The Tom Mooney Case

Walker and the Labor Fakers in Attemps to Derail the Class Issue party leadership has helped to make

California "pleading" for Tom Mooney Sent off with the proper emotional touch including a telegram from the aged mother of Mooney, he was hailed as "liberator" by "capitalist philanthropists", by smug labor "leaders" and by the Socialist Party officials. What a strange situation? Mayor Walker, the bosom friend of Tom Mooney's very jailors, or -maybe it is not so strange. Thus Tammany hopes to wash off the blood-stains of the innocent workers whom it and its vicious police have done to death or maimed.

Is the stage now all set for him to be released as a "magnanimous" act of his jailors and tormentors? We do not know. Perhaps they have finally noticed the power of Tom Mooney's cause to eventually kindle the smouldering flame of working class revolt. Perhaps they calculate that the best way to quench this smouldering flame would be to assume the role of "liberators". With a presidential election coming next year such a "noble" role could well serve the democratic party headed by the reaction ary, corrupt Tammany Hall. But do they intend to extend this magnanimity to other class war prisoners? Not for one instant. Their only object is to try to grasp a popular issue and make it their own.

To complete the mockery all the friends of Tammany are scurrying to get on the band wagon. Wm. Green, evi dently joined by the whole of the A. F | crepit gentry it could be expected; it of L. executive council reaffirms the "belief in Tom Mooney's innocence". Wm. Green asserts that the California Federation executive council is the only labor body authorized to intervene and to receive funds for Mooney's release. But Uew York, excluded the Communists, during these fifteen years which have passed, this galaxy of capitalist agents in dastardly action in full. At a conference labors' ranks have used every means possible to choke any effort on behalf of Tom Mooney. Hence his scorching condemnation of them.

To Whom Did Mooney Appeal?

all the capitalist mockery, if Tom -of-their weakness and failures of yesman, the working class throughout the dynamic power which alone will bring world will have cause to rejoice. They victory tomorrow". It was the opporwill welcome Tom Mooney to their tunity to weld this potential, dynamic ranks. His fight was and still is their power and to set it into motion. But in fight, and his cause belongs to them this great duty the official party leaderonly. They in the first instance compel- ship has failed miserably. Thus they led his capitalist jailors to abandon the carry their heavy share of responsibilexecution which had been planned. But ity for having brought degradation to there remains nevertheless a blot upon this issue so dear to the working class the American working class for its sub- and for having played directly into the mission to all the deception and betray- hands of its enemies,

The New York Tammany Mayor is in als which have helped to keep Tom Mooney in jail for so long. There remains especially a serious blot upon the leadership of the official Communist Party for its utter failure to rally to the recent clarion call of Tom Mooney, which pointed the way not only to his release by working class action, but also to that of a mighty movement toward the release of all class war prisoners. That failure has caused an indelible stain upon the Communist movement which can be eradicated only by being laid bare, by being honestly admitted and by being decisively condemned.

Tom Meoney's appeal was addressed to the working class and in particular to its most militant section, the Communists. Tom Mooney knew, as history invited to participate in the movement. Itle about "counter-revolutionaries". Among others he named the militant units of the A. F. of L., the Socialist Party and farmer labor parties, the Communist Party and the separate Communist groups, including the Communist League of America (Opposition).

The Heavy Price of Stalinist Failure This genuine united front, the Stalinist bureaucrats of the official party feared. Their attitude was exactly that of the social reformists. From that deshould be otherwise with the Communist Party. The issue of a pardon for Tom Mooney was made a factional football While the social reformists called their own conference, and, as for example in the Stalinist strategists emulated that called by the New York I. L. D., to take up, among other issues, that of the liberation of Tom Mooney, delegates of the Left Opposition were expelled.

Such is the miscarriage of a golden opportunity. "Tom Mooney is an .his Despite all this stage setting; despite torical symbol of the American workers Mooney is soon to step out of jail a free terday and today and their potential

Rail Bosses in Wage Cutting Campaign

(Continued from page 1) recent convention demanded that all th roads - immediately institute a 10% allaround wage cut. This association in cludes all the biggest banks of the coun try headed by the firm of J. P. Morgan.

