

# SOCIALIST APPEAL

Published Weekly as the Organ of the Socialist Party of New York, Left Wing Branches.

Vol. I. - No. 16. 401

Saturday, November 27, 1937

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## Labor Leader Slain In Minneapolis

### Coming Trials To Reveal Secret Plans of G.P.U.

By Leon Trotsky

COYOACAN, D. F., Nov. 16.—In France and in Switzerland sensational trials are imminent over the criminal activities of the G.P.U. upon the world arena. The inquiry is apparently being conducted with energy. A series of facts have already been conclusively established. One of the new facts is the painstaking preparation of an attempt upon the life of Leon

Sedoff, my son living in Paris. The Swiss woman, Renata Steiner, has made a precise deposition on this affair totally confirmed by the evidence. As an agent of the G.P.U., Renata Steiner participated, as is known, in the assassination of Ignace Reiss near Lausanne. But during more than a year before this assassination, Renata Steiner and a Russian White Guard accomplice, Smirensky, were occupied in shadowing Leon Sedoff: they prepared the stealing of my archives and attempted the kidnapping of Sedoff himself. Smirensky and Renata Steiner rented an apartment next door to that of Sedoff (Rue Lacroix 28) so that the respective balconies were only three feet apart from each other.

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In January of this year, the G.P.U. terrorists tried to arrange a trap for Leon Sedoff at Mulhouse (Muehlhausen) analogous to the one they arranged for Ignace Reiss in Lausanne. Under cover of the name of my Swiss attorney, who is occupied with a suit over slanders made by the Comintern, the conspirators repeatedly urged Leon Sedoff by telegraph and telephone to come to Muehlhausen for a conference.

(Continued on Page 8)

**Trotsky's Cable to Premier Chautemps**  
NLT CHAITEMPS PRESIDENT-CABINET, PARIS.  
IN AFFAIRS ASSASSINATION IGNACE REISS  
MY STOLEN ARCHIVES AND ANALOGOUS  
CRIMES PERMIT ME TO INSIST ON NECESSITY  
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## Industrial Lay-Offs A Challenge To Labor

All indications in the national scene point to a wholesale offensive against the living standards of the American workers, both in the industrial as well as in the political field. The past week has witnessed a further sharp drop in employment figures, organized threats on the part of the bosses against the incipient resistance of the workers to this trend

and a marked tendency on the part of Congress and the Administration to act more openly than at any time since the inception of the "New Deal", as the direct agency of the capitalists in their efforts to unload the burden of the onrushing depression upon labor's shoulders.

At the United States Conference of Mayors, held in Washington last week, it was established that "in numerous localities employment totals have fallen off between 10 and 20 per cent" in the last few months alone. In the highly industrialized regions, the percentage is held to be even higher. If we are to take steel as an example of the trend, lay-offs of a far wider scope are in prospect. Compared with the beginning of the year, steel production has drop-

ed from 90 per cent to 35 per cent of capacity.

#### Lay-offs are Planned

Yet, as the editorial writers in the capitalist press point out, there is no sign of a crisis in the banking system; interest rates remain low and no indications exist as yet of an overdevelopment of the capital goods industries. At the same time, the financial pages overflow with notices of dividend payments.

Why, then, the sharp drop in employment totals? Spokesmen of the United States Chamber of Commerce provide the precise answer. "If a recession is on the way," the New York Times correspondent quotes them, "the thing to do is to retrench on the payroll as sharply as possible for the moment and get over with it." (Times, November, 21, 1937.) In other words, since the depression is on its way, make the working class the shock absorber. Let the brunt be borne by labor! There is the strategy of the bosses in a nutshell.

### Stalinists Seek Frame-up of Leaders of Local 544

"Minneapolis: Watch the Fingers of the  
Frame-Up Artists!"

—See Editorial, Page 4

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—The murder of Patrick J. Corcoran, Secretary-Treasurer of the Minneapolis Teamsters' Joint Council, who was prominently active in the organizing of the labor movement for years, has aroused the greatest tension that has existed in the trade union movement of the Northwest for a long time.

The cold-blooded assassination of the union leader is all the more significant in view of the announcement made by Minneapolis Alderman Albert G. Bastis that he had notified the police, some

time before the killing of Corcoran, about information at his disposal indicating that not only Corcoran, but William Brown, president of the General Drivers' Union, and the three Dunne brothers—Vincent, Grant and Miles—organizers of the union, were slated for killing.

While the assassin or assassins have not yet been apprehended, the police declared that they have

Patrick J. Corcoran



Linked up with this strategy, follows an onslaught on the gains made by the trades unions in the past period, the wholesale attack on agreements fought for on the picket lines, the abolition of seniority rights and so on. That is why the bosses are especially alarmed at the militancy of the auto workers in Michigan and the rubber workers in Ohio, who have begun to reply to the lay-off campaign with sit-down strikes.

#### Mobilizing Against Militants

Politically, the first expression of the sharpness of the coming clash between capital and labor has been the mobilization of the National Guard in Ohio and similar preparation in Michigan and in other sections, as a reply to the spontaneous outburst of sit-downs. However, the political expression of the attack is not confined to such crass examples. Of far greater consequence is

(Continued on page 2)

already questioned two suspects. Meanwhile, the Teamsters' Joint Council has offered a reward of \$10,000 for information leading to the apprehension of the criminal. The Council issued a statement placing the responsibility for Corcoran's murder upon anti-labor elements, and declared:

#### Teamster Council Statement

"Pat Corcoran has led an uncompromising fight against Minneapolis employers and has unquestionably by his unswerving

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# Goodyear Accord Imperils Union

## Layoff of 1600 More Men Ends Rubber Sit-Down

By B. J. Widick

AKRON, Ohio, Nov. 21. "They licked us again, but it's the last time!"

This terse comment by a progressive rubber worker summarized the Sunday meeting of Goodyear Local where the United Rubber Workers official leadership shoved down a betrayal proposal that allows 1,600 additional layoffs against which a rank and file sit-down had been called.

The United Rubber Workers leadership abjectly surrendered to the threat of National Guard strike-breaking, and agreed to an eight-point, government sponsored program, which gives Goodyear further opportunity to break the union.

But it took five hours of bitter argument to defeat the rank and file opposition to the lay-off proposals, which rallied around the slogan, "All or None. We all work or nobody does."

The program of the union leadership was a clever one. It was announced to the sit-downers that a special meeting Sunday would take up the question of strike action. This and other reports brought the sit-downers out of the three plants.

### Present N.L.R.B. "Offer"

When the meeting was called to order, John House, Goodyear Local president and leading reactionary, read the labor board proposals which the union negotiating committee and the company had agreed to.

The agreement allowed for the lay-off of the 1,600 men who had been given notices. It established department seniority while the rank and file demanded, and the union needed, factory seniority. It promised to rehire the workers on the basis of seniority.

It means that the company policy of getting rid of the militant unionists by closing down key departments has been sanctioned by the union!

A counter proposal was offered from the union floor to the effect that the company be forced to rescind the lay-off orders or a strike would take place.

Bill Carney, Goodyear unionist and now C.I.O. director in New Jersey, amended the counter-resolution calling for an immediate strike vote and action.

### Dalrymple Swings Axe

Then S. H. Dalrymple, president of the United Rubber Workers, leaped to his feet and rebuked Carney and declared his amending motion out of order.

"This meeting wasn't called to take strike action. It's unconstitutional. We can't strike. The National Guard would defeat us. We haven't the money for a strike," Dalrymple shouted.

Carney indicated that the very life of the union was at stake. That the C.I.O. had won its first great victory in the Goodyear strike of 1936. That either the union fought back or it was doomed.

Rank and filers tore the official proposal apart. They called it a betrayal of union men. For hours the argument continued. But the steady barrage of defeatist propaganda of the leadership began to take hold.

### Stalinists Equivocate

The Stalinist spokesman took an ambiguous position, one that confused the issue and helped the

union officialdom. "We don't want to see men laid-off but I don't like the counter-resolution. It isn't complete," he said. He didn't make any clarifying motions. He didn't explain that he, under party orders, had approved of the evacuation of the plants, which was the basis for the defeat.

It was the threat of the National Guard action and the realization that the union leadership wouldn't fight Goodyear, that swung the tide. A vote of 1,492 to 822 approved of the union officials' agreement.

The rank and file is willing to stake its life in a struggle against the strikebreaking tactics of the National Guard. Sentiment for a general strike against the National Guard grew hourly in this city while the Goodyear union was meeting.

### Need Militant Leaders

But the workers have seen what reactionary union leadership does when a serious crisis confronts it. The rubber workers remember how the steel workers were betrayed by their leaders in the "Little Steel" strike. That the National Guard had been called because the C.I.O. had asked for it.

It takes a militant, class-conscious union leadership to smash the strike-breaking of the cops, the Guards, and the other governmental forces of oppression.

A powerful leadership of that kind doesn't exist in Goodyear. The progressive have been learning slowly and through painful experience, such as this Sunday meeting, the need for genuine left-wing leaders with a program of class struggle.

The sit-down is over. The 1,600 rubber workers join the 21,000 other unemployed in this city. The union continues to retreat.

But not for long.

There will be more lay-offs. Goodyear has already indicated that. There will be more sit-downs. The mood of the rank and file guarantees that. Meanwhile the progressives are learning fast.

And when it breaks loose again, there will be no stopping.

Starving men have nothing to lose but their chains and the rubber workers are realizing it.

### UNSER WORT

The attention of comrades familiar with the German language is called to "Unser Wort", the official paper of the German Section of the 4th International.

Comrades wishing to subscribe to the paper, or to receive bundle orders should use the following address for communications:

Jean Meichler, B. P. 14  
248 Rue des Pyrenees  
Paris (20e), France

## Something to Be Thankful For



## Layoffs, Labor Challenge

(Continued from page 1)

the momentum taken on by the drive in Congress and in Administration circles.

