WORKERS OF THE WORLD. UNITE

EMILITANT E

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Stalinists in Monstrous Frame-Up Against Left Opposition

EMERGENCY CALL!

A vicious campaign, inciting to black, views and you who agree with our debundred pogrom action, has been launched termination to maintain the principle of against the Left Opposition and its supporters. It is a desperate last resort. Physical violence in place of political argumentation-that is the method of the deprayed Stalinist bureaucracy stooping to the lowest depths. By copying the das- help us banish the pogrom method from tardly frame-up from the capitalist en- the movement. You must help us eduemy they hope to squelch the ideas of cate the misguided workers who have the Left Opposition.

But our ideas live and grow. Our answer is political hammer blows to in the least. But it entails almost unstrike yet deeper roots for the Marxian surmountable expenditures on our part views within the party and within the in the form of leaflets, enlarged issues working class. We will cut this dirty of The Militant, agitation and propagmurder frame-up to pieces; and we pledge anda. You can help us make this part ourselves to fight for the eradiction of of the burden lighter. But you must these vile methods from the proletarian help immediately for quick action. The ranks. We fight with clean hands to object is worthy of your greatest sacriuphold the banner of our revolutionary fice. We ask that much from you. leaders and to restore the movement of Marx and Lenin to its rightful place.

of the Militant, sympathizers of our send funds to The Militant without delay?

freedom of expression for working class opinions within the labor and revolution-

become caught in the Stalinist vise. It is a momentous task. It requires enormous efforts at which we do not hesitate

Will you help and do your share?

With the Embattled Miners

Diggers Reply to Terror With Increased Militancy

Defy Bosses, Fakers, and Police in Tremendos Advance

Latest developments in the Illinois miners' strike carry the clear indications of this being the most powerful movement yet witnessed in that state. A picketing army of 30,000 miners are, at the moment of this writing, marching upon the southern field to strike the few small mines still at work there. Three of the largest mines in that territory, in Franklin County, were forced to close almost immediately after the murder of Joe Colbert. The widow of this martyred miner single handed struck one of them, a mine of 1,100 men. The heroic working woman thus payed the highest tribute to the memory of her husband felled battle by the bosses' hired gunmen.

Sheriff Robinson of Franklin County ball on a hot July day as 17,000 of our has boasted that 30,000 "citizens" will army invade the Harlan counties of Illmeet the "invading army", but the press inois. Mine guards are disarmed and simultaneously reported a measly 250 disciplined, gangsters are driven from men deputized. And how could be make mining camps. The Illinois miners' good his vain boast. This is a mining strike gains impetus, day by day. community. The miners have already Already 45,000 of the 50,000 Illinois shown where they stand. 15,000 miners coal diggers have closed their ranks and marched in the funeral procession of the production of coal in Illinois will cease fallen Joe Colbert. Others workers in as long as there is a breath of energy the community are making common cause left in the leadership and rank and file with the strikers. These are the reasons of the opposition movement.-This is a why the operators and the degenerate newsreel glimpse of the struggle that union officials are restoring to intensified takes place at present in the Ifilinois gunmen methods, killings and woundings coal fields. of striking miners increasing and riot warrants being issued wholesale. But even this is destined to melt away in the face of the splendid mass formations of the embattled miners.

From the Front SPRINGFIELD, ILL.—

munists.

All the forces of the coal operators have been hurled against us in the present bloody struggle that rages in the Illinois coal fields. The Federal government with its deportation terrorism, the entire state apparatus under the thumb of Governor Emmerson, the county sheriffs, Lewis and Walker sluggers, and gangsters from the underworld run at large throughout the mining camps as "open season" is declared on reds and Com-