What answer have the union leaders given to these onslaughts? It is reported that the "Chiefs" of the four transportation brotherhoods recently attended a dinner jointly with the representatives of the biggest railroad magnates, ostensibly to discuss in a friendly manner. But, while this may satisfy their culinary tastes, it cannot give the slightest secur ity to the position of the railroad work ers. On the contrary, that is the parti cular method to prepare a sell-out. And today there is no organized Left wing force to effectively challenge such deals. Will There Be A Repetition of the Past?

In 1921 and 1922 the policy of th railroad union leadership relied entirely upon the railroad labor board for adjustment of grievances. To the workers it proved a deep disappointment. The labor board became the very instrument to take away the conditions from the unions one by one. In 1921 the train service unions threatened to strike, but declared they would look out only for their own interests, leaving the shop crafts to their own fate. The latter were left to strike alone in 1922. They fought not the railroad systems as whole, but merely single roads, and only those where their grievances were the most outstanding. The result became a settlement only with minor roads, a general defeat and decimation of the union forces from which they have not since

recovered. The railroad companies are now mak ing their demands for wage cuts one by one. Their aim is to repeat the experiences of the past, and all indications are that the unions will fall into the trap. As far as the union leaderships are concerned, there need be no doubt that it fits in well with their views. They have no other interests than to serve the companies by helping keep the workers divided and easy victims for defeat. That the dangers in the present situation have long ago been sensed by the workers is quite clearly evident from the rank and file pressure, particularly for a six hour day. That pressure came to a head last not by single unions or against single summer and culminated in a conference companies, but by recognizing all of the 18c in bundles; subscriptions, \$2.00 per of large representation by the five main companies as the common enemy-only transportation unions held in Chicago. in that lies the hope for success. But in anticipation, the leaders-these

company lackeys—succeeded in ure for wage cuts on the railroads. The fracking the general ferment into pro Investment Bankers Association at its posals to ask for legislation for the six hour day. This was but another repeti tion of relying upon the capitalist governmental machinery of "justice". It is doomed to disappointment and defeat.

What About the Left Wing Movement?

The situation growing out of the 1922 strike movements became also the beginning of a powerful Left wing movement, at that time inspiring great hopes among large section of railroad workers. At the railroad amalgamation conference held in Chicago in December 1922, over 400 delegates attended. Several of the railroad unions indorsed the proposals for amalgamation, despite the resistance of the high salaried officials. The Left wing movement experienced a growth until the dizzy "Third Period" tactics were inaugurated by the official party leadership. The results were the fatal mistake by the railroad workers Left wing movement-the adoption of the policy of building new "revolutionary unions" on the roads. Of course no new unions were built, but the Left wing movement réceived a death blow and has remained practically non-existent ever

So much for the Left wing movement officially under the leadership of the T | Club. The Club also instructed its memmission on its part of this fatal policy. support the invitations in their local What the workers thought of it, however, they have clearly shown by losing confidence and remaining absent.

hope shown since; a beginning toward a ter formally and actively into this un ment. The railroad workers of Minn eapolis set this example by the methods the movement and to make it successful. and activities of their local railroad council. It became one of the effective instruments in promulgating the demand for the six hour day on the roads. Its activities enjoyed the support of most of the railroad locals in that center, It showed a way for the rank and file towards closer consolidation of the vari | L. Trotsky. ous crafts. This is precisely the first step needed in this present situation. The railroad workers constitute a power ful army. A consolidation of their forces, now divided in the sixteen standard unions; a united taking up of the fight to tions, bundle orders and requests for at least maintain the present standard, single copies should be sent to her.

-ARNE SWABECK. New York, N. Y.

These enemies, while now appearing in the role of liberators, may hope to choke the glowing spirit of Tom Mooney. We do not think we can. But their endeavor is to take his cause away from the working class in order to obliterate and crush it. The policy of the official this endeavor an easy one. Thus once more is recorded a heavy price paid by the Communist movement for Stalinism. We will continue to bend all our efforts for its eradication in the future.

