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INFORMATION BULLETIN OF THE P. O. U. M.

(Workers Party of Marxist Unification)

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No I

THE SPANISH REVOLUTION, THE BEGINING OF A NEW ERA IN THE INTERNATIONAL WORKERS' MOVEMENT.

THE INTERNATIONALISTS WHO ARE FIGHTING ON OUR FRONT WILL BE THE FORGERS OF THE INSTRUMENT OF THE WORLD REVOLUTION.

A NEW STEP TOWARDS THE UNITED SOCIALIST STATES OF THE WORLD.

The imperialist war of 1914-1918 and the triumph of the Revolution in Russia induced an international revolutionary movement which was on the point of dealing the final blow to the capitalist regime throughout a series of countries. Nevertheless the socialist revolution did not triumph within the expected period.

But the capitalist regime remained mortally wounded. It was unable to consolidate its positions, to establish its situation, to solve its problems.

There exists in our time a fundamental contradiction, the comprehension of which impses itself upon the working class. The capitalist regime is struggling in a crisis which is not cyclic or periodical like those which have preceeded its development, but chronic and final. From an objective point of view, the conditions of revolutionary maturity exist. The only progressive issue offered to Humanity is that of the socialist revolution. Nevertheless, what has triumphed in a series of countries during the course of the last years is not the revolution, but the counter-revolution. Why?

Here already we enter, if we wish to find an answer to the question, into the subjective and organic factors which did not correspond to the objective factors favorable to the triumph of the revolution. We have repeatedly said that the proletarian revolution could not triumph without the existence of a strong revolutionary party in a given country. In an international sense the revolution cannot triumph without a revolutionary International. This brings us to a conclusion which we must proclaim with all our energy: the IInd. as well as the IIIrd. Internationals have failed completely. They have

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not been able to carry the proletariat to victory at a time objectively favorable to it. This is not the moment to examine the causes here; we will have a time and an opportunity for that.

In these circumstances, when the fundamental dilemma of our time, that of socialism or fascism, appears to be solved as a historic fatality in favour of fascism, given the lack of a truly revolutionary International, when the immanent peril of an imperialist world war is the only prospect offered by capitalism, the Spanish revolution appears. Who can doubt its importance, its international effect? The Spanish revolution can change, simply, the course of events.

We are undoubtedly taking part in the start of a new course in the international workers' movement. As we have repeatedly said, on the issue of the Spanish civil war depends perhaps the future of the world. In this sense, an immense historic responsability weighs upon us. We have no doubt of the victory of the Spanish working class over fascism and over the bourgeoisie. But to win, to make our national and international cause triumph, we need more than faith and enthusiasm. In Spain we need the creation and the rapid development of the party of the revolution which we struggle to push forward day after day. The conditions for creating it exist in our country and the Spanish working class will create it. But besides this party we need the creation of the International which will be the propeller of the world revolution. The organisation of this International, the name of which does not worry us provided it fulfills its historic mission, will follow a process similar to that of the formation of the revolutionary party in Spain. In the words of Lenin, first one must differentiate on an international scale between those who are revolutionary marxists and those who are not, who are the victims of opportunism and a negative factor in the proletarian revolution. Next, one must group together all the effective revolutionary marxists, of whom there are many dispersed in different isolated groups or within the socialist and communist parties. This process of formation will be more or less slow according to the development of revolutionary events in Spain and the respective countries, but for us its formation offers no doubt whatever.

This International struggling for unity - the unity of all the revolutionary marxists in the world - is being forged to-day on the battlefields of the Spanish proletariat, around the Spanish revolution. The comrades who, from different countries, have rushed to offer their lives and to fight side by side with the soldiers of our revolution, and those who from without are working in favour of our victory, are the forgers of the revolutionary International. In them we greet the heroic creators of the legitimate instrument of the world revolution, of the United Socialist States of the World.

THE POLITICS IN GENERAL OF THE P. O. U. M.