when they are to be "spotted". Miners' wives are jailed, beaten and molested. A The physical attack of the Stalinites, able to find a single indication of such regard the Stalinist system with grow-, proletarian world revolution before the and weigh the consequences of this dasgroup of students from various univer- against the Bolshevik-Leninists in the an instance in the press of that time, ing alarm if not with direct disgust workers. By pouncing upon them like tardly black hundred scheme. Raise sities, led by their professors are pre-Salle Bullier at Paris evokes, alongside although in the course of the last two But they cannot tear themselves free hooligans, the Stalinists have only paid your voice in protest against it. Do not vented from bringing food to our stary with intense indignation, a feeling of the years I have been studying the history from its claws. Each of the decisive tribute to their revolutionary energy, be intimidated by the reactionary caming industrial army. Professor Carlson deepest shame for the present leadership of the February and October revolution links in the chain has its Semards and its Just as soon as the Bolshevik-Leninists paign of terror unleashed against those of the Chicago University and a student of the Comintern. For it is not a mat- thoroughly. What the proletarian mass Yaroslavskys, as well as its Bessedov- in Moscow warned against Chiang Kai- who criticize and ask questions. group from the Commonwealth Labor ter of rank and file Communists, not of wanted was to listen and to understand. skys and Agabekoffs. From slander and Shek, the Stalinist bureaucracy incited Look to the heroic example of the College and Chicago University, are workers—these would never debase them. What the Bolsheviki wanted was to con- falsifications these gentlemen have now against them, persecuted and smashed Bolshevik-Leninists of Russia, the true beaten and jailed, later told to leave the selves with such abominations !-but of vince. Only in this manner can a party gone over to organized physical attack. the Bolshevik-Leninists. Just as soon inheritors and representatives of the county and never return. Gerry Allard, a centralized bureaucracy which is carry- be trained and the revolutionary class The initiative comes from Stalin. The as the Parisian Bolshevik-Leninists beat October revolution. They hold the banone of the leaders of the opposition move- ing out the demands of its higher staff. united about it. ment and his wife Irene, are also The aim: to provoke within the Comjailed. Allard is openly told, in the pre- munist ranks such furious embitterment sence of the student group that he will that all arguments of reason would lose be murdered; this is resolutely told by their force. Only in this way can the casian Stalinists and Leninists, struck the ineffectiveness of the preceding strug- the party learns, the class learns. Marion Hart, States Attorney Prosecut- Stalinist bureaucracy yet save itself from one of his opponents in the fact. Lenin gles against the Bolshevik-Leninists. or of Franklin County. The following the criticism of the Left Opposition. morning Joe Colbert, close personal and What frightful degeneration! political associate of Allard's and one of the leaders of the Illinois miners opposition, is murdered while picking mushrooms for something to eat.

down a miner's wife. The coal fields I cannot recall a single instance in which run mad with killers driven to despera- differences of opinion, not only within tion by the greatest offensive ever the ranks of the Marxists but also belaunched against the coal operators and tweeen Marxists, Populists and Anarchthe Lewis-Walker combine. War is delists, were settled by the organized reign clared as 7,500 troopers move southward of the fist. In the year 1917 Petrograd from Camp Grant stationing themselves seethed with continual meetings. 30 miles from strategic coal centers. The first as an insignificant minority, then rank and file root themselves firmly. A as a strong party and finally as the overpicket army 14 miles long also starts whelming majority the Bolsheviki consouthward from Gillespie, Springfield, ducted an annihilating campaign against Benld, Breeze and from every nook and the Social Revolutionists and the Mencorner of northern Illinois, striking every shevik I cannot recall a single meeting The abomination of Bullier is its indubit- number, our French comrades are givin Christian county, owned by the Pea- where the political struggle was re- able and unadulterated expression.

ary movement. You can do your part now. You must

But we need your support, you readers Will you help immediately? Will you

Hearing on the Stalinist Frame-up

The National Committee of the, Communist League (Opposition) has addressed the following self-explanatory letter to each of the organizations specified:

In the Daily Worker of August 23, there appears an accusation that mem-Michael Semen and the wounding of workers. another worker named Nick Kruziuk, who has since also died, at a meeting last Saturday night at 7th St., and complete proof that the Left Opposi-Avenue A.

