Hitler Threatens Anglo-French Balkan Set-Up

Taking advantage of the internal disarray in France and England, and having re-organized his own internal regime, Hitler this week moved towards the complete domination of Austria and eventual Czechoslovakia.

After repeated threats and coercion, he sent recent trade seizures to powers such as Italy, Hitler was able to force Schuschnigg, Austrian Chancellor, to accept two Nazis into the Austrian Ministry, with authority over the police force and over the justice department. Schuschnigg, as Chancellor and new member of the Cabinet, immediately left for Germany for final instructions. Simultaneously with this trip thousands of imprisoned Nazis in Austria were freed, and thousands of self-exiled Nazis returned from Germany.

AIMS AT RUSSIA

This step by Hitler is merely the first step towards the complete subjugation of Austria, and later of the whole Balkan area. News of the projected domination of Austria has momentarily pushed the problem of the internal crisis in Germany into the background. But the failure of Germany to ally herself with Austria, a nation in danger from the Turks and another nation in danger from the Turks, if the question of the future of Austria is not one of the greatest problems facing the World today.

France and Britain are both unable to act, even though France has often expressed her wish to hold over central Europe, and that they have been unable to form a close bloc of France, England, and Germany against American imperialism and the Soviet Union. The foreign affairs Minister of France, although he has been unable to see the general aims, opposed the concessions and resigned.

The reaction of the working classes, unable to count on them, is the first sign of the revival of the labor movement. The possible threat to the capitalist oppressors far greater than the present street fights and riots would indicate.

Japan Presses into China: Need Revolutionary Policy

Six months after the invasion of central and south China, Japanese imperialism is formally withdrawing diplomatic recognition, usual preliminary to a declaration of war.

Military aspects of the war are changing. Chinese military leaders are resorting to guerrilla tactics, hoping to draw Japan further and further from its base and thereby break its back. Threats of war against the Soviet Union by the Japanese warlords are mounting. Her internal crisis whips Japan on relentlessly.

STALIN BOWS TO CHIANG

The answer of the Soviet Union to the encroachments of Japanese imperialism has been complete and outright support to Chiang Kai Shek. Outer Mongolia has been sacrificed to China. The so-called Chinese Red Army is incorporated into the Chinese bourgeoiusie.

In return for this aid Stalinism is demanding a greater share in the Chinese government.

Inter-related with the Japanese-American and Japanese-British rivalries in China is the far greater rivalry between Britain and America, whose interests conflict at every turn. Japan's clever use of one against the other, and the inability of these two titans thus far to get together against Japan because of their deeper antagonism towards each other, permit Japan to drive into China.

The real American threat for China is yet to be made. The second settlement of the question of Chinese domination will not only be determined by the coming world war.

FIGHT ALL IMPERIALISM

Underneath the imperialistic struggle for China, lies the more fundamental struggle of the toiling masses of China and Japan against their oppressors. Japanese imperialism is tightening the ring of its dictatorship to stave off the inevitable revolt of its working class.

Chiang Kai Shek and the Chinese bourgeoisie are tied too firmly to British and American imperialism to fight IMPERIALISM. A victory under Chiang's domination would mean that British and American interests will gain a greater hold in China at Japan's expense.

BIG NAVY AIMED AT ASIA MARKETS

One of the outstanding features of this session of Congress is the almost unanimous pressure agreement from the President to build the biggest navy in the world, to increase the air force, to strengthen the whole military structure of American imperialism. These preparations for war are carried through on a wave of clever jingo propaganda against the danger of the Japanese war-lords.

LOYALIST REGIME CONTINUES DRIVE AGAINST WORKERS

[We publish below excerpt from letters from constable Martin in Barcelona.] Barcelona, Jan. 1938.

