# LETTERS FROM THE MILITANTS

# The Pocketbook Makers Fight the Racketeers

NEW YORK, N. Y.

One year ago, the S. P. Fakers and the Musteltes forced an agreement upon the Pocket Book Workers in N. Y. and conceded will the conditions of the employers without a fight. The employers did not live up to this rotten agreement, which they signed. They reduced wages constantly, sped up the workers, and violated the agreement every day during

How is it possible that the employers The «Labor» Governor could get away with not living up to the agreement when there is an impartial arbitration board. First the reor- of Minnesota ganization clause we've had since the last agreement was forced upon the workers by the betrayers. Under this reorgani. June 25, 1982 zation clause, the employers have the right to discharge ten percent of the workers during the year, meaning five percent every six months. The bosses used this clause as a blackjack over the heads of the workers It was possible for the manufacturers to speed up the workers, because each worker, feared that he would be the one to be discharged. when the reorganization came around at the end of the season.

Second, the present "Fraternal Club" administration gang gave the employers Speaking at a banquet of the Northern

Furthermore the officials not only help- Quoting from the Minneapolis Journal ed to reduce wages but with the aid of June 24th Charles Donnelly, president the employers and some of their hench- of the N. P., told those assembled at men (the so-called shop chairman), they the banquet that, "The railroads of instituted a reign of terror in the union. the United States ask only for equality At meetings workers were forced to of treatment from the taxing and regu-vote according to the wishes of the ad- lating authorities in the transportation ministration If a worker voted against field". the administration he had to face the Our "Farmer-Labor" Governor, in-S. P. democracy in the union.

such methods? The writer pointed out should be taken from the parasite ownin The Militant of March 26 and May 28 ers without pay and be made public prothat the "Fraternal Club" administration perty and operated for use instead of will force a new agreement on the Poc- for private profit, according to the same ket Book Workers by hook or crook, with Journal stated as follows: more wage cuts, reorganizations, read- "We must have railroad transportajustments, etc.

Let me enumerate the concessions the equitable business for all forms." employers gained this time from our Neither Donnelly the Railroad Presi- ten by the "labor" Governor and the cap- the Catholic Centre party, the Keellnische showed some signs that our aim of "practical" officials. (1) A twenty per dent nor Andy Rahn, who spoke for the italist agents alike. cent reduction in wages for week work- Mineapolis Civic and Commerce Asso- By the purely fictitious role which ers. (2) Ten per cent for all piece work- ciation, could plead more eloquently for Farmer-Labor and all reformist politicclaims that the reorganization clause was road "veterans" who have been robbed for the Communists to gain members and modified from ten per cent twice a year of their right to make a living by los- supporters for our party and program. to five per cent once a year. Unofficially, ing their jobs as victims of private ownthe employers will have the chance to readjust their business-which is just as rotten as reorganization, if not worse.

The "Fraternal Club" administration did not reckon with the wishes of the members and especially with those who are unemployed. They did not make the Greek Stalinist bureaucrats to an- write anything on the march of the are unemployed. They did not make to relieve the unemployment situation. How they will be able to maintain conwas done to organize these shops where some of the unemployed workers could be placed. The administration claims there is no money to do organization work. But place. what about the money for strong arm

Now let us analyze and see how the the manager reported the settlement to promising for the Empres. By shouting will fill the gaps that the Empres until betrayers put over the agreement. When the joint council, the 14 "Rank and loasting of exposures against banks now presents. File" delegates voted against it. The and newspapers and then compromising 16 members of the "Fraternal Club" voted for it.

On June 20, a membership meeting was ing and vote down the treacherous agreement. When one of the organizers, Wise, who has been charged with graft and

When the meeting took place at night, Herald carries. the "Fraternal" gang prepared themselves for it with the aid of the Gara or Curly gangs, numbering over fifty. Is it any wonder that the "Fraternal Club" healthy and constructive is proven by the attitude of the Empros towards the medicines administration put over the agreement? the quick response it received among the imprisoned Oppositionists in Greece. The Our comrade Alexopoulos led the strug-I would like to ask our misleaders how honest elements in the ranks of Stalin- lempros endorses the criminal and anti- gles of the Greek war invalids and suc- so open in their opposition to the works writes courageous Charlie, "the courage

more firmly and rout the gangsters and within the prison walls and demanded and very correctly maintains that every tive. sluggers from our union. One corrupt that the Empros occupy itself with the imprisoned Communist should be supadministration was forced out of office vital questions of the class struggle. His poted and assisted by the I. L. D., irrea few years ago due to the fact that they letters to other party members forced spective of his factional affiliations. than \$250,000. We must make them un- of June 4th a fragment of a letter which derstand that the time of dynasties is we translate below: whole branches of the Greek I. L. D. are

For every member that is beaten up, we will repay them eye for eye and tooth for tooth. This must be the answer to our "Fraternal Club" administration.

