NEWS AND NOTES

Red Pictures
The Red Cinema Club, attached to the Central Educational Secretariat of the P. O. U. M., commenced its activity last Sunday, with a private showing of good pictures for the party comrades. This presentation was such a success as to warrant enlarged activity. The Commissariat of Propaganda of the Generality is already publicly presenting good Russian pictures, with wide publicity.

As Before July 19th
The Central Government at Valencia has imposed upon the Customs Guards the absolute obligation of preventing from joining any political or trade union organization, and even from attending meetings connected with such organizations. They must limit themselves to the enthusiastic fulfillment of their duty to the legitimate government. Those who fail to do this will be punished under the code of Military Justice.

In Madrid
Our Comrade Romualdo Puentes, militant from the section of Liébana, and political commissar of the «Lenin» Batallion, has fallen, gravely wounded, while storming, together with other P. O. U. M. forces, a fascist trench. The magnificent role of the P. O. U. M. on this front has cost us more than thirty comrades, and our party has once more shown its great capacity for revolutionary heroism.

_P. O. U. M. Textile Conference_
Sunday morning, February 16th, the P. O. U. M.'s Conference of the Textile Industry was held in Barcelona under the direction of Comrade Efraím Efraímin. The principal conclusion favored were:
1. Trade Union Unity (of the rival federations).
2. The immediate establishment of the General Council of the Textile Industry.
3. Establishment of Industrial Unions (one centralized union to cover the whole industry).

Another P. O. U. M. Radio
In addition to the short wave stations E. C. P. 1 and E. C. P. 2 (42 meters), at Barcelona, the P. O. U. M. announced the opening of its station E. C. P. 3 at Lerida. In face of this news the party has once more shown its great capacity for revolutionary heroism.

American Comrades
Comrade Henry Milton, the first of the De La Salle Column to arrive in Spain, is now at the Aragon Front with the I. L. P. contingent.
Comrade Hugo Cérvido of the Revolutionary Workers' League has arrived in Spain to say until the Barcelona Congress.

CORRECTION
In the lead article of our last issue it was erroneously stated that «This is the first revolution to succeed since the Russian Revolution.» The article in «La Batalla» from which it was translated was written to «This is the first major revolutionary attempt since the Russian Revolution.»

«Emancipacion»
The interests of the woman worker will be defended in «Emancipacion,» the fortnightly organ of the Women's Secretariat of the P. O. U. M. This publication in Spanish will treat the problems directly affecting the woman in these moments of revolutionary transition. «Emancipacion» will be the organ of the working women, who will see reflected in its diverse departments, three questions of personal and political life which require realistic solutions. For further information address the Women's Secretariat of the P. O. U. M., Rambla's Solution 10.

«The Red Aid of the P. O. U. M.»
The Red Aid of the P. O. U. M. has just brought out the first number of a splendid illustrated review, the returns of which will go to the refugees and exiles of the Revolution. On smooth paper, it possesses perfect reproductions of original photos of the fighting struggle on the Madrid and Aragon fronts, and of the results of the bombardments. It includes, likewise, pictures of the life of orphans in the Soviet Union and in Spain, and a resume of the activities of the Red Aid of the P. O. U. M.

This review, which is really a document of our struggle in moments of revolutionary transition, will be on sale at 25 centimes. Comrades! Buy «The Red Aid of the P. O. U. M.» to help those who have given their all for the revolution.

THE BLOCKADE OF REVOLUTIONARY SPAIN

The recent decisions of the London Committee mark a new phase in the attitude of the powers, towards the civil war in Spain. With the participation of "neutral" France and England along with the aggressor, Italy and Germany, a land and sea blockade of Spain is being organised.

What do the great imperialist powers want?
From the first, the attitude of the fascist states, Italy, Germany and Portugal, has been evident. They watched the preparation of the fascist uprising with favour. They encouraged and sustained it. They boldly brought it their effective support in arms, munitions and men. Now, it has succeeded, in restraining them from helping their vassal, for which they have all acquired incontestible territorial and economic advantages.

Imperial England and democratic France are bound, in this as in other European problems, to advance the democratic London-Paris-Moscow bloc against the fascist bloc. The policy of England and France, the former leading the latter, has been directed as much as against a revolutionary Spain as against the puppet Franco, behind whom the threatening fascist powers are hiding. The European democracies fear the revolution more than fascism and their major concern has been to localize the Spanish civil war.

The success of Franco would be a direct threat to the democratic bloc. The triumph of the Spanish workers, on the other hand, would threaten the privileges of world capitalism. In face of this alternativa, Russia, in spite of her direct intervention, stands beside the democratic imperialist bloc, giving her support only upon the condition that the capitalist republic be maintained in Spain.