The Workers' Party of Marxist Unification which represents, chiefly in Catalonia, an important section of the workers' movement, has decided on the creation of this "Information Bulletin" in order to refute the more or less harmful tales circulated about events in Spain and to state precisely its political position in relation to these events.

It is impossible to understand the civil war now in progress without going back to the revolution of April 14th. 1931 which precipitated the fall of the monarchy.

The "Republic of April 14th." was merely a monarchy without a monarch. It loudly proclaimed the necessity for agrarian reform and for the separation of the church from the state, but it did nothing

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to realise the great democratic reform to which the people were looking forward. The democratic parties touched none of the civil or military cadres of the monarchy, discontented the workers and the peasants, and finally split and were crushed in the elections of November 1933. From 1933 to 1936, the Right block governed under the real direction of Gil Robles. This block represents the interests of the church and the large landowners who are intimately connected with Spanish and international high finance. Their ultimate aim is the progressive fascisation of Spain, and the creation of a clerical and corporative state after the manner of Austria. In October 1934 the working class rose up against the clerico-fascists, but with the exception of the Asturias where the workers, completely united, resisted for 15 days, the proletariat failed because of the abstention of the anarchists and the pusillanimity of the Catalan republicans, and were quickly crushed.

The insurrection of October 1934, although put down, created the forms of a new revolutionary power. It was based on the committees of workers - alliances where delegates from the proletarian parties met together both for deliberation and for the execution of their tasks. During the Asturian insurrection, and army composed exclusively of owrkers' militias was created for the first time.

In 1936 the popular front, attracting to itself all anti-fascist parties both proletarian and bourgeois, repeated the same experience in relation to the constitutional and administrative cadres as that of the republic of 1931.

The popular front government is in the power of Azana's Left republicans and the program drawn up by all parties does not go beyond the aspirations of his bourgeois reform party. This new experience of the liberal bourgeoisie only ended in catastrophe. So long as they respect private property it is impossible for them to satisfy the demands of the peasant workers; they refuse to confiscate feudal wealth and the riches of the church; they make no attempt to attack the great power of the banks. Politically they avoided striking at the reactionary elements who scientifically and minutely prepared the widespread rebellion of to-day.

Five months of the Popular Front government has been sufficient to show the democratic bourgeoisie's incapacity to assure the bread of the workers or to defend their liberty. A capitalist regime in Spain can only be guaranteed by the establishment of a military dictatorship after the manner of France. The republican bourgeoisie is abandoned by the army and by its bureaucracy. The liberty of the Spanish people is only saved to-day by the working class. The workers, peasants and sailors are fighting not to defend the old bourgeois republic which brought them nothing, but for the establishment of the future regime: the wrokers' republic. They know this in spite of the pupular front parties' propaganda which pretends that the workers' militias are defending the existing constitution. If the working class in Madrid, under the leadership of the Socialist Party, the U.G.T. and the official Communists, still follow the directives of the Popular Front, in Barcelona the government of the Generalidad represents no more than an official facade without any power. The real authority is exercised by the Central Committee of Anit-fascist Militias, composed in majority by delegates from workers' organisations. Side by side with it the Council of Economy aims to reorganise Catalonian economy in a socialist sense. The governments of the provinces of Lerida, Gerona and Saragossa are in the hands of the workers. P.O.U.M. has a predominant influence there. Therefore there exists what is called "dual power" in Catalonia where the working class controls the whole social life and by means of trades unions administers all public services and many private enterprises. The churchesand reactionnaries have been expropriated. Convents and the homes of the rich are transformed into centres of education or into sanatoriums. Committees are formed in industries and villages as well as among the sailors

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and the republican troops. Our P.O.U.M., which did all it could to create these and to link them up with us, sees in them the embryo of the workers' and peasants' republic. It is freshly evident every day that the old bourgeois democracy is dead in Spain. The slogan of the P.O.U.M. is also to create a government of workers' alliances, to be based on the one hand on the usual organisations of the workers and small peasants and on the other hand on local committees. Such a government would have the maximum authority and iniative for the crushing of fascism and for the speeding up of the transformation of Spain along socialist lines. A constituent assembly formed by delegates from the workers', peasants' and soldiers' committees would give to the workers of Spain a definite constitution.