Arthur Krock, the authoritative Washington commentator of the N. Y. Times, reports that "for the first time since 1933, the President (has) accepted the idea of aiding industry on its own terms. . . . What "its own terms" means is self-evident. To be sure, Mr. Roosevelt will once more say that the policies of industry are responsible for whatever conditions exist. But Mr. Krock remarks, that will be "just politics", in the same way as when business was "good" a few months ago, Mr. Roosevelt said: "We planned it this way". In other words, the "New Deal" demagoguery will remain unchanged, but the course itself will veer sharply to the right.

In the meantime, with the President himself accepting "industry's own terms," Congress appears to be even more anxious to make them its property, too. Under the general ballyhoo for the "balancing of the budget", a move is on foot to repeal the undistributed profit tax and the capital gains tax, the two pet grievances of Big Business. The House Ways and Means Subcommittee has, in fact, already taken action to this effect. To meet this drop in federal revenue, the capitalist politicians controlling the House and the Senate can have recourse to only one method: drastic cuts in W.P.A. and relief appropriations. That these cuts, along with the repeal of the two taxes on big business, are on their way, is conceded by

every political observer.

### Behind the People's Front Mask

Just as the business "recession" shatters the illusion of the possibility of industrial planning under the system of private ownership of the means of production, so the very first reaction of the "New Deal" administration and Congress to this same "recession" completely demolishes the feasibility of class collaboration politics for labor. The "New Deal" has proved as incapable of providing any sensible measure of economic security for the masses of the population as capitalism generally. People's Frontism—the policy of backing capitalist politicians like Roosevelt, as a friend of labor—has proved quite as unreliable a means of expressing the political interests of the working class.

Events are driving home the lessons of class collaborationist politics with merciless logic. A hard winter, full of miserable prospects for the working class, lies ahead of us. Unemployment, starvation wages, hunger amid drastic cuts in relief, face the working class, unless it bestirs itself into reawakened militancy.

The campaign of the bosses must be met head-on. The rank and file in the auto and rubber industries have given a splendid example of their awareness of the danger ahead. Only by its own, independent strength, only by courageous and aggressive action can the workers in industry head off the lay-off campaign.

Only by the most wide-spread solidarity can organized labor beat back the attack against the trades unions and against the agreements fought for so bitterly in the past four years.

Reliance on LaGuardia and demagogues of his stripe will merely disarm and demoralize the W.P.A. workers and the unemployed. A program of mass action, independent of the so-called liberal and progressive politicians and concentrated with full force upon the local, state and federal governments, is the only way of preventing such scenes of working class misery and starvation as have not been seen here since the days of Hoover.

The new economic crisis is a challenge and a test for labor. Apprehensiveness and discontent are growing in its ranks. It is the task of the revolutionists to gain for the ranks a democratic expression of their sentiments, to expose and defeat the bureaucrats and the People's Fronters who seek to obstruct their militancy, and to organize them for the counter-attack which, under revolutionary leadership, can alone bring a real solution: the overthrow of the capitalist system and the establishment of workers democracy in a system of socialized, planned production.



# General Motors Throws Down Gauntlet; Workers Answer With Sit-Downs

By "Conveyor"

DETROIT—Without a dissenting vote, the conference of UAW representatives in General Motors plants rejected the new agreement proffered them by the manufacturers. There was no other possible course. Acceptance or any manner of conciliation with this agreement would have spelled the beginning of the end of the United Automobile Workers of America.

After six months of negotiations, Messrs. Knudsen and Sloan had the effrontery to offer the union an agreement which violated everything gained in the great strikes of last year. Not a word is mentioned about increased cost of living. No reference is made to shorter hours to absorb the growing army of unemployed in the auto industry. No provisions are made to establish corporation-wide seniority to counter-act the tendency of decentralization of General Motors plants. No improvements are made in the faulty shop steward system now current. In other words, not a single one of the demands presented to the corporation by the conference of G. M. workers last June are even as much as recognized—let alone granted.

## Company Agreement Unacceptable

Were the UAW even to consider accepting the agreement as a starting point for bargaining, it would have the struggle of its life to jack it up to the miserable agreement of last February. The new contract begins by incorporating the provisions of the infamous letter agreed to last September by the corporation and by the GEB of the union and the bargaining committee. This letter gave the company the right to discipline all workers engaged in so-called "unauthorized" strikes—sit-downs, slowdowns, stoppages, etc. To this is added a rider. After the union militant is fired by the company, he is to be expelled by the union! Failure to comply with this provision is deemed sufficient reason for immediate abrogation of the agreement. No dues are to be collected or members solicited on company premises. The corporation determines who shall be members of the unions, specifically excluding salaried employees and other categories from the scope of the agreement. Employees are to be permitted to settle their grievances individually with foremen or even directly with the management. If space permitted, we could go on indefinitely enumerating the outrageous features of the contract. But before we leave it, we will call the reader's attention to the section which states: "The union agrees during the existence of this agreement no strike will be called without the authority of the International Union".

At the Milwaukee convention of the UAW, George Addes and other leading members of the United Group combined with the Martin clique to put this clause in the constitution over the opposition of a group of militant members led by Bert Cochran of Cleveland. Why did General Motors insert this clause into its agreement when it was already in the UAW Constitution? Obviously because the union bureaucracy is too feeble to enforce this odious provision. In this case General Motors becomes the policeman of the UAW constitution. What more proof is needed to show that in the final analysis it is economic pressure from the

bosses alone that will enforce bureaucratic constitutions and keep bureaucrats in power?

## Leaders Try to Shift Responsibility

Little description is required to portray the reaction of the delegates to the agreement. Indeed so strong was the opposition that elaborate parliamentary maneuvering was necessary before the chairman of the bargaining committee, William E. Dowell, could get the floor to report. Dowell shifted responsibility for the agreement onto the rank and file, accusing it of not bringing pressure to bear on General Motors.

But he forgot to state that the GEB condemned the only type of effective pressure: strike. Had not the bargaining committee and the GEB, as far back as September 15th, voluntarily granted the very rights to discipline militants which they now inserted into the agreement? Didn't G. M. proceed to enforce this newly granted privilege by penalizing a worker in at least one plant in Detroit? And didn't Martin refuse to sanction strikes in the Turnstedt plants in Detroit and in Yellow Truck in Pontiac despite overwhelmingly favorable votes? How could the membership possibly have applied pressure on the company in face of such an attitude from their own leadership?

On the other hand, local union meetings were deluged with optimistic reports of "progress" made in negotiations. On the very day the General Motors Conference opened, the United Automobile Worker, official organ of the UAW, appeared with the statement that negotiations between the union and the corporation had "reached a point where a tentative agreement on the main points in the amendment of their contract had been reached."

It is hardly possible that Martin and Co. expected to cram the above-mentioned agreement down the throats of the delegates. The truth of the matter is that Martin himself was astonished at the agreement. The entire tenor of his remarks to the conference was that of the maiden who had been misled and betrayed. An examination of the policy of the Ex. Bd. will show that they banked on their newly-acquired "respectability" as a means of wangling some concessions from the corporation. And the inevitable complement of a policy of currying favor with the bosses is lying to the workers to keep them from strike action.

## Move to Dismiss Committee

The reception given the report of the committee's stewardship was inevitable and deserved. A motion by John W. Anderson, militant representative from Fleetwood, to dismiss the bargaining committee, met with thunderous applause. A rebuke of this kind would have re-established the power of the rank and

file after a period of bureaucratic suppression. It would have oriented the workers to vigorous strike action. At this point however, Walter Reuther came to the rescue of the despairing Martin forces and their Lovestoneite stooges. Reuther's prestige as erstwhile leader of the opposition forces saved the Administration from a crushing defeat. Nevertheless at least 20 per cent of the delegates voted to dismiss the committee. For the first time, a goodly section of the militants was to see that Reuther's opposition was shammed in order to cover up the dirty work of the Martin crowd. This lesson will stick.

From this point on, the conference dragged. A compromise was reached on seating a delegation of the Flint delegation which had been unseated by manipulations of the Martin machine. A lengthy disjointed discussion on decentralization ensued to sidetrack action on the burning questions before the conference. A proposal to organize a one or two hour sit-down nationally as a protest against GM's decentralization plans was introduced as the only contribution of the Unity Group to the conference. Whatever value this may have as a demonstration is vitiated by its obvious purpose to quiet the dissatisfied delegates.

After a long, windy, blustering speech from Homer Martin, in which he indicated that he was ready to make peace with the C.P.-S.P. Unity Group, a stooge made a motion to adjourn. Once again Anderson threw a monkey wrench into the calculations of the machine by a motion to continue the conference for a third day and settle down to cases. And once again Walter Reuther saved Martin and Co. in their dilemma, by using his personal influence to carry a motion to give Martin and the GEB the power to call another conference within 60 days.

## Conference Results in Sit-Down Wage

The adjournment of the General Motors Conference without the adoption of any concrete proposals is far from a victory for the Martin bureaucracy. True, the fact that the auto workers must fend for themselves in face of the most difficult situation since the strike, will create considerable hardship. But the repudiation of the corporation's contract takes a millstone off their necks. With the letter to General Motors consigned to its proper place—the wastebasket the auto workers are now free to repel the company's attack in preparation for the time when they can make a concerted nationwide counter-attack.

The change in the situation was immediately apparent. No sooner had the conference ended than a renewed outbreak of sit-downs made the front pages of the local press. At the time of this writing, over 17,000 workers are involved in a strike in Pontiac. In the last few days, some 3,000 workers were affected

# Koci, West Coast Militant, Menaced by Deportation

SAN FRANCISCO—Support of a wide campaign to stop the deportation of Frank Koci, well known west coast waterfront militant, is being urged here by the Northern California Branch of the American Civil Liberties Union. The union is calling upon labor organizations everywhere to adopt resolutions protesting the threatened deportation and to send copies of the resolutions to the Labor Department at Washington.