The talk of an amnesty in the near future has diminished greatly in the past month. The news of the defeat of Teruel seems to have knocked the rumor pretty much in the head. The rank and file of the CNT-FAU-POUM-Lef Socialists are clearly opposed to any armistice or any peace on a revolutionary basis. They still hope that a victorious war will open revolutionary possibilities. The right wing elements are working in the direction of an armistice. To achieve this they are threatening to kill off as many of the revolutionary vanguard as is feasible. They must now be given the opportunity to get the country out of the grip of the old army forces are used as shock troops and conveniently eliminated in this way. KILL OFF REVOLUTIONISTS...

...Democratic expression here is reduced to the disappearing point. No one publicly expresses disagreement with the Government, politically or militarily. The general subject of conversation is the intense cold weather without heat, the shortage of foodstuffs, and the complete absence of tobacco.

Hunger is increasing daily in Barcelona. The Government employs, some workers groups in "pulp" factories etc., workers in field bread, rice, beans, sugar, oil, etc., articles unavailable in the open market. The mass of the population must go to the market and flow in queues in hopes that stock will hold out until it is all used. The ration cards are useless except in case of bread.

Tariffs, import, cotton, pitch, food, clothes, and raw materials are the only items available-all at triple the price of normal times. The price of the normal price.... In spite of reports that 1936-37 are already...
LAND OF THE FREE

WHY WORKERS SHOULD JOIN THE R.W.L.

Comrades,

Around us is a confusing and saddening picture of war. In the immense State of Texas, enough of the necessities of life could be produced with proper scientific development to feed and shelter the people of the whole world. Millions of pounds of coffee are being dumped into the ocean. In the United States cotton and wheat are plowed under and factories lie idle by the thousands. But the people who are in need. America suffers from the largest unemployment in all history. Millions are going through a slow starvation process under the dole. And while the millions live in misery and starve, the papers astound you with the incomes of the giants of finance and industry. General Motors makes an 80 million dollars profit for the year. J. P. Morgan buys another art gallery, no doubt with many pictures of poverty and misery in it.

THE COST OF WARS

Two decades ago the world passed through a grotesque bath. Forty-three million people were killed, wounded, permanently disabled or missing—more killed than in all the wars of the whole world since 1776. 10 million died behind the lines. Three hundred and forty billion dollars of wealth was destroyed, more than twice the wealth of the world outside of the United States, and more than the wealth even of the Colossus.

And yet today, with the memory still fresh, another blood bath is being prepared. It rumbles in Spain, in China, in Ethiopia, in the giant war budget of American capitalism.

What an unbelievable fantasy! The nations of the world preparing for a war in order to gain foreign markets, while there is such an enormous home market which they refuse to use and cannot stand under capitalism; preparing for murder, pillage and death, while there is such an abundance of the things of life!

These facts are so obvious one need not dare to contradict them. The only defense capitalism has against them is a whole series of lying fables. "Yes, all these things are true, but they don't hold for the United States. We are a peace loving country, the richest in the world," etc. etc. ad nauseam.

PEACE TALK HIDES WAR MOVES

The fables are growing stale. Under the cloak of peace American imperialism prepares the greatest war budget in peace time history—greater even than the actual war expenditures of Japanese imperialism; blue prints are sent to thousands of factories in the U. S. by the government with instructions how to convert their factories into war factories; the tiny Aleutian Islands, with no people, are named to "defend," are fortified at the cost of dozens of millions of dollars, because they are so much closer to the Japanese mainland than any American possession.

Generalissimos are sent to the Philippines to organize a Philippine conscript army; war conferences are organized in Latin and South America and all the nations of the Western Hemisphere—and together to "defend" themselves—its an old, old story. Under the cloak of peace, America has its finger in every European and Asiatic war move. She organizes her military conferences in Brussells to prevent the Japanese imperialism from making encroachments on America's booty in Asia. She gives aid and comfort to the rape of Ethiopia; tacit support to Germany's harassing of the plans of British imperialism.

She stands out among nations like a menacing titan—the greatest economic power the world has seen, with—unfortunately for the political empires of all the imperialists. She grasps for ever-decreasing markets like a desperate black hand, the shadow of which cast all over the world. American imperialism must organize the whole world, be it not, it will perish; it remains behind its hypocritical smoke screen of "peace" as its only driving force towards war!

