

...PHILADELPHIA—Our comrades, Morgenstern and Goodman, who were indicted for sedition, may soon have to stand trial. Several revolutionary workers have already received varying prison sentences in Philadelphia under the Flynn sedition laws. The International Labor Defense, which, after much pressure from workers in various parts of the country, made a half hearted promise some time ago that it would furnish legal aid, is now even failing in this respect.

With the trial pending and possibly being called sooner than expected, no agreements whatever have been made by the I. L. D. to furnish attorneys. Naturally, comrades Morgenstern and Goodman are not satisfied with purely legal aid, that is, merely the hiring of an attorney, the Left Opposition is not satisfied with this, the working class cannot remain satisfied with this. These two comrades charged with sedition are indicted as revolutionists and must be accorded the defense as revolutionists. Our Philadelphia branch, in view of the failure of the I. L. D., has found itself compelled to proceed independently to organize the defense for the two comrades and to call upon the workers' organizations to form a united front to fight the sedition laws. All possible efforts will still be made by our Philadelphia branch to give the I. L. D. the opportunity and to make it assume the duty it should assume in a workers' united front for defense of the class war prisoners.

NEW YORK—Our branch in the headquarters city has maintained a splendid lead in contributions made to the Program of Expansion. It is therefore not too much to say that the actual establishment of the Militant on a weekly basis will to a considerable extent also be due to the efforts of the New York branch membership. At least that much we feel we can say surely for the future prospects.

The main reason for this prediction is the action taken by the branch at its last regular business meeting. First, it divided itself into two teams which will enter into competition in securing the most subscriptions for the Militant. Secondly, it took up the re-establishment of the sustaining fund by which the comrades make their regularly weekly contributions on the basis of a renewed pledge. The branch membership has already learned the important lesson that in such organizational activities coordination brings the best results. The comrades going around to solicit subs also carry with them an ample supply of literature and in general urge the workers to not only become subscribers but also regular supporters of the Left Opposition.

With the beginning of the month of May, the New York branch concluded its regular weekly forum which had been held very successfully throughout the winter. Now it is conducting regular street meetings. Just as the Militant goes to press, the final arrangements are being made for the first meeting in New York on the events of the Spanish revolution, with comrade Shachtman as the speaker.

BOSTON—Big arrangements are being made by our Boston branch for the lecture to be given by comrade Cannon in that city on Sunday, June 8, at 2:30 P. M. at Belmont Hall, 150 Humboldt Ave., Roxbury. The subject will be "Problems of the American Revolution". The fact that all of our comrades there are very active in various workers' organizations and have gained good contacts by their splendid record in several strike meetings. The branch has become lately one of our most effective units in distribution of literature.

With the first step of our Expansion Program realized, that is, the establishment of the Pioneer Publishers and its first book, the "Permanent Revolution" ready for sale we are now striding rapidly forward to the second step. Our readers have already noticed the announcement of the plan to establish the weekly Militant. In this step we are even a good deal ahead. In our original plan we conceived of its possibility only after the collection of contributions amounting to \$1500. It has now become certain with an even less amount, that is, with a total of \$1000 actually collected. The date for the appearance of the first weekly issue is set as July First. But it does depend on the actual sum of one thousand dollars being collected by that date.

While the national office is taking these steps and endeavoring to keep a little bit ahead of the program, our branches should take good care not to lag behind. An actual comparison of the sums collected by the various branches to date will be the best means for each one to estimate whether or not they have reached expectations. We do believe that in making such a check, several branches will find that they are still behind and will have to speed up immensely to be in time to do their share before July first, and from then on up to the completion of the program. The first point of importance is to finish the collection of the pledges made by the various comrades and to forward the names to the national office when each pledge is completed so that we can properly make out the certificates. Secondly, to organize systematically the approach to sympathetic workers and get them interested in participating in the realization of the program. Thirdly, the appearance of the weekly Militant at a date earlier than expected should become a spur to renewed pledges. But remember that these payments should be met before July first.