Mooney Meet at

STAUNTON, ILL.

For the meeting at Staunton on behalf of Tom Mooney, we distributed leastets and had them posted on mine entrances, mine tipples and the walls of buildings on mine properties. A stool-pigeon approached a miner, whom he suspected of posting these leaslets, and threatened him has proven, that only that section can with vague punishments. The burden of give the life needed to build a powerful his remarks was: "Hey, you been hangmovement on a class basis. But Tom ing around with them Trotskyites, If I Mooney also definitely asked for "a gen- catch you posting any of these notices uine united front". He named the or- for their meetings, I'll fix you plenty!" ficial Communist Party, now under the ganizations and groups which should be Strange words for a capitalist lick-spit-

Staunton, III.

the only Mooney meeting held in Staun ton in a considerable time.

Some 40 miners were in attendance. They came from surrounding mining towns and from Staunton itself. They were among the most militant miners in the coal fields.

Charles Blome, president of the St. Louis Metal Trades Council and of the Molders' Defense Committee, spoke first. He reviewed Mooney's militant labor and spoke of the black record of the betrayers in the California Federation of

other class war prisoners, with the fight for better conditions. He read from Mooney's appeal of August 20th and it made a deep impression. He called for a genuine united front conference which would include all working-class organizations irrespective of their political, economic, social or other views. The basis for participation in this united everyone should have the freedom criticize. This explanation of the United front as against the Stalinist approach impressed the miners. It is for the the building of such a united freet move

Elect Committee To Initiate Movement In conclusion, Stamm proposed that a committee be elected to issue a call to all working-class organizations in and around Staunton to send delegates to a united front Pardon Mooney conference and that the task of this conferece be on-such a movement.

P. M. A collection to get the letter out read and judge. was taken up. This committee, made up of militant and best-known miners in the coal fields, organized itself, for obvious reasons into a Pardon Mooney unions. They agreed to do this.

Opposition will help in every way it can But there has been another ray of It calls on the Party and I. L. D. to en

ALREADY RECEIVED

—JOHN SCOTT.

Extra Copies of the RUSSIAN BUI LETIN-No. 23 and 24. Among the cor

"New Zig-zags and New Dangers" by "On Workers' Control of Industry

by L. Trotsky and others. Comrade Sylvia Bleeker is now in full charge of the sale and distribution of the Russian Bulletin and all subscrip-

Send orders at once. 25c per copy;

Build Communist Youth Movement

«Young Spartacus» to Work for Clarity and Action

(We reprint the following statement) bers of their minds. and appeal of the Youth Fraction of the Young Spartacus aims to assist in the the Y. C. L., whether officially members Communist League of America (Opposi- reformation of the Y. C. L. The youth of or otherwise, and therefore endeavors to with the Youth Committee, etc. Readers isue may do so by addressing Young Spartacus, 84 East 10th Street, New York, N. Y.—Ed.)

Spartacus to the Communist youth and in the factories, in the unions, in the be made-errors of initiative and lack young workers in the United States. fields, among the student youth, where of knowledge and experience. But that There is a sore need for what the organ ever the youth is to be found. The field is not to be feared. The Communist of the Comunist youth of the Communist is broad and immense. A Communist Youth Opposition WANTS TO LEARN League of America (Opposition) sets out to accomplish.

What The Militant has been achieving in its tasks of regeneration of the ofdomination of the American political underlings of Stalin, the youth of the We were on guard against Party "pic Communist Left hope to carry through kets"; none appeared. The Stalinists, on an ever wider front among the memfamous in this vicinity for their boycotts bers of the Young Communist League of the Belleville and St. Louis miners' and youth in this country. Young Sparconventions, apparently had recourse to tacus will be a spokesman and guide in this tactic again. Not only did they not this necessary work. The confusion and organize any similar meeting, but they misleadership of the Y. C. I. and Y. C. L. failed even to put in an appearance at have brought the official Y. C. L. to a sorry state of theory and practice. Young Spartacus, we hope, can cleanse this Augean stable with the fresh air of Marxism and Leninism. It is imperative again to begin the work of clarification and education of the American working youth along Marxian lines.

