

IN THE INTERNATIONAL OF LABOR
Reviews and News of the Working Class and Revolutionary Movements

For Communist Unity
An Open Letter of the Spanish Left Opposition

(Continued from last issue)
The revolutionary working class cannot do without this indispensable weapon in the revolution—the Communist party.

is being set for this meet, despite the participation of so-called non-party workers' delegations, the congress will remain for every conscientious militant a bureaucratic farce that will only impede real revolutionary criticism.

There are innumerable reasons why we cannot have any confidence in the good intentions of the International and the Spanish party in respect to the correction of the political mistakes and the internal regime prevailing at the present moment.

As a concession to the unrest stirred up in the ranks, the International, in agreement with the Spanish leadership, has conceived the "Open Letter", which is based on quite correct, but incomplete criticisms.

From the point of view of personal revenge—and this element as you well know, enters into all of Stalin's combinations—the decree completely failed to reach its aim.

Combat in your units, in your sections, for a party congress that will be a real congress of the unification of the forces of Spanish Communism and not a congress of intrigues which passes one-hundred-percent unanimous resolutions.

Do not allow the expulsions that are being prepared behind your backs by the leaders to be carried out before the congress.

We are among the first founders of the party, we have gone through all the persecutions with it and we have the right to be heard before we are condemned.

Trotsky's Open Letter to the C. E. C. of the U. S. S. R.

(Continued from page 1)

got remember which one it is, in the numerical order,—you were forced to transform into a decree, directed supplant against thirty-seven persons, including outside of members of my family, over 30 people who were dragged in exclusively for the purpose of political masking.

It is too repulsive for me to dwell on other traits and marks of Stalin's fabricated list: In the intentional interchange of names for the purposes of additional "effect" it represents a document of the same moral level as the two above-mentioned forgeries which served as preparations for it.

A Thermidorian Trick

You can connect the Left Opposition with Menshevism only in the order of a police alphabet. In the political order, your Centrism stands between the Left Opposition and Menshevism. No artifices will change that.

Stalin will tell you that it is not a question of "isolated" facts but that the decision is based on the whole counter-revolutionary activity of myself and of my family, in general, which needs no proofs.

An Expression of Impotence

From the point of view of personal revenge—and this element as you well know, enters into all of Stalin's combinations—the decree completely failed to reach its aim.

The Opposition fought against the Stalinist faction for industrialization, for planning, for higher tempos of economy, against the stake on the kulak, for collectivization.

(To be continued)

—L. TROTSKY.

Dance and Entertainment

for the benefit of the Imprisoned Marine Workers—Soderberg, Trajer and Bunker
Now on Trial
Saturday evening, April 9th
at 84 East 10th Street

New Tendencies in French Politics
World Crisis Reveals Long Latent Contradictions Between Social Classes

Paris, March 9, 1932.

The parliamentary elections are approaching. They are especially important, as they will take place in a period in which the equilibrium established at Versailles is about to topple over, in which a decisive solution is imminent in Germany, in which French imperialism stands at a turning point of its development.

But, many of the causes which made possible the great resistance to the crisis will tomorrow become the causes of a tremendous aggravation of the situation. In the first place, there is the existence of quite large intermediate classes, despite the fact that the war made France a highly industrialized nation.

Germany After the Elections

(Continued from page 1)

and of taking the fate of Germany into its hands, but of one in which they had to decide upon either Hindenburg or Hitler. The lack of ability on the part of the C. P. G. to conduct an extra-parliamentary struggle aided the S. P. G. leaders to reduce the struggle against Fascism to the parliamentary field.

The National Socialists also achieved a tremendous success. All the theories of the C. E. C. of the party, to the effect that Fascism has reached its high point, were overthrown. The Rote Fahne of September 16, 1930 wrote that the Nazis had reached the culmination point of their rise with the Reichstag elections.

The Seventh Convention of the C. P. F.

Where is the party in this situation? What is its orientation? The Seventh Convention of the French party is going to take place in a few days, after a lapse of three years since the last convention. It will be devoted to the policy of the "third period".

