The Latin American Revolts

By Albert Moreau

The wave of revolts that has recently swept South America can merely be said to be revolts of one group of the dominant classes against another. The fall of Dictator Leguia in Peru simply means the change of a government supported by American imperialism to that of General Cerro who is a tool of the British imperialists. In Bolivia, the downfall of President Siles through a coup d'état, engineered by London financial interests, also means a blow to American imperialism. In Argentinian Irigoyen, the secular enemy of American imperialism who served the interests of British imperialism and the national bourgeoisie is overthrown.

Have these revolts brought any change in the actual situation of misery and starvation of the working class and peasantry in Latin America? On the contrary. In Peru one dictatorship is being replaced by another. In Bolivia new methods have been adopted by the new government for the further suppression of the workers, and especially against the downtrodden Indians. In Argentina the fascination of the government is going at full speed. The three lackeys and watch-dogs of foreign capital now in the respective countries of Bolivia, Peru, and Argentina have given full guarantee to foreign bankers of the United States and London for the protection of their interests. General Cerro of Peru, comes into power and “successfully puts down the strike” of 15,000 miners who revolted against the unbearable conditions of oppression and exploitation by the Guggenheim interests. Ten thousand miners of Bolivia fought for two weeks against the oppression of American bankers who control the mines, banks and all the natural resources of the country. It is true that these fascist generals who oust the former dictators from power avail themselves of the opportunity afforded by the general, widespread discontent of the masses. The economic crisis has deeply accentuated the antagonism existing between the imperialist powers, the United States and Great Britain. The agricultural crisis affecting the peasants in South America, as well as Central America, became more accentuated with the economic crisis in the United States. In view of this situation the oppressed masses began to move. Their fighting mood is taking a definite form. For them the mere change of dictators will not change their unbearable situation and all signs point to oncoming struggles which have passed the embryonic stage.

General Uriburu and his Government who is flirting with Wall Street bankers will not and cannot solve the agrarian crisis and the overproduction of wheat. The Argentinian peasants, on the verge of bankruptcy, will find their way out only through their alliance with the working class which is to lead it under the banner of the Communist Party, for a determined struggle against both the imperialist powers and the landowners, for a Workers’ and Peasants’ government.

This is a typical “home” of a Bolivian city worker; built on dug-out style, it consists of a piece of straw and a can which serves for a stove.