Koci is the victim of a frame-up attempt to rid the West Coast of militant, foreign-born unionists. He is a member of the Marine Cooks and Stewards Union. He was arrested May 14, 1936 on a complaint filed by Carmen Joan Dodson, who besides acting as a stool pigeon for the labor department has the distinction of having been a pupil of Isadora Duncan. She is the former wife of Kid McCoy, and now teaches (the sign says so) "revolutionary" dancing.

And Carmen Joan is no slouch. In her complaint she charged that Koci was "an alien agitator, former Communist, and now a Trotskyite—preaching teaching and advocating the violent overthrow of the United States Government."

Koci is now free under \$1,000 bail raised by the Socialist Party

by a sit-down in the foundry at the Cadillac plant. The days and weeks to come will probably see a wave of such defensive actions throughout the General Motors Corporation.

The realization is slowly beginning to dawn upon ever broader sections of auto workers that only a rank and file group armed with a fighting policy can stave off the attacks of General Motors. And further, this policy must be coupled with a campaign for rank and file control of the UAW. That such a group is not the Unity Group has been abundantly demonstrated at the General Motors Conference and the entire period following the convention.

The letter giving General Motors disciplinary powers in the plants sent by the Executive Board on September 15th was adopted unanimously by the GEB which includes the two leaders of the Unity Group, Walter Reuther and Windham Mortimer. The issue of the Conveyor, organ of the West Side Local, appearing immediately before the G.M. conference gives back-handed support to the letter. "No concessions," it declares, "granted to the company should become effective until the entire agreement is ratified... This applies particularly to the letter." Louis Spisak, Pres. of Fisher Body Local 45 of Cleveland and leading member of the Unity Group joins the chorus declaring that the letter "was the most practical move we could have made." (United Automobile Worker, Nov. 13th).

## Martin and Reuther "Make Up"

Throughout the entire fall season when the plants were working on the 1938 models and G. M. could not afford a strike, Martin's policy of "respectability" and "responsibility" was supplemented by the restraining hand of the Unity Group whose deliberate policy was do-nothing until the elections were over. Rumors were rife during the two-day G. M. conference that Martin was about to patch up his quarrel with Reuther. Indeed Martin's

(Left Wing). His defense is being conducted by the A.C.L.U. At the first hearing of the case, the extremely contradictory nature of Dodson's testimony left no alternative to the inspector in charge but to recommend a dismissal of the case to the Labor Department in Washington.

But the Labor Department doesn't confine itself to facts when it wants to rid the country of a militant worker. It simply sent the case back to San Francisco for another hearing, this time appointing Red-baiter Meads as the inspector in charge. Mr. Meads understood the hint and put the two arresting officers on the stand. They confirmed each other's lies that Koci had admitted the charges against him were true. Presto! the Labor Department had what it wanted—a recommendation for deportation.

It is interesting to note that not a word has been uttered about this "frame-up" in the "Western Worker" or any of the other Communist Party sheets.

It is obvious from the way this case has developed that the Labor Department wants Koci out of the country and will not be easily dissuaded. Only immediate and vigorous action on the part of workers everywhere will be able to throw a monkey wrench in the department's plans.

statement that the G. M. conference was "the beginning of the end of factionalism in the UAW" brought Reuther to his feet with three cheers for the President. No questions were asked concerning the restoration of democracy, or instituting a military policy. The Unity boys were dreaming about reinstatement on their jobs.

Nothing would please the so-called Communist party better than a patch-up on the top. Not that they want unity for the sake of a fighting policy and rank and file control. Just the contrary. Gebert in the October "Communist" writes that policy of the Communist party is "against unauthorized strikes." This is the shield behind which every reactionary in the UAW concealed his real class collaboration program. If any one group is responsible for "unauthorized" strikes, says Gebert, it is the Lovestoneites. This should make a horse laugh. The entire campaign against shop action in the UAW was wholeheartedly approved if not instigated by the Lovestoneites.

## Rank and File Movement Necessary

The Lovestoneites have stooged for Martin and Frankenstein in every reactionary policy in the recent period. They approved his prohibition of local union papers, applauded his letter to General Motors, defended Martin for drawing a gun on a rank and file delegation and denounced the delegation as "irresponsible hoodlums," etc., etc., etc. The Stalinists covet the Lovestoneites' positions and given half a chance the C. P. would go to such lengths as to make Martin's present stooges look like progressive unionists.

The rank and file can expect nothing from the Unity Group but new capitulations. Certainly it can expect no policy of struggle. The resistance to General Motors and the organization of the Ford Motor Company depends in great part upon a strong rank and file movement based on progressive militant principles.

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**Minneapolis: Watch the Fingers of the Frame-Up Artists!**

The cold-blooded murder of Patrick J. Corcoran, secretary-treasurer of the Minneapolis Teamsters' Joint Council has come as blow and a shock to the entire labor movement of the country.

None but the blind or the mendacious can fail to see and point out in the assassination of Corcoran a treacherous blow aimed at the trade union movement itself. The prompt action of the Joint Council in offering a \$10,000 reward for the apprehension of his murderers and in calling a half-day stoppage on the occasion of his funeral, is an authentic reaction of genuine trade unionism to his assassination. No trade unionism worthy of the name could fail to display the same attitude.

**The Meaning of the Stalinist Attack**

The Minneapolis Stalinists, who control and discredit what is called the CIO in that territory, have already rushed into print with a statement exonerating the bosses in advance of all responsibility for the crime, and calling upon the police to look for the assassin in the ranks of the Drivers' Union leadership.

The meaning of this should be clear to all. These shameless scoundrels, who are nothing but the hired and conscious agents of the international Stalinist frame-up and murder machine, have fish of their own to fry in Minneapolis. Their object is not to protect the labor movement against the horrible menace of assassination and gangsterism.

Indeed, these methods are not alien to their own. Whoever knows, for example, of their most recent exploits in the Cafeteria Union of New York, where they were closely tied up in the leadership with the remnants of the Dutch Schultz gang, will need no enlightenment as to their true attitude in this question.

No, the Stalinists are not concerned with the struggle of the workers against gangsterism. Their aim is to "smear" the General Drivers Local 544 and concoct a frame-up against its leaders. That is what the Stalinist black guards are up to in Minneapolis. Workers on Guard!

This magnificent labor organization, which was built up to a tower of strength out of nothing, has been a thorn in the side of the Minneapolis and Northwest open-shoppers for the past four years. By sheer militancy and doggedness, it has raised the living conditions and the self-respect of thousands of workers in its territory, and brought to their knees more than one hard-boiled employer. Breaking radically with the conservative and futile methods of old-line unionism, it introduced a new spirit of aggressiveness and mass activity in the Northwest labor movement. After having won signal victories in many of its own battles, it extended the warmest assistance not only to truckers in other cities throughout the Northwest, but gave material, financial and moral aid to the workers of other industries and crafts who asked for 544's help in the fight for organization and union recognition. A thousand tricks by the employers, their Citizens Alliance, their political puppets, and even reactionary labor leaders, have proved incapable of breaking the solidity of Local 544 and its intelligent, class conscious leadership.

**Local 544—A Thorn in the C P's Side**

But Local 544 has also been a thorn in the hide of the Stalinist machine. Bending every effort to take over the control of the Minnesota labor movement for their political ends—that is, for class collaboration, for herding the workers into support of the coming imperialist war—the Stalinists have been frustrated at every turn by the firmness of Local 544 and those workers and labor organizations associated with it. Abuse, slander, blackmail, hooliganism, threats, bribery—all the methods of reaction—have availed the Stalinists nothing. Even after they captured control of the Minnesota CIO movement, and installed their stooges, Smith and Mauseth, as spokesmen of it, they proved unable to crush Local 544. They did succeed, however, in discrediting the great CIO

movement in the eyes of all the militant labor elements in Minnesota who originally looked towards it with cordial sympathy—as was shown by the recent convention of the State Federation of Labor.

Now, however, the Stalinist wrecking crew think they see their supreme chance. They are trying to use the blood of Patrick Corcoran to smear Local 544 and its spokesmen, to discredit it, to break it down; thereby they hope to remove the main obstacle to their bureaucratic dominion over the Minnesota labor movement.

All the statements of Mauseth, and of his bosses in the Daily Worker, all their appeals to Mayor Leach and his Police Chief to strike jointly at Local 544, are calculated toward that end.

**The Plan for a Frame-Up**

They are planning to frame-up the leaders of Local 544 who, according to Alderman Bastis, are next on the murder list—Bill Brown, Vincent Dunne, Grant Dunne, Miles Dunne!

Only those who are purblind, and do not see what the Stalinist vultures are doing throughout the world, can ignore this danger to the Minneapolis labor movement.

The blood-hounds who framed-up and executed hundreds of revolutionists in the Soviet Union know no infamy too loathsome to stop them in their tracks.

The GPU gang which did not hesitate to lynch Andres Nin in Spain, to kidnap, imprison and murder hundreds of Trotskyists, members of the POUM, anarchists, syndicalists and left wings socialists right in the midst of the war against Fascism, will not hesitate at such a "trifle" as framing the militant leaders of Local 544.

The assassins who took the Polish revolutionist, Ignace Reiss, for a ride in Switzerland, in approved Chicago gangster style, and left his corpse riddled with bullets—using White Guard Russians for the purpose—will not hesitate to use the reactionary Mayor and Police Chief of Minneapolis to help exterminate the indomitable fighters who stand in the path of their course of rule-or-ruin.

Workers of Minneapolis! On guard against the frame-up gang! Remember the Stalinist record in Russia, in Spain, in Switzerland. Build an iron wall of militant labor solidarity around Local 544, which is under such severe attack by the enemies of the working class. Turn the searchlight of pitiless publicity on the unspeakable creatures who offer, in public statements, to work with the bosses and the bosses' police.

Watch the finger of the Stalinist frame-up artists!