Let our slogan be: a union for the workers, not for grafters and gangsters.

Abe Fine, one of the leading "Fraternal Club" sluggers, who participated in the beating up of the Left wingers and who made the motion to accept the agreement, is scabbing in the Bienen shop, which has been on strike for the last few weeks!

-N. DAVIS.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.-

True to the role of capitalist and reformist politicians, Floyd B. Olson, the Minnesota "Farmer-Labor" Governor is very busy nowadays in the usual campaign before election time to make himself popular, especially with the ruling class. His time is mostly taken up now in filling speaking engagements with various organizations and fraternal societies and in each case he naturally, from a politician's standpoint, wants to say something which is in harmony with the

ideas of his listeners. a free hand, collaborated with them to Pacific Ry, veterans at the Nicollet bring down wages and undermine the al- Hotel on June 23rd, Olson joined in with ready poor conditions of the workers. the railroad officials and such notorious Otherwise they would never permit the open shoppers as A. A. D. Rahn, pleademployers to violate the agreement. ing for a square deal for the railroads.

threat of losing his job. This is called stead of telling Donnelly and the rest of the outfit present, that the railroads Why did the administration resort to together with all the other industries

tion, especially for long haul and car-About two weeks ago, our manager, load business. Much of the competition Lubliner, announced in the press that now forced upon the railways is unfair he had reached an agreement with the competition. It is necessary for the bosses' industrial council. The manager government to so regulate the transportdid not state the terms of the agreement. ation business as to provide fair and

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ORDERS In Preparation WHAT NEXT?-VITAL QUES-TIONS FOR THE GERMAN PROLETARIAT

paper cover 50c PIONEER PUBLISHERS 84 East 10th Street, New York, N. Y.

# Among the Greek Workers in N. Y.

Communistis No. 5 we demanded from nounce in heavy type the victory of the veterans for the bonus. The capitalist Empros over the Athens Trust Co., of press does this very thing which atditions at a time when there are over New York City. The Empres kept an tempts to diminish this question and two thousand workers unemployed, in an icy silence, concerning this question, for this is to their interest, but the attitude two thousand workers discininglyed, in an obvious reasons. Both parties agreed to of the Empros, I really do not know how sand is a mystery to me. There are 175 reject the trial at the Special Sessions to explain it. non-union shops in New York. Nothing Court and accepted the motion of the District Attorney. What we are interested to know is what the terms were under which this mutual agreement took

> behind the backs of the workers we achieve nothing more than a tremendous loss of prestige.

called at Stuyvesant High School to of withdrawal took place, the Empros tinuous preoccupation mainly with quesratify the agreement. On the same day, carried a two column campaign against tions of such unworthy character for a the Rank and File Committee distributed the rival of the Athens Bank, the Naleasiets in the union office, in which they tional Bank of N. Y., and not a word urged the workers to come to the meet- about the Athens Trust Co. This speaks his favoritism towards certain sharks for itself.

#### Trial of the National Herald

corruption more than a dozen times, saw Taking into consideration the dealings vigilant because we know well that any the girls handing out the leaflets, he be- of the Greek Stalinists with the Athens honest individual that will not follow came as wild as a bull. He ordered his Trust Company we venture to state that the criminal Stalinist line of blunders gang to start a fight in the union office. the same kind of dealings will take place is, if not expelled immediately, at least This fight was not enough for the "Frat- with the National Herald next November removed from his post. ernal Club". So they sent their sluggers when the workers will have forgotten out to start a fight on the street. Of all their fuss and unsincere eagerness to course, the workers paid them in their present themselves before the capitalist control became an organization where own coin and they are hardly likely to courts. Our prediction is substantiated only those workers that accept beforeforget it. As a result of the fight on by the fact that a certain member of the hand the infallibility of Stalin are al-21st Street and Fifth Avenue, five Left Board of Directors of the Athens Trust lowed to become members, any other is wingers were held in jail for a few days. Co. happens to be also a member of the not allowed even to sit in the social hall. The gang was released immediately. School Collection Fund that the National Comrade Alexandronakis, a former party

## Our Healthy Criticism

In the Militant of June 4th and in the | Have received the Empros and with great eagerness. I see that you don't

With comradely greetings, JOH.. TSIRONIS Answer of Empres:

The Editorial Board accepts the above criticism of J. Tsirones, as proper and The bureaucrats up to this day refused constructive. The Editorial Board and to print this agreement becase it is cer- the Bureau take notice of this neglect, tain that it contains terms that are very and also others, and we are sure that favorable for the bank and very com- with a sincere constructive criticism

-EDITORIAL BOARD. In spite of all the above self criticism we notice a continuation of their former Three whole weeks before the motion petty bourgeois attitude and their con-Communist newspaper as for example: Attacks against the Greek Consul for of the Ticket Agencies and neglect for warned the comrades to be always

Spartacus Club & Labor Defense The Spartacus Club under Stalinist member and at present a close Communist sympathizer, is not allowed even the Oppositionists should be supported. They privilege of the social hall of the club refused to supply our deceased comrade, That our criticism of the Empros is because he expressed his indignation at Pabacoupoulos even with the necessary will lead to the revolutionary awakening

deported and imprisoned in Greece and detained at Ellis Island. over. We will not pay bills for gunmen. Dear Comrades of the Editorial Board: expelled because they demand that the

# Organization Notes

ORGANIZATION NOTES

During the days of June 10-13, both in strengthening of the center and of its Minneapolls, Philadelphia and Canada, their vote. The meeting became a fruitful one in many respects. The main issues discussed and acted upon were concerning tion. The Left Opposition there has been differences of views in regard to develop hit by the general persecution of the ments within the sections of the Inter-Communist movement. Its developments national Left Opposition and our own became further hampered by local diffiinternal developments. It is but natural cuities of the Toronto membership but that such issues should assume the imthe basis has been laid to overcome these portance of serious discussion particularly when we bear in mind that our main problem is still the one of selection and of consolidation of a nucleus of the future Communist movement.

These questions did not involve our direction, the establishment of a Canadprinciple position in the class struggle an organ, should be taken as soon as nor our attitude toward the Communist the membership in Toronto has reached party as those are settled questions with a point of greater stability. With the us: nevertheless they did involve the adnerence of Jack MacDonald to the problems of organizational growth here Left Opposition we have a good beginand abroad. The plenum ironed out in ning toward strengthening the Left Opthe main the differences of views that position in Canada. existed and arrived at unanimous conclusions in regard to the problems of our own development and in regard to National Committee meeting, tactical CHICAGO, ILL .our views of the European sections, questions and organizational problems. These conclusions were embodied in re- The time of the meeting allowed only for solutions which are now being submitted a general basis to be arrived at but Peoples Socialist League on June 12th. to our branches. This fact alone showed it was sufficiently concrete to allow For full report see the coming July isthat the sessions were fruitful. It means the specific resolutions for guidance of sue of the Young Spartacus. that the decks are cleared for action, our activities to be worked out subsequthat a step has been taken forward to ently. Amongst these questions the one greater consolidation to better face the of the unemployment crisis was, of tasks of the future. Indications every- course, the one of greatest importance. where of developments in the revolutionary movement point to these tasks of turned into account in more ways than the Left Opposition assuming greater one. That was the case in this instance. proportion and particularly making pos- in addition to the problems being taken sible that our organization will count up directly confronting the meeting the more as a factor in direct intervention comrades who came from other cities to in the class struggle. One of the prac- the Center served to strengthen the contical steps issuing out of the conclusions tact with the membership. These comarrived at is the proposal to further rades become more directly familiar with broaden the National Committee, by add-

# Lausanne and Germany

(Continued from page 1)

The Communist press is already half stimulus to the work of the organizasuppressed. The Nazis are demanding tion. One of the best proofs is the folthe suppresion of the Communist party. But the onslaught of the black hundreds tee meeting we were compelled to send is wedging in on even the more moderate a special message to all branches asking opposition. A late dispatch reports that for their assistance to secure the existthe Federal authorities have demanded ence of our press. It brought immediate of the Prussian government the proscription of the Berlin Vorwaerts, the central organ of the German social demership of industry, were entirely forgot. ocracy and-of the Rhineland organ of then the press. Similarly the responses

These further indications of the dark intentions of the Von Papen regime make and to become more of a direct partici- dren and sports movements, and numerers. What have the workers won by the the cause of big business than did our lans are playing, not only in Minnesota evident the need of haste in countering pant in the class struggle, is being taken new agreement? The administration "labor" Governor. The half million rail- but everywhere else, it will be easier the action of the Fascists' scouts. Once more, it must be emphasized that a successful repulsion of the reactionwhich is spreading its fangs towards the borders of the Russian Workers' State -depends only upon correct and timely united front action on the part of the German Communist Party and the Communist International.

fateful situation!

-SAM GORDON.

