

Three Generals with No Army

By BERTRAM D. WOLFE

Cannon, Schachtman and Abern are still pretending to press an appeal to the National Convention of the Workers Communist Party, but their impatience to fight the Party openly will not let them wait. With the Convention only a few weeks away, they have already issued a paper attacking the Party and the Comintern.

The paper is called "The Militant." It styles itself, official organ of the opposition group of the Communist Party of America. It hopes to publish twice a month. Cannon is editor. Abern and Schachtman are Associate Editors—three generals—an army that is all officers.

"Militant" for what? the wondering worker asks. "For the Russian Opposition," answers the main headline—"For the Russian Opposition—Against Opportunism and Bureaucracy in the Workers Communist Party."

Union of Renegades

For an international union of expelled and renegade ex-Communists, is the sense of the first page article headed, "M. Spector Expelled in Canada." "We send our warmest greetings to our fellow fighter in the Canadian Communist Party," reads the article like a resolution adopted at a "mass" meeting of Cannon, Abern and Schachtman. All you need to do to get "warmest greetings" from them is to get expelled from a Communist Party for Trotskyism.

For Trotskyism

"Militant" for Trotskyism and against Leninism, says article after article in the paper. Against the world program of the Communist International adopted at the Sixth Congress just held, is an article by L. D. Trotsky, being published serially. Other Trotskyist documents and even pamphlets are to be published if the enterprise finds financial support, according to a bold-type promise which repeats the old slander that the opposition documents were suppressed in the Soviet Union and thruout the world. This in spite of the reams of documents published in Pravda and other Party papers in the Soviet Union and in the International Press Correspondence in English, German, French and other languages. The main speeches of Trotsky and Zinoviev made at the Soviet Union Party Congress on the eve of their expulsion were translated into English and published in all our daily papers along with speeches made by Stalin and Bukharin at the same time.

guards of the first workers' republic of the world!"

Tell Fellow-Workers.

Many other quotations regarding the experience of the women delegates might be made from the speeches of the British women workers delivered at various meetings.

The delegates are travelling through the whole country, speaking at meetings and telling the truth about war and the Soviet Union in all parts of Great Britain. They have already begun the preparation of an exhibition of photographs taken by the delegation members themselves in Soviet Russia, also of presents received by them from Russian women.

These speeches are the speeches of working women; they are the beginning of a great campaign against war, to be carried on among the working women of Great Britain. They are helping to expose the farce presented in Paris, where with one hand the peace treaty was signed and with the other a secret treaty for the preparation of war.

Expelled "Communists" Take Flying Leap Into the Camp of the Enemy

Trifles like that don't worry Cannon or Max Eastman, who makes the same charge.

"Militant" against the leadership of the Workers Party, the new paper begins to print in serial form a document called, "The Right Danger in the American Party."

Against Soviet Union

"Militant" against the Soviet Union is the sense of another front page article. "Trotsky and Radek Seriously Ill," it is headed, and it picks up the slanderous counter-revolutionary stories that have been published by the Jewish Daily Forward and the Volkszeitung and the organs of Maslow-Fischer in Germany. According to this story, both Trotsky in Turkestan and Radek in Western Siberia are stricken with malaria and refused medical aid by the bloodthirsty bolsheviks in the most approved rumor-factory fashion. Cannon has received a message from "unquestionably reliable and authentic sources," that the workers of Moscow are boiling with indignation and the "entire city (is).... placarded with appeals." At the same time the New York Times carries a picture in its rotogravure section of Trotsky in excellent health seated with wife and secretary in his present home. The social-democratic Forward and Lore and Cannon are worse even than the capitalist press.

This slanderous article ends with an incitement to the American workers to attack the Soviet Union. It reads:

"Communist Workers of America! Defend the lives of Trotsky and Radek!

Demand their return to Moscow and provision of the best medical aid in their illness!"

Thus the renegades from Communism join with the socialist in becoming the "agitprop" department to prepare propaganda aiding imperialism to poison the minds of the workers against the Soviet Union!