**Sam Baron Released**

Sam Baron, leading member of the Socialist Party, (Right Wing) has been released from a prison in Loyalist Spain, in which he had been confined by the Stalinist G.P.U. for his refusal to swallow in full the suppression of working class organizations by Stalin's hangmen. In obtaining the release of Baron, the massed protest of working class organizations throughout the world have driven a breach in the frame-up campaign of the Communist International against all those who, to one degree or another, refuse to reconcile themselves with the surrender of independent working class action in Spain and elsewhere for the benefit of the counter-revolutionary bureaucracy.

The Baron case proves that the Stalinist frame-up artists are not beyond control, that their sinister machinations can be exposed and broken down. Baron is free, but dozens, hundreds of other working class victims of Stalinism still remain in the jails of the G.P.U. The fate of Erwin Wolf, of Mark Rein, of Kurt Landau is still unknown. Wolf, Rein, Landau must yet be saved from the G.P.U.'s executioners!

All those who rejoice at Baron's release, all those who cherish the freedom of working class action, all those who realize the danger to the labor movement in the nefarious methods of the Stalinist G.P.U. must join hands in a united front to liberate the other working class victims of Stalinism. Only the broadest united front of labor organizations can stay the hand of the Stalinist madmen.

**Three Cheers For Red (White & Blue)**

We reprint below an item released by United Press from its Washington office. Comment is superfluous.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9.—Mrs William A. Becker, national president of the Daughters of the American Revolution—an out-spoken opponent of Communism—last night attended an elaborate reception at the Russian Embassy "to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the great October socialist revolution."

With her was the editor of the D. A. R. magazine, Mrs. Frances Parkinson Keyes.

**Lessons of the Goodyear Sit-Down**

By Blake Lear

AKRON, Ohio, Nov. 21.—The recent sit-down at the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company plants in Akron, like similar sit-downs in the auto industry, should be studied carefully by every worker and revolutionist, for they mark a new important stage in the sharpening class struggle in this country, a stage in which the workers—now well organized—are being brought face to face with the fundamental problems of capital-

ism. Trade unionism alone will not solve these problems. A revolutionary political party is needed. The course of the unions in the current period of reaction will depend to a large degree upon what influence revolutionary socialists can exert in the given situations.

Trouble began at the Goodyear factory on Thursday, November 18, when 1,600 men received their lay-off notices. Shortly after midnight, when the militant fourth shift entered the factory, all three plants of the greatest rubber factory in the world were closed tight by a huge sit-down.

This sit-down signaled the breaking into the open of a long, wearing struggle which began with the hiring of 1,500 tire-builders after the great Goodyear strike of last year. The hiring of these men, plus the activity of Goodyear's Gadsden, Los Angeles, and Jackson, Michigan, plants enabled Goodyear to build up a very large inventory which would permit them to close down for long periods of time.

**Why Offensive Was Launched**

Coupled with this is the deep national recession in business, which has reflected itself here in work schedules which average, even the press reports, twelve hours per week. With this well in mind, heartened by the defeat of Little Steel (Tom Girdler is on the board of directors of Goodyear), the defeat of Labor's Non-Partisan League candidate in the mayoralty campaign, a three-way split in the labor movement in Akron, and a reactionary union leadership, the company decided to launch its offensive.

Fourteen hundred men were laid off. There is no relief in Akron. The membership stormed, but no effective opposition leaders existed. Union men knew what was coming. John House, reactionary president of the local, stayed away from the office for weeks—"ill." The company bided its time.

Last Thursday, while House was pursuing interminable negotiations with the company, dismissal notices were sent out. No seniority whatever was observed. Immediately, the "radical" fourth shift sat down when they came in on the graveyard shift—midnight. When the first shift came in at six, they joined those already sitting down.

**House Knives Sit-Downers**

House promptly disclaimed any responsibility for the sit-down. Mayor Schroy's police were immediately dispatched to the plants, where they prevented the hoisting in of food. Governor Davey, who trotted into office clinging to the coat-tails of the great Humanitarian, Roosevelt, and who himself is casting sheep eyes toward the presidency, immediately ordered the national guard to be ready to move into Akron, and denounced the sit-down as, "illegal, immoral, and revolutionary."

A government mediator was rushed in.

On Saturday the sit-downers were ordered out of the plant by the union leadership. Confused, filled with wild rumors, and lacking adequate leadership, the men evacuated the plants—angry, knowing they were being betrayed, but coming out. The so-called Communist Party supported the emptying of the plants. House, to placate the boiling membership, called a meeting for Sunday at the Akron armory for the purpose of deciding what course to pursue. Later, after more conferences with the management, House stated that no strike vote could be taken, the requisite twenty-four hour notice not having been given the members! Saturday night, on the eve of the formulation of one of the most important decisions in the local's history, the members were locked out of their hall!

That the rank and file could have the sell-out agreement rammed down their throats at the Sunday meeting is due entirely to the lack of a genuine leadership of the rank and file operating over a period of months and preparing the membership for just such a crisis. Despite a program advanced by progressive militants at the Sunday meeting, the bureaucracy was able to ride rough-shod over their opposition.

**More Lay-Offs Coming**

The rubber barons and the union bureaucracy have won a temporary victory. Though the membership has been victimized, however, economic laws have their logic. More lay-offs are coming, not only at the Goodyear, but at the other rubber shops as well. The membership will learn, and especially will they learn if the present progressives organize, prepare, and extend their influence.

The old leaders who fought and established the unions in the mass industry have already hardened into harassed bureaucrats. A new cadre of rank and file militants must be created; and in the developing events only revolutionists will be able to give far-sighted and clear direction, because only they see the direction of the motion. They will have to fight the bureaucratic leadership of the C.I.O., as well as that of the A.F. of L. They will have to fight the C.P. which is faithfully acting as the G.P.U. of the bureaucrats in the unions. They will have to expose the treacherous aims of increasing government "mediation." Their influence must be diffused throughout the mass industries.

Lacking a genuinely militant leadership, the unions are in grave danger of having their influence whittled down, and in some cases, of being destroyed altogether. Nevertheless, class conflict on a national scale seems in the offing. This will have its political reverberations. Now, as never before in recent years, will the revolutionary tendency have the possibility of recruitment, not merely from the workers duped by the C.P., but especially from native and heretofore unpoliticalized workers thrown up against the inadequacy of simple trade unionism.

# Shanghai's Fall Shows Urgent Need of Mass Action To Stop Japan

By Li Fu-jeu

Nearly five months have elapsed since Japanese imperialism embarked on the current phase of its military campaign to subjugate China and convert it into a colony of Japan. Assembling a mighty war machine, Japan has driven forward relentlessly to establish its control over the northern provinces of China and the vital area of the Yangtze. The oppressed Chinese masses have received innumerable fresh lessons in imperialist fright-

fulness. Death and devastation on a fearful scale have accompanied the Japanese campaign to imbue the victims with Japan's "friendly" intentions.

In the path of the Japanese invaders, the Kuomintang government of Chiang Kai-shek has strewn soldiers by the hundreds of thousands. On the North China fronts these troops have proved totally incapable of even holding up the Japanese advance. Provincial soldiery, ill-trained and poorly-armed, proved no match for Japan's mechanized war machine. After brief and sanguinary encounter, they usually fled in disorder before the advancing hosts of Japanese imperialism. Today the Japanese armies are in possession of all Hopei province, all Chahar, most of Suiyuan, a large part of Shansi, and a portion of Shantung. Military conquest of the latter province has been delayed by the Japanese hope that they may be able to buy over the provincial governor, Gen. Han Fu-chu, and thus avoid a costly military campaign.

## Shanghai Falls, Too

At Shanghai, the Chinese resistance to the invaders has been much more real. For approximately three months Chinese forces largely drawn from Chiang Kai-shek's own armies held the invaders at bay and prevented them from gaining a strong foothold on the Shanghai peninsula. Trained by German military specialists, better armed than the provincial forces, they fought with unmatched heroism and at tremendous sacrifice to hold their defense lines. But at Shanghai, too, the technical superiority of the Japanese forces, rich in such telling armament as airplanes, tanks, armored cars, heavy artillery—not to speak of warships which were able, unhindered, to blast at the Chinese lines from the Whangpoo River—had finally to prevail.

From Shanghai, on November 8, the Chinese commenced a retreat many miles west of the city to fresh and supposedly stronger defense positions designated by Chiang Kai-shek as China's "Hindenburg line." Latest press dispatches indicate, however, that line has been broken through at several vital points. The city of Soochow, key point of the line, was apparently surrendered to the Japanese without a shot being fired in its defense. It is clear that the retreat from Shanghai is in danger of developing into a rout. The Japanese forces are sweeping forward on several encircling fronts towards Nanking, the capital, from which the Kuomintang government has fled precipitately to remote points up the Yangtze River.

Several important conclusions can be drawn from these developments. It has been once more

demonstrated that a backward country, with a feeble industry, poor in modern heavy armament, cannot long prevail in a purely military-defensive war against a more powerful adversary. Revolutionists have always contended, and the experiences of the Russian Revolution proved, that the weaker side can make good the technical deficiencies of its defense only by the development of an all-sided political campaign, having as its immediate object the disruption of the enemy forces. The Bolsheviks, pitting themselves against the interventionist forces, not of a single imperialist power but of all the leading imperialist powers, were probably no better supplied with armaments than China is today. But the Bolsheviks knew how to appeal to the class sentiments of the soldiers in the armies of their opponents. Revolutionary propaganda so weakened the interventionist forces that they could no longer be relied upon to fight and had to be withdrawn.

A backward, ill-armed country must pit against a well-armed enemy the superiority of its cause—a cause which must serve as the basis for rallying the entire nation for defense, a cause which, by reason of its essential rightness and progressiveness, will sustain the national morale, inspire the masses to that self-sacrifice, solidarity and unbounded initiative of which, as history has demonstrated over and over again, they are capable, and which would evoke actions of international solidarity in the enemy country.