But in order to reach its final goal in the struggle, the proletariat must be on its guard and fulfill the two following conditions:

The first is not to disarm, not to give up its arms to the bourgeoisie. This is all the more necessary since many bourgeois republican elements are seeking a compromise with the fascist military a compromise which would be a treachery to the interests of the Spanish people. We declare that whoever looks for a compromise with our enemies will be treated by us as we treat our enemies, and that whoever attempts to disarm the proletariat will be considered as an accomplice of our enemies.

The second condition is the maintenance and reinforcement of the unity of action among the workers. The unity of action is sealed with the blood of thousands who have died for the cause of the proletariat. It must be indestructible and must not allow the proletariat to put itself anew in tow to the bourgeoisie for the defense of the capitalist regime.

In the present painful and inexorable struggle, the working class of Spain, the mass of the peasants and the middle classes of the intellectuals and the techniciens have become aware of the evils of capitalism and the horros which it has brought about. The aims of our party is to lead them towards the Union of Socialist Republics of Iberia, a new stage of the socialist world revolution.

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C A R L M A R X A N D T H E S P A N I S H R E V O L U T I O N.

" It is evident that in the present violent conflicts, as well as in all those of the past, that it falls above all to the workers to achieve victory by their courage, energy and spirit of sacrifice. In the struggle, the petty bourgeoisie will as usual remain inactive, hesitant and undecided as long as possible. But as soon as victory is certain they will come into action to seize on it for themselves and ask the workers to be peaceful and to go home and start work again, in order to prevent any so-called excesses and with the aim of excluding the proletariat from the fruits of its victory. It is not within the power of the workers to forbid the petty bourgeois democrats to do this, but it is within their possibilities to make it hard and difficult for the bourgeoisie to take back an armed proletariat under its control, to make it dependent on such conditions that the regime of bourgeois democrats will thereby carry within itself the germ of its destruction. This would facilitate enormously their replacement later on by the power of the proletariat. Above all, the workers must fight against any tentative of appeasement by the bourgeois - both during and after the conflict - and force the democrats to realise their own terrorist phrases. The workers must act to prevent the present revolutionary excitement being suppressed immediately after their victory. On the contrary, they must maintain it as long as possible. Far from opposing these so-called

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excesses - examples of the vengeance of the people upon hated individuals or public buildings to which they are bound by tedious memories- they must not only tolerate such examples , but even direct them.... Once victory is certain, mistrust should no longer be kept up against the defeated reactionary party, but turned against the ally of the moment, against the party which wishes to exploit the common victory. (therefore against the bourgeois democrats,- editorial note.)

In order to combat energetically and by every means this party whose treachery to the workers will begin with the first moment of victory, the workers must be armed and organised. The arming of the proletariat must be carried out at once to prevent the reapparition of the bourgeoisie. Wherever this is not possible, the workers must try to form a workers' militia, themselves elect their leader and organise their own General Staff, and submit themselves, not to any public authority, but to the workers' revolutionary councils. Where workers are employed by the State, they must take their arms with them and form themselves into a special body under their own elected leaders or as part of the workers' militia. They must absolutely never, on any pretext whatsoever, allow themselves to be disarmed, but on the contrary should actually fight against any such attempt.

These are therefore the principal points upon which the proletariat must insist both before and after the revolution:

The destruction of the bourgeois democrats' influence over the workers; the immediate, autonomous and total armed organisation of the workers; the introduction of the most difficult and compromising conditions for the petty bourgeois regime, a regime which is still inevitable at this time."

