

WORKERS OF THE WORLD. UNITE

THE MILITANT

Official Organ of The Communist League of America (Opposition)

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Fascists In Complete Control of Police

Smash Hitler German Left Opposition Appeals for United Proletarian Resistance

HITLER IS CHANCELLOR! Workers! Do you know what that means? It means complete starvation and loss of all rights, it means the destruction of all the active elements of the proletariat! After the speeches of the Nazi leader, there can be no doubt of this. Hitler's program is the complete smashing of all the political and trade-union organizations of the working class, to clear the way for a still more monstrous impoverishment of the foreign class. The aim of his foreign policy is war with Soviet Russia. If Hitler succeeds in carrying through his aims this would mean an unprecedented defeat for the international proletariat, for Germany is not only Germany, but the heart of Europe. Do not console yourselves with the nonsense that Hitler will soon be played out. No understanding this clearly—now is the time to tackle him! Either Hitler will now establish his power, or the proletariat will overthrow him and clear the road for the dictatorship of the working class. At this time, to wait any longer, as the Social Democratic party proposes, is lunacy. It is a crime to let Hitler establish himself in his new official positions, it means to play the very last cards into his hand, and with that, to lead directly to the defeat of the working class. Hitler must be overthrown, Fascism must be struck down. The Fascist government of civil war can be overthrown, however, not by parliamentary votes of "no confidence", but only by the extra-parliamentary mass struggle. The General Strike But how can we achieve this action? We must create the prerequisites—the closing of the ranks. It is not enough to call for the general strike, as the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Germany has done up to now. The situation demands today of the Communist party an open offer to the leaders of the Social Democratic party and the General German Trade Union Federation. A concrete program of struggle must be proposed, the leadership of the Social Democratic party and of the General German Trade Union Federation must be called upon to negotiate in the open before the workers, in order—maintaining the political independence of the participating organizations—without delay to

Governor Strikes at Ill. Miners

ILLUSIONS ABOUT HORNER SHATTERED BY MEMORANDUM AIMED AT P. M. OF A. SPRINGFIELD, ILL.—Many Illinois miners and among them quite a few of the Progressive Miners of America leaders thought that they would get "justice" when they voted and helped to elect Henry Horner of the Democratic Party as Governor of Illinois. But this ancient, myopic, self-hypnotism is fast fading as the miners see in action the true role of Horner in their struggle against the Lewis-Walker-Peabody Coal Co. machine. Gov. Horner, the Dem.ocrat, like the late Gov. Emmerson, the Republican, is taking all steps possible to prevent the miners from building the Progressive Miners of America and improving their conditions. Gov. Horner is developing a strong policy—that is, a crushing policy against the P. M. A. With the breaking off of negotiations between the P. M. A. and the U. M. W. A. officials and the coal operators which Gov. Horner called and after admitting that he was unable to accept the P. M. A. officials to compel "arbitration", Gov. Horner made the following stipulation in his "memorandum" to the miners of Illinois: "That each of the two unions having contracts with the operators should be permitted without interference by the other to continue work under these contracts until at least April 1, 1933. In other words, where one local union has a contract with an operator of a certain mine in this State, the officials and members of the rival organization refrain from any effort to cause a cessation of work at that mine, or to prevent the fulfillment of that contract." This is word for word what the Lewis-Walker machine, the agents of the Peabody Coal Co. asked for in their letter of proposals under the Progressive Miners of America. The Progressive Miners of America demanded that a referendum vote be taken to decide which organization the miners of Illinois wished to recognize. But this would be self-determination! The Illinois miners, like the Philippine Islands are not yet ready for self-determination, maybe twelve years from today, etc.—thus the State Government, acting in its true role as the executive committee of the employing class, through its mouth-piece Gov. Horner, spiritualizes. The "memorandum" further states: "No non-residents of the county who seek to enter the county for the purpose of agitating the present controversy will be permitted to do so. Inflammatory agitation will be considered improper and in violation of the public peace." Every eight year old child of the Illinois miners knows what this means. It is to prevent the P. M. A. from carrying on its relief work, holding demonstrations and

Party Must Act Now!