## Heads For Defeat

Five months of the Far Eastern conflict have shown, however, that the Kuomintang government is totally incapable of conducting the war in this manner. It is heading China's cause to defeat. Revolutionists cannot be surprised at Chiang Kai-shek's inability to appeal to the revolutionary sentiments of the oppressed Japanese soldiers, the vast majority of whom are drawn from the poorest layers of Japan's peasantry, any more than they were surprised at the inability of the Spanish bourgeois government bourgeois government can hardly issue revolutionary appeals.

Neither is there anything extraordinary in the fact that the Kuomintang regime, through five months of warfare against a powerful foe, has kept the Chinese masses immobilized and has clamped down on any suggestion that the population be armed and drawn into country-wide guerilla warfare against the Japanese invaders. The Chinese bourgeoisie and its government fear the armed masses more than they do the Japanese imperialists.

With defeat piling on defeat, it is no wonder that the morale of the population is wilting. Despite the irresponsible chatter of the Daily Worker about all China

being united against the invaders, there are already evidences that the struggle is beginning to be looked upon as lost and that the lack of any hopeful perspective is engendering opposition to further sacrifices. We learned, for example, that the Chinese "Dare-to-Die" battalions who fought rear-guard actions in Nantao to cover the retreat of the Chinese army from Shanghai were met by hostile Chinese demonstrators at the gates of the French Concession when they turned over their arms and abandoned their two-day struggle. The demonstrators, residents of Nantao, had watched their homes and possessions go up in smoke and splinters as Japanese airplanes bombed the positions taken up by the "Dare-to-Die" men. "If you had withdrawn with the others," they were heard to say, "this disaster would have been spared us."

## Treachery And Corruption

At the commencement of the Shanghai hostilities, when such a move was still entirely possible, Chiang failed to block the Whangpoo River at its mouth. Such an act would have bottled up the Japanese naval units already at Shanghai and prevented any further ships from reaching the city. But it would also have interfered with the shipping of "friendly" powers and drawn protests from London, Washington and other capitals. And since the Kuomintang government chose to repose its main hopes in intervention by Japan's rivals, the river was left open to the free movement of the Japanese navy.

## Truth Must Be Told

There are those who will say that we are painting the situation in too dark colors. Revolutionists, however, must never fear to face unpleasant truths. Once again it must be said that China's national independence can be gained only by wresting the conduct of the struggle from the hands of the Kuomintang and the Stalinists, who can organize only defeats. The struggle against imperialism must be combined with the emancipatory struggle of the exploited Chinese masses—against the bourgeoisie, against the landlords, against the Kuomintang, against the Stalinists. While participating in and supporting the present military struggle against Japan, the revolutionists will tirelessly expose all acts of treachery. In this way they will earn the confidence of the masses, build a revolutionary party, and lead the masses to the conquest of power. Only a revolutionary government of the Chinese proletariat, leading behind it the millions of exploited and oppressed in city and country, will be able to conduct a war to the finish against imperialism.

## Letters from Our Readers

### An Open Letter to Norman Thomas

Comrade Bennem, of Rochester, has sent to us for publication, the following letter addressed to Norman Thomas. —Ed.

ROCHESTER, N.Y.

November 15th, 1937

Mr. Norman Thomas,  
Chairman N. M. C. Socialist Party  
206 E. 18th St.  
N. Y. City

Dear Norman:

I am writing you this open letter, addressed to the Socialist Appeal and the Socialist Call, I sincerely hope the Call will see fit to print it, otherwise it will be necessary to give it to the Rochester Press and the N. Y. Times in order to set the public right on the misinformation being given out to them by the faction with which you are allied. I feel sure the public press will be glad to publish it, in as much as it has been suppressed by our own party organ.

Please understand I am writing this letter, not with bitterness nor a feeling of revenge, but with a feeling of deep disappointment and amazement to think that persons who have been known to the nation as Socialists, and claim they are working for World Socialism will carry their inner-party differences to the non-Socialist public in a red-baiting and disgraceful manner instead of being sufficiently loyal to the most noble movement in the world, if not to the party, to settle those differences within the party in an honorable manner.

### "Reorganizer" Finds Branch Solid

At last Friday's meeting, Hans Esters, who had been in town for several days interviewing party members, (and enjoying the hospitality of the home of "Trotskyites") greeted me like a long lost friend. He informed me he had been sent to perform a task he had voted against, the removal of our charter and the reorganization of the local, but that he believed a new local was out of the question as every one he had contacted was solidly behind the Appeal. I told him "fine", that as long as things were that way and we were both working for Socialism, I hoped he would go his way and I would go mine with Local Rochester in the building for Socialism, that any newspaper scandal would be harmful to the movement.

He was courteously granted the floor several times as was Hal Siegel a few weeks previous, the roll was called and with the exception of Warren Atkinson, (You may recall that his sympathies were with the Old Guard in the last split, until through my insistence he attended the Buffalo N. E. C. meeting) and aged James Oaks, every one present voiced their solidarity with the Appeal Group. Comrade Niemeyer moved that we not recognize the authority of the State committee until after the Chicago Convention next month. Nothing was said about expulsions and none of us have received any notice of charges or expulsions.

Imagine my surprise when looking at the morning paper I find that Brown, Jacobs, (who is a member of Local Minneapolis) and myself are expelled as "Trotskyites", plus a lot more scandal written up by a former Hearst reporter, quoting James Lipsig. On top of this I find we have been labeled as red-baiters on

the strength of a letter written to Lipsig by James Brewer, a Stalinist Liberal. Really Browder could not have done a better job.

Just to mention a few of the acts of the "New Old Guard".

At the Chicago Convention you assumed an arrogant attitude nearly equal to that of O'Neal and Lee at Buffalo, using threats, "If you do not do as I say, I will not be your leader". Autocratic mass expulsions of the opposition, without hearing. Revocations of State charters, arrests of officers, expulsions of Y. P. S. L. members, holding up of applications, gerrymandering of members and falsifications of stamps records in order to control the Y.P.S.L. Convention. Partiality toward such groups as Wisconsin, misuse of the party press by presenting your factional side and suppressing that of the opposition, printing inner-party affairs in the Capitalist Press. (Is this aiding Socialism or feeding fuel to the fires of Fascism and Stalinism? Personal names are soon forgotten by the public, but the thoughts of disagreement and autocracy in the Socialist Party remain.) Opposition to the publishing of the Appeal, after failure to comply with convention orders in the publishing of an inner-party organ. (Remember, Local Rochester helped you to launch the illegal Call).

### Imitating Old Guard Methods

Where the Old Guard went to Abe Cahan for financial assistance, you went to Valenti and outside Communist sympathizers, or rather you brought them to your house. Where the O. G. dubbed you Communist, you use the C. P. cry of "Trotskyites," and "Sectarians". You violated party democracy; the Labor Party, the People's Front, the Trade Union, and the Spanish Resolutions. You defended the butchers of the Spanish Workers, (Read the articles of Sam Baron. You denied these acts when the Appeal Group told you this was going on, and by the way, now that Baron is a "Trotskyite" C.P. style, aren't you just a little afraid using that term so loosely might act as a boomerang?)

You cry "Sectarian". You told me in 1936 your best meetings were in Rochester, Minneapolis and Lynn, not in Milwaukee, Buffalo, Boston or any of the Right-wing strongholds. Did you ever come into Rochester in the last 5 years when we did not have all the meetings you could cover, and if we are sectarian, why do we have in my files letters from the four last state Secretaries and from Paul Porter and Clarence Senier commending Local Rochester on the good work accomplished? We are the only functioning upstate local today.

How about all the new locals organized by the left wingers in Minnesota and California?

### Who Wants the Split?

We all deplore the idea of splits. You will recall I was the first to appeal to you and others of the leadership for a special Convention to settle the differences then arising. Instead of your sanctioning this idea or attempting to get the different factions together, you ignored the flood of requests of the Locals throughout the country for a referendum on this and other things and aligned yourself with the reformist faction.

Yours Truly,  
—B. C. BENNEM

# LaRoque Calls For Ban On National Congress Of 4th International

By Terence Phelan

Though the increasingly militant French workers still hope that the anti-communist actions of the Stalinists are only manoeuvres (the CP increased its General Council seats in the cantonal elections, completed October 17, from 10 to 41), the Fascists, LaRocque, Doriot, deKérillis & Co. know better where lies the real threat to their gangs and plots. Calling upon the Popular Front government which has already seven times suppressed the Bolshevik-Leninist newspaper, *La Lutte*

*Ouvrière*, LaRocque now publicly demands in *Le Petit Journal*, organ of his Croix de Feu fascist league (now thinly disguised as the Parti Social Français) that the government forbid the annual congress of the French section of the Fourth International, the Parti Ouvrier Internationaliste.

His grounds are significant: because only the POI has on its order-of-the-day, the question of mass occupation of factories to defend the 40-hour week, which is at present under savage attack, both frontal and sniping, by the tricksters of the Popular Front. LaRocque feels and fears the ground-swell of the workers' renewed militancy, born of an angry disillusion with a government under which wages are frozen at 1936 levels though the cost of living has gone up 51% in the last year, under which all strikes are outlawed, and their trade union a n d reformist political fakery give no reply to their outcries beyond "Patience, patience."

When, in mid-March, the Front Populaire was still prating patience, it was the aroused though leaderless workers who bodily heaved LaRocque's fascist agents out of their factories, 'not without a few caresses'. It is workers' militancy he fears; but how much more does he fear lest those workers find the truly revolutionary leadership of the Bolshevik-Leninist POI! Hence his rejoicing when the Popular Front suppresses the POI's paper; hence his demand that the P. F. ban its congress.

## Tardieu's Revelations

The French workers have recently had a signal opportunity to learn that capitalist democracy, far from being the antithesis of fascism, is its nurturer and trail-blazer, in the revelations made on October 26 by former Premier André Tardieu as a witness in the libel suit brought by Duke Pomo di Borgo, a co-founder with LaRocque of the fascist *Croix de Feu*—for when thieves fall out, honest men get interesting information.