The Low Level of the Y. C. L. To-day We but merely assert here, what Young Spartacus will have occasion again and again to prove; namely, that the Y. C. L. record and the facts in the frame-up, like the official Communist Party, hav ing acquiesced in the expulsion, oppres sion and exile of the Left Opposition in Labor and the American Federation of the Soviet Union, led by Leon Trotsky should be.

By the printing and distribution of the writings and platform of the International Left Opposition and its sections, we shall in time demonstrate that munist movement, of the Comintern and Youth Comintern lies,-first; in the abandonment of the false, anti-Marxian doctrine of "socialism in one country" front, said Stamm, shall be a sincere the theory from which Stalin proceeds intention to fight for Mooney's and other and from which flow the other incorrect class war prisoners' release, which will doctrines and practices that prevail in be tested in the fight. He pointed out the official movement of Communism; there should be no slander, but that and, second; in the acceptance of the to platform of the Left Opposition, led by Leon Trotsky, and which, in a few! words, is but the acceptance again of the original theories of Marx and Lenin Communists and the I. L. D. to lead in and which enabled the Comintern during the first four congresses of its existence, to flourish

The "leadership" of Mineriches and

in here addressing ourselves to the membership of the Y. C. L.: Nothing can be hoped for from a leadership of acquiescent Mineriches and the tiny bureau- Soulounias's "Record" in Labor Struggles to work out concrete plans for carrying crats like the Greens. They epitomize the groveling type of "leadership". As A committee of six was elected. On it they demand it from those below them, are two Party members and a Party so they, like fawning lap-dogs whining sympathizer—all miners. This is a good for a bone, submit unquestioningly to beginning The committee met with com- the lash of those above them, to the rades Blome and Stamm immediately af party whip. Stalin and Stalinism are ter the meeting. Blome was elected sec | the source of the cancerous growth of retary: a letter was drafted to all political boot-blacking in the Party and working-class organizations to send dele Y. C. L. Will a thinking, red-blooded gates to a meeting to be held in the Communist youth in the Y. C. L. long Labor Temple, Lodge Hall, in Staunton, accept such a situation We think not, Ill., on Sunday, November 28th, at 3 if the truth is laid before his eyes to

The Dismal Y. C. L. Paper-"Young

Worker". The official organ of the Y. C. L. is the Young Worker. In its columns we 'can find the quintessence of the "ideas" profitable to leave this task in order to U. U. L. We have not noticed any additions to take up this question and to and practices of the Greens and Mineriches. A paper should be one of the best, if not actually the best, means for A beginning has been made. The Left the development of an educated, theoretically clear and militant Communist trymen had failed. youth. In this fundamental task of education, of clarity to achieve correct ac correct rebuilding of the Left wing move | ited front in Staunton and in all other tions, the Young Worker has signally burgh he was scheduled to speak in a cities in order to win the leadership of and weefully failed. We believe that we are only stating what every honest member of the Y. C. L. thinks, when we that because of lack of funds, he could judged and the perspectives fixed. The say that the Young Worker is a crude not send him his wages. Soulounias be | Sixth Congress did neither the one nor and vulgar mish-mash of ideas and cause of this refused to speak and left the other. By taking as its point of events. In it is to be learned-exactly the workers waiting for him to appear nothing. It is a perfect reflection of the youth leadership that runs it and the

Y. C. L. The members of the Y. C. L. are expected to accept policies from above theories and policies is not allowed; the of a Communist Soulunias is. practices and results are to be noted in the low ideological and numerical on: status and influence of the Y. C. L. Other "S. Soulounias (C. Solon), District it and at the same time follow a line columns of Young Spartacus tell the 2, New York: formerly member of unit of conduct which leads the vanguard of year. Order from: Sylvia Bleeker, for unpleasant story. What discussion takes 3B, Section 2. Furrier by trade, now the proletariat through the insurrection Russian Bulletin, 84 East 10th Street, place in the Y. C. L. membership is editor of the Greek paper, Empres; in to its preponderating role in the Soviet either in secret or in the secret cham-'C. P. since 1924; has not paid dues or China of the future.

with the theoretical weapons of Marx a measure of success. With this issue we introduce Young to put them into practice in the shops, all that we want it to be. Mistakes will youth organization must take this into that it may be ABLE TO TEACH, oryouth movement is a young movement. Communism. and there must be no fear about the youth who wants to learn. Let there be fearlessness in expression. The youth will learn through education, mistakes, practices. It is necessary to follow a Communist CLARITY AND ACTION.