On the night of August 23rd a mass sharpest political conflict with us. meeting was held at 7th St., and ment for a pogrom against us which be brought out in public. also has the elements of provocation to the authorities.

In order to bring the truth of the whole affair before the working class public, we propose the holding of a public trial and hearing under the auspices of a joint committee representing the following central organi-

Communist Party of U. S. A. Trade Union Unity League International Labor Defense American Civil Liberties Union Conference for Progressive Labor Action

Bureaucrats «Answer» Our Policy by Inciting to Pogrom

Communist Party (Majority Group) Industrial Workers of World

We are prepared to submit to this committee at public sessions complete and indisputable proof that the members of the Communist League of Am- bers of the Left Opposition had no erica (the "Trotskyites") were respon- part whatever, in the attack which sible for the killing of a worker named resulted in the killing of the two

We are prepared to bring before such a committee at public sessions tion has always opposed any physical Today we came into possession of attacks on the meetings of other labor leaflets in the English, Russian, and organizations, and that we have pub-Ukrainian languages, repeating and licly protested even when these atamplifying the accuation against us. tacks were directed against those in

We leave aside here the motives for Avenue A, where Communist Party this provocation against us. Our aim speakers incited the crowd against the in addressing this letter to you is to "Trotskyites" as the murderers of ask if your organization will particithe two workers. There is taking pate through a delegate to a joint place a general campaign of incite-| committee before which the truth can

We realize quite well that the accusation of murder makes our members liable to inquiry and prosecution before the courts of the class enemy. But we are not concerned with the capitalist court. We want to defend ourselves in public before the court of working class opinion.

In view of the extreme seriousness of the accusation, we request a prompt reply to this communication.

National Committee, Communist League of America (O.) SECRETARY.

$\mathit{Left\,Opposition\,Demands\,an\,\,Open}\,\|\mathsf{Slander\,\,the\,\,Opposition\,\,as\,\,Murderers\,\,of}$ Two Workers at N. Y. Street Meeting

tion (Bolshevik-Leninists) against a pol- Krusluk, who lost their lives in a tragic icy of capitulation before German Fasc- street fight with which the Left Opposiism and against the pacifist masquerade tion had no connection whatever. in the anti-war conference aroused a wave of support in the party ranks. The expanding movement of protest against the official policy has thrown the Stalinist bureaucrats into a panic. The attempt to expel the movement by expulsions, which held the Communist workers in check before, is breaking down.

Great world events are on the agenda, and nobody can stop a discussion of them. It is a question of the fate of the U. S. S. R., of the working class of the entire world. The Communist workers! are awakening to this burning fact. Nobody can stop their mouths with the threat of expulsions. Sebastian Pappas, the heroic Communist militant who is loved by every Left wing trade union fighter, has raised his voice for the position of the Left Opposition on Germany. They have expeled him, but behind Pappas stand others who also are determined to speak out at any cost. And behind them are others. Deeper and deeper into the Party the Left Opposition is penetrating.

Confronted with this rising tide of sentiment for the Left Opposition, and powerless to cope with it by political out any participation on our part. means, the panic-stricken bureaucrats, corrupted to the core, have resorted to edition), which contains the criminal a desperate adventure.

Oppositionists as murderers!

Leninists, whose criticism they fear and whose arguments they cannot answer! They are directing the attention of the police to the "Trotskyists" as the mur-

The bammer blows of the Left Opposi-| derers of the two workers, Semen and

Here are the Facts

1. We started a meeting on the evening of August 20th, at 7th St., and Ave. A, as one of a series in our campaign on the situation in Germany.

2. Immediately after we started, organized attempts were made to disrupt our meeting by Stalinist elements.

3. A fist fight ensued in which the Opposition held its ground and after which it once more set up the platform

for a brief meeting. 4. The Left Opposition held the platform until word came of the impending arrival of the police. Then it was decided to wind up the meeting in order to prevent the disgraceful spectacle of the capitalist police intervening and deciding a conflict between factions of the Communist movement.

