

# THE FIGHTING WORKER



WORKERS OF THE WORLD  
UNITE!

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

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## United States Cracks Down on Porto Rico

### Accuse Nationalists of Arming to Revolt

The struggle of the Puerto Rican masses for freedom from American imperialism reaches a new climax in the trial of Doctor Pedro Albizu Campos and seven other leading members of the Nationalist Party who are charged with conspiring to overthrow the government of the United States by force. Because the jury was deadlocked the American judge declared a mistrial. The second trial is scheduled for July 27.

The trials are an attempt by the Roosevelt government to smash the growing movement for independence which is being led by the Nationalist Party. The main strength of this party is among the students and workers, with the former serving as shock troops in the numerous demonstrations which have been held which have ranged from peaceful mass rallies to street fighting. Labor strikes have played a minor role in this struggle.

The Puerto Rican Socialist Party which is one of the largest political forces in the island is opposed to independence and clamors for statehood as the forty ninth state in the American union. This party is part of the government which is conducting the trial.

#### RESPECTABLE DEFENSE

The defense denied that the Nationalist Party has any intention of overthrowing the American government and quoted from the platform and public statements of the Nationalist Party to prove that the party expects to win a majority of the voters of the country and "legally" proclaim independence.

The only kind of independence that the Puerto Rican masses or any other colonial people can get by election and "legal" proclamations is the fake independence the Philippine people got recently which leaves them as badly off economically and socially as they were before—slaves of American imperialism. American sugar and financial interests are not going to give up millions of dollars of profit-making investments in the sugar industry of Puerto Rico because a law is passed by a little government.

If it had been a working class revolution who was on trial he would have said straight out that the only way to get independence was to arouse the Puerto Rican masses to fight for complete independence; that this struggle would have to be an armed struggle; that it would have to be supported by the workers of the United States with all the means at their disposal; and that in the end the exploited masses of both countries could achieve freedom only through the revolution to overthrow American imperialism in the United States and all its colonies and set up working class dictatorships over the capitalists.

The Answer to Boss Threats To Close Plants Is Workers' Control Of Production

## SPANISH WORKERS BATTLE RIGHTIST REVOLT; ISSUE COMMUNISM OR FASCISM

### Only Soviets and Proletarian Revolution Can Smash Fascism

What began as a monarchist-rightist uprising in Spain rapidly developed into a fiercely fought civil war. On the right are feudal and clerical reaction: the landowners, the monarchists and the church; supported by Fascists elements and volunteer bands. On the left are the heroic workers who are supported by masses of the peasantry. The army is divided along the above lines, the tops also having split.

In the middle is the spineless, cowardly and treacherous Popular Front government of Azana which is supported by the liberal capitalists, the Socialist and Stalinist leaderships. Forced by the ardent pressure of the workers to fight in the only way possible, this trinity of treachery "armed the workers". But the workers have shown that they understood the situation better than their leaders. They organized into militias and

set up what the capitalist press calls "red committees", which can develop into Soviets.

The capitalist press is working overtime to conceal the real issue in the civil war. The Azana government and the Socialists and Stalinists present the question as a struggle between Fascism and democracy. That is just 100 per cent false. The issue now is Communism or Fascism. That has been the issue ever since the mo-

narchy was overthrown in 1931. But now the issue is poised on the edge of a knife. If the rights win a reactionary dictatorship will be set up under the sign of crushing Marxism, that is of suppressing the workers and peasants. It may or not be, at first, a Fascist dictatorship. Most probably it will be a dictatorship after the Austrian model.

#### ARMED INSURRECTION

If the workers win the armed battle they will confront the immediate possibility and necessity of seizing state power from the capitalists by armed insurrection. At best they will have only a brief period in which to do it. If they mark time as they have been doing for five years under their present reformist leadership they will be smashed as the German workers were smashed.

