



Hitler «Purges» Party in Bloody Reign of Terror

Fascist Leaders Throw off Middle Class Ballast; Degenerate Character of Regime Revealed

Hitler has remained the victor in the palace revolt within the German Nazi party. While his real difficulties still lie ahead of him it is clear that at the present moment his stranglehold on the German state of affairs is strengthened. The blackest reaction, the big industrialists, the financiers and the Junkers are, if anything, as a result of the recent events, more firmly in the saddle, ruling through their instrument—Fascism.

Those who lost in the revolt faced the firing squad, their guts splattered in gory scenes which have become commonplace in Fascist Germany. The Schutz-Staffeln—the specially picked section of the Fascist army, selected by social origin and physical distinctions—

together with Goering's special political police and assisted by the Reichswehr army, were the executioners. For the moment they turned their attention away from their regular pursuit of hounding down proletarian rebels.

And as for those who now were the victims—the vilest types of degenerates—nobody will shed a tear. Only now this fact is admitted openly although it has long been a byword that this condition was widely prevalent and these elements constituted the brown shirted army as a whole. Only the scum of the earth, the human refuse, can be used for the dastardly role this bestial horde had to play. It was, and it remains after the purging, a monster trained to be fierce, schooled for use as a class instrument of suppression.

Hitler came into power, carried forward by this movement. Its social base consisted in the main of the middle class, urban and peasantry, together with demoralized proletarian elements, rallying from desperation and despair. This middle class had its own aspirations nourished by the demagogic promises of the Nazi program of national socialism. These aspirations, representing in themselves a danger to the fascist regime, are now dashed to the ground in the gory scenes called the self defense of the state.

German Workers Prostrate
There was no evidence at all of the German proletariat in these recent events. It still lies prostrate, sacrificed by the miserable failure of its parties. The German proletariat as a social force has played no role as yet. However, the objective result of these events will serve to narrow enormously the base of the blood curdling ruling regime. Its exploitation and suppression of the masses will of necessity increase, preparing the day when the German proletariat will again rise. But it will not rise until it regains its consciousness, its organizations and above all, not until it re-establishes a revolutionary party.

To gain a better understanding of these recent German events it is necessary to recapitulate some historical facts.
Under the Weimar Republic the capitalists and the Junkers remained the real rulers. The Weimar constitution stripped them of some of their formal authority. Governments changed in make-up and in political color, from social democratic to outright bonapartist, but the police, the army and the whole of the state bureaucracy remained theirs. The big industrialists, the financiers and the Junkers never for one moment gave up the hope of regaining their glories of the old empire, of regaining its colonies, of regaining the markets of exploitation, of scrapping the Versailles Treaty, of crushing the Weimar constitution and above all of crushing the working class movement.

the parliamentary democracy, which they had so laudatorily appropriated as their own, they made a shambles and a debacle.

The working class found itself reduced to the lowest level. Impoverishment struck the middle class. Social Democracy was no longer useful to capitalism. Communism grew. The Communist movement began to appear dangerous and the trade unions, despite all the betrayals of the workers, remained strongly entrenched. But the forces of Fascism grew out of the same conditions of capitalism. The big industrialists needed an instrument to crush the Weimar constitution and to do that they had to first crush the working class movement. In this situation the fascist movement developed and became powerful. It became the instrument. It attracted to itself the vilest and most decrepit elements of the capitalist class, but especially the desperate and despairing middle class and the demoralized

Old Guard Routs Militants In New York S.P. Convention

The Old Guard won a complete victory at the New York State convention of the Socialist Party, nominating as candidate for governor the extreme right winger, Charles Solomon, by a majority of nearly three to one; electing a complete Old Guard slate for the new State Executive Committee; and put through every Old Guard resolution, including a repudiation of the centrist Declaration of Principles adopted at the recent national convention.

A section of the Old Guard finally permitted the nomination of Norman Thomas as candidate for U. S. Senator, by the withdrawal of his opponent, James O'Neal. But the controlling elements of the Old Guard, the Solomon-Waldman-Hendin-Panken gang, were unrelenting. Though Thomas was the only candidate running, he received only 58 votes to 38 against, in a convention of 118 delegates.

