism it is through a workers' government fighting for a socialist world.

"President Roosevelt is more popular in Wall Street today than at any other time since he took office as the Chief Executive of the nation. . . ."

"The new state of affairs is best exemplified by a telephone conversation yesterday between the head of a large investment firm and a broker friend. They were discussing the President's latest speech, and the broker expressed a dislike for his stand. A hot argument ensued, and the banker became so incensed that he broke off business relations with the broker. And when a Wall Street banker tosses potential profits around that way over criticism of Mr. Roosevelt it may be taken for granted that times have changed."—Ralph Hendershot, Financial Editor, New York WORLD-TELEGRAM, June 12, 1940.

Honor the Memory of
Robert Sheldon Harte
Secretary of Leon Trotsky
Murdered by Stalin's G.P.U.

The Truth About the Attempted Assassination of Leon Trotsky

Speakers have just returned from a visit to Leon Trotsky

Speakers:

JAMES P. CANNON
National Secretary, S.W.P.

FARRELL DOBBS
Trade Union Secretary, S.W.P.

Tues., July 2, 8.30 P.M.

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