After repeated open violation of the non-intervention pact on the part of the fascist powers, France and England have brought about a blockade of Spain. Will it be the result?

The blockade will not help the Spanish Revolution. It has already been applied against it. Since February 20th, France has closed her frontier to Catalonia, preventing foreigners from passing. She is taking rigorous measures of control. Her haste is far ahead of that of Portugal or Italy and Germany.

Who will stop the mercenaries of the fascist countries, disguised as "volunteers" for the Spanish Legion, from landing in the rebel ports? A French or British navy? No sanctions are provided.

Who will control the coasts and ports of the loyalists? The German and Italian navies, ready to renew their cowardly aggression against the civil population!

The blockade of Spain is a coercive measure on the part of those who would force the workers to accept a solution that is not theirs. The European democracies are included in this as against the fascist powers; justify our scepticism regarding the results of the control.

There is a direct relation between the date of March 6th, first chosen for beginning the control, and Franco's latest offensive against Madrid. In as much as this attack of the fascist coast will not be applied as yet.

The blockade of Spain is a coercive measure on the part of those who would force the workers to abandon their revolution and to conclude a shameful peace with their worst class enemies, under pain of bloodshed and civil war.

The Spanish workers can expect no help from the democratic governments of Europe. They are however resolved to defend their revolutionary conquests to the end.

Workers of the world, help them!
Down with the blockade of revolutionary Spain!
After a certain number of military reverses of the government forces, the loss of the of Málaga has given the troops of the anti-fascist army to the attention of all the party which in Catalonia was given up to the Italian Fascists almost without resistance. The reason for the loss of Málaga falls entirely on the Blas-Ibarra, and the government forces stationed at Valencia. The cause for this was the absence of a regular army and a united command, since the forces which should have defended the town were under the orders of the commander who had been named by the War Ministry of the central government of the Spanish Republic and who received his orders from this Ministry. The danger of leaving the conduct of the war in the hands of those who are ready to betray even the simple anti-fascist republic cause is a clear peril.

The impression produced by the fall of Málaga has been used to the reformists to keep up the idea of the impossibility of reproducing the conditions which obtained in Catalonia and of the feasibility of reproducing the conditions which obtained in the American republics, the same idea of the necessity of recruiting and organizing the military forces of the Republic in the same way as in those countries. The fact is that the situation in Spain is not identical with that of those countries, and that the situation in Spain is different from that of the American republics.

The P. O. U. M. states that the present army cannot be a politically neutral army but must be based on the revolutionary class struggle in order to be in a position to defend the workers' control of the national economy. The P. O. U. M. states that the present army cannot be a politically neutral army but must be based on the revolutionary class struggle in order to be in a position to defend the workers' control of the national economy. The P. O. U. M. states that the present army cannot be a politically neutral army but must be based on the revolutionary class struggle in order to be in a position to defend the workers' control of the national economy. The P. O. U. M. states that the present army cannot be a politically neutral army but must be based on the revolutionary class struggle in order to be in a position to defend the workers' control of the national economy.
The Corps of Internal Security. However, what we cannot admit is that the Defence of the municipalities would be dissolved. The Patrols, which have demonstrated their loyalty to the workers' cause, must not be entrusted to old armed corps. The control of passports, the only bodies which merit the confidence of the revolutionary workers, would be lost among the good families.

As we have exposed in a general way the character of the re-establishment of the censorship, little need to be said. Every class-conscious worker understands that to consent to conquer or die.

The object of the escape was to reach France and then get back into Spain in order to join forces with the rebel. Although the various Guards corps existing before the 19th of July were drawn from the privileged classes. We do not wish to question the loyalty to the workers' cause of a large body of the reformists, many of whom have passed, during which the reformists have day by day suppressed one after another to the revolution. The end orders announced, to extort allegiance, poster and demonstrator, and to-day proclaimed officially a return to the state of affairs which existed before July 19th. It is the democratic «order» which has been restored and demonstrated to those who have fulfilled special studies and to the service of the workers.

The Valencia Government has made retreat in the direction of the Guard. The old armed forces—such as the civilian, which it is necessary to reorganize under the basis of the Guard Patrols, the only bodies which merit the confidence of the workers. And what is still more counter-revolutionary, the bill which we shall fight to prevent the workers' guard and control the cotton and oil and the relations with the government.

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THE VALENCE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL, DÉNUNCIATES THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE P. O. U. M.

The Provincial Council of Valencia has published the following note:

"In view of the campaign of abuse, led by a certain party in this Council against the P. O. U. M., a campaign which goes to the point of raising this party a part of the "fifth column", which if true would imply the complicity of anti-fascist parties of Valencia with the counter-revolutionary elements, and which, being untrue, is an abuse against all of us, our organizations unanimously decide:

I. As representatives of our organizations, we decry our condemnation of the anonymous campaign of slander against the P. O. U. M., calling it counter-revolutionary, fascist and even an agent of Hitler and Franco. This campaign, in fact, favours only the interests of reaction and fascism.