Under oath, Tardieu testified that as Premier and Minister in several cabinets from 1926 to 1932 he paid LaRocque secret government subsidies, to the tune of from 220,000 to 250,000 francs, for services rendered the government by LaRocque's fascist gangs. Thus, under "democratic" capitalism, the taxes drawn from the workers are spent to prepare their further bloody suppression and enslavement.

Revelations of this sort, combined with the united front appeal by the Stalinists to the Doriot fascist youth (see Challenge

of Youth, October 1) are giving advanced workers food for serious thought on the real nature of Popular Frontism, as a form of "democratic" capitalism.

## The New Upsurge

France remains in a pre-revolutionary situation amid a sharpening crisis which will soon put an end to the 'pause' which has existed since the Matignon agreements of last year. The new keynote was struck by the government communiqué of October 2 and the explanatory ministerial speeches that followed it. The Radical-Socialist Premier Chautemps piously appealed to both capital and labor to make "equal sacrifices" for the solution of the production crisis. What is meant by equal sacrifices? Well, labor must return from a 40 to a 45 hour week. And capital? Capital must also help, by "rationalizing its production." Pressed to define just what "rationalization" specifically means, messieurs the ministers frankly define it as "increase of labor-saving machinery," more overtime, and a "higher tempo of work." Such are the 'sacrifices' demanded of French capital!

But the French worker can stomach just so much. Though the conventions of the parties composing the Front Populaire have duly voted continuance of the coalition government, the sharpening of the political situation is shown not only by serious revolts within those conventions, but also by the results of the cantonal elections, in which the "extremist" parties gained at the expense of the "centre" parties. The North African colonies are in increasingly open revolt—so serious that the "government of socialist direction," as Blum calls it, has had to despatch a fleet of 78 army bombing planes to overawe and terrorize the wretched Algerians; while daily clashes between the starved and brutalized natives and the police produce their scarcely reported but regular toll of dead and wounded.

Most significantly, the ground-swell of a new militant labor upsurge, such as produced the revolutionary factory-occupations of May-June 1936, is increasingly to be felt, especially among the metal and building workers. Despite compulsory arbitration, despite the "illegality" of strikes, despite the increasingly noisome Stalinist sell-outs, the fury of the General Federation of Labor fakers, and savage police repressions, fierce sporadic outbursts of "unauthorized" strikes and factory-occupations increase daily, and spread.

The miserably paid government employees, after interminable patient waiting at the behest of their union leaders and promises of the P. F. ministers, have just been fobbed off by Finance Minister Bonnet with a "compromise settlement" that is a positive insult. Even the reformist socialists, the SFIO ministers, had to protest against it.

## Bolsheviks Provide Leadership

Thus French labor learns the bitter lesson of Popular Frontism. The "pause" in the class-struggle, demanded by the P. F. government and its Stalinist supporters, is about over. The French worker has had about enough of compulsory arbitration boards, of slogans of patience and patriotism, of government leniency with the fascist gangs coupled with savage repression of militant workers. Bitter personal experience is proving to him the frivolity of the Stalinist explanations that it isn't capitalism as a system, but the wicked "200 families," who are responsible for his misery; shows him that "his" Popular Front government differs from other capitalist governments only in that it asks him to like and approve the way it crushes him.

A new strike-wave is beginning to rise. The advanced workers, fed up with the betrayals of the Front Populaire and its Stalinist supporters, look for true revolutionary leadership. That leadership is offered them by the Bolshevik-Leninists of the POI, with the slogans of direct class-action, of workers militias to smash the bullies of LaRocque and prevent another Spain, of workers' control of factories through the extension and amalgamation of the existing workers' shop committees; and its courageous and open goal—the French workers' state.

## INTERNATIONAL NOTES

Stalin's Purge Extends into the Youth and Even Penetrates the "Politburo".

### Stalin's Purge of Blood, "At Home"

From day to day it become increasingly evident that a blood purge of unprecedented proportions is taking place in Russia, under the direct guidance of Stalin. All the preceding purges pale to insignificance in comparison with the scope and depth of the current one. The chief target of the purge is once again the C. P. S. U., the Komsomol, and other organs of the "ruling party" and of the government. The purge extends not only to the G. P. U. and the Red Army, but even to the allegedly sacrosanct "Political Bureau." So swift is the pace of the purge, that the purgers of yesterday are the "purged" of today, and the purgers of today—the "enemies of the people" on the morrow.

Neue Zuercher Zeitung computes that from the time of the Kamenev-Zinoviev trial in August 1936 up to the beginning of last October, that is, covering a period of more than 18 months, there was a public record of 808 executions in the USSR. The Havas agency computes on the basis of data from 20 provincial papers that 403 people have been executed by Stalin from September 5 to October 10 last.

That is to say, in a period of approximately one month as many have been shot as had been in the previous 17 months. The closer the "elections" the more ferocious the purge becomes! This "coincidence" imperiously poses the question as to the connection between the Moscow frame-ups and Stalin's political goals within the USSR itself. In the recent period "public trials" of the Moscow variety have been taking place all over the Soviet territory. They receive no notice in Pravda, or other central publications of Stalin. Nor does the capitalist press devote much space to them, except to record them in the general tabulation of executions. They do receive notice in the Soviet provincial press.

Each province "has its own Piatakov" with this difference, that these "Piatakovs" are the very flower of Stalin's supporters of yesterday: They are in effect the very men who helped Stalin "purge" the original "Piatakovs." In many cases they were decorated only a short time ago for their "zeal" in rooting out the "enemies of the people".

### Baku "Kalinin" Liquidated

One such trial took place in Baku on October 31. Only three weeks before there had been a purge, the scope of which may be gleaned from the fact that the President of the Azarbeidjan Autonomous Republic (i.e. the Azarbeidjan "Kalinin") was "arrested" on the charge of "Trotskyism and Bukharinism." Ten out of the fourteen accused in the Baku "trial" are prominent members of the C. P. Nine of them are over 40—a significant item, indicating that these are not "recent" henchmen of Stalin. Among these ex-dignitaries was Muzabekov, Chairman of the CEC of the Soviets.

Almost simultaneously with the trial in Baku came news of an "Abkhasian plot" (November 9) involving the heads of the Abkhasian G. P. U., Mikeladze and Ampar; People's Commissar of Agriculture, Chalmatz; Director of the Tobacco Administration, Mikhail Lakoba; Director of the Azneft, Vassilii Lakoba together with the secretary of the party organization, and the chairman of the party district committee. This trial was in every detail a replica of the Moscow frame-ups: "assassination plots," sabotage, "link" with Trotsky-Serebriakov-Piatakov etc., and last but not least, "confessions" from all the accused.

### "Suicides" Also Increase

On November 8 came a report in Krasnaya Tataria of 14 "counter-revolutionists" shot—among them a secretary and chairman of the party committee, an editor of the newspaper, and several agronomists.

In Gomel on November 5, the military tribunal sentenced 8 to death, among them again high dignitaries; a former chairman of the Gomel Soviet; a high functionary in the People's Commissariat of Health, etc.

This latest phase too has its "suicides", most prominent among them being the suicide of Balitsky, head of the Ukrainian G. P. U. The "Yezhov" of the Ukraine figuring as a "Tom-sky!" The pretexts for removal vary as they have in the past. Thus Rudzutak, a member of the Political Bureau whom we last reported as in "disgrace" has just been "arrested" on the charge—of "criminal negligence in the preparation of the Levanovsky flight." Stalin still shies of accusing his closest henchmen of yesterday of—"Trotskyism." In Ulan Ude, in Inner Mongolia—16 have just been shot as "Japanese spies."

The European capitalist press is extremely circumspect in dealing with these latest developments, which they are nevertheless following most closely. But occasionally the newspapers carry an item or two, revealing the actual tenor of the speculations of the bourgeoisie. Thus, Neue Zuercher Zeitung, in its October 19th issue, carries a long article on the coming Stalin elections which begins with the statement that the mere reading of the Soviet press "conveys the impression of extreme nervousness on the part of the manipulators of Russian home politics." The writer even goes so far as to speculate whether the coming elections might not suffer the same fate as the widely publicized census of a short while ago, which, after a great deal of ballyhoo, was suddenly "postponed." The internal difficulties Stalin is encountering on the path to his "coronation" are no secret to the ruling tops of the imperialist countries. And the latest maneuvers of English and French diplomacy with Hitler and Mussolini are undoubtedly closely linked with the latest developments in Stalin's Russia.

J. G. Wright.

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## Stalinist Uses Sleight-of-Hand Trick to Prove That Lenin Opposed Soviets

By James Casey

Ku Kluxers, after lynching a sharecropper and burning his home, always place the blame "on the unions, the Reds and the foreigners." And the Kluxers always commit their deeds "to safeguard our country and uphold the noble ideals of 100 per cent Protestant White Americanism."

What accentuates the seriousness of their foul acts is that misinformed people succumb to their super-patriotic propaganda and applaud "the drive against the Reds and foreigners to make America safe for Americans."

Yet our native terrorist group-lets cannot claim a monopoly on this "Stop Thief" method of perpetrating crimes and shifting the responsibility on others.

Witness with what gusto the Stalin regime is imprisoning, exiling and shooting workers and Old Bolshevik leaders by the thousands and placing all the blame on the "Trotskyites," but whereas the Kluxers kill for the sake of Americanism, the Stalin hangmen do it in the name of Lenin and for Socialism.

Thus wholesale murder is glorified with made-to-order resolutions, adorned with the cloak of Justice and Lenin's works are willfully, shamelessly and wantonly distorted. The defiled picture of Lenin is then offered up to the population to cover up the regime's bestiality.

### Latest "Crime": Belief in Soviets

As an example, the Daily Worker appears on November 9th with a brand new form of attack on the "Trotskyites" for "their crimes." The latest crime of the Trotskyites is that they still believe in Soviets! What awful people! According to Harrison George in his grossly misnamed "Column Left" only "nit-wit Trotskyites who never read, never understand or ignore Lenin" still believe in that outdated, outworn theory of Soviets—a theory which, according to the Stalinist writer, Lenin discarded as untenable way back in 1917.