THE TURN IN THE C. I. IS OUT OF PRINT, BUT IS AVAILABLE IN THE BOUND VOLUMES OF COMRADE TROTSKY'S PAMPHLETS.

MANY OF THE PAMPHLETS AD-VERTISED ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISSUE CAN BE HAD IN JEWISH, SPANISH, RUSSIAN AND ITALIAN.

FOR INFORMATION WRITE TO PIONEER PUBLISHERS, 84 East 10th Street, New York City

# MINNEAPOLIS WORKERS to the inside covers!" ATTENT ON!

A PICNIC

has been arranged for Sunday, July 10th, 1932 at Glenwood Park Grounds, Plot 3 Speeches-Refreshments -Entertainment A Trotsky bust by Claire Sheridan will be raffled off for the benefit of the Left Opposition Press. Come and bring your friends. Ausplees: Minneapolis Branch, C. L. A.

# 

(Opposition)

much they paid their gang? Is the gang ism. The workers' iraignation at the Communist attitude of the Stalinists in ceeded in forcing the Government to pay ers? Take for example the N. Y. Tele- that one has a right to demand of one working for "socialist" principles too? criminal attitude of their bureaucrats Greece is refusing to render any kind a million Drachmas as a bonus. The gram of which Heywood Broun, the holding his high office (Sigan—Demand Who pays the gang that comes to our brought about a considerable pressure of assistance through the Labor Defense capitalist government, to get rid of his political baboon, is a high light. The Courage of President), he would have office to terrorize workers—your money and it resulted in a certain change—at to the imprisoned Oppositionists. Com- militant activities, arrested him and sen- paper suddenly closed curtains on the come out to the White House gate and least temporarily. Comrade Tsironis, a rade Alexandronakis succeeded in organ- tenced him to serve a long term in prison. scene of the B. E. F. Several issues pledged the men to see that they were In conclusion, I want to say that the party member serving a long term in ing an I. L. D. branch out of a reaction- The Stalinists hope to exterminate him (June 22 to the 25) hardly had a single decently taken care of while here, and "Rank and File" must close their ranks the capitalist dungeons, protested from ary fraternal organization of Cretians by forming him out of the prison collec- line about the soldiers Which goes to that the pittance which they were asking Comrade Alexandronakis two weeks ago erals become panicky and flee under

placed his entire savings at the disposal cover. could not give an accounting of more the bureaucrats to print in the Empres Hundreds of Greek Oppositionists are of the I. L. D. to bail out a comrade Now the Socialist press. I have be- House gate! And what a triumph it -EDITORIAL BOARD OF the American Guardian of Oklahoma himself!

ing to its members, and, with that, the NEW YORK

The problems of development in Canada

became a subject for special considera-

practical form than heretofore by agree-

ing that the first concrete steps in this

There were other questions before the

National gatherings usually can be

the practical problems of the National

Office, and when coming here they re-

ported the manner and method of activ-

ities as well as the difficulties facing the

branches in their cities. Their return

has already shown indications of a

lowing fact: since the National Commit-

response. Not only were funds sent over

right away, but with it came reports of

measures taken to extend and streng-

making the Militant reflect much more

directly the work of the organization

much more seriously by the whole or-

# YOUTH ACTIVITIES

The activities of the Spartacus Youth clusive, our National Committee held a functioning staff. This action together Club have been picking up. Successful plenary meeting at the New York head- with the general conclusions of the com- open air meeting were held a week ago quarters. Members and alternates were mittee meeting is being submitted to the Saturday at 7th Street and Ave. C. and in attendance, coming from Chicago, membership for their discussion and last Saturday at Second Avenue, and 4th Street. Young Spartacus, Militants, and Germany pamphlets were sold. Several youth contacts were established.

At its regular Friday meeting, last week (June 24th) a good discussion on the War Danger and its Aspects, led by J. Carter was conducted, in which a number of comrades participated.

The Club has arranged for a pienic to be held July 10th at Tibbets Brook difficulties. The National Committee Park for the benefit of the Spanish Opcould also take up the perspective of an position Youth. autonomous section in Canada in a more

Watch the Militant for further announcements on the activities of the

YOUNG SPARTACUS

The July issue of the Young Spartacus will be off the press in a few days. It will contain articles on the current questions of the day, on the developments in the Chicago Y. C. L., the Left Opposition youth in the European countries. Comrades should prepare for wide distributions of the issue.

The youth of the Chicago branch debated the representatives of the Young

The statement printed below was written by an active young Communist of Chicago. A number of other Communist youth in the Y. C. L. have supported a similar view. Six comrades have already suffered the consequences: Expulsion or exclusion The July issue of the Young Spartacus carries an article by comrade N. Gould explaining the latest developments in the Chicago Young Communist League.

