

Our Revolutionary Heritage: The Corn Rebellion By Leighton Rigby

If American workers generally are unaware that in 1917 three-quarters of a million men were preparing to march on Washington...

There are two reasons for the failure of the movement: timid and irresponsible leadership, and unsuitable circumstances for success.

Opposition to War

Before the press, movies, song writers and spell-binders could build up the maximum of war hysteria...

After the exposed portions of the country became ill with war hysteria, there still remained certain parts of the U.S. where the disease was unknown.

In accounts I have read of the reception of the Draft Act in Oklahoma, too much emphasis has been put upon the backwardness of the people involved.

It must be remembered that these people were oppressed by urban money lenders who often demanded—and got, if crops were sufficiently good—four or five times the conventional rate of interest.

The Corn Rebellion was put down. It was bound for failure from the first. But it stands as proof that class conscious American workers will not willingly fight for the interests that oppose them and beat them down.

Expel 20,000 Oppositionists from C. P. S. U. In Recent "Cleansing" Under G. P. U.

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ing of the documents in his satrapy, 3,648 people were expelled from the party, 8 percent of the entire organization.

Where Repression is Strongest In the Khar'kov district out of 50,000 members, more than 4,000 were expelled.

The Black Sea Region In the same issue of Pravda, in a small item we find that in the Asov-Black Sea region, 4,324 people were expelled.

20% "Trotskyists" in West-Siberia In the West-Siberian region, 3,576 members of the party were expelled (11 percent) and 1,935 candidates (12.8 percent).

20,000 Expelled

If we take the West-Siberia coefficient, then we would arrive at a number of not less than 40,000 expelled "Trotskyists" and Zinovievists for the entire Soviet Union.

The enormous political significance of the above data is clear enough to anyone. A question remains: Why does the bureaucracy, on the one hand, keep the total secret, while on the other, it makes public partial data which is sufficiently clear for general orientation?

New Purge in Preparation

The Bolshevik-Leninists were and remain the most irreconcilable enemies of the bureaucracy which seeks to perpetuate its position as a ruling caste.

through our Russian Bulletin. Thus the precious primacy of revolutionary thought is being made secure.

Under the lash of the bureaucracy, and not without direct provocation on the part of the Yagoda, Medvedev and others, isolated elements of the youth take to the path of individual terror, i.e., to the path of despair and hopelessness.

No, we have not the slightest ground for falling into apathy. Progress is neither smooth nor straight.

Jan. 11, 1936. L. Trotsky

P.S. Insistent mention of "spies of foreign agencies" expelled from the party during the purge deserves particular attention.

The Treachery of the Spanish "Labor Party of Marxist Unity"

By LEON TROTSKY

The Spanish organization of the "Left Communists," which was always a muddled organization, merged, after countless vacillations to the right and to the left, with the Catalan Federation of Maurin into a party of "Marxist (?) Unity," on a centrist program.

Most of these parties stood at the head of the Spanish revolution during the years of its upsurge and they did everything in their power to betray it and trample it underfoot.

Political Betrayal A few months ago there was published in Madrid, Juan Andrade's book "The Reformist Bureaucracy and the Labor Movement," in which along with quotations from Marx, Engels, Lenin and other authors, an analysis is made of the causes underlying the degeneration of labor bureaucrats.

the Socialist party. Never! Under no conditions! -To enter temporarily into a mass political organization in order to carry on an irreconcilable struggle in its ranks against the reformist leaders for the banner of the proletarian revolution—that is opportunism; but to conclude a political alliance with the leaders of a reformist party on the basis of a deliberately dishonest program serving to dupe the masses and cover up the bourgeoisie—that is valour! Can there be any greater debasement and prostitution of Marxism?

LL.P. and Spain The "Party of Marxist Unity" is a member of the celebrated London Bureau of "Revolutionary Socialist Parties" (the former I.A.G.) The leadership of this Bureau is now in the hands of Fenner Brockway, secretary of the Independent Labor Party.

In this connection, it is in place to recall that the Spanish "Left Communists," as their very name indicates, posed on every appropriate occasion, as irreconcilable revolutionists. In particular, they thunderously condemned the French Bolshevik-Leninists for entering

this "International" rejects the mere electoral support of labor candidates, if they support the League of Nations. The Spanish section concludes a bloc with bourgeois parties on a common program of supporting the League of Nations.

"Unity"—with Whom? But let us return to the Spanish party of "Marxist Unity." How ironical is the name "Marxist Unity" . . . with the bourgeoisie. The Spanish "Left Communists" (Andres Nin, Juan Andrade and others) have more than once tried to parry our criticism of their collaborationist policies by citing our lack of understanding of the "special conditions" in Spain.

In search for justifications for their policy Maurin-Nin refer to the Spanish electoral law which makes it extremely difficult for a young party to run its own candidates. (See the resolution of the C.E.C. "Batalla," No. 234.) But this argument is worthless.

The international has also adhered officially to the bloc with the bourgeoisie. So much the worse for it. As far as we are concerned we prefer clarity. In Spain, genuine revolutionists will no doubt be found who will mercilessly expose the betrayal of Maurin, Nin, Andrade and Co., and lay the foundation for the Spanish section of the Fourth International!

January 22, 1936

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