Militants Pussyfoot
The Militant-Thomas faction lost every claim to leadership in the struggle against the Old Guard. Not only did they put up no fight in the pre-convention struggle for delegates, but at the convention they were conciliatory and pussyfooting on every basic issue, and instead of fighting on the fundamental questions, contented themselves with boozing the most provocative attacks made by the Old Guard.

Even in victory, the Old Guard made no pretensions of loyalty to the decisions of the national convention majority. Charles Solomon, standard-bearer in the state elections, bluntly told the Militants, "You are making it practically impossible for some of the comrades to remain in the party," and declared that if the referendum on the Declaration were defeated he would continue to fight against its principles. In direct contradiction to the constitution of the Socialist Party, Algeron Lee, convention chairman, ruled that the Detroit Declaration was not binding until after the referendum. The Old Guard resolution went further, repudiating the Declaration by saying that "the Socialist Party of the State of New York is a social democratic party," that the Detroit declaration "in some of its features is in conflict with the principles and tactics of social democracy," and pronounced the reactionary Declaration adopted in 1924 to be "still in force."

Crushing Policy of Old Guard
By nominating James O'Neal in opposition to Thomas, the Old Guard served notice that they are determined to crush or drive out all opposition, and will give no place in the party to those opposing them. Part of the Old Guard did not go this far, feeling their overwhelming victory was sufficient. This group included full-time party functionaries like Julius Gerber, Henry Fruchter and O'Neal. The ruling Old Guard, however, remained adamant to the end. Since they are in full control of the new State executive Committee, it is clear they intend to wipe out the Militant opposition.

proletarians.
The Rallying Slogans of Fascism
Its rallying slogans were embodied in its deceptive national socialism. Within the former was contained the promise of the scrapping of the hated Versailles Treaty and the restoration of all the glories of the empire of the old days to which the middle class, disappointed with Social Democracy and never attracted to support of Communism, still harked back in its dreams. In the fascist slogans of Socialism was embodied the bizarre promises of busting up the trusts, of dividing up the big business for the benefit of the small retailer and of parceling out the big landed estates to the peasants. To the middle class this program represented a glorified empire but with the oppressive features of big business eliminated. The capitalists and the Junkers were never fooled by this "socialist" part of the Nazi program. They knew it was only a bait for the

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election campaign was largely due to a slip-up in strategy. The Old Guard planned to adopt the state platform and other right-wing measures, and then demand that Thomas could not stand as candidate unless he supported the right-wing program. But the time element saved Thomas. The Old Guard's machine did not move fast enough, and the hour for choosing candidates arrived before passage of the right-wing program. The Old Guard suspended the rules long enough to pass their repudiation of the Declaration of Principles. This, however, since it was in contravention to the decision of the national convention, Thomas was able to say did not bind him. It was then too late for the Old Guard to put through the state platform before the candidates.

Humiliation of Thomas
But the nomination of Thomas, instead of being the "victory" which the Militants claim, was a thorough humiliation of Thomas. Laidler's speech nominating Thomas was shamefully conciliatory. He let pass Waldman's chauvinist statement, in nominating O'Neal, that the candidate should be one "to whom the U. S. Senate means something in the American tradition." He ignored the insistence of the Old Guard "that the candidate should represent a definite position." In the face of Solomon's denunciations, Laidler assured the convention that Solomon and Thomas were ideal running mates because "they have gotten along together splendidly in previous campaigns."

Panken, in opposing Thomas' nomination, declared that "Thomas has been a candidate all this time, and if anybody is responsible for the failure of the movement, it is Thomas." The climax in the attack on Thomas was the denunciation of him by Joseph Tuvim for the stand he took on the furriers, the Progressive Miners, and his attack on the movie union racketeers.
O'Neal had risen to ask for the

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The miscarriage of the Old Guard

General Strike Near in Frisco After Killings

New York, July 6.—Twelve hours after Joseph P. Ryan, chief of the longshoremen's union had issued a vicious reactionary attack on the longshoremen's strike, which Ryan had attempted to settle and leave the other unions in the lurch, Ryan was forced to change his tune. All A.F. of L. unions on the waterfront, were planning to meet on the question of tying up New York piers and Ryan was declaring for the strike.