----(Extract from the Speech of the Central Committee to the Association ("Bund") of Marx and Engels in a letter to the German communists.from the Central Committee of the International Union of Communists

THE PROLETARIAN POWER THROUGH THE ANTIFASCIST MILITIAS.

During the fight against the fascists on the 19th. and 20th. July, the workers of Barcelona and the other towns siezed all the arms which the army possessed in the barracks. Frequently the barracks, where the fascist command was entrenched, only fell to the workers after the most violent combats.

Machine-guns, cannon and firing came into play. The lack of effective means was against the workers, but they managed to attain their objective through a spirit of sacrifice unexampled in history. This objective was to checkmate the fascists and to take their arms for their own immediate use. Within the space of two days,-revolutionary Catalonia possessed a militia of 30,000 workers and peasants armed with guns.

These militias, placed under the authority of their respective parties, were able to solve on their own iniative the mass ofactual problems: to break down the last stronghold of the fascists, purge the city of all fascist elements, install a proletarian discipline, occupy banks, hotels, office buildings and industrial associations, etc.. The factories were immediately placed under the control of armed workers. The provisioning of the city was at the same time arranged for by detachments of militians directed by food trades--unions.

The attitude of the working class of Barcelona upset the criminal plan of the enemy. If the fascists had been victorious in the Catalan capital, the exploit of General Goded would have had its

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repercussions in the whole of the Iberian peninsula. Sedition would have taken on colossal proportions. If the General Staff of Barcelona had made contact with the sedition in Aragon, it would have led to the fall of Madrid.

Red Catalonia wrote this page of her history with the blood and heroism of her finest militants, but she saved the Spanish people and definitely conquered her right to the organisation of a proletarian regime.

Two days after the fascist rising, the delegates of the following antifascist organisations: CNT, FAI, UGTS, POUM, ERC, etc., met and formed the Committe of Antifascist Militias of Catalonia. Its formation does not offer to the proletarian organisations that preponderance to which they have a right. But the strength of the workers' organisations throughout Catalonia, their activity and their supreme responsability in the final struggle against fascism, forces the Committe to satisfy the claims of the workers.

Five days after the events in the capital, the Committee of Militias effectuated the departure of the workers' regiments for Saragossa. The severity of the war which is still going on along the Aragon front has resulted in knitting even more closely together all the proletarian and antifascist organisations who had shed the blood of their men in the streets of Barcelona. For example, until the eve of these events it was still possible to wonder exactly what position would be taken by an organisation such as the FAI after the crushing of fascism. But not only where its men in the front line of the shooting, both in numbers and in courage, bound in friendship to the men of the POUM, but in accepting to take part in the central Committee of the Militias, this organisation removed a tremendous worry which had been weighing upon the proletariat of Catalonia.

The working class, at the same time as setting out to conquer Aragon, finds itself in the position of seriously needing to reorganise the entire life of Catalonia, aiming not only at the overthrow of fascism but above all at the building up of a new collectivist regime, the only guarantee of complete victory over the capitalist regime which has been responsable for ruin, poverty and death.

In this way, under pressure from the CNT, FAI, POUM , etc., the Central Committee of Antifascist Militias and - When its approbation is required - the Government of the Generalidad ratified all those measures already taken by the workers: suppression of the regular army (professional), which is to be replaced by militias of the workers' parties, the handing over to the proletarian patrols of the police, the collectivisation of important industries and agricultural enterprises, and the sequestration of all establishments of public interest. The Generalidad of Catalonia decreed certain measures in favour of the workers: the 40 hour week, the 15% raise of salaries the reduction of rents, the payment of militias and the first steps of an immediate social assistance.

The working class of Catalonia has given a new impetus to the proletarian revolutionary struggle. Its fight is the fight of all the revolutionaries in the whole world. Its triumph will be the triumph of the international working class. The Spanish revolution has won, by its splendid fight, the support of the workers throughout the world. If the Spanish workers were to receive the necessary arms for the liquidation of fascist reaction, this revolution would become the stronghold from which to send out the revolutionary wave to free the proletariat definitely of its chains.

