

# THE FIGHTING WORKER

WORKERS OF THE WORLD  
UNITE!



Organ of the Revolutionary Workers League of the U. S.

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## MASSES IN SOVIET UNION DEMAND GOVERNMENT SHIP ARMS TO SPANISH WORKERS

### Only the Proletarian Revolution Can Smash Fascism in Spain

The carefully worded capitalist press reports can no longer conceal the truth: the Soviet masses are demanding that the Stalinist government send arms to the Spanish workers. The Russian workers want a proletarian dictatorship in Spain. The Stalinist bureaucrats have been able to carry resolutions in support of the Azana government only because, the Soviet workers in their struggle against the Stalinists, have not yet found leadership which can formulate their needs and hopes in terms of policy and action.

Under the enormous pressure of the workers the Soviet Government has threatened to withdraw from the neutrality commission which enables the counter-revolution to butcher the Spanish workers. But the Stalinists who have more to fear from a victory by the Spanish workers than from their defeat are only bluffing, creating primarily a diversion for the Soviet workers. The capitalists understand. Notwithstanding, so great is their fear of the workers that even the vague statements of the Soviet Government throw them into a panic.

### RADEK AND BUKHARIN NEXT

The first reply of the Stalinists to the pressure of the workers was to frame Trotsky and murder Zinoviev, Kamenev, Smirnov and others. Now the desperately frightened bureaucrats are finishing off the last survivors of the cadre which made the revolution with Lenin; Radek, Bukharin, Piatakov and others. The Stalinists want to remove any possibility of the workers finding leadership in these men against the bureaucracy.

### Trotskyists Set Up A Paper International

The Trotskyist press in Mexico, France and other places announces that the groups in those countries are sections of the Fourth International.

When was this "International" established? Where? Who organized the conference? What countries and organizations were represented? What was the basis for representation? What resolutions were adopted? What is the basis for membership?

The Trotskyist Fourth International is a paper set-up to hide the bankruptcy of Trotsky's attempt to build a movement by dissolving the groups of his followers into the Second International.

The Revolutionary Workers League stands for a Communist Fourth International on the order of the Third International under Lenin before the Stalinists debauched it. Such a revolutionary party must and will be created—openly in the sight of the workers of the whole world and on a Communist basis.

The Stalinists attempt to smear everybody with the brush of Trotskyism. This is paying Trotsky too much honor. The present movement of the Russian workers is elemental. No doubt there are Trotskyists among them. But the movement is without organized leadership. The Trotskyists, have had no nationally organized force in Russia since 1928 when Stalin broke them up. If they have, as they claim and were playing a leading role in the present events the world would know about it. No such statements were made or even implied at the recent trial. And if the Trotskyists did have such a force and were lying low, they would be guilty of a great treachery to the Soviet and world proletariat.

The Spanish workers are fighting against the counter-revolution with their backs to the wall.

Only the dictatorship of the proletariat can mobilize the full social energy of the workers and peasants; organize the economy of the country; give land to the peasants; give the oppressed colonials and nationalities the right to determine their own existence; in a word, TAKE AWAY FROM THE COUNTER-REVOLUTION ITS POPULAR BASES IN THE POPULATION. Only the proletarian dictatorship can smash Fascism in Spain.

The Socialist, Stalinist and anarcho-syndicalist leaders hold the workers back from taking power. In this treachery they are assisted by the POUM, the Workers Party of Maxist Unification, which agitates for a coalition government of all working class parties within the framework of capitalism and has entered the government in Barcelona together with the bourgeoisie and its agents in the ranks of labor.

### REVOLUTIONARY PARTY NEEDED

The counter-revolution is gaining, but it has not won. It can be defeated. But only by a proletarian dictatorship which can be established only under the leadership of a revolutionary party.

The creation of a revolutionary party is now an enormously difficult task. But it can be done.