San Francisco, July 6.—General strike looming. Frisco inflamed with indignation at the murders and violence inflicted on the strikers. Strike sympathy is so strong that the governor and the bosses are afraid the morale of the national guard, now patrolling the piers, will break under the pressure. "Any man who fires into the air will be court-martialed," Colonel Mittelstaedt warned his men, in issuing the order "Shoot to kill."

The pressure is also driving forward the Frisco Labor Council which last week passed a resolution calling upon the longshoremen to drive radicals out of the union. The Council meets tonight, on the general strike issue. So does the Marine Engineers' Association. Teamsters' Union votes on strike Sunday. Street railway men on the move too, and other union meetings scheduled for next few days will undoubtedly take strike votes.

The two thousand national guardsmen have not stopped the strikers and sympathizers who are pressing against the military and police lines. Outgoing trucks are being turned back at outlying points. Trucks carrying perishables were overturned at Livermore Canyon. The Belt Line Railroad connecting the piers with the railroads, not only carrying freight, but its cars are lined up to provide a protecting alley for the trucks.

The strikers killed yesterday were shot down on the corner of Mission and Stuart Streets. Today pickets chalked off the square on which they were killed and asked passing workers not to walk on it. In the center of the square is inscribed: "Police murders here"

The labor movement here comprises 120 unions with about 50,000 members. Only the combined efforts of the whole labor movement can defeat this onslaught. Everybody has combined on the side of the bosses—chambers of commerce, the notorious Industrial Association, Governor Merriam, the police, the troops, the ship owners. For all they know that if the marine workers win San Francisco will be a union town. That's just why all the unions have to fight this fight. If they don't fight, they're licked.

New Address
All members and sympathizers are urged to take notice of the change of address of the Communist League, The Militant, Young Spartacus and all the other institutions which formerly had their headquarters at 126 E. 16th Street. The new address is 144 Second Avenue, New York City.

Housewarming
A housewarming party at the new headquarters of the New York Local of the Communist League of America will take place Saturday, July 14th at 8 P.M. The new headquarters are located at 144 Second Ave., corner 9th Street. A program of entertainment has been arranged for this occasion. Food and refreshments will be served. All friends and sympathizers are invited.

MASS MEETING
The Meaning of the German Events
SPEAKERS:
Max Shachtman-Arne Swabeck
Sunday, July 8, 8 P.M.
Irving Plaza Hall - 15th Street and Irving Place
Admission 15c Questions and Discussion

New Truck Drivers Strike Impends in Minneapolis

Back the League In New Drive

With the general strike impending in Minneapolis, the need for concerted efforts on organization work, and the stabilization of our press becomes imperative. A definite duty is imposed upon us by the events.
Can we rise to the situation? Comrade Cannon has already left for Minneapolis to cover the news and analyze the events for The Militant and the New Internationalist. If the strike breaks, we must give further assistance. The entire League must be mobilized for the tremendous tasks ahead.

SHOULDERS TO THE WHEEL! BACK MINNEAPOLIS BY HELPING THE LEAGUE. SEND YOUR COLLECTIONS IMMEDIATELY. DON'T DELAY.

Receipts
(Since last Report)
A. Friend, N. Y. \$15.00
Chas. Anthony, N. Y. 2.00
Marion McLeod 1.00
S. C., Baltimore 1.00
G. James, Berkeley 1.00
Helen Mason, Columbus 10.00
A. Friend (King)50
Manhattan Branch 1.28
M. M. 25.00