5. The Left Oppositionists and a number of sympathizers then assembled in close formation, singing the Internationale, and returned to headquarters.

6. That was the end of all our connection with the events at 7th St. and Avenue A on the evening in question. What happened after that happened with-

The Daily Worker of August 23 (city provocation against us, admits that we They are trying to frame up the Left left the meeting-place and that another meeting under Party direction began at-They are organizing and inciting black ter our departure. We know nothing hundred pogrom against the Bolshevik- whatever of what occurred at that second meeting. We do know that that neighborhood is infested with all kinds of reactionary elements-white guards Russians, etc. There is a post of the American Legion in the same block. Communist meetings have been attacked on this corner time and time again by these reactionary elements with brick-bats and other missiles.

> The Party bureaucrats know very well that this was the case at the meeting in question. They know that the Left Opposition had nothing to do with the affair. They know that we are opposed in principle to the breaking up of other working class meetings and that we have persistently explained in THE MILI-TANT the reasons why such hooliganism

plays a reactionary role. But it does not serve their purpose to tell the truth. They have lied about us systematically and misrepresented our position on every occasion. But this game is playing out. The Communist workers have begun to see through these ties. They are beginning to see the principle line of the Opposition through

the fog of official misrepresentation. That is why the desperate and furious Stalinist leaders had to resort to this shameful method of frame-up, provocation and pogrom. The bodies of the martyred workers are to be lifted up as a banner for a bankrupt political clique which is not worthy to touch them with one finger. They want to coin the grief and rage of the Communist workers against the murder of their comrades into a wea-

pon against the revolutionary Marxists. Communist workers! Be on your guard against this monstrous deception. Stop

against them also by the Stalinists (the affair of the "Wrangel officer"). Pogroms were conducted against them. They were slandered, expelled, imprisoned, exiled, beaten, shot. But for all that their ideas remain unshaken and will prevail.

We stand by their banner, for it is the banner of Communism. We hurl

You cannot terrorize us with your black hundred pogrom!

You cannot break the bonds which tie

You cannot prevent the victory of the Left Opposition by any means, for it is the veritable representative of the teachsilenced. And they will not allow others force. Let us double, treble and decuple ings of Marx and Lenin with great historic events are vindicating with lightning speed.

-NATIONAL COMMITTEE Communist League (Opposition)

Party Holds First Meeting on Danger of German Fascism

After months of ardent and persistent agitation on part of the Left Opposition, the Stalinists of the official Communist Party of the U. S. A. finally yielded to the pressure our agitation caused within the party ranks and called the first meeting on the Fascist danger in Germany at the Central Opera House in New York last Friday. It is significant that this meeting was called at the very same time that Sebastian Pappas, the leading party comrade who raised the first strong voice of alarm against the Hitler threat within the party, was officially expelled. It is characteristic of the Centrist bureaucrats to stifle every word of criticism coming from the rank and file and simultaneously to camouflage by a semi-acceptance of the same criticism and by half way concessions to it behind the

Nevertheless, the convocation of the meeting shows that the Stalinist leaders have been forced to take a step forward on this most important of all the present day issues, the German situation-the key to the international situation, the key to the concrete war danger against the Soviet Union. In this sense, the step of the party leadership is a victory for the Interna-

tional Left Opposition. Opposition Ideas Penetrate Party

The German meeting was strongly under the influence of the Left Opposition propaganda. For the first time, slogans directly borrowed from our literature appeared above the signature of the party. The leaflet that was issued by the New York District of the C. P. read in part as follows: "An open Fascist dictatorship will attempt to drive the whole working class of Germany to starvation and slavery. A Hitler dictatorship in Germany means immediate war on the Sóviet Union and world war. A Fascist dictatorship in Germany means sharper international reaction and more brutal capitalist attacks on the

living standards and rights of the workers of the United States." These words, which have been ring-

ing forth from these pages week after week were actually subscribed to by the New York District of the Communist Party of the U. S. A.! Moreover they were supplemented by a correct and sharp Communist characterization of the treacherous role of the social democratic leadership in which the silly and absurd theory of social Fascism found no place...To be sure the leaflet still retained the vaguely misleading claims about the strength of the "Red United Front" and some of the ultimatist illusions attached to it-but all this was couched in very vague and extremely reticent language. The half-turn toward the Leninist United Front tactic was especially prominent in the closing slogans: "Rally to the Mass Meeting! Sup-

port the German Communist Party (Continued on page 2)