The heart of the problem is Catalonia, the industrial heart of the country. Here the workers are strongest, their class consciousness greatest, the Stalinists and Socialists weakest. But in these organizations, in the anarcho-syndicalist organizations and in the POUM there are Marxist elements. Their separation from the opportunists and their unity in a new revolutionary party can rally the workers and peasants and turn the tide of defeat into a glorious victory.

### BUILD THE YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE

### Bosses Agents Prepare Peace in A. F. of L.

#### Workers Left in Lurch

Green and some of the misleaders of the clothing workers are making a horse-trade to dissolve the CIO and end the war in the A. F. of L.

Behind the scenes these agents of the bosses are haggling over the terms. If an agreement is reached it will be only on the terms which will give Green advantages in the fight against industrial unionism.

The new situation is the result mainly of pressure from Roosevelt who is opposed to the split in the A. F. of L. which would divide the government's efficient machinery for preventing strikes and give his Republican opponents an opportunity to garner votes.

#### ROOSEVELT MOVES THE PAWNS

Roosevelt used Lewis and the CIO to line up the labor vote. That involved risking a split in the A. F. of L. and strike struggles. Now that Lewis has done his job, Roosevelt can use him to ditch the steel drive but not to scrap the CIO without destroying Lewis' value as a boss agent among the miners, auto and steel workers. Dubinsky got the assignment for this job.

Lewis is on the spot. A bloc to dissolve the CIO would confront him with the alternative of making peace on terms laid down by the bloc; or of going through with a split in which he might be pushed by the workers into a struggle against the steel, auto and rubber trusts in which the workers might get out of control. Most likely he will make peace.

#### WORKERS NEED CLASS STRUGGLE POLICIES

Whether or not peace is made, the workers need industrial unions with class struggle policies. They will never get them from Green, Lewis, Dubinsky, etc. The struggle against the boss is also a struggle against his agents in the unions. The workers must fight to control their own organizations.

### After Muste—Schmidt

In the last issue we announced Muste's return to the Church, Schmidt, President of the Trotskyist Revolutionary Socialist Party of Holland, has now departed also.

Their demoralization reflects that confusion of leftward moving centrists, caused by Trotsky's line of dissolving his followers into the Second International yesterday and proclaiming the Fourth International today.

Trotskyist opportunism is an obstacle to the establishment of a Communist Fourth International.

### Boss Groups Behind Roosevelt, Landon Fight for Control of Govt.

#### Use Workers Vote Lists; Vote for a Workers Govt.

In explaining why he arrested Browder, the mayor of Terre Haute, Ind., said that both Roosevelt and Landon had denounced Communism as a menace and that no communist can speak in his city. What hizzoner was really saying was that the presidential campaign is a boss-controlled, two-party affair; and that, it was going to stay that way.

We agree with hizzoner. The two-party system achieves its purest expression in the state of Montana where the billion dollar Anaconda Copper Mining Corp., controlled by J. P. Morgan & Co., controls both the Republican and Democratic parties. No matter which party gets in Morgan comes out on top.

The situation is not as clear cut as the rest of the country. Powerful capitalist groups are fighting in the presidential campaign for control of the government. The chief combatants are J. P. Morgan & Co. and Mellon on the one hand, and Rockefeller and others on the other. Ford supports Rockefeller against General Motors, controlled by Morgan and the DuPonts. During the Roosevelt administration the Rockefeller gang has had the inside track and used the government for slashing attacks against Morgan who has hit back through the Supreme Court. Landon is a political face for Morgan and company.

#### PA. A FOCAL POINT

One of the focal points of the battle is Pennsylvania. Under Roosevelt the Guffey coal and oil interests have combined with Rockefeller to attack the Morgan-Mellon steel-coal-aluminum combine. Governor Earle is the formers' tool. They are bidding high for the vote of steel, coal and other workers. That is why Roosevelt and Earle gave support to the CIO.

The workers have nothing to gain from this election or with the whole so-called democratic set-up in the United States. Only a workers government can solve the problems of the working class. A workers government can be set up only through a revolution.