Entire Labor Movement Backs 574 General Strike Possible

Another general strike of truck drivers under the leadership of the indomitable Local 574 looms in Minneapolis.
After the crushing defeat they suffered at the hands of organized labor in the first drivers' strike the bosses are now trying to recoup their losses in an effort to swindle the workers out of the wage increases which were taken for granted at the conclusion of the last strike.
The employers, violating the terms of the agreement, have refused to arbitrate the question of wages and working conditions with the representatives of the union.
In the meanwhile the open shop bosses have issued half page paid ads to the press, lying about the facts and charging the union with the responsibility for the impending strike.
But Local 574 will not be cheated out of the rightful gains they so victoriously won in the recent strike. They have accepted the challenge and hurled back the answer.
The answer is **FIGHT!**
Minneapolis labor has been called upon for its support. A joint conference was held and from the Central Labor Union of the A. F. of L. they have joined hands to the last man with the fighting truck drivers against the notorious Citizens' Alliance of Minneapolis.
Under the aegis of this joint conference of all the unions of Minneapolis a mass demonstration is to be held tonight, July 6th, at 6:30 P.M. Union representatives will expose the conniving tactics of the bosses and their jackal tricks before tens of thousands of cheering workers. And the leaflet advertising the demonstration says that **"DECISIVE ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AT THIS MEETING."**

Breaking the written pledge which was wrested from them by the fearfully militant actions of Local 574 in the preceding strike, the bosses have undertaken a movement to deprive the truck drivers of those advantages which were implicit in the arbitration they agreed to.
Lies and Evasions
Amidst a veritable barrage of lies and evasions to the kept press they complain bitterly that the union is not living up to its promises. These promises, they presume to be, are not that the questions of wages and working conditions shall be brought before the arbitration board for adjudication. The employers conceived the agreement as the usual run-around. After failing to come to terms with the union representatives they thought the matter would be dropped and nothing more would be heard of it.
But this was Local 574 they were dealing with, not the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor.
In this statement of the 168 firms they display that hypocritical indignation that is so typical of bosses when they are compelled to surrender the smallest part of their blood-profits extorted from their wage-slaves.
A tear-jerking whine that the union would not permit itself to be victim of delay—the time-worn method of cheating the workers out of their victories—is expressed at the fact that 574 promptly placed pickets before those few establishments which continued to discriminate against strikers.
A Real Industrial Union
If these aggressive tactics on the part of the union and its leaders were unsavory to the bosses then it certainly must have been a bitter pill for them to swallow when they discovered that they were not dealing with a craft union of drivers and helpers but a broad industrial union covering handlers, banana men, tomato men, potato men, cooler men, celery trimmers, orange men and California fruit men. The bosses howl that these were not included in the agreement. But the very fact that it is these self-same bosses who deal with the drivers that are making the complaint gives the lie to this assertion. The bosses would have very much liked to separate the workers into ineffective craft unions. But they reckoned without their host.
We are paying enough, shout the profit-mad bosses. Are we not living up to the 50 cents per hour minimum for truck drivers? Fifty cents an hour may be the conception of the wealth sated bosses of a living wage for their employees. Fifty cents an hour may have been the lot submitted to by the workers before their last strike, before they stood up to the stature of human beings who want a decent living wage. But certainly not after they drove the bosses, their police and hired thugs to such a miserable rout.
The Union's Answer
The answer of the union leaders to the false charges of the employers is quite explicit. It throws the responsibility where it belongs. They make their position clear beyond doubt in a statement issued to the press which follows. We quote from the Minneapolis Journal of July 2nd.
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Broad Silk Dept in Silk Union Backs 7 Expelled Militants

(The following article on the expulsions in the Silk workers union was due to appear in the last issue of the Militant but unfortunately was crowded out because of lack of space.—Ed.)
BULLETIN
PATERSON, June 25.—The Broad Silk Dept membership meeting (A.F.S.W.) overwhelmingly voted today to recommend to the Joint Executive Board and to the General Membership Meeting that they throw out the expulsions of all Associated members brought up on charges by Eli Keller (Roy) case, and for being members of the United Silk Workers Club. This motion was opposed by only two votes.