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THE TRADITION OF THE "TOTEMKIN" AND THE "AURORA".

THE FRATERNISATION OF THE RED SAILORS WITH THE WORKERS IN BARCELONA.

The sailors of the destroyer "Admiral Miranda" who bombarded Algeciras, Ceuta and Cadiz and took Ibiza and Formentera, gave a wreath to the POUM on thursday 13th. August as a proof of their admiration for and solidarity with the workers who fell beneath the bullets of the fascist soldiers. A delegation of the POUM, made up of armed militians and preceeded by a fanfare of trumpets, awaited the delegation of sailors from the "Admiral Miranda".

The large square surrounding the monument to Columbus was completely filled with workers who had come to join in the splendid hommage.

The sailors placed a wreath bearing the inscription "From the crew of the "Admiral Miranda" to their brothers fallen in battle" on a lorry droped in red, while both militians and sailors presented arms.

The president of the battleship's crew read a friendly speech to the revolutionary workers.

"We ask you to accept this wreath as the most glorious and well merited in the world, since you have won it at the cost of your courage and your blood and your lives. It represents the quality of that sense of freedom of which Spain has given her proof before the whole world; it represents the cradle of new-born revolutionary liberty and the ideal of social fraternity which you have defended and which we, together with the people, swear to defend to the last, to the shout of "Long live liberty."

Comrade Gorkin, secretary of propaganda for the POUM, recognised and welcomed the union achieved between the workers' militias and the red crews of the Spanish fleet.

Preceeded by the trumpeters of the POUM, the lorry drove through the city to the cementary, the workers' militias and the detachment of sailors following. A tremendous ovation greeted the procession everywhere along its line of march.

THE COMMITTEE OF SAILORS OF THE "ADMIRAL MIRANDA".

The following day, a delegation from the POUM returned the visit and went aboard the destroyer before it left to attack Mallorca, still at that time in the hands of the rebels. In the committee room on board, the shouts of "Long live the POUM" and "Long live the revolution" were greeted with enthusiastic cheers.

We have received the following information concerning the new organisation of life on board the destroyer.

The officers have gone over to the government, those who fell under suspicion having been put ashore at Carthagena at the disposal of a Council of War.

Aboard the "Admiral Miranda", as aboard all the other warships of the Spanish fleet, the crew has taken over the command. The ship is directed now by the men who work it. The commander is at present in the hands of a Committee of Justice which comprises delegates elected from every branch of specialised service (gunners, engineers, stokers, sailors). The Committee hold supreme power on board and the technical execution is transmitted to the officers. All decisions and undertakings are entered in the ship's log. There is no appeal against the decisions of the Committee, and both sailors and officers are under its control. It alone possesses the code for telegraphic

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messages, as also the key to the stocks of arms and munitions. Its meeting-room was formerly the officers' mess.

A SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT.

Before the ship left to reconquer Mallorca, the movement of leaving the port was badly carried out and the ship underwent some damage which held up its departure for a few hours. The Committee aboard recognised the incapacity of the commander and his responsa-bility in the accident, and degraded him in agreement with the Central Committee of Militias. He was at once landed at Barcelona. The first mate was appointed in his place. Revolutionary justice is quick and efficient.

The above-described organisation functions on board all the ships of the fleet. The Committee of Sailors facilitates and encou-rages fraternisation between sailors and workers.

In the very midst of the revolutionary struggle which the pro-letariat of Catalonia is waging against the remaining oppression of bourgeoisie and clergy, the red sailors are forming revolutionary committees and have taken their stand beside the workers, the peasants and the militians.

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF ANTIFASCIST MILITIAS.