Cannon and 11th Anniversary

The "Militant" comes out while our Party is holding meetings to celebrate the 11th anniversary of the Russian Revolution and to rouse the masses for the defense of the Soviet Union. And Schachtman's contribution is an article "Slogans for Today," which contains such sentences as "The conspiracy in the Donetz Basin tore aside the veil that concealed the bureaucratic corruption that had seeped into the state, the economic and the Party apparatus." The article is full of sneers, innuendos and insinuations that the leadership of the CPSU is degenerated into an anti-Communist expression of the interests, not of the working class, but of the kulaks and Nepmen.

In "The Russian Opposition and

New England Exploiters

By GRACE HUTCHINS.

BOSTON.—While southern chambers of commerce are boosting communities of cheap, non-union labor as a paradise for employers, New England manufactures are not to be outdone. Meeting at Portland, Me., the New England Council adopted a three-year sales plan, to cost \$900,000, to put the six northeastern states once more on the map.

They cannot boast, as southern open-shoppers do, "Not a labor union in any manufacturing industry of the state." But by bringing together the power interests of the six states, organizing an agricultural league and adopting a New England label—not a union label—for all products, the super-boosters are on the mark, ready set for the race.

Power Companies Lined Up.

Learning from southern advertisers who have enticed industries to the south by promising cheaper power service, the council first lined up the General Electric, New England Power and other utility companies operating in New England.

One of the big open-shop manufacturers interested in the sales plan is Charles Cheney of Cheney Bros., silk manufacturers, South Manchester, Conn. Meeting in his own Cheney-town with 200 others of the Connecticut Manufacturers' Association, Cheney told them how he resisted the "attractive and very tempting offers" of southern communities to move his entire plant to the south. He pledged himself not to move, but to build up in New England the same favorable conditions now existing south of the Potomac.

Cheney Bros. is one of the largest anti-union textile mills in New England. No union organizer has ever yet succeeded in getting a toe-hold

in the town of South Manchester, which is entirely owned by the silk company. It is said that the corporation even owns the district high school, and rents it to the town for \$1 a year.

N. England Patriots in South, Too.

But Charles Cheney does not limit his financial investments to his home town. He is director of one of the biggest New York banks. He has interests in the powerful General Silk Corp., alias Klots Throwing Co., which owns mills in six states, including several in Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia.

So also the Pacific Mills of Lawrence, Mass., will not suffer even if New England industries die. It owns big mills in Columbia and Lyman, S. C. Its former treasurer, Edwin Farnham Greene, still a director of the company, is now devoting all his time to his own engineering corporation, Lockwood, Greene and Co. This company is profiting from the erection of giant rayon plants in the south.

New England may succeed in selling itself. But New England manufacturers will not keep their financial interests within the boundaries of six states.

KILLS FRIEND IN DUEL

NEWARK, N. J., Nov. 26 (UP).—A fencing instructor who claims to have been American champion 27 times was paroled in custody of his attorney today pending the outcome of the condition of Fernando Cortez, also a fencer, and his friend.

FIGHT ANTI-JAPANESE LAW

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 26.—Japanese in California are fighting the law in this state prohibiting them from having their own hospitals. The case will go to the U. S. Supreme Court.

the American Workers," published last year, I wrote:

"The hope of the victory of the working class in such a war lies in the fact that the armies that will be sent against the Soviet Union will consist of workers and that they will defend the workers' lands against the attack of their own master class.

"In this situation, the class-conscious workers of the big imperialist countries must make every effort to rally the workers of the world to the defense of the Soviet Union, to deepen their understanding of what the workers of Soviet Russia are accomplishing, to strengthen their love for the only land the working class can truly call its own.

"In the face of this necessity, where is the opposition leading?

"If the Soviet government is not a workers' government, then the question that the workers of the world will ask themselves is: What reason have we to defend the Soviet Union in the forthcoming war? If the Communist Party and the Communist International are not fighting for the interests of the workers, then what reason have we to follow the leadership of the Communist International?

"If they were successful, if the working class were to believe their slanders, then they would be strengthening the imperialist armies, lessening the possibility of turning the imperialist war into a civil war, strengthening the forces preparing to attack the Soviet Union, and weakening the forces preparing to defend it. Their propaganda is more dangerous because it is disguised in the name of Communism."