Following are the contributions to the Expansion Program:

2,000—	New York	(M. Fisher)	\$3.00
	New York	A. Glotzer)	3.00
	New York	(G. Saul)	1.00
	New York	(J. Rose)	1.00
	New York	(M. Rose)	1.00
	New York	(Anonymous)	5.00
	Newark	(Dr. Tanos)	10.00
	Pittsburgh	(N. Leperes)	1.65
	Chicago br.		4.00
	Minneapolis branch		29.00
	Cleveland	L. Bryar)	2.00
			\$60.65
	Previously reported		797.00
	Total to date		\$857.65

In the next issue of the Militant, the contributions to date will be listed by branches.

Once check this, otherwise those party members who might be won for the fight against the party Centrists, will rightly distrust the Opposition and be thrown into the hands of Pollitt and Co.

The Secretariat must lay down very definite instructions dealing with the following questions:

1. When may Opposition groups be organized?
 2. Who may be members of such groups?
 3. The organizational attitude of the Opposition groups to non-C. P. members.
- The Secretariat must make absolutely clear that the task of the Opposition is to organize the opposition to the Centrists within the party. Where the Opposition is "legal" (in its other tasks) its only task is this. (That is, its other tasks are normal tasks of a party member.)

—DAVID DAVIS.

THE MOVEMENT IN LOS ANGELES

LOS ANGELES—While in Los Angeles, I got in touch with our comrade Boisnert. Despite his isolation, he has gathered around himself a splendid proletarian group known as the Machinist Club. The club consists of about 30 members, is open for all workers to join and holds an open forum each week besides its regular meeting. The element is of course a raw one as far as its theoretical understanding is concerned, but it is permeated with a healthy class consciousness which should in the near future bring some organizational value to us. These workers will listen attentively to any subject of working class interest but feel an absolute hostility towards the official Communist party. This hostility I came in contact with often throughout the country. Down in the working class section of L. A., the party is known as the "commies". Considering the location and organizational influence of the party, which from my observation is almost negligible I believe we could have a healthier and more influential base than that of the party if two or three comrades could come to the assistance of comrade Boisnert.

The party is located, or I should rather say isolated, in the Jewish section of the town, known as Boyle Heights. From there they march down upon the city with demonstration after demonstration until no one but the police began to take them seriously. In typical Stalinist fashion they so conducted the demonstrations of the "third period" that they find themselves practically underground without any contact or even the sympathy of the working class. From last reports there, I hear that the party is knocking at the back doors of the Civil Liberties Union for assistance.

The only tactic open to the party in L. A. is the one adopted by our comrades in Minneapolis, namely: a broad united front for the right of free speech [The Communist League branch in Minneapolis is working towards creating a broad movement of all workers' organizations to fight against the reactionary attempts to outlaw the revolutionary movement as a prelude to a concerted attack upon the whole labor movement.—Ed.] But such a tactic, the party is in no position to carry out since through that other brilliant slogan of the "third period": social fascism, they have alienated every working class organization in L. A. The only time the police does not bother the party is when the party members get together for their best beloved revolutionary sport—"banquets". I attended two of them in the two weeks I was in L. A. A jolly time was had by all with plenty of collections and empty revolutionary phrases. Just how empty the hysterical boasts of the party are could clearly be seen on May First, when the police not only prevented any street demonstration, but occupied the party premises and refused to allow an indoor meeting. Strangely enough, the party members accept the police terror in L. A. as evidence of their revolutionary activity and importance. To every criticism of their revolutionary integrity, they point with pride at the police terror against them. To the worker in the street, the entire situation there looks like a grudge fight between the party and the police.

—MAX GELDMAN.

A "NON-PARTY" ORGANIZATION

NEW YORK—When, on May 20, 1931, the executive committee of the League of Struggle for Negro Rights "considered" the application for membership of comrade George J. Saul in that organization, they knew of Saul's fearless and effective activities in the South against lynching, his record as a working class and Communist fighter, and his understanding of international forces and developments. They knew the reason for Saul's desire to become a member of the organization, namely, to place himself where he could more effectively struggle as a revolu-

MILITANT SUB DRIVE

ONLY ONE MONTH LEFT FOR SUBSCRIPTION DRIVE

The total of new subscriptions, trials and renewals for the Militant, to date is 128. This registers a big improvement over the last report. To reach our goal, however, the branches will have to concentrate their efforts on this drive for the next four weeks and double their activities along these lines.

The New York branch reports a decision to gather 100 by July First. This is not too much of an undertaking considering its large membership and the fact that comrade Goldberg in St. Louis was able to gather 19 new subscriptions all by himself.