Miners are coralled, terrorized, jailed and beaten. Leaders of the rank and file opposition are jailed and never know LEON TROTSKY Let Us Reenforce Our Offensive

Why the Fight

And why do the miners of Illinois fight

like they never have in years? Because

the miners fight for the very right to

breathe and live. That is why. For

forty-two years we have had a union

in Illinois. For thirty-five years we have

been solidly organized. The fight to

build the Illinois United Mine Workers

of America was no bitterer than the

present fight to retain a miners' union.

to the highest bidder by our faking,

thieving leadership. They have taken

from us every liberty that we have ever

achieved during those long years of

(Continued on page 3)

We have again been sold on the block

The history of the Russian revolutionary movement is particularly rich in bitter factional struggles. For three and a half decades I have observed this strug-In Taylorville deputy Sheriffs shoot gle very closely and participated in it.

In the year 1923, Ordjonikidze, in the heat of the disputes between the Cau- necessity of ever stronger means proves remain unpunished. From great facts on every front. Frame-ups were devised lay seriously ill in the Kremlin. The news of Ordjonikidize's conduct literally! shook him up. The fact that Ordjonkidze stood at he head of the party apparatus in the Caucasus only magnified his guilt in Lenin's eyes. Lenin sent his secretaries Glasser and Fotleva to me several times urging the expulsion of Ordjonikidze. Lenin recognized and foresaw in Ordjonikidze's thuggery a whole school and an entire system: the school and the system of Stalin. On the same day Lenin wrote his last letter to Stalin in which he declared that he was breaking off all "comradely relations" with him. A whole series of great historic causes has since led to the triumph not only within the C. P. of the Soviet Union but also in the Comintern, of the

command is now being transmitted to the alarm against Fascism, the Stalinist ner of Marxism in the face of everyall sections of the Comintern. Will it clique is organizing to smash the Bol- thing, just as they did in 1917, as they be of any avail? No, it will not. The shevik-Leninists. These facts will not did in the civil war, in the red army-

Tremendous events are taking place in Germany. The Comintern maintains its silence. The leaders appear to have not the German events require the immediate convocation of a world congress of the Comintern? Of course, they do. But at the congress an answer will have to be given. The Stalinists, however, have nothing to say. By their mistakes, their zigzags and crimes they have completely devastated themselves. To remain silent, to go into hiding, to wait passive-

to remain silent. Despite their small our offensive! ing evidence of splendid perseverence in body Coal Company, melt like a snow- placed by fist fights. I have not been Nine-tenths of the apparatus people unfolding the burning questions of the Prinkipo, August 6th, 1932.

We are not, naturally, making the rank and file Communists responsible for the crimes of the Stalinist bureaucracy. The Bolshevik-Leninists will not change their filled their mouths full with water. Do position toward the French Communist party nor toward the Comintern. The attempt to erect walls of hatred between back into the craven faces of the Browourselves and the millions of Communists ders, Fosters, Amters, Hathaways, and in the entire world will not succeed. all the rest of the deprayed and soulless That justice is on our side, is patent. functionaries of Stalinism, the answer The workers are listening with ever great- of revolutionists: er attentiveness to our words.

The more the Stalinists lose their heads, the more perseverance the Leninly for the outcome-therein lies, at pre- ists will show in their activity. Under us to the Communist workers with your sent, the whole policy of the Stalinist our criticism, under the sweep of our dirty frame-up! arguments the bureaucracy is twisting and squirming. All the more apparent, But the Bolshevik-Lepinists will not be therefore is our correctness and our