II. As a corollary of this declaration and this condemnation, we are resolved to treat all of fascism, as hidden enemies of the working class and like-wise as saboteurs of anti-fascist unity, all persons who, either individually or representing any organization whatever, repeat the phrases of this unworthy campaign.

If the P. O. U. M. can be slandered to-day, tomorrow other workers' and political organizations of the anti-fascist front will be subjected to slanderous attacks.


And the Town Council of Tarragona

On February 22, the Town Council of Tarragona heard a report of the Provincial Committee of the P. O. U. M., and in which the following resolution was unanimously carried:

I. To protest against the abuse and slander waged against the P. O. U. M., which is represented in the Provincial Council, and to condemn any unworthy language which is employed against this Party.

II. To declare that all the members of the Provincial Council of the P. O. U. M., as such, as saboteurs of anti-fascist unity, all persons who, either individually or representing any organization whatever, repeat the phrases of this unworthy campaign.

Tarragona, February 23, 1937.

Signed by the C.N.T., the Esquerra, the Peasants' Union, the P. O. U. M., and the Action Catalana.

What the Other Revolutionaries Say

For the sake of the truth, we must say that it is not the P. O. U. M. which has cultivated this literature, which strikes us as a frankly libellous campaign. (The C.N.T. of Madrid, central organ of the C.N.T.)

There is nothing to be said for our lungs: Enough! Enough! It is not right that they should try to eliminate an organization which has fought and is fighting along with the others for the triumph of the Spanish revolution. (Manifiesto of the Liber.

The P. O. U. M. and the Iberian Communist Youth declare that they are not connected with Trotskyism, which has attacked them many a time, and likewise are not connected with Stalinism, which attacks them to-day. That does not mean that they are enemies of the Soviet Union. (C.N.T., Madrid).

It is nonsense which no one believes, even those who write, to say that the P. O. U. M. serves fascist propaganda. The P. O. U. M. has demonstrated that it is an anti-fascist and genuinely revolutionary. (From the speech of the Mayor of Gerona, Ruperto Duran, in the session of the Town Council of 12.2.37.)

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The Red Aid of the P. O. U. M.

The Red Aid of the P. O. U. M. was not established with the present needs in view. It is as old as our party, born with the Workers' and Peasants' Black. At that time it was devoted entirely to helping comrades who fell in the factory or the streets, struggling against their capitalist masters. It was an underground, like the Prisoners' Aid Committee of the C.N.T., to try to function equally as would have meant its death. It was very effective in bringing aid to our comrades.

Since July

Since the 19th of July, it has been rendering extraordinary services. Comrade Matute, the General Secretary of the P. O. U. M., added a list of thousands and thousands of people, as he came in front of the Red Aid and the P. O. U. M. which stand ready to help everyone in need, to carry messages between them and their families. The Red Aid has a notable information service. While taking these notes in the Pelayo 8th quarters, we noticed how well the statistics and information are organized. Even the families of militiamen of other organizations gave us accurate information about their men abroad, at the front through the Red Aid of the P. O. U. M. For this purpose, a daily courier carries information, packages and mail back and forth to the front.

HELP FOR MADRID

Unfortunately sectarianism has entered the field of aid to the fighting workers. The Red Aid of the P. O. U. M. sent sixty tons of provision to the fighters in the capital of the republic and more than 4,000 articles of clothing. The International Red Aid has used every means to magnify the work of our Red Aid, which shows that Madrid achieved better results than the other organizations.

Their latest manoeuvre against our organization has been to exclude the P. O. U. M. from the Committee for the Defense of the refugees and from the Madrid Weeks campaign. As long as we continue to work through our organization its services cannot be stopped by such persecution.

The Red Aid of the P. O. U. M.

On September 21, after much work, the first sanatorium of the P. O. U. M., the "Maurin Sanatorium", was opened. It is located on the slopes of Montjuich, outside Barcelona, in two magnificent villa formerly belonging to fascists. The first passing through its halls for its magnificent dining-room for the comrdes employed there, a kitchen, a fully-equipped laboratory, grounds for the patients, comfortable rooms, a library and two floors of bedrooms with a capacity of eighty, of eighty apartments, and a roof garden. The second position has thirty rooms and an X-ray apparatus. A new "State-aided" sanatorium is being opened near Barcelona to supplement the work of the "Maurin Sanatorium." It has a capacity of 100 beds.