Among the seven expelled members of the Associated are: members of the Broad Silk Executive, members of the Constitution Committee, members of the last strike committee, and shop chairmen. All of them are candidates for election to the incoming Broad Silk Executive. With a single exception, they are all members of the United Silk Workers Club. The attack of the officialdom is being directed in particular against: Eddie Swayful, Charlie Weiss, Felix Giordano, Ross Moran, and Anna Fisher.

The Albert (Roy) Case
On April 23 a strike was called in the Roy shop because of discrimination. The worker discriminated against was a member of the National (Stalinist) Union: the shop was under the jurisdiction of the A.F.S.W. and in it worked several A.F.S.W. members. All the workers in the shop, both National and A.F.S.W., walked out.
On April 26 the bosses offered to settle provided the workers took a wage out. The workers stayed out, now striking on two issues.

For two weeks everybody was out on strike, including one, H. Berman. Then the bosses moved the shop to Madison Ave. & 3rd Ave. and changed its name to Albert Silk Co. At the same time they became members of the Manufacturers Association in an obvious attempt to break the strike by claiming a contract with the A.S.W. In other words, the bosses moved their shop, rushed to the Bosses' Association and then—to Keller who had just managed to squeeze through in the election for General Manager on a "progressive platform".

Here was an excellent opportunity to demonstrate to all silk workers not only the suicidal policy of Stalinism but also the forward-looking policies of the Associated. Instead Keller obligingly appointed one Berman as shop-chairman. The bosses promptly appointed Berman, —a foreman. As now this foreman-shop-chairman Berman proceeded to aid the bosses in the name of the A.S.W. (!) in getting an injunction against the picketers.
Demand Open Investigation
At this juncture a committee of A.S.W. workers appeared before the Broad Silk Executive and demanded an open investigation of the Albert case. Although the motion was made and seconded, the "progressive" majority on the board completely ignored it, and proceeded then and there to carry on an

"investigation" with Henry Berman, foreman-shop-chairman as the spokesman for the workers. The Executive Board meeting broke up in a fist-fight, precipitated by one Chesnatsky (Keller's man Friday).
All attempts to deal with the matter inside the union were squashed. Keller and his "progressives" obviously were relying on their temporary control of the executive bodies to whitewash themselves through secret investigations.
The United Silk Workers' Club thereupon undertook a campaign for the following demands: 1) an open investigation conducted by the union into the whole case; 2) immediate recall of all the A.S.W. members recruited by Berman into the shop and actually scabbing there; 3) refusal to grant membership to any worker not now in the Associated but working in the shop under Keller's protection; 4) full support of the strikers by the A.S.W.; 5) immediate repudiation and expulsion of Henry Berman who acted throughout as a bosses' agent and scab recruiter.

Militant Policy Bears Fruit
The militant and progressive policies of the Associated men who led and supported this campaign bore fruits immediately, to the chagrin of both Keller and of the Stalinists who presumably were "leading" the strike, but who as a matter of fact had left the men stranded. The leader of the strike, together with several other National members, immediately either joined the Associated or filed their applications. In a pathetic attempt to salvage their biggest shop the Stalinists ran a "public trial of Eli Keller" on June 1—as their attempt to capitalize on the Open Investigation which the United Silk Workers' Club held on May 30. At the same time the Daily Worker ranted that the Trotskyites were working to sell out the strikers. While the Stalinists were busy inciting the workers against the "Mustelites and Trotskyites", the Lovestonites (Keller at the head) raised a howl that these same "renegades" were working hand in hand with the Stalinists, in the interests of the National.

Keller initiated nothing short of a red-baiting campaign, and availed himself of every reactionary tactic that has ever been devised. Thus, the "accused" were summoned to appear for trial without being informed what the charges against them were, or who the accusers were; even before a hearing was held, three of the accused who were also members of the Broad Silk Executive were suspended. Protests against the procedure were not heeded. Keller did graciously consent to send out letters specifying the charges. Before the actual hearing, Ross Moran was expelled from the union as "not a silk worker" (Keller is convinced that Moran is a truck driver—evidently under the fresh impression of the Minneapolis struggle, Keller has been having nightmares of "truck-driver Trotskyites.")
Keller's Charges
Moran's protest letter, demanded—
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