Hitler Acts with Ruthless Determination to Crush Labor Movement; Stalinists Persist in Opposition to United Front

The work of establishing the complete domination of Fascism in Germany is being carried out at a speed which leaves even the bourgeois press gasping. The proposed elections on March 5 are assuming an increasingly deceptive and ludicrous character in face of the fact that the Hitlerites are concentrating every instrument of force and violence in their own hands so that regardless of the balloting, the power will remain in their hands. The press reports the following highly significant facts: 1. All political demonstrations and even ordinary meetings are to be "policed" by Nazi storm troopers and members of the Stahlhelm, the regular police being merely held in reserve. Not even Mussolini was able to attain such a measure before he took over the power completely. 2. All meetings at which criticism is "levelled at the constructive work of the government" are to be dissolved on the spot. 3. "Communist demonstrations," according to the Berlin correspondent of the Times (2-16-33), "are to be forbidden altogether, and even the meetings of disguised Socialists—evidently meaning Socialists—gatherings—are to be prevented. On the other hand, arrangements must be made to facilitate Nazi demonstrations in Communist districts." 4. "The Nationalist Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung," continues the correspondent, "published an obviously inspired statement to the effect that a 'general arming' of Nazi storm troopers was not under consideration, but that 'in an emergency' there might be afforded legal means whereby these and the Stahlhelm men might be called on to relieve the police by the extension of auxiliary services." Further confirmation is scarcely necessary. 5. "Under the new German regime the police force itself hitherto neutral (?), is being rapidly transformed. Following up the removals under the von Papen regime, the acting Prussian Ministry today cleaned out the very last Socialist police heads in the State and replaced them with National Socialists or Nationalists. The entire police administration is now in the hands of the Hitlerites and supporters of Dr. Alfred Hugenberg." "As for the newspapers," says the Acht Uhr Abendblatt, which is the Tageblatt's evening publication, and the Socialist Vorwaerts were both suppressed today on the allegation that they had criticized the police in connection with Sunday's rioting in the Saxon mining town of Eisleben, where several hundred unenfranchised Nazis wrecked a Communist bookshop and gymnasium. . . . In these measures are to be found the first earnest beginnings of the extermination of every working class organization, every democratic and working class right achieved in the course of decades of struggle. Where Mussolini waited many long months after seizing power before he was ready to make the Communist party illegal, Hitler, confronted with a stronger working class and the necessity of acting with dispatch is compelled to proceed with far greater speed and violence. The dismemberment and demolition of the working class and its movements is Hitler's prerequisite to the consolidation of Fascist power.

Japs Plan to Extend Conquest

MANCHURIAN INVASION TO BE EXTENDED FURTHER DESPITE OTHER POWERS The Japanese generals refuse to be checked by the League of Nations. The goal of their ambitions for many a long time, is too close to their grasp to allow it to be snatched away again. Far from giving up Manchuria, the Japanese imperialists plan to extend their conquest and "regulate it by employing the mercenary Manchukuo, Henry Pu Yi, former boy emperor of China. He will make a bid for the throne of North China at Peiping, the Japs supplying the necessary bayonets. Let the League terminate, let the U. S. intrigue—it is now or never for the bandits of the Far East. The Imperial Diet at Tokio has given its blessing to the patriotic undertaking "defeating Japan by conquering China. The Manchukuo and a quarter million Japs, are approved in order to invade all other year of aggression in Asia. Direct attacks on the Pacific of this swollen sum are made to the army and navy. The fact that this sum of money cannot be collected in taxation and therefore that the taxat policy means inevitably greater inflation of the currency than has already occurred, does not disturb the ruling class. For the advancing effects of such inflation will be worked on to the backs of the workers and peasants. Financing the war in China can be accomplished only by intensifying exploitation at home. If as the capitalists have any misgivings as to the ultimate outcome of a break with Europe and America, they will have to keep mum for the present,—the generalis are in the saddle. Nevertheless the Tokyo stock market registers the fears of the less blood-thirsty section of finance imperialism. Stocks and bonds have tumbled, the Achilles heel of Japanese economy, the lack of adequate finances, one of the first blows to be delivered by the League and the U. S. at Japan, if the imminent clamp actually occurs, will be the cracking down on loans. It remains to be seen, even then, whether France will abide by such a decision. The Japanese threaten to shut the door of Manchuria further to the rest of the world if trade pressure for their withdrawal is applied. The imperialist powers have had too much experience with their own method of handling conquered territory, for them to waste any feeling over this threat. Manchuria has been occupied to all but Japan since its occupation. American business has reconciled itself to this fact and has turned to the Yangtze Valley for its future Chinese market. Meanwhile the U. S. government, the political committee of American finance capital, does not sit twiddling its thumbs. It is utilizing the debt league to the utmost as may be witnessed by the activities of the League, and particularly of England. It is intriguing with its dollars in China, gouging the treacherous Kuo Min Tang on to some semblance of resistance to further Japanese encroachment. By the irony of history, it may come about that the League of Nations, which at its very inception sent invading armies into Soviet Russia to help suppress the revolution, will be split asunder by its own internal imperialist contradictions before accomplishing its major objective, the isolation and suppression of the Soviets. It seems almost fantastic that the U. S. should grant recognition to the Soviet Union because of "common interests" against Japan. And yet this is taking place before our eyes. That this recognition should result, as Radek planned, in an alliance against Japan of the most reactionary and the most advanced countries, that is, however, still unthinkable. Not so long as the Soviets still represent the dictatorship of the proletariat. The Scott Nearing who predict such an event, are merely predicting without realizing it, the downfall of the dictatorship of the proletariat. —J. W.

