

# Imperialist Lackeys to Meet

*[The problems confronting the workers and peasants of the Latin American Countries, especially those with Pacific seaboard, are of outstanding political significance and are of vital importance to the labor movement of the rest of the Pacific; for the struggle against imperialism and capitalism is a common one. In the class battles which must be waged jointly, the fight against Yankee imperialism and its Latin American agent, the PAF of L., is of paramount importance. It is therefore important that all adherents of the PPTUS familiarize themselves with the following analysis of the PAF of L. and its Sixth Congress by the Executive Bureau of the Red International of Labor Unions; an analysis which will undoubtedly give direction in, and a better understanding of, combatting the treacherous PAF of L.—EDITOR.]*

**I**N accordance with the decision of the Fifth P. A. F. of L. Congress the Executive Committee is convening the Sixth Congress in Havana, which is to be opened on the first Monday in January, 1930.

Since the Fifth Congress (July 18-23, 1927) the general situation in Latin-America is characterized by the increased penetration of Yankee imperialism, increased competition with British imperialism, and, on the other hand, an intensification of the class struggle and the development of broad mass movements whose orientation is definitely revolutionary.

At the Congress of the Pan-American Union held in Havana, all the Latin-American countries were represented for the first time. This gathering clearly demonstrated how all the

native governments were sub-ordinated including even countries (like Argentina, Uruguay, Chile and Brazil), where British imperialism was always the dominant factor. It also made clear the predatory policy of Morgan, Morrow and Co., who were represented at the Congress by Coolidge, the ex-president, and Hughes and Co. The bankruptcy of the pseudo-revolutionary government in Mexico was also manifest at this gathering.

The first steps taken by Hoover, the new custodian of the interests of Wall Street, show clearly enough that this new imperialist agent will be just as unscrupulous and bitter as his predecessors. This aggressive and hypocritical policy has found response among the native governments who have increased ex-

plotation and are going to all lengths to suppress the revolutionary trade union movement. During the last two years terror and persecution, always rampant, have now become systematic in Nicaragua; murders and the bombarding of the defenseless population have become of more frequent occurrence; in Cuba and Venezuela another crime has been added to the numerous brutalities of Machado and Gomez, the dictators, when Mella and Montenegro were basely murdered abroad. In Chile, Dictator Ibanez, the new agent of Wall Street, is rooting out the trade union movement; in Colombia we saw the mass butchering of workers during the strike on the banana plantations; while in Mexico the fascist government and Crom having solved the conflict with the clergy, now signalize complete subordination to Yankee imperialism.

#### Social-Imperialist P. A. F. of L. in Action

During this period of bloody fights, persecution and mass murders of workers and peasants in Latin-America, the P. A. F. of L., as hitherto, has kept rigidly to the policy of the Fifth Congress, held in Washington, whose basic features were as follows:

1—Since Dictator Machado "wish the Congress success", duly recorded in the minutes of the Congress, he was rehabilitated despite all his abuses.

2—In spite of the fact that news was received on the second day of the Congress, that Ocotal had been destroyed by American bombing planes, all the protests as well as the resolution on Nicaragua were sabotaged while nothing whatever was mentioned about the marines—an attitude that was fully supported by the so-called representatives of the Nicaragua workers.

3—Instead of the resolution demanding the release of Sacco and Vanzetti, a petition was urged appealing to the charity and mercy of their murderers, the Governor of Massachusetts, Fuller and his clique.

4—Not only was the resolution proposed by the delegate from Venezuela rejected (which condemned the crimes of imperialism and its agents—the dictators in the Latin-American countries (Legilla, Gomez, Machado and others, and demanded that all marines be withdrawn, that Porto Rico be freed, and that all existing agreements turning Cuba, Haiti, San Domingo and the whole of Central America into a colony be annulled), but it was bitterly attacked by all the police agents (delegates to this Congress by the dictators), who with foaming mouths defended their masters.