Citing the days when Lenin fought the Provisional Government, while he was in hiding in Finland, George writes in his column: "It was then, too, that Lenin wrote that superb treatise 'On Slogans' which nit-wit Trotskyites never read, never understand or ignore. It urged that, 'This slogan—transition of all state power to the Soviets was correct during the whole period, now irrevocably gone, from March 12th to July 17th. This slogan has clearly ceased to be correct now.'"

George goes on to say: "One can imagine cafeteria Trotskyites of today, had they been there, bursting with moral indignation at Lenin's 'betrayal of Leninism.' Sounds very profound, doesn't it? Stalinist arguments a l w a y s sound formidable until they are examined and confirmed with facts."

### How a Quotation is Distorted

The sentence which the Stalinist writer quoted from Lenin on state power is correct, every word of it. What is wrong however, is that this single sentence was cunningly and knavishly lifted out of the context to completely deceive the reader, revise Lenin and help to build up another alibi for People's Frontist class treachery.

What the Daily Worker writer, who is also a well-known Stalinist leader, failed to explain is that Lenin at that particular

writing was denouncing the Soviets controlled by the Mensheviks of whom Ambassador Trotsky was an outstanding leader, and other counter-revolutionary scum. In a word, Lenin was at the moment condemning the People's Frontist treachery of his day.

Can the Stalinist writer explain how it happened that he, who attacked Trotskyists for not reading or ignoring Lenin, himself conveniently omitted the following up his quotation from Lenin's "superb treatise." For Lenin, after assailing the counter-revolutionists and their controlled Soviets, wrote:

"Soviets can and must appear in this new revolution, but not the present Soviets, not organs of compromise with the bourgeoisie, but organs of a revolutionary struggle against it. That even then we shall be in favor of building the whole state after the Soviet type, is true. This is not a question of Soviets in general, it is a question of struggle against the present counter-revolution and against the treachery of the present Soviets." (P. 49 Chap: "On Slogans," Book I Toward the Seizure of Power.)

And if the Stalinist leader had continued reading Lenin, he would have found that in an article called "Answers," written scarcely a month after the one "On Slogans", Lenin, in answering Kerensky's Public Prosecutor, pointed out that one of the charges against him was that he expressed confidence that "Our Slogan, 'All Power to the Soviets' must, and will, conquer despite all the zigzags of the path of history."

His little abortion of Lenin's teachings, George entitled "When Lenin Hid in A Haystack." Yet the Stalinist writer well knew that the Title should have been: "When We Stalinists Hide Lenin in a Haystack."

### Why the Sudden Outburst?

In this connection there is considerable doubt whether George really believes that Trotskyites never read Lenin. There can be no question, however, of the Stalinist leader's firm conviction that his Communist Party readers are not familiar with Lenin and, further, that they are happily-misled victims of the Stalinist art of deception and falsification.

The question naturally arises: Why the sudden Stalinist outburst against the Soviets?

Is it possible that Stalin and Browder and George have suddenly discovered, after twenty years, that Lenin had been opposed to Soviets and that the Soviet type of state is contrary to Marxism-Leninism?

Or, more horrors: Has the Stalin regime sensed that the Soviets were jammed full of Trotskyites, making their liquidation a matter of first importance?

And just to refresh the memory of the Stalinist leaders, who seem to have forgotten completely that history existed before the rebirth of the People's Front two years ago: Do they recall a book with the title, "Soviet America"? It was written by the chairman of the Communist Party, called

for an America of Soviets and, on its publication in 1933, was acclaimed as a masterpiece by the Daily Worker.

Is Harrison George now ready to admit that William Z. Foster is also a nit-wit Trotskyite, who should be made to sign one of those familiar "confessions" and be executed within twenty-four hours?

We repeat: Why have the Soviets fallen out of the Stalinist grace along with commissars, ambassadors, scientists, authors, educators, editors, news service managers, tourist directors and tens of thousands of imprisoned workers?

### Reason for Latest Attack

Actually, the reason for the latest form of attack on the Trotskyites is not hard to discern.

The Stalin regime already has held its last Soviet Congress. There will be no more—under the Stalin regime.

From the first outbreak of the fascist counter-revolution in Spain, the Stalinists fought with might and main against the establishment of Soviets in that country. The Spanish workers are not ready for Soviets, the Stalinists said, while they flocked to the support of one bourgeois government after another, murdering militant workers and selling out the masses of the people to European imperialists.

In China the Soviets, for which millions gave their life-blood, have been liquidated to become a special district of the Kuomintang nationalist regime at a time when it was most necessary to mobilize and solidarize the workers and peasants in a revolutionary struggle against Japanese imperialism.

### What "Democracy" are they Fighting For?

And in America Stalinist spokesmen are taxing their lung capacities, while their publications are consuming gallons of printers ink in a holy crusade for "democracy."

Their rationalizations notwithstanding, the Stalinists admit that the "Democracy" they are fighting for is not of a Socialist type—but the democracy that fosters unemployment, evictions, the clubbing and shooting of workers on the picket line and imperialist war—the democracy of Wall Street.

## Party Activities

### Ohio Party Plans Active Workers Conference In Cleveland on December 5th

By Blake Lear

The Socialist Party of Ohio (Left Wing) will hold its third active workers' conference at Cleveland on December 5th. The Russian and the trade union question will be discussed.

At the last conference, held in Akron on November 14th, the formal pre-convention discussion was opened with Blake Lear reporting on the Spanish question and Robert Stiler on the problems of organization and party building.

There being no differences of opinion expressed upon the question of Spain, the major portion of the discussion centered around the questions of organization and party building, since it was considered that these questions are among the most important confronting the revolutionary tendency today.

The general conclusions reached were (1) that there must be an intensive and serious overhauling of the party organism organizationally, (2) that we must put our face to the factories, and (3) that a thorough, serious, and planned campaign among the most militant and politically conscious of the members of the C.P. must be instituted.

In the report and in the discussion, the following points were developed:

(1) The establishment and functioning of literature, educational, agitprop, financial, hall, and other committees, with regular meetings; the keeping of minutes, the delegation and checking of responsibility generally; the adoption of branch budgets with dues systems, the organization of sympathizers, and regular financial reports; regular and closely organized meetings; the establishment of shop papers; frequent and well plan-

ned and publicized open meetings; etc.

(2) The setting of our face toward the factory. Here the rapidly-moving events in the mass industries were analyzed; it was shown that with the C.P. working hand in glove with the trade union bureaucracies, the deepening of the depression; the growing disillusion of the workers in a straight trade union struggle, and the necessities which the coming war will impose, we must intrench ourselves in the unions. The Socialist Appeal must contain articles written from the field upon the basis of which workers may be won to us. And the articles must be written in their language. There must be more analysis of the American scene. The C.I.O.-A.F. of L. struggle; the Roosevelt program; Labor's Non-Partisan League; the deepening depression; the beginning strike wave.

(3) The initiation of a real campaign within and without the C.P. To this end literature must be sent to their best militants; personal contacting and long, patient discussions must be engaged in. Pamphlets dealing with the American scene, naming and describing specific incidents must be published. The C.P.'s calendar of crime must be made known to all. Sympathizers must be worked upon. The C.P.'s structure is beginning to shake; we must hasten its collapse.

The effect of these conferences in establishing contact with comrades throughout the state, in working out unified plans for entire industrial areas, in exchanging experiences, and in heartening the membership, make the system of active workers' conferences one which can be applied with great fruitfulness by the comrades in the other sections of the country.

### 200 Hear Harry Milton Speak On Spain in San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 19.—Two hundred workers attended the mass meeting held here last Sunday for Harry Milton, recently returned volunteer in the International Brigade of the P.O. U.M. fighting the Fascists in Spain. Comrade Milton's talk was forcefully presented and well received by the audience.

Despite the fact that the C.P. issued a leaflet asking that all union members boycott the meeting of the "union-wrecking Trotskyites," there were not only many unionists present, but a spokesman of the Stalinists felt

constrained to take the floor in defense of the C.P. position, which the speaker castigated for its counter-revolutionary role with a wealth of first hand evidence.

A Clarityite spokesman also rose to defend the Right Wing Socialist position. In a feeble attempt to reply to Milton's exposure of the ridiculous and shameful line contained in the Clarityite N.E.C.'s resolution on Spain, Nathan, who spoke for it, declared that the description given in the resolution of the Largo Caballero government as a "provisional revolutionary government" was merely "an unfortunate phrase which had crept (!) into the resolution."

Representatives of the opposition in the Proletarian Party and of the I.W.W., as well as a number of non-party workers also participated in the discussion. Several excellent contacts were made. From the political point of view especially, the meeting was extremely successful.

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# Are You Ready for War?

A Discussion on Imperialist War, Past and Present, on the Presidential "Peace-Lovers" and How They Prepare the Minds of the Masses in Support of a New World-Wide War for Plunder and Exploitation.

Fascism is the capitalist system itself when it has stripped for action, for war. And—saying the same thing in reverse—when capitalism strips for war, it approaches the fascist totalitarianism which is needed for running a capitalist war. While Smith and Brown are at the front bravely "fighting fascism", fascism will be alighting in their own unguarded backyard.

## Hypocrisy, 1937 Model

What hypocrisy! Sitting on the corpse of democratic liberties at home, clasping the hands of some of the fascist and militarist dictatorships, flirting with others, and selling out the fight against fascism for imperialist alliances, these great democrats will mobilize the consciences of the masses with the cry, "Fight fascism! Save democracy!" The hypocrites of 1914 too fought to "save democracy"—hand in hand with Tsarism! Have we forgotten Wilson so soon?

We too are ready to fight for the real democracy which can come only when there are no longer exploited and exploiters, as well as for the democratic liberties which the workers have fought for and gained under capitalism; but especially in war-time, this can be done only by vigorously carrying on the struggle of the workers against the bosses, and in the long run, by revolutionary action to overthrow our dictators at home.