In Russia in 1917 the Russian workers and peasants overthrew the czar. In August Kornilov undertook a monarchist-rightist uprising against the spineless, treacherous Kerensky government. The Bolsheviks led the workers against Kornilov. They marched together with Kerensky's forces but they maintained the class independence of the workers. They did not support the capitalist Kerensky government. Instead they developed the independent action and institutions of the working class—the Soviets and factory committees — as a preparation to overthrow the Kerensky government after they had settled with Kornilov. Two months later they overthrew the Kerensky government.

#### LENIN'S ROAD

The Spanish workers show that they are made of the same heroic stuff as the Russian workers of 1917. But they have no Bolshevik party to lead them. The Socialists and Stalinists have held the workers back from struggle. They have failed to prepare them politically and with arms for the present reactionary uprising just as the German and Austrian Socialists and Stalinists failed to prepare the workers.

Today the situation calls for the immediate creation of soviets as the independent organs of the working class, as the base for the armed insurrection, as the embryo state organs of the proletarian dictatorship. On the basis of the Socialist and Stalinist policy the defeat of the rights will open up a brief interlude which the reaction will use to recoup its strength and make another bid for power. The Socialist and Stalinists are paving the way for Fascism.

The Spanish workers can follow the line of Lenin. For that they need a revolutionary party which can organize the struggle and the workers' state. That party does not exist. It must be created. On its creation and success depends the outcome of the class struggle in Spain which will have far reaching effects throughout Europe and the rest of the world.

## To End Imperialist War Overthrow Capitalism

ANOTHER world war is in the making. Every day's newspapers pile up fresh proof. All governments are shaping their foreign and domestic policies to gain points of advantage in the coming war. That is another way of saying the capitalists are preparing to fight it out for markets and colonies; that the coming war, like the last, will be an imperialist war.

The workers and peasants who will fight the war do nothing about it. The future will surely wonder that millions of human beings passively awaited a world wide war which could bring them only unimaginable misery.

The workers do nothing because they see no way out. Yet the solution is at hand. The coming war, all wars, can be eliminated. War is inevitable under capitalism. As long as capitalism exists there will be war. To eliminate war from the world it is necessary to put an end to capitalism.

#### OVERTHROW CAPITALISM

There is opposition to war in all classes in society, even among the capitalists who realize from the October Revolution of 1917 that war is a risky business for them.

But only that opposition is effective which goes to the root of the question and eliminates the cause of war. Only those who fight for the overthrow of capitalism really struggle against imperialist war.

In time of "peace", therefore, to fight war is to wage class war day in and day out against the capitalists. Those who, like Bill Green and John L. Lewis, openly preach class peace with the capitalists, are pulling, as Lenin said, on the side of the capitalists against the workers. They help prepare the workers to fight in the coming war. That is also true of those who, like the Socialists and Stalinists speak of struggle against war and even organize congresses and leagues against it, but follow a policy of trying to reform capitalism. In France and Spain they come out against strikes and revolutionary action to overthrow the capitalist governments, and throw their strength on the side of the capitalists as in the present civil war in Spain.

In recent years the Stalinists have made it a practice to set aside the first of August as a day of struggle against imperialist war. We are opposed to this practice. The struggle against war cannot be separated from the daily struggle against capitalism. And of course we are even more opposed to the reformist policy of the Stalinists on the war question. Demonstrations are in order on the basis of concrete anti-war activities such as stopping the shipment of munitions, etc. And they must be part of a revolutionary policy.

#### DEFEAT OF "OUR" GOVERNMENT

After war breaks out there is only one way to defeat it. That is, to turn the imperialist war into a civil war to overthrow capitalism. That is what Karl Liebknecht meant when he said: "The enemy is at home". On this score Lenin said: "Revolution in war time is civil war. Transformation of war between governments into civil war is... facilitated by military reverses...; on the other hand, it is impossible to strive in practice towards such a transformation without at the same time working towards military defeat."

Defeat of "our own" government and army! The capitalists call this treason. It is treason to capitalism. But it is loyalty to the international working class, to the revolution which will make it possible to create a better life. It is the only way to end war.

In peace and war the enemy is "our" capitalist class.