CAPITALISM CAN'T BE SAVED

The system of capitalism, spread over the four corners of the globe is rotten and moribund. But it is rotten not because of its men or its name. It has outlived itself, it is rotten because of the contradictions of capitalism itself.

Its basic contradiction is between capitalist individual appropriation and socialized production. The man who produces everything can get back only part of what he produces; the rest is appropriated by the capitalist who produces nothing. This fact is all too obvious, but the fables would have you believe the capitalist "earns" his money because he is smarter, more ambitious. The history of the great fortunes, the Morgans, Vanderbilts, Rockefeller's, is a history of bribery, graft, robbery, swindle, murder and plunder. One glance at such books as Hays' "History of the Great Fortunes," proves this point. Markets cannot keep pace with productive living labor forces. Accumulation of capital, "dead labor," means into great poverty.

Those who produce—those working class, and the swindled poor farmers who toil by their own hands—can not buy back what they produce. Capitalism is loaded with surplus value and surplus capital. It is forced therefore to make ever greater and greater quests for markets. But the markets of the world are not inexhaustible, and as the oppressed peoples of the colonial world in Asia, Africa, and South America are milked dry, the market vanishes further and further.

CONTRADICTIONS PILE UP

Meanwhile, however, along with this process, goes on another process, revealing the bankruptcy of capitalism to the utmost. The markets vanish, but the facilities for production grow ever more and more. In the dog eat dog fight of one capitalist against another, and of one capitalist nation against another, the cost of producing commodities must be cut more and more in order to meet competition." It is cut at the cost of production of speed-up and labor saving machinery, which at the same time blow up place thousands and millions of men from industry, thus stripping the market for goods (In the United States there are at least 8 million, according to figures by the government figures who because of this fact will never work again). At the same time this process continued.

The Main Enemy Is At Home

CHICAGO SUNDAY FORUM
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Sid Okun
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—Dialectical Materialism
—Okun
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Trotskyites Launch Centrist Set-Up

The first convention of the latest Trotskyite outfit, the Socialist League for Peace and War, a program which proves that in or out of the Socialist Party the Trotsky-socialists are a centrist force.

Their draft Declaration of Principles presents absolutely formalistic formulations in some places which are entirely negated by false positions on the same points in other places. The draft does not correct errors made in the past. It reiterates them.

Since the Trotskyites broke with Marxism in 1934 after the defeat of the working class in Germany and the socialized French turn, they have been on the right and facing the right. They have false positions on all the fundamental questions of the day. They are for the world as it is and against the content of revolutionary defeatism in imperialist wars. They call for material support to the capitalist People's Front government in Spain and to the fascist Black Shuck in China (plus "political criticism") to show "how ever more progressive" than the APL. They open wide the door for entry tomorrow into the Labor party.

LEFT WING LEAVES

The convention marked the culmination of the six months struggle of the left wing "Marxist Political Committee" to introduce the policies and program of the Trotskyite leadership. With members in the Great Lakes area and on the Western States group took the revolutionary step of joining the Revolutionary Workers League, calling upon the left elements still in the Trotskyites to draw the same issues with them.

Stalin's Parliament: A Rubber Stamp

The Supreme Soviet, Russian parliament set up by the dictator before, convened on January 12. The two-year session is the third of the Soviet and Nationalities, en- dowed unanimously the program policies and plans of the Stalinist regime.

Lauded as the "most democratic," the "highest organ of state power," it acted as nothing more than a rubber stamp—no thinly skir of life animated its deliberations. It proclaimed the Soviet Union as a first class industrial power under Stalin, de- cided to protect the fatherland, and abolished unemployment insurance, and all opposition. Its resolutions and decisions read like those of a bureaucratic machine.