During the past period, the P. A. F. of L. has remained true to these decisions and shown an utter indifference to the brutalities and persecution directed against the continental workers. The American Federation of Labor, one of the two component trade union organizations of the P. A. F. of L. made even more clear at its last convention held in New Orleans that it was an integral part of imperialism: the plan of constructing fifteen new cruisers was heartily approved at this gathering, as well as Hoover's trip to Latin-America; McNutt, the commander of the American Legion, and Colonel Ross of the American army made speeches, while the last cruiser, the "Pensacola", released from the Brooklyn wharf which is to be used to bombard the Latin-American coasts, was blessed by William Green, the President of the P. A. F. of L.

The history of the P. A. F. of L. prior to, during, and after the 5th Congress has shown the continental workers clearly that its only function is to serve the interests of Wall Street, to retard and dam back the revolutionary movement among the masses. That this is already well realized was shown by the hatred against the P. A. F. of L. among the continental workers when at the Washington Congress several small organizations really representing the workers went over to the revolutionary camp (this move was seen in the Panama, Salvador and Guatemala).

#### New Revolutionary Center Formed

On the other hand, the intensification of the class struggle has resulted in the revolutionary workers of Latin-America organizing themselves into class trade union centers in Mexico, Panama, Colombia, Brazil and Uruguay. Further, all the revolutionary unions (representing 350,000 workers), took part in the Constitutional Congress of the Trade Union Confederation of Latin-America, held in Montevideo.

There are two forces today in the trade union movement of Latin-America. On the one hand there are the P. A. F. of L. and Amsterdam—the agents of imperialism, and on the other, the Trade Union Confederation of Latin-America—a class organization which is struggling to organize and to defend the interests of the workers and peasants of Latin-America.

The Montevideo Congress created the only real class trade union organization that is struggling against imperialism. The resolutions adopted after detailed discussion by all who participated at this gathering outline the

only effective methods of struggle against imperialism.

Like at the former Congress, agents from the dictatorships in Latin-America as well as government and fascist unions (Morones and Co., Dr. Medranos from San Domingo, Arevalos from Cuba, Rios Kazelas from Peru, and others) will take part in the Congress to be convened in Havana. The work of the Congress—which apparently will be opened by Dictator Herardo Machado with a speech of greetings, will be confined to setting up connections and contact between the dictators of Latin-America and to drawing up ways and means of rooting out the revolutionary movement.

#### Tasks of Left Wing

It is therefore the duty of all revolutionary working class organizations of Latin-America to struggle with every means in their power, using all possibilities, against the P. A. F. of L., exposing its true character as an agent of imperialism, its close connections with the governments of the Dictators (invitations to the Congress were sent through the consulates) and against the fascist and Government unions and their police forces.

With this end in view all our supporters and sympathizers in the Latin-American countries must develop a campaign against the coming Congress through the press, at open meetings in the shops and factories.

The most effective means of struggle against

reformism are to carry on a vigorous day-to-day campaign to get the resolutions adopted at the Montevideo Congress realized, and to struggle to organize the workers in the class unions on the basis of their vital demands.

Special attention must be given activities in organizations that took part in the 5th Congress that still exist and have a rank and file membership, making clear to them the character and functions of the P. A. F. of L. This applies especially to Cuba, Guatemala, Salvador and the Panama where the question of participating in the 6th Congress should be placed to a referendum.

In all our activities and demonstrations we must counter the Pan-American Federation of Labor and its betrayal of working class interests to serve imperialism, with the Trade Union Confederation of Latin-America, its anti-imperialist policy and the class struggle. At these gatherings resolutions must be carried against the P. A. F. of L. and in support of the Trade Union Confederation of Latin-America.

The revolutionary T. U. organizations of Latin-America must boycott the Sixth P. A. F. of L. Congress which is being held under the police patronage of the bloodiest agent of imperialism, and do their best to prevent their delegates from attending.

Executive Bureau  
of the R. I. L. U.

Moscow, August 30, 1929.