## Gov't Rushes War Plans

Under cover of neutrality toward actual and impending conflicts throughout the world and a "good neighbor policy" toward Latin America the "liberal, progressive" Roosevelt administration is building the biggest navy and peacetime army in the history of this country. The American imperialists are preparing for the coming world war. In fact in the last analysis they are the biggest war mongers in the world.

Britain has a vast colonial empire. Economically the United States is more powerful. But before the United States can cash in on its superiority it has got to expand its present colonial domain on a world scale to make sure that some other power doesn't shut it out from important markets as Japan is doing now in China. While Japan is causing American capitalism headaches in the Far East the real obstacle to American expansion on a world scale is England. Morgan, Rockefeller and their allies also have their eyes on the vast and enormously rich Soviet market. The biggest navy in the history of the United States is being built to fight England and Japan which may or may not be allies in the coming war.

#### ON THE EVE

All the potential capitalist enemies and allies of the American capitalists are also busy preparing "Britain Gets 40 New Airdromes, Triples Its Delivery of Planes"; "50,000 Soldiers, With Motor Artillery, Move Into Dardanelles As Turkey Cheers"; Fascist Italy and the Socialist government of Blum alike prepare to nationalize the war industries. England puts all industry on a semi-war time basis. Germany is arming day and night. So is the Soviet Union. Japan is on the march.

The spy scares which have been played up to the skies by the yellow press show how nervous the American capitalist government is getting. While sixteen million are unemployed because capitalist industry cannot make a profit and keep them at work at the same time the war industries are going full blast.

War is on the way. It's in the air.



# Soviets in New Defense Steps Back French Capital

Following out its policy of trying to starve off the coming world war and attacks against its own territory by concessions to the peasantry inside the Soviet Union and alliances with capitalist powers outside, the Soviet Union has replied to the German-Austrian agreement with a number of new moves.

In a further attempt to make sure of the solidarity of the peasantry in case of attack against it the Stalinists in control of the policies of the Soviet Union have made a front line attack on the State farms in those regions where military attacks can logically be expected. The land which belonged to state farms in those areas has been turned over to the collectives. According to the new constitution these collectives own the land in perpetuity. This is a very important enlargement of the already legalized capitalist property relations and another blow at the nationalization of the land, one of the main objectives of the October Revolution. This further weakens the economic base of the dictatorship of the proletariat and strengthens the hand of the peasants.

### THE RUMANIAN RAILROAD

Another important move was revealed by the announcement in the press that the Rumanian government was going to use money advanced by Czechoslovakia to build a railroad across the Carpathian mountains to link the Russian and Czech railway lines. The purpose of the railroad is to enable Russian troops to come to the assistance of the Czechoslovak capitalist government should it be attacked by German troops. The press also reports that the result of this move will be to extend Russian influence as a political and potential military factor in the "valley of the middle Danube".

# Mooney's 20th Year

Framed on a charge of throwing a bomb into a preparedness parade in 1916, Tom Mooney has completed nineteen years in jail. In this time Mooney has become a revolutionist in his thinking.

Mooney was sentenced to be hanged. The Russian workers put such a pressure on the American Ambassador that he cabled Wilson to do something about Mooney. This action together with the protest in the U. S. and other countries resulted in Mooney's sentence being commuted to life imprisonment. Mooney has been fighting untiringly for his freedom and recognition of his innocence.

The same kind of action which saved his life in 1917 can get him out of jail.

The latest developments in the foreign policy of the Soviet Union are an extension of the policy embodied in the Franco-Soviet pact. In essence the arrangement with Czechoslovakia and Rumania is a move to bolster up the Little Entente and the position of French imperialism on the European continent which have been struck a severe blow by the German-Austrian agreement.

Under Stalinist leadership the Soviet Union is pursuing to the very end the policy of trying to prevent the war by political and military alliances with capitalist powers. In return for these alliances the Communist International has become an open supporter of capitalist governments as in France and Czechoslovakia.

### LENIN'S POLICY

Agreements with capitalist powers are necessary in a capitalist world. In Lenin's day the main factor in the struggle of the Soviet Union against imperialist war was the international working class. Soviet foreign policy was designed to appeal to the workers to follow the example of the Russian workers and to aid them in doing so.