War on for Control of Leticia

Open warfare has at last broken out between Peru and Colombia for control of the small Amazon port of Leticia. It is possible that this conflict together with that between Paraguay and Bolivia for possession of the Gran Chaco, may develop into a continent-wide war, with British and American imperialism supporting the opposing sides. The official Communist party press in its estimation of the situation assumes that there are already two clearly defined blocs of Latin American lackey governments servile to the interests of British and American imperialism respectively. It is however pure light-mindedness to jump at conclusions after the fashion of the Daily Worker experts who analyze every Latin American problem regardless of its complexity, according to the magic formula wherein British imperialism unconditionally supports one side while Wall Street has all its stakes on the other. It so happens in this case that both the United States government and the League of Nations, which latter can hardly be called an exclusive instrument of Wall Street, have declared themselves in support of Colombia in the Leticia dispute. On the other hand the British Blue Shirts (Fascists), have recruited a foreign legion in England which is siding Bolivia in the Chaco war. The Daily Worker considers every factor in Bolivia's favor as due to the pressure and influence of Wall Street imperialism. Perhaps even the British Fascists are puppets of American finance capital! Unrest in Peru While an insane war hysteria appears at the moment to dominate the mass psychology in Colombia,

Oehler Tour this Week

We have already announced the tour of comrade Hugo Oehler on the present situation in Germany and the program of the Left Opposition on this vital question confronting the international proletariat. Below is specific information on the dates and places of the meetings: UTICA, N. Y. Friday, Feb. 17 LABOR LYCEUM 131 Washington St. Buffalo, N. Y.—Feb. 18 PITTSBURGH, PA. Sunday, Feb. 19—8 P. M. IRENE KAUFMAN SETTLEMENT 1839 Central Ave. New Castle, Pa.—Feb. 20 YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO Tuesday, Feb. 21—8 P. M. CENTRAL AUDITORIUM 225 W. Boardman St. CLEVELAND, OHIO Wednesday, Feb. 22 PAINTERS HALL 2030 Euclid Ave. Chicago, Ill.—Feb. 24, 25, 26 Davenport, Iowa—Feb. 27 Des Moines, Iowa—Feb. 27 Kansas City, Mo.—March 1, 2, 3 St. Louis, Mo.—March 4, 5

The Dollar Props Up Hitler America and the Fascist Danger

The sharpening class relations in Germany have reached the point of civil war. This is posing in the most acute fashion the analyses and programs of the factions of the Communist International. This analysis must flow from the fact that the weight of the contradictions of world capitalism finds their most difficult relationship in Germany, revealing it as the weakest link in the world capitalist chain. Our victory over Fascism in this situation depends upon the ability and action of the Communists in presenting the correct program for the gigantic antagonisms between imperialism, which have been intensified since the last world war, finds their deepest expression in Germany. The interests of the world imperialists are bound up with the interests of the German bourgeoisie in their struggle against the proletariat. If American and other imperialists leave Germany to her own fate in the German extension of the October revolution, the door would be left open for the deepening of internal difficulties and convulsions at home. Across this contradiction between the imperialist powers themselves runs the contradiction between the imperialist powers and the Soviet Union. These contradictions are tied up in one knot in the present German situation. To untie this knot, means to answer the burning question of class relations in the interest of the working class. Hitler and Fascism answers this question in the most clear cut fashion for the bourgeoisie, even though they show great signs of weakness and confusion. For this Fascist shortcoming, the errors of Stalinism have more than compensated. Fascism has already one foot over the threshold of state power and the Stalinist straitjacket is hindering the free action of the vanguard of the working class. Hitler dissolves the Reichstag, the Prussian Diet and calls for elections on March 5. Be-

Trotsky's Forecast

"He wants to lull his antagonists with the long-run perspective of the parliamentary growth of the Nazis in order to catch them napping and to deal them a death blow at the right moment," wrote Leon Trotsky more than 15 months ago. "It is quite possible that Hitler's courtesies to democratic parliamentarism may, moreover, help to set up some sort of coalition in the immediate future in which the Fascists will obtain the most important posts and employ them in turn for their coup d'Etat." This striking confirmed forecast of comrade Trotsky is now corroborated all over again by the events of the last few days. "It can now be stated on the best of authority," the Berlin correspondent of the London Times declares, "that the Nazi partners in the present Nazi

OPEN FORUM

"WHAT NEXT IN THE NEEDLE TRADES" RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE RIGHT AND LEFT UNION The Policy of the Left Opposition Speaker: J. P. CANNON Friday, 8 P. M., FEBRUARY 17th 126 East 16th Street, ADMISSION: 15c N. Y. Br. Communist League of America (Opposition)