Vote now on the Workers Vote lists of the Revolutionary Workers League for SAMUEL GARRETT FOR PRESIDENT; LOUIS ROBERTS FOR VICE-PRESIDENT; who stand on a platform of the overthrow of capitalism; for workers government.

### FREEDOM OF THE PRESS UNDER CAPITALISM MEANS FREEDOM FOR THE BOSSES TO POISON THE WORKERS MINDS.

## U.S. Scores in Gold Bloc Crash

### So-Called Bloc Benefits Strongest Power

The recent crash of the gold bloc through devaluation of the French, Dutch and Swiss currencies, followed by devaluation in Italy and Czechoslovakia has centered attention primarily on France where a revolutionary situation is developing.

The desperate agony of French imperialism profoundly influenced the chain of events but it did not originate it. The crash of the gold bloc is an incident, an important one, but not more than an incident in the struggle between the American dollar and the English pound which is, itself, a surface aspect of the struggle for world supremacy between American and British imperialism.

When the currencies of all the countries involved were 'stabilized' on gold American capitalism derived advantages over its rivals in the world market because of its greater productivity of labor.

Under the pressure of the crisis England upset this "stabilization" in 1931 by going off gold thereby stimulating its exports. The U. S. replied in kind in January 1934. This left France, Holland, and a number of other countries on gold.

The recent chain of events establishes a degree of "stabilization" on the basis of almost universal devaluation. Despite temporary advantages to the devaluing countries, as before, the greater advantages are with the U. S.

The so-called bloc is only a temporary and shaky balance forced on France and England by the U. S.

The only important countries not brought into line are Germany, Japan and the Soviet Union. The first two will be brought around.

It is more difficult and there is less need to force the Soviet Union off gold. There will be unfavorable effect of world-wide devaluation on Soviet economy. But the monopoly of foreign trade will cushion the shocks.

Moreover, the Soviet Union is not an active rival in the world market nor even, at present, a very important factor.

The Stalinists threw a relatively small amount of sterling on the market in a futile and foolish attempt to disrupt the three-cornered agreement. Inasmuch as the arrangement favored the U. S. more than it benefitted its rivals, Secretary of the Treasury, Morgenthau, angrily reproved the Soviet Union.

### Thugs Attack League Meeting

NEW YORK — An organized group of hooligans, Fascist elements, one of whom pulled a gun, attempted to break up the meeting of the Revolutionary Workers League at Union Square, the evening of October 9th.

Prolonged heckling by Stalinists prepared the way for the hooligans, two of whom stepped up to the platform on which comrade Okun was speaking and pulled him off. In the scuffle which ensued the yellow hooligans were routed.

# League and Youth Organization Complete First Year

## League Advances Toward Goal

One year ago the Workers Party of the U. S. expelled one third of its membership and three members of its highest body for counterposing to their line of liquidation into the Socialist Party, the Marxian line of independent class struggle activity by an independent Marxian party as the road to the Fourth International in the United States.

The expelled Marxists founded the Revolutionary Workers League of the U. S.

The year which has passed has drawn a balance sheet of the two lines. The Workers Party went out of business. It gave up its program and its press; its labor defense organization; its unemployed organizations. Inside the Socialist Party the Trotskyists support its labor party line; tail-end the Socialist Party in its support of the CIO; support the Socialist Party reformist election campaign. They have thwarted the development of hundreds of left-wing Socialists and Stalinists moving towards Marxism.

### PROGRESS RECORDED

In its first year of existence the Revolutionary Workers League can record many victories and many shortcomings for its line. The National Office was moved from New York to the hub of American industry, Chicago. The League actively participated in dozens of strikes and demonstrations. It has put forth the only classstruggle election platform in

the American labor movement. It has established a semi-monthly paper and a monthly theoretical organ. Its organizers have conducted dozens of tours. It held a national convention and a plenum of the Central Committee in which a Marxian political line was adopted. It made a small gain in membership and consolidated its ranks by the expulsion of the capitulatory elements to reformism.

On the other side of the ledger, however, must be recorded the irregular appearance of the **Fighting Worker**, and lack of sufficient popular printed material due mainly to financial difficulties; too few capable organizers; consequently insufficient work in a number of key sections of the country.