Under Stalin the Soviet Union

# Young Workers Prepared for Slaughter

A widespread drive to whip the millions of youth behind the war machine of American imperialism is now in progress. In order to understand the significance of the latest steps taken in this direction, the outstanding peculiarity of the American military machine must be understood. Unlike the European countries, which have large, standing peace-time armies, this country has merely a skeleton force numbering a few hundred thousands. The importance of this skeleton force has been pointed out in a recent confidential report from the Secretary of War to the President. The War Department considers it the leading corps of the tremendous, conscripted army which this country will have, according to their plans, on the outbreak of war. We must have a corps which will be prepared to pick up men from the streets and transform them into a disciplined army on a moment's notice, says the War Secretary in essence. It

now relies exclusively on diplomacy, the League of Nations and alliances like any capitalist power. Insofar as revolutionary action by the workers is concerned we have seen time and time again how the Stalinists strive with all their strength to hold the workers back from revolutionary struggle.

The Stalinists are strike breakers. They are against the revolution. They are for the status quo—that is for the continuation of capitalism. They are enemies of the proletarian dictatorship in the Soviet Union. The struggle to defend the Soviet Union and against war is also a struggle against Stalinism.

The revolutionary defense of the Soviet Union means above everything else revolutionary action in the capitalist countries to overthrow capitalism and the ousting of the Stalinists in the Soviet Union. And that means the creation of new revolutionary parties to do the job—the Fourth International.

is for this that American imperialism wants to train the youth today.

The leading representatives of the capitalists, be they Republicans, Democrats, or Third Party-Lemkeites, have taken a great interest in the youth. All of the major party candidates have issued special appeals to the youth in which they appeal not only for their votes, but speak of saving what they term the "lost generation." The "lost generation" represents a danger to capitalism. The millions of young workers who are being embittered against the whole system of starvation and plunder, may not readily answer the call when capitalism goes to war for markets and colonies.

### ONE MILLION IN CCC

The close to one million youth that have already gone through the CCC camps have been prepared for the arduous life of the army, have been psychologized to take the front ranks on the outbreak of war. It is significant that whereas all the other relief agencies are being cut, Roosevelt has insisted,

and Congress has complied, that the CCC camps not be tampered with. Although generally the authorities have diligently attempted to maintain that there was no military preparations in this setup, talk of instituting open military training has already begun.

The summer military training camps are in full swing. Reports of their activities appear daily in the capitalist press. Even in these reports it is easy to see the importance of these activities for the American military machine. Thousands of youth are put through the hardest forms of military training and are prepared, under the cloak of vacations, to become non-commissioned officers in the army.

The National Guard is growing in numbers and increasing its activity. The same is true, in the winter months, of the ROTC which has become an integral part of American college life. All these agencies, are backed by the tremendous capitalist propaganda machine which works day and night.

# To Call Strike On Detroit WPA

by SAMUEL GARRETT  
Workers Vote Presidential Candidate

DETROIT, July 17.—Our WPA Union here is rapidly approaching the point where it will have to fight or fold up. With 4,000 of the 15,000 WPA workers already signed up and over 300 coming in each week, the workers are pressing for a fight to win a three point program: \$72 a month; 60c per hour; no lay-offs.

Numerous county and city organizations will attend a state conference for a unified struggle. The workers here are beginning to realize that only their own energies and fighting abilities can build up a strong union and win their demands. The Stalinists are trying to soft pedal all talk of class struggle action.

But the workers are way ahead of the Stalinists. They are show-

ing that they don't intend to be pressed down to a coolie standard of living. If the WPA administration thinks that the workers will accept crumbs in Detroit they are greatly mistaken.

### Lindway Framed!

Mike Lindway, striking master mechanic at the National Screw and Manufacturing Co., Cleveland, Ohio, has been railroaded to twenty years in the Ohio State Penitentiary. Lindway was an active member of the I.W.W.