There is nothing new in this respect in the propaganda against the Soviet Union, the Communist Parties of the Soviet Union and of America, and the Communist International. The specifically new feature is the astounding speed with which Cannon has run in a matter of a few days thru the whole road of renegade degeneration into the position of open participant, along with Lore, the Jewish Daily Forward, and the other organs of the "agitprop department for the preparing of war on the Soviet Union."

Unexpected Speed.

But this is really not so great a mystery as it seems. Cannon joins this international union of renegades and expelled Communists, not at the beginning of its development when it was still moving slowly away from Communism, cautiously, ashamedly, with much camouflage and concealment, but at the end of its degeneration when it lands openly, stripped of all Communist pretense, naked and unashamed, in the camp of the plotters of war on the Soviet Union, in the camp of the enemies of the working class, in the camp of imperialism, the social democracy, and the counter-revolution.

Cannon has never been known for speed. For a long time he has tended in the present direction. But the requirements of Party membership held him back. Now he has been out of the Party but a few days, and already he is travelling with the speed of an express train—has landed in the camp of the open enemies. However, the speed is not the speed of Cannon. It is the speed of a train which he boarded with a flying leap, a train that has travelled far already and had five years to get under way. He joined the international opposition of Trotsky, of Fisher and Maslow, of Salutsky, Eastman, Lore, Basky and com-

only right out as to separate."

President's Reward.

When the inevitable strike came in July, 1922, the four brotherhoods, which under Lee's general leadership had been bribed with concessions by the companies, refused to participate. Then came the ignoble Grable to the fore. Although his union, the Maintenance of Way Workers, had voted 90 per cent for a strike he refused to issue a strike call. For this treason he was later made a member of the Railroad Labor Board by President Harding, and his union members got a beggarly two cents per hour reduction of the wage cut. Fitzgerald of the Railway Clerks also managed to keep his men out of the fight, notwithstanding that they were overwhelmingly in favor of a strike. And when the train service workers on the Santa Fe, Alton and other roads, refused with a wonderful spirit of solidarity, began to strike spontaneously in spite of their leaders Lee, in cooperation with the companies forced them back to work.

Deserted by their nine fellow railroad unions, the seven shop unions notwithstanding reactionary leadership, fought stubbornly, but they came to a bitter defeat in a welter of betrayal by their leaders. The loss of their strike, as we have seen, is having a profoundly reactionary effect on the whole labor movement. It constitutes one of the many heavy penalties which the railroad workers in particular and the working class in general are continually paying for having capitalist-minded leaders at the head of their trade unions.

The Metal Trades.

Misleadership has also been devastating to the metal workers' unions. The six principal metal trades organizations (Machinists, Steel Workers, Molders, Pattern Makers, Blacksmiths, Boilermakers) have, according to A. F. of L. 1926 reports, only 136,000 members (and this figure is padded) out of at least 3,000,000 eligible metal workers. These unions, headed by such hopeless reactionaries as Wharton, Tighe, and Wilson, are steadily declining in strength.

Steel's Weak Leadership.

A deadly blow was struck against unionism in the metal industry when the Carnegie Steel Co. defeated the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers in the Homestead strike of 1892. The United States Steel Corporation struck another blow when it crushed the remnants of the A. A. in its plants in the 1901 and 1909 strikes. Since then the organization, cursed by a weak and treacherous leadership, has not been able to recover. It lingers along on the fringe of the steel industry, leaving severely alone the U. S. Steel and the big "Independents." The officials' policy is one of utter cringing in order to maintain even this anaemic existence. This is a sad come-down for what was once the best organized and most militant trade union in America.

pantly, very late. They have travelled far.

"Militant" against the Workers (Communist) Party. "Militant" against its leadership. "Militant" against the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. "Militant" against the Communist International and its leadership. "Militant" against the Workers' Republic of the Soviet Union. Such is the militancy of his new organ, "The Militant." To the workers who follow the Communist Party it is interesting only to prove once more what was proved in the cases of Lore, Salutsky, Basky, Allane, and other renegades from our Party. There is no place outside the Communist Party for one who has once been in it except in the camp of the enemies of the working class. And those three great militants, Cannon, Abern and Schachtman, with one good leap, have landed there.