These shortcomings are of a secondary nature. Armed with a Marxian program, the Revolutionary Workers League faces its second year with confidence.

### NEW YORK CONVENTION

The second convention of the New York organization was held September 26-27. The convention recorded the gains and shortcomings of the past six months. On the positive side: consolidation of the organization; establishment of a functioning apparatus; establishment of the League in the New York area as a political force. On the negative side: mainly insufficient work in trade unions and unemployed organizations and in the election campaign. Steps were taken to overcome these shortcomings.

## New Cotton Picker Will Bring Misery to Workers and Farmers

### Under Communism Scientific Progress Will Benefit All

The new mechanical cotton picker invented by the Rust brothers gathered as much cotton in about eight hours as seventy five to eighty handpickers can do in the same time, according to preliminary tests held in Mississippi recently. The Rust brothers claim this machine will reduce the cost of harvesting cotton to one-third or one-fourth of what it is now.

If this works out, the machine will produce an economic revolution. It would force out of production twenty five million acres now raising feed for the five million horses and mules of the ten cotton states and bring misery to farmers and farm laborers. It would drive out of production seven of the nine million workers now employed in the cotton fields, largely Negroes, and enable the bosses to use them to reduce the wage level of the entire country and undermine the trade unions. It will make it possible to sell cotton at a profit for less than five cents a pound, reducing the selling price of textiles and forcing down the wages of textile workers.

### WORKERS MISERY FOOTS BILL

The capitalist press hypocritically hails this invention as the end of wretchedness and backbreaking toil for seven million

workers and a means of eliminating the "greatest single source of women and child labor in the United States"!

Under capitalism technological progress means improvement of the means of amassing profits. The workers and farmers foot the bill with their misery.

### UTOPIAN and REACTIONARY

The Rust brothers declare they will mitigate the social upheaval their invention will create by forcing all who lease their machine to pay minimum wages, observe maximum hours, and prohibit child labor. The result of the strict observance of these conditions would restrict the use of the machine. It would be reactionary. But the bosses are going to use the machine. There are huge profits in it. They will use the Rust reforms to sugar coat the misery which they are heaping on the working class.

Under Communism an invention such as the cotton picker would be used to lighten toil, reduce hours, increase social wealth, increase leisure, and raise the cultural level of the people. Communism will be able to do all this because it will have eliminated private ownership of the means of production and the profit motive and organized society in the interests of all humanity.

### A Profound Truth

In December, 1934 the Trotskyists fused with the Musteites to form the Workers Party of the United States. In June 1936 the Trotskyists and the Musteites liquidated the Workers Party and entered the Socialist Party, sister party of Largo Caballero's party

in Spain. The October, 1936 **Socialist Appeal**, Trotskyist organ in the Socialist Party, says editorially: "And as the laws of politics teach us, those who hold the same political principles end up, sooner or later, in the same political organization." We agree.