On March 30th, 1935 while the National Screw strike was at its height, detectives entered Lindway's home in his absence, without a warrant, and "found" a bomb factory. The "find" was a plant. This is an old trick of the boss class to get rid of militant workers. The boss courts found him guilty.

# WORKERS VOTE CAMPAIGN GETS UNDER WAY

## Tours Organized for Candidates

A speaking tour for comrade Samuel Garrett, presidential candidate of the Workers Vote, is being organized in the Great Lakes area, to be followed in the fall by a tour of the eastern cities. Comrade Louis Roberts, vice-presidential candidate, will tour the eastern cities, and cover a number of mid-western cities later.

A tour is being organized for comrade Hugo Oehler, national campaign manager. Comrade Oehler will cover first the cities between New York and Chicago and later the cities west of Chicago. At the same time comrade Martin Beardslee will cover the Great Lakes cities on an organization tour to Chicago.

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## THE WORKERS VOTE For President SAMUEL GARRETT For Vice-President LOUIS ROBERTS

### New York Plans Drive

The campaign of the New York organization will run for approximately 100 days and will cover, in addition to Greater New York, part of New Jersey and New England. The plans of the campaign committee include a number of mass meetings and open air meetings in these areas; challenges to other working class organizations participating in the presidential election campaign to debate; social affairs; appeals to working class organizations for official endorsement of the League program and candidates; special leaflets; house-to-house canvassing of workers' homes to get votes on the Workers Vote lists; and in November a sticker and write-in vote in the boss elections. Special meetings with sympathizers are planned to enable them to participate in the campaign.

At a later date Workers Vote candidates, Samuel Garrett and Louis Roberts will speak in New York and nearby points.

Read the Fourth International.

### "Communist" Party Adopts New Flag

"Question: Should Communists salute the American flag? Should they stand when the 'Star Spangled Banner' is being played?"

Answer: . . . There is no reason why Communists should not follow the customs of the country as to saluting the flag and standing when the national anthem is being played." Daily Worker, July 14

The oppressed Puerto Ricans who tore down the American flag in their demonstrations because it symbolized the custom of this country of condemning them to bitter misery will be very pleased to learn how bravely the Communist Party is fighting with and for them. The plain fact is that the Stalinists are not revolutionists at all but social patriots.

Get a copy of the Workers Vote Election Program. Single copies mailed free on request.

Order a bundle and distribute them to your fellow workers.

100 copies ..... \$ .50  
250 copies ..... 1.00  
500 copies ..... 2.00  
1,000 copies ..... 3.50

## Stalinists Adopt Reformist Election Line; Workers Vote Offers Revolutionary Program

The Communist Party of the U. S. has entered the presidential election campaign under the slogan of "Democracy or Fascism", the slogan under which the Spanish Peoples Front Government is using the revolutionary energies of the workers and peasants to prop up a tottering capitalist society. Under this slogan they are conducting an out and out reformist election campaign.

Since they are for the defense of democracy they are in reality for capitalism. Democracy under capitalism can be only capitalist democracy against the workers; and the only real threat to it can come from the workers.

### NOT IN THE PROGRAM

So it is no surprise to us to find that the Stalinist election program doesn't make any attempt to expose the fake democracy of capitalism or point out that only the overthrow of capitalism and the establishment of a workers government can solve the workers' problems. Or that imperialist war must be converted into civil war to overthrow capitalism.

The Stalinists are busy concentrating their main fire on the Republican Party, giving indirect

support to Roosevelt, crawling on their hands and knees before the Townsends to win them away from Coughlin, Lemke and Smith, and competing with the Daughters of the American Revolution and Ham Fish to prove that they are the true patriots.

To expose the fake democracy of capitalism in the elections the Revolutionary Workers League is conducting a Workers Vote Election Campaign on the working-class basis that anyone over seventeen who is not a member of the boss class can vote for the overthrow of capitalism and for a workers government on the Workers Vote lists which are being circulated now. A vote for the Workers Vote program and candidates is a vote for the revolution.

### Just Out AUGUST ISSUE

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