Thus far, the Chicago branch still leads in the drive. Minneapolis comes second and comrade Goldberg and the Sew York branch follow.

From Brooklyn we received two subscriptions from one of our sympathizers stating that he is working to earn the bound volume of The Militant.

The prizes to be awarded will be as follows: To the branch coming in highest by July 1st, a copy of "My Life". To the branch coming in second highest, a bound volume of The Militant and an enlarged reproduction of Trotsky's photograph to the branch coming in third.

Rush your subs! Increase the circulation of the Militant. Assure the return of The Militant to a Weekly on a sound basis.

tionist in the proletarian fight against the bosses' worst forms of persecution and discrimination. They knew that comrade Saul wanted to and could do organizational and agitational work as in a militant rebel. And in their hearts they were in favor of accepting comrade Saul as a member. Some of them referred to a "she" bureaucrat who said, "Saul must join the party first". (She meant the Centrist faction in control of the party, for Saul is a member of the Left faction of the party and is, as he has been for years, a Communist).

These comrades stated plainly that a "higher committee" would no doubt uphold her opinion that Saul's application be turned down because of his political affiliation.

It is in this way that the Centrist bureaucrats seek to isolate many of the tried and able Communist rebels. It is in this way that they mechanically control the mass organizations and impose sectarian tactics upon them.

With the revolutionary situation in Spain, the knot of European economic and political forces tightening to the breaking point, the movement of the oppressed rising in the colonies—the observant Communists everywhere see more clearly than ever the validity of the political stand of the Left Opposition, which stresses the international proletarian revolution rather than the utopian core of Stalinism (socialism in one country). Because we stand for a real united front in the defense of the Scottsboro boys instead of a purely nominal one, and that largely with religious and unreliable elements, the bureaucrats discriminate in practice against such comrades as Saul, experienced in work among the Negro masses and devoted to the cause. It is this policy of mechanical strangulation that reduces the auxiliary organizations of the movement to pure caricatures of a party already narrowed down by official sectarianism.—J.

FROM AN I. W. W. MEMBER

MINNEAPOLIS. In the late issue of the Militant (April 15) I note that what you have to say regarding the "Industrial Workers Unemployed Union".

As a member of the I. W. W. for several years, I am rather surprised to read that we are now reactionary! It is true that the leaflet (breadlines or picket lines) does not mention the necessity of disposing of the capitalist system, being as the picket line proposition is one to bring about immediate demands.

We know that as long as capitalism exists there will be unemployment. The object is to get the working class to make a real fight where some results may be expected. Activity breeds militancy and that is what we want. I feel that the best results (and relief) can be obtained by marching upon the industries, the only place where our class has power. And that is where we must go if we hope to gain or better our conditions.

Your editorial regarding the review of the book "Communism and Syndicalism, which appeared in Industrial Solidarity, is O. K., I suppose, from a political point of view.

Yours for the revolution.
I. W. W. member.

LETTERS from the MILITANTS

A CRITICISM OF THE ENGLISH OPPOSITION

LONDON—

The recently published articles by "Black Diamond" and "Spartacus" dealing with the situation in the C. P. G. B., and the growth of the Opposition call for comment.

In dealing with Minority Movement conferences, "Black Diamond" approached the question of their representative character from the viewpoint of trade union democracy, which of course is not a Bolshevik viewpoint. What we must criticize is the deception practised. The representation of workers at conferences is exaggerated in order to deceive the Comintern and the workers.

"Spartacus" longs for a "full time organizer". Of what? A new party? This must be made clear before great mistakes are made. No one has yet been expelled from the C P G B for oppositional views.

There has so far been no fight against the Centrist leaders. Any opposition that has been made has never yet been openly expressed in the party as being based on the International Opposition's fundamental criticism of the errors of the Comintern and C. P. S. U. leaders.

Despite this, there exists an "opposition group" consisting in part of workers who have never been members of the C. P. or who have dropped out "fed up".

This group is, I believe, making contact with workers outside the C. P.—as a group. This work is not being done as normal party work, but as opposition group work, as though no party exists!

This is completely wrong and dangerous. Comrades must realize that Oppositionists who mask their opposition in the party and at the same time organize "opposition groups" which include now party members, are lacking in the elements of Bolshevism.