At a time when the dictatorship of the proletariat is crack- ing, when the second five year plan is about to take hold, millions of workers and peasants—then thousands are shot down, imprisoned, exiled as sub- stantially insignificant fascist spies — the "highest organ of state power" met in silence, without a sound, unanimously, and has no word to say to the masses. When the masses and peasant- try in Spain and China are en- gaged in a death struggle against the fascist oppressors, the Soviet Union, with no message to them, cannot make its voice felt as the representative of the Russian working class.

Funds for Spain

NEWS FROM SPAIN

DISASTROUS FOOD POLICY

(Continued from page 1)

larger than usual there is not one item other than turnips that can be shown for this.

....The food crisis is due to several factors: oranges and onions are being exported to main- tain the pesos, now down to 100 per dollar (normal: seven and a half per dollar); peanuts malnour- ishment and plant officials for turns rather than sell at govern- ment prices; the disastrous govern- ment food policy. The Gov- ernment allows the peasants to feed their crops to feed wheat to chickens when there is no wheat for bread, the milk supply is drastically reduced by cutting the grain ration for dairy cows, etc. The government has not even published a pamphlet explain how turnips and the remaining few available items can be best utilized....

SHORTAGE OF FUEL

The lack of fuel for cooking is critical. There is plenty of wood available in the forests in the foothills, box cars and homocen- sters stand idle, and many unemployed including railwaymen could do the job. But the govern- ment does nothing. Oil is still installed in only a few houses. By the end of the winter Barce- lona's fine parks will be stripped of their fine trees....

The morale of the civilian population is being sapped and depressed for an am- nistie. Other than almost daily the remaining few available items can never be serious riots as yet....

For Workers Control of Production

In other nation other methods are taken. In a more left-sounding government, such as the People's Front government,ist fed to the people to keep them quiet. But being capitalism it cannot provide a solution to the needs of the masses. In the end, the workers fight against it, and capitalism must throw off its mask. A struggle develops between capital- ism, fascism, and the proletarian revolution. The fascist dictatorship of the capitalists, as in Germany and Italy, rules by the method of the iron fist, by open murder, imprisonment of workers and revolu- tionaries.

FASCISM, DEMOCRACY—BOTH CAPITALISM

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The iron fist of fascism, however, is based on the same basic weakness as the gloved hand of democracy, the insoluble contrasts of capitalism. But the future of misery, war and fascism that capitalism has to offer, we must rouse up the entire working class. With thee proper leadership from this point that is right—the people can be massed and replaced with a new social order.
TRADE UNION NOTES

Two hundred and eighteen locals of the United Mine Workers at their recent Convention introduced resolutions demanding Stanton and the whole gang gave it the usual Lewis steam-roller. Speakers were booted down, and before there was any discussion the question was put. The convention, like the new idol of the stalwarts and other groups, is a mere method of keeping his union strong. The convention gives him the rubber on the wheel. However, he doesn't like the activity of a district functionary, or a district committee, to appoint his own committees, with this as a decade he has been using this thing to wield his bureaucratic power over the Union.

Unemployment has hit the Auto Workers Union sharply. Its president, Ford, is now engaged in a drive against the industrials and lock out workers in the United States. This is a smoke screen designed to divert attention from the much more serious course, the formation of complete bureaucracy in the union, dejarit, which took a vacation last year, breaking sit-downs and expanding its apparatus of bosses, trades of a hundred sorts.

A militant statement of the Communist Martin's fight against the "reds," is that his chief lieutenant number one, is the downing of the Independent Communist Labor League by the government.

A concerted drive is being made by a large bloc of Congress against theurity. This is the time for the labor movement. Harry Bridges, one of the leaders on the west coast, claims there is not a labor union in the country.

A militant statement of the Communist Martin's fight against the "reds," is that his chief lieutenant number one, is the downing of the Independent Communist Labor League by the government.

With the AFL-CIO. The AFL-CIO labor alliance. All workers. Socialist Party, Socialist Party, etc., etc., lining up the workers behind him. Roosevelt in his "Reapportionment" message proposes adding to the war budget the 800 million dollars which was cut out of the relief appropriations in the original budget.