## "Wars to End War": Collective Security

The "peace-lovers" who want war—by the "democratic, peace-loving" gang of imperialists against the fascist gang of imperialists—call their peace-medicine "collective security". They think the fascist gang can be kept in check if enough bayonets are pointed at them.

When two gangs of racketeers are embroiled in a gang-war, a certain kind of "peace" can be restored if the stronger gang lines the other gang against the wall and points their machine-guns at them. The machine-gun peace that results from the domination of a single gang is certainly preferable to open gang-war. But strangely enough, the good citizens who are exploited by this gang do not take the attitude that they should therefore support the victors. They rather say: let us utilize the split between the two gangs to wipe out both of them.

The machine-gun peace is only a short breathing-space, which lasts only while the other side prepares itself further and gains other allies. It leads all the more surely to a bigger and better war between bigger alliances.

That is what is happening today, and that is what happened in the events leading up to the World War. Today, the satisfied imperialists are ganging together and have incorporated themselves as the League of Nations. The League of Nations is only the protective association of the "democratic" racketeers who want to keep the "outs" from "muscling in" on their territory.

On the other side, Germany, Italy and Japan build up their own imperialist alliance, their own League of Nations, store up their sub-machine-guns and pineapples until they feel strong enough to sally out and challenge the boss racketeers. No wonder these latter want to insure their "collective security" against the other! And the two alliances jockey back and forth, matching gun for gun and airplane for airplane, while the world atmosphere gets hotter and hotter—till the thermometer boils over.

What does it mean, then, when the League of Nations calls for "sanctions" (penalties) against the aggressor Italy, or in the future against the aggressor Japan? It is the hurry-call of the boss racketeers for help against the challenger. Whether these "sanctions" or penalties are economic at first or military, it is the first step toward imperialist war.

In the case of the Ethiopian war, for example, the economic sanctions that were applied were, as everyone knows, totally ineffective. But effective sanctions necessarily involved military-naval measures. Sanctionists (like the Communist Party) raised the demand: "Close the Suez Canal." But the Canal cannot be closed by putting locks on it; it required a naval blockade. An effective enforcement even of the sanctions voted on also meant a blockade of the Italian coast. These are war steps, nothing else.

Collective security, by the capitalist governments, means war—war under the banner of the League of Nations perhaps, but no sweeter for that.

## The Workers' Answer to War

The answer of the working class to imperialist attacks must be—their own collective action—dependent of their own governments and its war steps. Independent action against the imperialist aggressor, whether it be Italy or Japan, thru boycotts, material aid to the Chinese masses, strikes against shipments to the imperialists, etc. Independent action against their own war government, by carrying on the class struggle at home. And finally, independent action to overthrow their own war-mongering governments and establish a working class government that can really be an ally of the oppressed peoples of the whole world.

We are not pacifists who are against all wars because they involve violence, but revolutionary Socialists who refuse to support or "sit on" our own imperialist government. We are not "isolationists" who want to have nothing to do with European troubles, but revolutionary internationalists who believe in the international collaboration of the workers of the world, democratic or fascist, American or European.

We are for our own "war to end war"—the world-wide war of the social revolution, to overthrow the system that breeds war and build a Socialist world in which it will no longer be necessary to set worker bayoneting his fellow-worker.

# Labor Leader Murdered In Minneapolis

(Continued from page 1)

loyalty to the interests of the workers, incurred the enmity of a large section of Minneapolis employers and their agents. There can be little doubt that many of the employers who have dealt with Corcoran during the past two years have reason to wish for his elimination. It is obvious that one who fights consistently in the interest of the workers makes enemies. Those enemies are known and threats received over a period of time indicate how seriously Corcoran's death was desired.

"The Teamsters' Joint Council and all its affiliated locals hold nothing but the highest respect and admiration for the work that Corcoran has carried out. He knew of the danger that confronted him, but in spite of this insisted on carrying on his struggle to improve the conditions of those who toil. We are convinced that the dastardly murder of Pat Corcoran will only serve to spur the Drivers' Unions to even greater organizational efforts. His murder will not go unavenged. Teamsters' Joint Council No. 32 pledge themselves to carry forward to a successful conclusion the campaign which was inaugurated by Corcoran. If the employers and their agents think that by murdering individuals they will be able to wreak their will upon the working class, they have murdered in vain. We will carry on."

Corcoran's funeral, last Saturday, was accompanied by a complete half-day stoppage of all work by teamsters and taxi-drivers, called by the union in honor of the slain labor leader.

## Stalinists Exploit Tragedy

Meanwhile, in the midst of speculation as to the identity of the slayers, Stalinist spokesmen in Minneapolis and their official press, the *Daily Worker*, are making the greatest efforts to utilize the murder for the purpose of discrediting the Teamsters' Joint Council, and particularly its affiliated General Drivers' Local 544 and its leadership.

The Citizens' Alliance has been trying to "clean up" Local 544 for years, because it has been the staunchest pillar of unionism in Minneapolis and throughout the Northwest. The Alliance is the organization of the most powerful labor-hating employers of the Twin Cities. The local Stalinist leadership is now offering its collaboration to the Alliance's Mayor to do the job which the Alliance has thus far been thwarted in by the growth and solidity of Local 544.

The class conscious militants of the labor movement are thoroughly aware of the plans of the Communist Party, which is abusing the name of the C.I.O. organization in Minneapolis now under its factional domination, to frame-up the leaders of Local 544, and they stand prepared to take all the necessary and indicated measures to expose and counter the activities of the Stalinist frame-up perpetrators.

At the same time, the Union intends to leave no stone unturned in its determination to uncover the murderers of Pat Corcoran and to see to it that they are given their punishment.

# Left Jobs

"Sweet Land of Liberty"

"J. Pierpont Morgan, who arrived in N. Y. this week following his annual holiday of several months at this estate in England and at his shooting box in Scotland, will pass the Thanksgiving holidays at his Glen Cove country home. Shortly after the holidays he will take a cruise in Southern waters on his yacht the *Corsair*."—*Society News Item*. . . "A cut in relief expenditure and some relief from heavy taxation is absolutely necessary if business is to survive in America." Radio Speech. . . "William Troeller, age 13, one of a family of seven slowly starving to death on a W.P.A. monthly salary of \$54, hanged himself in his Greenpoint, N. Y. home. As his emaciated body lay on the floor, his calloused feet showed through the holes in the soles of his shoes."—*News Item*. Now all together, lets sing, "My Country 'tis of Thee-".

## Martin's Stand on the Sitdown.

We wish that Homer Martin would pause long enough between visits to his mamma, speeches at Labor Party meetings and statements to the press to take one stand on the "sitdowns" and then stay put for two days in succession.

## Trojanovsky Beware!

For diplomats, "Recalled to Moscow" is the Stalinist equivalent of "taken for a ride."

## "Dukes Mixture."

Gov. Moore of New Jersey, it is reported, will appoint Doris Duke's husband to the senate seat formerly occupied by the Governor. Doris Duke's husband, perhaps we had better call him the "Duchess", announced that if offered the seat he was ready to serve; "we fortunate ones should be ready to serve for the benefit of others." In view of the fact that Doris donated \$50,000 to the Democratic campaign fund, we can safely assume that the Duke Tobacco fortune will be represented in the Senate.

## "The Road To Life"

At the trial of teachers of the "Red Dawn" Colony for homeless children in Leningrad, it was revealed that children had been beaten so badly as to require hospital treatment and that "mass illness resulted from worms in the soup". At the trial, one of the teachers playing the role assigned to him by the G. P. U., answered "yes" to the question "were your actions designed to discredit the Party and the government?" The newspaper "Eastern Truth" of Tashkent reports seven more officials sentenced to death for "counter-revolutionary activity." What's in a name? "Red Dawn Colony" for a Stalinist hell-hole. "Eastern Truth" for Stalinist lies.

## That Man Browder!

Extry! Extry! Strip tease and flag dance! The Kansas belle with a Kansas twang and a Mayflower ancestry is positively guaranteed to entertain the "20th Century Americans" in 1938 by stripping off the last remnant of Marxian clothing and then doing the Suzie Cue tantalizingly, teasingly, while waving two American flags.

—Bill

# Coming Trials to Reveal Secret Plans of G.P.U.

(Continued from page 1)

Only accidental circumstances prevented Sedoff from going to Muehlhausen where he was awaited at the railroad station by Renata Steiner and Smirensky. The confession of Steiner shows from what danger Sedoff was saved in January. It was just at the moment that Moscow prepared the second great Trial (Pyatakoff-Radek).

The shadowing of Sedoff went on uninterruptedly until last August when Steiner, Smirensky, and others received an unexpected order from above to find and kill Ignace Reiss. The Kremlin considered this assassination as the most urgent, in view of the threatening disclosures from the former trusted agent. The new enterprise was, as is known, successful: Reiss was assassinated September 4. But the sub-

sequent arrest of Steiner led to the uncovering of the terrorist G.P.U. organization in France.

## Demands Duclos Be Investigated

It is beyond doubt that the judicial authorities will find the solution to a whole series of hitherto unsolved crimes (the as-

sassination of the Russian economist, Navashin, in the Bois de Boulogne in Paris; the kidnapping of General Miller, and so on). These crimes were committed by the same organization which stole my archives, assassinated Reiss, and attempted to trap Leon Sedoff. It is in connection with all these crimes that I recommended by cable to the French authorities that they submit to interrogation, at least as a witness, Jacques Duclos, member of the Polit Bureau of French Communist Party, Vice-President of the Chamber of Deputies, for many years an agent of the G. P. U.

Permit me to add that such "Friends of the U. S. S. R.," who are in reality friends of the G.P.U., should prepare themselves for very disagreeable revelations in the coming months.

STALINISM  
and  
BOLSHEVISM

10c

by  
Leon  
TROTSKY

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