The political, administrative and military organ which expresses the will of the proletariat is the Central Committee of Antifascist Militias. It is composed of 15 members according to the following political division:

3 delegates of the CNT;
3 delegates of the UGT;
2 delegates of the FAI;
1 delegate of the PSUC;
1 delegate of the POUM.
1 delegate of the Union of "Rabaissaires" (peasant workers.)
3 delegates of the ERC.
1 delegate of the AC.

The proletariat is therefore represented by 10 delegates, the peasants by one, the petty bourgeoisie and the middle class republi-cans by 4. The secretary of the Committee is Jaume Miravilles. Among the delegates is Bonaventure Durruti, representing the CNT. The comrade Rovira represents the POUM in the above committee.

INDUSTRIAL COLLECTIVISATION IN CATALONIA.

Parallel to the work of military defence against fascism, efforts at transformation and economic reconstruction are being made at a rapid pace. This effort begins at the base and is ratified daily by the Committee of Milicias and reaches from the simple cont. rol of private enterprise to complete administration. It tends

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towards no less an aim than to exturpate from Catalonia all the final roots of industrial capitalism.

ORGANISATION.

The seizure of businesses began actually during the decisive days of July. On September 19th, the Defence Committee of the Barricade of Pueblo Nuevo siezed the Iberian Ford Motors and turned it over to the trades-unions (CNT & UGT). Notice that although most of the important factories were deliberately taken over by the workers, the latter allowed all small and medium-sized exploitations to carry on as usual, except in the cases of desertion on the part of the directors who were then immediately expropriated.

At the present moment, the principal businesses which have been siezed and exploited are the following:

The city 'bus service, the Roca Autobus, the tramway service, the Underground, the Northern Railway, the Madrid-Saragossa-Alicante Railway (M.Z.A.), the Petrol Company (C.A.M.P.S.A.), the Iberian Ford Motors, the Hispano, the Maritime, the Girona, the Vulcano, the Casa Torres and the Casa Elizalde, the Transatlantic Company, and all electric plants.

The theatres and cinemas of Barcelona are completely socialised under the control of the UGT and CNT trades-unions.

Other businesses carry on under the workers' control, which can be anything from a simple collective contract to a quasi-collectivisation.

In every case, the principal objectives to be attained and the new organisms of control or management are decided upon by a general assembly of the workers of the business, organised according to their trades-unions. Therefore all iniative does actually come from the base, and all these creations are of an original kind closely allied to the very necessities of the life of the industry. However, over and above all shades of opinion, the deep and imperious necessities of the present time have imposed a homogeneous action which has been translated into the chief following measures:

The election of a committee of management or control where the different trades-unions (CNT, UGT, FOUS) are represented by various numbers of delegates according to the strength of each.

The election of smaller committees at the head of each section of the business.

The publication of the salaries of the chief officials of the business, the suppression of these salaries, the suppression of the post of manager in all the industries which have been taken over by the workers, and the levelling of salaries.

The suppression of the board of directors, and their plain and simple expropriation in all the businesses which have been siezed. (Note that to avoid diplomatic complications care has been taken to siize no foreign businesses.)

The preparation of the 36 hour week, the 40 hour week having been decreed by the Generalidad.

The enactment of rules of hygene and plans for making industries more sanitary, such as putting in showers, etc.

The publication of the financial state of the business, and sometimes of an inventory of its material.

The arrangement, in certain cases, of a plan of work, particularly in businesses occupied with military defence.

Everywhere the technicians who joined forces with the workers (the cases are numerous) have been taken back and several of them have been elected to the post of advisors by the workers' assembly.

REVOLUTIONARY ACTION.

To understand in what spirit, in what sense and at what a pace

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this gigantic task is being carried out, it is necessary to add to the above information a certain number of remarks:

1). The workers' newspapers and particularly the "Solidaridad Obrera" (the organ of the CNT) are at present swarming with short articles and trades-union communications discussing the question of workers' control and the necessity for independence, authority and probity in the comrades delegated to the controlling organisations.

2.) Throughout the whole population of workers, and particularly among the anarchists who seem determined to give the lie to their reputation, there reigns a desire for organisation, contruction, and self-discipline.