#### Y. C. L'ERS DECLARES FOR LEFT OPPOSITION To all members of the Young

Communist League:

To the District Buro, District 8: In answer to the demand of the district secretariat for a statement of my views on the questions of (1) Fraternizaion with expelled League members now udbering to the Left Opposition, (2) Characterization of "Trotskyism" I wish to submit the following statement.

The latest resolution of the Young Communist International, properly interpreted, agrees with the position held by comrades Satir, Gould, Andres, Sold, myself and others, on such important points

(1) Rooting ourselves in the factories. (2) On the raising of the ideological level of the League.

(3) Against bureaucracy. (4) Insufficient-work among the chilous other points which are formulated in the Y. C. I. resolution and in joint state-

ments of the expelled comrades. (Continued from page 4)

# The Bonus Marchers and the Press

The Communist International is main- press for the first several days. They more closely. It is all the more necestaining an ominous silence. At a time, headlined them on their front pages, and sary as the S. P. still camouflages itself when black dangers face the European circulation was increasing. This spon- as the workers' party. working class and the whole proletarian taneous march of ex-soldiers aroused the Mr. Charles W. Erwin, eastern editor, revolutionary movement of the world, intense interest of the whole country. has a long article on "The Army of Octhe Communist International, the general In fact, the capitalist editors were just cupation". He describes the horrible staff of the revolutionary forces, finds it a little alarmed at the too great inter- conditions under which the soldiers live, possible to do without a word of advice, est shown in these men thrown up by the pest hole of a dump the soldiers oc-

without a word of direction to the inter- the class struggle. The repeated detail- cupy, the rottenness of the food, the filth, national ranks that are behind it. Work- ed descriptions of the filthy conditions the stench, (and let us add to spice his ers, Communists, demand in your organi- under which the soldiers live, faced with description the homo-sexuality rampant zations that the Stalinist leadership starvation and disease might lead the in the camp). speak up. Demand that they tell you workers of these states to a little thinkwhat they intend to do in this all too ing of their own. They might begin to tion. It is all damnably true. ask questions that would make these But when we come to his reflections editors just a little more uncomfortable and conclusions-listen: than they already are.

> march of the soldiers, like the idleness come to Washington," he writes. and starvation of the millions of unemployed, is no accident; that, in fact had had less patience? Organize with they are part of the proletariat who in the other workers and proceed by a addition to being put to the industrial series of demands and actions to the machine and exploited like the rest of overthrow of the power that threw them the workers, were put to the machinery into that last war and is now throwing of war and after being crippled and them into filthy disease-infested lotsbutchered for the profit of the ruling No! heaven forbid! class, were cynically cast aside.

So the bourgeois editors acted in concert out of their class instinct and issued orders to their lackeys, "Retreat ails you.

tucked away somewhere on the inside of masses of this country." Rockies, or something written by the assemblymen were not seated. to go home, etc., etc.

This was to be expected. Our open enemies are not going to help the exof the masses.

But what of the journals that are not show that when any movement of the for would be given them in the near fuclass struggle actually begins, the lib- ture."

COMMUNISTES | City, and as it is a typical socialist party

The ex-servicemen's invasion of Wash-| paper, neither better nor worse than any ington was great news to the bourgeois of the others, let us examine it a little

We have no quarrel with his descrip-

"Had the workers shown less patience The country might learn that this they would not have been compelled to What would they have done if they

"They would have used their ballots-"

Here we have our old ballot salesman offering solution for every evil or what

"They would have used their ballots And they all went under cover. The to throw out of office and therefore (sic) Times, the Tribune, the Post gave and out of power, those who have basely are still giving miserable half-columns betrayed the interests of the toiling

the papers; or if it is more than that, By the way, what happened to the six it is about this financiers' scheme for socialist Assemblymen duly elected by the soldiers to go gold-digging in the the citizens of New York in 1918? The

president of a hobo society about the The bourgeoisie put the socialists in nced of reviving the men's patriotism; or their place even when they did happen providing a rate of one cent for the men to get elected. We need go no further in this place to show the impotence of the ballot.

But as the soldiers didn't use the ballot ploited workers, except by their greed, and consequently were thrown into buttheir blindness, their stupidity, which chery and now into filth, Mr. Charles Erwin now turns to-to whom?-no less a personage than that of Herbert Clark Hoover!

What a victory it would have been to have had the president come to the White fore me a copy of the June 17 issue of would have been to have had him pledge

-EX-SOLDIFP