In the Pyrenees, near Alp, is a feudal mansion which was seized by a certain organization. The P. O. U. M. has taken it over and made it into a sanatorium for the comrades injured in the struggle against fascism—the Sanatorium Petrova. More than 5,000 refugees are in equipping the sanatorium, and an expert staff was assembled.

REFUGEE AND SCHOOL COLONIES

In spite of the obstruction by another organization, our Red Aid has done much to help the refugees by maintaining many refugee colonies. We would mention particularly the Rosas Luxembourg School Colony at Bosa with 24 children, the Louis Green School Colony at Apu with 45 refugees, the Maximo Corki Colony at Pruix with 46, the Héctor Grimelin Red Colony near Lérida with 220 refugees, and 600 refugees in Allegria and 43 refugees in Rennes with 200, not to mention the smaller homes.

We have not the space to mention all the activities of the Red Aid. We can only record how much we were impressed with the large number of refugees, whose tenacity has brought about the great work of solidarity of the Red Aid of the Red Aid to help everyone in need, with no trace of sectarian feeling.

A P. O. U. M. Library

The P. O. U. M. local of the Gracia district of Barcelona has founded a large public library, with reading rooms and holding rooms for its members and sympathizers. It is no accident that the library is housed in the same building with the headquarters and assembly rooms of the party local. The library is at the service of the revolution. It is a useful weapon against our class enemy and in the hot ofcollectivism.

The origin of this library is interesting. When the works of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels were confiscated by the military-fascist bandits, the capitalists saw their world sink-}

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The first number of «Socorro Rojo» (The Red Aid of the People's Organization) was published on the 15th of July. Its aim is to support the workers' strike, which is now in its second month, and to publicize the action of the workers and the taking of decisions in the revolutionary committees.

The working class has become the master of the situation. It is in the hands of the workers and peasants, the absolute masters of the situation. And, as a corollary of this, created the necessary conditions for the transition between capitalism and communism, it is inevitable. Without it, the emancipation of the workers is impossible.

5. «The working class cannot limit itself to taking into its own hands the state machine and putting it into motion, which is just enough to resist Franco, but not to defeat him.»

6. «The fascist insurrection of the 19th of July created the disorganized mechanism of the state, to use it at the service of its own interests and to conquer the political power, but gave the opportunity to undertake the organization of a new society without classes.»

7. «In order that the working class can fulfill its historic mission, an indispensible condition is that it organize itself into a class party, independent of the others, with an independent class policy.»

From these seven propositions, it develops that the political doctrine of Marxism is based on two fundamental ideas: the conquest of power and the dictatorship of the proletariat.

The working class, in its struggle for its emancipation, does not have itself only against the economic force of the enemy class, but also against its political force. The conquest of political power is an indispensable condition of the socialist transformation.

The Spanish, as well as the English, German and French comrades, back from the front on leave, want to see what has happened while they were fighting. They often take them to our library, which we believe to be a socialist institution insurmountable to the working class in the new society which we want to create.

Our party, in the name of the Spanish Revolution, sends its greetings to the working class everywhere who have come to our frontiers but who are prevented by international democracy from coming to our aid.

To understand the attitude of the so-called democratic powers toward the Spanish revolution, we must go much deeper than the fact of their being «democratic».

Whether democracies or not, these powers are, first of all, capitalist powers. Consequently they are by their very nature interested in combating everything which threatens the base of their economic regime.

Just as they fought the Russian revolution from the beginning, not consenting to treat with the Soviet Union until she had renounced her original revolutionary positions, then do everything they can to avoid a socialist republic in Spain, whose very existence threatens the capitalist regime itself.

This explains how, in face of the fascist military insurrection, the American and English-U.S. parties, under the leadership of Stalin, have played the part of the middle class and Stalinist parties. Every one of them, has worked to draw the collectives of the people towards Mussolini, and to municipalize the public services, as several of the C.N.T. and the U.G.T. agreed to the fusion of the two organizations in these provinces.

A basis of representation was also accepted.

**The Spanish Revolution**

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**THE PROBLEM OF POWER**

**ANDRE'S NIN**

The fundamental ideas of Marx on the subject of power can be summarized in the following propositions:

1. The state is an instrument of coercion at the service of the dominant class with the object of opposing the other classes.

2. While classes exist, the state exists, and its abolition cannot be decreed.

3. The proletariat, if it wants to defend its interests, must struggle for the conquest of power which it must utilize to create a new society without classes.

4. To break the resistance of the capitalists — the executive — will remove some of its privileges — and to undertake the organization of a new society on socialist lines means that the working class must temporarily install its class dictatorship. This period of transition between capitalism and communism is inevitable. Without it, the emancipation of the workers is impossible.

5. «The working class cannot limit itself to taking into its own hands the state machine and putting it into motion, which is just enough to resist Franco, but not to defeat him.»

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