Why were the results so unfavorable for the Communists? If the objective conditions are favorable, what is the explanation for the defeat of the C. P. G.? The political line of the party stands in blunt contradiction to the political needs. This is revenge for the Stalinist theory that "social democracy and Fascism are twins", that everybody outside of the Communist ranks is a "social Fascist".

(Continued in Next Issue)

—R. WELL

SPARRTACUS—Y. P. S. L. DEBATE

"Can the Program of the Socialist Party Emancipate the American Workers?" is the subject for debate between the Young Peoples Socialist League and the Spartacus Youth Club which will take place Friday, May 6, 8:00 P. M. at the Labor Temple, 14th St., and 2nd Ave.

those of the British empire. Finally, the reserves of one of the greatest French industries, the tourist industry, which has declined enormously despite the existence of the Colonial Expedition, are no doubt going to diminish even more in the future, depriving French capitalism of millions of francs.

The defeat of Germany and the achievements of the Versailles Treaty gave France a political importance internationally, entirely out of proportion with its economic strength. The crisis is revealing this contradiction more and more every day, and the French bourgeoisie, so proud of its stability in the past, is uneasily expecting dark days in the future.

These are as yet only its intentions, for the elections have not taken place. Serving as a sort of barometer, they permit us to judge with more or less precision, the realignments of the classes, the general orientation of the voting masses and of the proletariat in view of the situation.

The election results prove that they have been able to penetrate into strong proletarian districts. That Hitler was not elected President of the Reich does not at all change the fact that the Fascist danger has become even more prominent. It has been clearly proven that the "Red Referendum" strategy of the C. P. G. leadership with all its programs of national and social liberation and all their variations, its "adaptation" of the phraseology of the Nazis, etc., have not been able to halt Fascism.

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continue to develop. The policy that has been pursued, is that of the C. I. It has turned its back to the united front, it is opposed to trade union unity. In the question of the elections, the vanguard of the working class is divided under the cover of the formula "class against class", by maintaining systematically the party's candidate on the second ballot even if that is to the advantage of the candidate of the reactionary parties as against the candidate of the socialist party.

Progress for the Left Opposition

Nevertheless, there are some germs of regeneration in this situation. We have mentioned above the discontent in the Parisian region of the party. The criticism expressed has often been confused, narrow, but in most cases it was not a reflection of opportunist tendencies, but of healthy proletarian sentiments.

But all these are only transitory manifestations, very feeble and very instable ones. But a great unrest is taking place in the party. These are voted on, but no one takes any stock in them. A great deal of attention is being paid to what is said about the party, especially to what the Opposition has to say. In the meetings that we hold in various places, in the party meetings in which we participate, we find an entirely different atmosphere from that of last year.

The Ligue Communiste (Left Opposition) has not, unfortunately, as yet been able to transform this gain of influence in an organizational way. We are suffering first of all, from a shortcoming that the French party itself has been afflicted with: the extremely weak conceptions of organizational forms. Then, there are our internal difficulties: we have not as yet benefited from a test of great struggles, so as to be able to distinguish between the various tendencies in the organization. These are the obstacles in the way of an active crystallization of the germs of regeneration within the party. The Ligue is at work, striving to overcome these obstacles.

—PIERRE FRANK.

The New Book on Germany

Beginning with this issue, The Militant will print a series of extracts from comrade Trotsky's forthcoming book on Germany.

In this book, Trotsky, with his usual incisive style, presents a thoroughgoing analysis of the political situation, draws the logical conclusions from it and makes the proposals, necessary for the carrying out of a correct Marxist line, without which the German working class cannot be led to victory.

Trotsky has been accused by the "official" Communist party press of preaching an alliance with Bruening, of subscribing to the social democratic theory of the "lesser evil" and of even more far-fetched things. Find out what he really stands for! Read his pamphlet "Germany—The Key to the International Situation" Read his new work on Germany, appearing serially in The Militant. Send in your order for a copy of the book itself now. Judge for yourself why Germany is of prime importance for the world working class at present. Judge for yourself, what the correct Communist policy, which is the keystone of the entire question, must be. Your advance orders will make it possible for us to have the book ready for sale without delay. The price is: 50 cents.

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