## THE WORKERS VOTE

### Some Questions and Answers

- Q: What is the Workers Vote?**  
A: The Revolutionary Workers League election campaign; seeking to persuade workers to vote for our candidates — on Workers' Vote Lists, and in the regular elections.
- Q: How should I vote on Election Day?**  
A: Write in the names of Garrett and Roberts.
- Q: What happens to Workers Vote Lists?**  
A: The League collects them and announces the number of votes but not the names of the voters.
- Q: What will the League gain from the Workers Vote?**  
A: Many workers who would ordinarily refuse to listen to a talk on Communism will listen to "candidate Garrett's" program of the League. Furthermore, the fact that the League is kept off the ballot and that many workers who sign the Workers Vote Lists are not allowed to vote helps expose capitalist, sham democracy. The greater the number of signatures on the Workers Vote Lists in relation to our recorded vote at the polls, the clearer it will be that workers cannot vote the bosses out of power, but must throw them out by force. And the signatures on the Workers Vote Lists will crystallize sentiment for the overthrow of capitalism.
- Q: What does a vote for Garrett and Roberts mean?**  
A: Garrett and Roberts are running on the league program. A vote for them is a declaration for the overthrow of capitalism and for a Workers Government in the United States.
- Q: What are Workers Vote Lists?**  
A: Sheets of paper passed around wherever workers gather, on which all workers over seventeen, irrespective of color, citizenship, etc., can record their votes for our candidates.
- Q: Would you use Workers Vote Lists if you were on the ballot?**  
A: Yes, millions of workers, especially those most likely to support a revolutionary program cannot vote in the capitalist elections.
- Q: Can a Stalinist or Socialist vote on the Workers Vote List?**  
A: Only the League campaigns for the revolutionary overthrow of capitalism; the Socialist and "Communist" parties are for its reform. A class conscious worker who still supports one of these parties may want therefore to vote for us, but he will have to break with these parties, or his vote cannot be taken seriously.
- Get a copy of the Workers Vote Election Program. Single copies mailed free on request.**
- Order a bundle and distribute them to your fellow workers.**
- |              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
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## GOLDMAN DENIES CHARGE

CHICAGO — Albert Goldman, Socialist lawyer, defending Bill Streeter, Secretary of the Young Workers League, and Sid Clarke, member of the League, on a charge of "speaking without a permit" in the Workers Vote campaign, denied a statement in the October 1st issue of the **Fighting Worker** that he had advised Streeter and Clarke to plead guilty. In a letter to the **Fighting Worker** Goldman said:

"What I did do was to ask Streeter . . . whether the comrades arrested would permit me to make the following agreement with the prosecution: that I waive trial by jury and go to trial before the judge with a plea of NOT GUILTY. That in return for waiving the jury the prosecution should agree that if the judge would find the comrades guilty, the maximum fine would be one dollar." (Our emphasis).

Goldman adds that he has used this procedure in hundred of cases and will continue to do so.

### OCTOBER ISSUE

### of the FOURTH INTERNATIONAL

Theoretical Organ of the Revolutionary Workers League, U. S.

### CONTENTS

- THE ROAD TO POWER IN SPAIN
- THE DECLINE OF WORLD AGRICULTURE
- THE "FRENCH TURN" CROSSES THE FRONTIER

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When revolutionists appear in capitalist courts, their duty is to use the court room to expose capitalist class justice. Goldman's policy is to make a deal with agents of the capitalist state, to get the workers off lightly. Goldman's scheme can be used occasionally as a tactic. But as a policy it plays into the hands of the capitalists.

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## YOUTH GROWING RAPIDLY

By BILL STREETER  
National Secretary  
Young Workers League

A year ago a handful of young revolutionists were expelled from the Spartacus Youth League, and set themselves the task under the leadership of the Revolutionary Workers League of rebuilding the movement for a new revolutionary youth international; and of establishing the Young Workers League on a national scale. The close of our first year finds our national center transferred from New York to Chicago, with groups and units of the League in half a dozen major industrial cities.

Our first anniversary finds the League growing rapidly and very active. The few weeks remaining before the elections will be devoted to a concentration on the workers vote campaign. Our monthly organ the **Call to Action** will be converted into a semi-monthly, and its name changed to the **Young Worker**.

### CAMPAIGN ON VAGRANCY

The League is planning a campaign around the issue of vagrancy, to expose the capitalist treatment of the hundreds of thousands of young workers who have been driven from their homes by grinding poverty and roam the country in a hopeless quest for work.

The different phases of our work will be reviewed and further action will be planned at the plenum which will be held in New York at Christmas.

The League is faced with great tasks. Our main fight is against capitalism for a new Communist world. The strain on our organization is great. For a few it has been too great. They have capitulated to the Socialist Party. Of them we are well rid.

The beginning of our second year finds us ready and determined to get into the class struggle. We inscribe on our banner the words of Danton: "Audacity, more audacity, still more audacity."

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We Don't Need Any Government Except the Soviet of  
Workers, Soldiers and Farmhand Deputies - LENIN