Trotsky on the Youth

Trotsky, in his famous letter, on The New Course to his Party nucleus, has this to say concerning the youth:

has its heaviest consequences in the intelectual-political growth of the young generation of the party. This explains the fact that the youth-the most reliable barometer of the party-react the most sharply of all against party bureaucrat- line.

". . . It is wholly inadequate that the youth should repeat our formulas. It is necessary that the youth should take the revolutionary formulas fighting, transform them into flesh and blood, work out for themselves their own opinion; their own personality, and be able Labor. He called upon the militant and of countless hundreds of Bolsheviks to fight for their own opinion with that working-class to fight for the freedom of in the other Parties and Youth Leagues, courage which comes from sincere con-Tom Mooney and all other class war has fallen also into a theoretical swamp viction and independence of character. ary theory and practices into the dust. and adopted the pernicious practices of Passive obedience, mechanical drill, char-Comrade Stamm of the Communist the Stalinist bureaucracy. The result acterlessness, obsequiousness, careerism Liebknecht, Luxemberg and Lenin, we League of America (Opposition) establias been that the Communist Parties —away with these things from the party! pick up the banner of Communism now lished the connection of the fight to free and Y. C. L.s everywhere are but cari-Mooney, the Scottsboro boys, the Harlan catures of what genuine Communist man; no, a Bolshevik is a man who, intern; under the leadership of Leon miners, Morgenstern and Goodman, and Parties and Young Communist Leagues boring deep, has worked out for himself Trotsky, we will march forward to in each given instance a firm opinion, and courageously and independently defends it, not only in war with his enemies, but also within his own organization. To-day he may be in the minthe salvation of the international Com- ority in the organization. He submits

because it is his party. But that obviously does not always mean that he was wrong. . . .

For Clarity and Action

The slogans of Young Spartacus, as in the early and best days of the revolutionary youth movement in the United States, the Young Workers League, are CLARITY AND ACTION.

Young Spartacus espouses the cause of the Left Opposition. It will, however, endeavor to be a youth paper, reflecting the attitudes and needs of the youth in the fields of education, sport, economic,

trade union and political activity. The youth of the Left Opposition regard themselves as the Left fraction of tion) from the first issue of Young the Left Opposition accept this policy redress the organization of the Y. C. L. Spartacus. We feel sure that it will and will work to revitalize the Y. C. L. At the same time, recognizing the broad prove of interest to all readers of The in all respects. A Y. C. L. must have field of work before them, and the fail-Militant, and call upon them to give all the spirit of youth, militancy and in- ure of the official Y. C. L. to reach even possible support to Young Spartacus dependent thinking. It must aim to be a fragment of the youth and young through donations, subscriptions, putting broad organizationally, to make it possi- workers that properly belong in a Comyoung workers and comrades in touch ble for young workers and youth who munist youth organization, the Commun-WANT TO LEARN COMMUNISM to be ist Youth Opposition will try to draw who wish to obtain a copy of the first able to become members and to feel that every possible young worker into conthey have full rights in the organization. scious, active, revolutionary work in the In a Communist youth organization the Communist movement. Through Young first task is to learn, to become equipped Spartacus, we hope to be able to achieve

and Lenin which will best enable them Young Spartacus will no doubt not be consideration in outlining its tasks. A ganize and win the American youth to

The Course of the Communist Youth Opposition

In Young Spartacus will be reflected the policies and activities of the Communist Youth Opposition on all phases route instead of the rut that is the Y. of youth work. This need not therefore C. L. today. This is the road toward be discussed here. In line with the program of the Communist League of America (Opposition), the Communist Youth Opposition and Young Spartacus. will steer its independent course on all youth and political issues before the Communist movement. Although a frac-"The bureaucratism of the apparatus tion of the Communist movement, the Communist Youth Opposition will endeavor, to the extent possible under the conditions, to develop its own independent activity wherever the official Y. C. L. fails, is negligent or persists in a false