3.) In those enterprises working for the front (munitions, motors the workers, in most cases unanimously, have decided temporally to give up the 40 hour week and have taken upon themselves to work 12 or 14 hours a day, even on sundays.

4.) Many organisations have momentarily given up the 15% raise of salary decreed by the Generalidad in favour of the militias and for the struggle against fascism.

Finally, it is possible at present to say that the Catalan working class, by its political maturity both in the economic field and at the time of fighting in the streets and the seizure of arms, has been able to strike the iron while it was hot, and in this way appear to have avoided the disturbed period of disorganisation, look-out, worlessness and the rest of the no-man's-land which up till now seemed inherent in any great social upheaval. At the present time, production is moving at a pace scarcely slower than the average of normal times throughout the mass of businesses, and at an accelerated pace in all factories of war material; and all this at a time when thousands of Catalan workers are fighting on the Aragon front, and many hundred of others are at work in the streets of Barcelona keeping public order and revolutionary order which from now onwards are merged into one.

THE POLITICAL PARTIES AND THE WORKERS' ORGANISATIONS IN CATALONIA.

By way of information for the foreign reader, the following are the different organisations the letters of which recocur most frequently during the course of present events:

ERC. "Esquerra Republicana Catalana". The Left party of the republican petty bourgeoisie of Catalonia, founded by Macia. It is in possession of the Generalidad since the bourgeois revolution of April 1931.

AC. "Catalan Action." The party of the republican bourgeoisie. From the political point of view its position is on the right of the Esquerra.

FAI. Iberian Anarchist Federation. It possesses organisations throughout the whole of Spanish territory, but its influence is above all felt in Catalonia where it practically controls the larger part of the -

CNT. or National Confederation of Labour. A trades-union organisation grouping the large majority of the Catalan proletariat and internationally affiliated to the

AIT. the International Association of Workers, of anarcho-syndi-

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calism tendency.

PSUC. The Unified Socialist Party of Catalonia, was formed on the morrow of the events in July by the fusion of the following 4 organisations:
The Socialist Union of Catalonia (a purely Catalan socialist party,
The Catalan section of the S.P. (IInd. International.)
The Catalan Workers' Party (the former proletarian tendency in the Esquerra.)
The Catalan Communist Party (IIIrd. International.)
This party at present benefits in prestige by the fusion, but its influence over the Catalan proletariat remains weak. It controls the

UGT or General Union of Workers, affiliated to the International Trades-Union Federation of Amsterdam. The forces of the UGT in Catalonia are rather small.

POUM. The Workers' Party of Marxist Unification. Founded at the end of 1935 by the fusion of the Peasant Workers' Block, the party of Joaquim Maurin and of the Spanish Communist Left directed by Andres Nin. It influences the

FOUS the Workers' Federation of Trades-Union Unity (70,000) the group of autonomous trades-unions fighting for trades-union unity.

UR. Union of "Rabassaires", a corporative union of Catalan farmers under the influence of the Esquerra and the POUM.

From the contents of this bulletin it will be apparent to the reader that the struggle against fascism in Spain which is being fought with such incomparable heroism and sacrifice, is not merely a struggle against Spanish fascism. It has taken on the form of the socila revolution, and German and Italian fascism, aware of this, is lending every support to the reaction in Spain. To help in this struggle against international fascism, workers from many lands have already come forward to offer their lives, but money and supplies are also urgently needed. All partizans of the proletarian struggle - the cause of the workers of the whole world against the forces of fascism - must hold meetings and collect money for their brothers who are fighting in Spain. Their contributions will be received at this office, from which may also be obtained copies of the Information Bulletin of the P.O.U.M. in English, French, Italian, German and Dutch. There is no copyright of any of the articles appearing in the Bulletin, and their reproduction is encouraged whenever it may be of use in forwarding the cause of support for the cause of the social revolution.