As for doing something about the "new" crisis, our "labor-saving" President hands out a miserable 250 million dollars for relief and wants to have his "wage hold" at the expense of the building trades workers. He will cut hourly wages on the promise of a higher annual income.

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No. 20. LABOR DONATED

Japan Internal Flight Grows Worse

(Continued from page 1)

China's workers and peasants must remember the lessons of 1930 and 1931. They are in the midst of a general independent class action. No faith in Chiang Kai Shek, Organization of workers militias and societies to prosecute the war against China, the new Nationalist government. Above all a new Party of the Working class, the 4th Communist International.

Such a struggle, far from disunity, combines to make an immeasurably stronger it. The class struggle is confined to the surface, dominate, and more for revolutionary masses in Japan and throughout Asia.

PEOPLES FRONT BREAKS UP IN FRANCE

The internal difficulties of the split-up Chautemps cabinet, and the fast weakening hold of Fascism in Europe, are merely surface symptoms of the deep economic and political crisis in France.

Again the situation is rapidly deteriorating to a show-down between the capital and the working class. The collapse of the Popular Front, from a bourgeois standpoint, merely means that it has played its role at a certain moment, just as the Social-Democrat in France and the Labor Party in England to save capitalism from the working class. For the capitalists, the Peasants' Front helped to maintain the working class and create the rising wave of strikes in a pre-revolutionary situation.

PAVES WAY FOR FASCISM

The United States had more than a word to say in French politics when the three power agreement was signed, and now if the Dollar comes to the rescue of the Fascist it will be based upon further political concessions of the needs for Big Diplomacy in European muddy field.

The working class has lost its last valuable ground under the Popular Front. The trade unions that breaks with the Peasants' Front. The trade people's strike or its independent class action can preserve a semblance of freedom and the defeat of Fascism.

U. S. War Drive

TO SUPPORT ROOSEVELT'S POLICY LEADS TO SOCIAL PATRIOTISM IN WAR

FAITH IN ROOSEVELT

Roosevelt's answer is an endorsement of the 1912-1914 war and a cut of 800 millions for rearmament.

The basis for unity, despite these developments, is still not eliminated. The two organizations are tied firmly to capitalism and are as alike as are the working class and the bourgeoisie. The labor movement is divided in two camps: one against the war, the other for the war.

NEED PROGRESSIVE GROUPS

Against the class collaboration of the labor fakers, workers must fight for a class struggle policy, and must strive to build progressive groups within the existing unions in an organized field.

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AFL EXPELS 3 CIO UNIONS

Efforts for unity of the CIO and AFL have met a setback with the expulsion of the Mine Workers, Glass workers, and Mine Smelters' unions from the AFL.

Green is attempting to drive a wedge between Lewis and some of the other leaders of the Garment Workers has openly laid the groundwork for unity negotiations on Lewis. In the AFL ranks there is a mass of schisms, with Tobin of the Teamsters blaming the AFL for the breakdown.

UNITY FOR WAR

Preceding the conference on the bottom for unity is great. On the top, Roosevelt in the personal order to better consolidate the working class behind Wall Street's war program.

Meanwhile the illusions of many people in the possibility of a militant class struggle movement arising out of the CIO are being dissipated. The conventions of the Auto, Steel, and Coal miners unions were held in July in the core. Dozens of militant organizers, sustaining the tradition of the rank and file militancy of the first period has been gradually worn away. With hundreds of thousands of these unions unemployed and tribal, the mass of the AFL is the only union along the only CIO answer to the problem of the "Great Leader" in the White House.

DOLLAR vs. FRANC

Workers in the United States had more than a word to say in French politics when the three power agreement was signed, and now if the Dollar comes to the rescue of the Fascist it will be based upon further political concessions for the needs of Big Diplomacy in European muddy field.

Get contributions to help the Spanish Workers Build a Marxist Party and to help us finance comeard Martin.