

Enemies of U. S. S. R. Flayed at Kirov Rally

**5,000 Workers at the St. Nicholas Palace Meeting
Pledge Defense of the Soviet Union
Against All Foes**

By Cyril Briggs

Five thousand persons crowded into St. Nicholas Palace, 66th Street and Broadway, Sunday night in a mighty expression of solidarity with the Soviet Union and in tribute to the assassinated Soviet leader and veteran Bolshevik, Sergei Kirov. The large audience unanimously pledged their unswerving support to the stern measures taken by the Soviet masses and their government to smash the international band of cowardly assassins who engineered the murder of Kirov as part of a terrorist plot against the triumphant advance of Socialist construction in the land of the proletarian dictatorship.

By their stormy applause as the speakers outlined the gigantic achievements in Socialist industry and agriculture in the U. S. S. R., the abolition of unemployment and the solution of the National Question, and by the collection raised to help the Friends of the Soviet Union spread the truth about the land of the Soviets, the assembled workers, intellectuals and professionals gave their answer to the latest campaign of slander against

the Soviet Union. Indignant boos against the Hearst press and the Jewish Socialist Forward, and against the open alliance of certain Socialist Party leaders and the renegades from Communism with white guard elements in this city (Cooper Union meeting, etc.) gave notice to the imperialist warmongers and their white guard allies and other agents that large sections of the American population were determined to defend the Socialist achievements of the Soviet Union.

The assassination of Kirov was due to the tremendous achievements of the Soviet Union, driving the enemies of the Soviet Union to acts of desperation, Clarence

(Continued on Page 2)

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(Continued from Page 1)

Hathaway, editor of the Daily Worker and the main speaker of the evening, declared. Their present terrorist campaign against the lives of the leaders of the Soviet Union is an admission that they recognize they cannot accomplish their policies through any other means. But the Soviet Power will not fall before assassins' bullets, Hathaway declared, amid tremendous applause.

Kirov's assassination is the beginning of an offensive by all enemies of the Soviet Union, he warned. The capitalist press and the Hearst press, in particular, are trying to whip up anti-Soviet sentiment and to turn the situation following this cowardly assassination against the Soviet Union. Not only known white guards, but leading officials of the Socialist Party are aligning themselves with the Isaac Don Levine against the Soviet Union. The Algernon Lees, he continued, were silent when the Spanish Socialist and Communist workers were being shot down, but when the Soviet Union replied with proletarian determination to the terrorist attacks against its leaders, these gentlemen have shown themselves ready to align themselves with its white guard enemies. Under the pressure of the Socialist rank and file they were forced to pass a resolution at the last Socialist Party national convention pledging support of the Soviet Union, but already now they betray the Soviet Union and the Socialist rank and file.

The Soviet Government is a class dictatorship, just as the American government is a class dictatorship, Hathaway pointed out. The difference is that in the Soviet Union the dictatorship is exercised by the toiling majority of the population in their interests, while in the United States and other capitalist countries, the dictatorship, whether open or concealed under democratic formulas, is exercised in the interests of a small majority of exploiters, as the working class and the Negro people have cause to know. The fellow-conspirators of the executed White Guards and the Hitler Nazis and Japanese imperialists, Hathaway declared, have had occasion to again discover that there is a proletarian dictatorship in the Soviet Union. His statement was greeted with stormy applause.

Dr. Reuben Young, treasurer of the League of Struggle for Negro Rights, paid a glowing tribute to Kirov as a firm champion of the national minorities. He told of his trip, several years ago, to Africa and the Orient, and reported the greatest interest on the part of the colonial masses in the Soviet Union and its successful solution of the National Question, with the complete emancipation of the nationalities formerly oppressed under Tsarism. He visited the Soviet Union before returning to this country.

Herbtr Goldfrank, National Secretary of the Friends of the Soviet Union with a trade union delegation sponsored by the F.S.U. Goldfrank, who was in Leningrad at the time of Kirov's assassination and later attended the huge mass funeral in Moscow, told of the deep grief and anger of the Soviet masses over the assassination of one of their most outstanding leaders, and of the pledges by workers in the factories and peasants on the collective farms to overfulfill their quotas for the coming year as an answer to the enemies of the Soviet Union.

The meeting received a telegram of greetings from 2,000 members of the New York Icor branches, expressing their anger and sorrow over the assassination of Kirov, and pledging to mobilize new sections of the American masses to the defense of the Soviet Union.

In stormy unanimity, the audience voted by acclamation to send the following cablegram to Mikhail Kalinin, president of the Soviet Union:

"Five thousand American friends of the Soviet Union in New York City, meeting in memorial of Sergei Kirov, express their anger at the dastardly act of the enemies of the Soviet Union in assassinating one of the leaders of the U.S.S.R. and pledge their unswerving determination to defend the Soviet Union and to stand behind the Soviet Union in their present efforts to smash the white Guard elements."

Mr. Roosevelt has a kind heart.