Lastly, we have adopted the name Young Spartacus in honor of Spartacus, the great leader of the revolt of the oppressed slaves and gladiators in Rome; further, we take this name in an effort to follow in the traditions of the Spartacus League of Germany, organized by Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemberg in their revolt against the German Social-Democracy that trampled revolution-

again win the Comintern and Y. C. L. to Leninism.

Upon this program we call upon the Y. C. L. members and class-conscious youth everywhere to support Young Spartacus. -MARTIN ABERN.

The Record of A Party Bureaucrat

Soulounias, the editor of the Greek attended unit meetings since about Augorgan, Empres, of the Communist Party, ust, 1929; apparently dropped from memis one of the most virulent bureaucrats bership by the unit; has submitted a in the attacks on the Greek members of statement recognizing the impermissithe Left Opposition, and helped to expel bility of his error and negligence, and them. It is indeed most fitting that explaining that at first he could not at-Soulounias should be in the forefront in tend the unit meetings on Tuesday nights, carrying out the dirty work of the Stal- then being unable to pay the dues, not inist machine against the proletarian getting salary regularly from Empros Left. We have no doubt that the workers and rank and file Communists will understand Soulounias's actions when they are acquainted with the "record" We state plainly and unequivocally of Soulounias in the labor and revolutionary movement. A part of the "record" of the present editor of Empres is here given:

> 1. In the 1922 strike of the crew of the Greek ship, Acropolis, Soulounias was a member of the Strikers' Committee. He deserted the strike and became a strike-breaker for unknown reasons. 2. In the fall of 1925 when the Joint Board of the Furriers attempted to or- of the Party practically to drop out of ganize the Greek furriers, Soulounias the Party without the case being taken had to be pulled off the job by the Strike up to the District and Central Control Committee.

3. During the Sacco-Vanzetti movement, when the Party appealed to the workers to strike in protest against the execution of Sacco and Vanzetti Soulounias was at work in a fur shop until midnight.

4. In 1927 and 1928 he was working for Empros. But he thought it more undertake the organization of the Grange Fishermen's Cooperative in Florida, His previous venture to supply the Soviet Union with sponges through his coun

5. When Empros was a daily paper Soulounias was on a tour. In Pitts. the vanguard of the proletariat. cafe. The same day he received a let ter from the then editor, informing him simultaneously that the situation can be

The Decision of the Central Control Committee

Lastly, we now quote from the Party Organizer of District Two of the Party, without question. Free discussion and New York, of April 9, 1931, which gives democracy, as within the Party itself, is a decision of the Central Control Comon the Catholic index, it does not exist. mission regarding Soulounias. From its entered into a preparatory phase. But Genuine examination of the validity of contents our readers will note what kind this flight will not help anything. We

Central Control Commission Decision

and having tried to straighten out the matter with the help of the Greek Buro some time ago. "Decision:

"To pass a severe censure upon comrade Soulonnias; he is to be given a new membership book with this censure recorded in it, while his status shall remain that of an old member; he is instructed to attend unit meetings and pay dues regularly and to be active in unit work; and at the same time the C. C. C. criticises those leading comrades in the unit and section, who are responsible for permitting a national functionary

Commissions." From all the foregoing, it is plain to be seen that Soulounias is just the type of party bureaucrat to expel the supporters of the Left Opposition.

Canton Insurrection

(Continued from page 4)

chronic and lasting character. The greatest problem now is the renascence of the Communist party as the organization of

These two conclusions are equally important. It is only by considering them departure the resolutions of the ninth Plenum of the Executive Committee of the Communist International (February 1928) which assured us that the Chinese revolution "is continuing", the Congress slipped up in its flight to the point of declaring that this revolution has now must speak clearly and sincerely, recognize firmly, openly, brutally the breach that has taken place, adapt the tactics to