

NEW MILITANT

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The Real Issues in the Soviet Union

THESE are times which impose upon all revolutionary workers an attitude of the greatest responsibility and the most sober judgment in regard to the Soviet Union.

The idea that the Soviet State is immune from this danger is a profound illusion. As long as the Soviet Union is surrounded by a capitalist world it is never free from the danger of a counter-revolutionary overthrow.

Sacramento Trials Aimed at Labor

(Continued from Page 1) criminal syndicalism charges were entered.

All defendants are charged with "wilfully, unlawfully and feloniously, by spoken and written words and personal conduct" advocating criminal syndicalism and "crime sabotage, violence and unlawful methods of terrorism as a means of accomplishing a change in industrial ownership and control and effecting political change by advocating violence and picketing and by particularly advocating the overthrow of the government of the U. S. by . . . violence and force."

They are also charged with "justifying criminal syndicalism," and with printing, publishing, circulating, etc., matter advocating criminal syndicalism. Among the documents on which this charge is based, are the Communist Manifesto by Marx and Engels, Lenin's On the Road to October, the Program of the Communist International, and various publications of the Communist Party, the T.U.U.L., the Cannery and Agricultural Workers Industrial Union, and numerous speeches, theses, etc. of the Stalinist Party.

Finally, they are charged with "drilling as students and becoming members of a class of students and engaging in the act or acts of performing and executing military drills with intent . . . to effect a political change."

The prisoners are in the main leaders and members of the Cannery and Agricultural Workers Industrial Union. Pat Chambers is its District Organizer, and was C. P. Senatorial candidate in the last election. Caroline Decker is District Secretary of the Union. Jack Warnick is the director of the Sacramento Workers School. Norman Mini is an instructor in the school. Martin Wilson is section organizer of the I.L.D. Nora Concklin, a member of the Unemployed Council, is a direct descendant of one of the signers of the American Declaration of Independence. Albert Hougardy, C. P. Congressional candidate, is Sacramento organizer of the C.P. Jack Crane is a member of the Workers Ex-Service-

looked for the final solution of the difficulties and contradictions of the Soviet Union on the arena of the international revolution. The theory and practice of "Socialism in the Soviet Union alone" could work only to isolate the Soviet Union from its chief aid, in the final analysis, its only real source of reinforcement, the international working class movement.

The accusation that the oppositionist political groups which originated in the Communist Party are responsible for the assassination of Kirov, or any other acts of terrorism, is a monstrous and fantastic slander. Such accusations hurled at the Marxist opponents of Stalin are not believed anywhere, least of all in the circles of the advanced and class conscious workers. The uncompromising hostility of the Marxists to the methods of terrorism is too well known. The chief result of this infamous attempt to foist the assassination of Kirov onto the oppositionists is to sow confusion and demoralization in the ranks of the working class supporters of the Soviet State and thereby to weaken its position internally and externally.

We know nothing of the details surrounding the latest incidents—and neither does anybody else except the official circle which keeps it secret. We do not know what the political position of Zinoviev, for example, is at the present time and consequently cannot take any responsibility for it. But we do know that the attempt to "connect" Trotsky and his adherents with White Guards and with the assassination of Kirov is a transparent frame-up. We know that secrecy serves such ends, not the exposure and defeat of class enemies. For these reasons we demand open trials and full information.

men's League. Lorine Norman is secretary of the Sacramento I.L.D. Donald Bigham is Y.C.L. organizer. The other defendants are Fred Kirkwood, Lee Hung (a Chinese worker), A. G. Ford, Luther Mincey, W. H. Huffine, Harry Collentz, Mike Piesch, and John Fisher.

Two Out on Bail In all these cases the bail under the criminal syndicalism charges is set at \$3,000 cash or \$6,000 bond. Those convicted of vagrancy or still under the charge would also have to provide bail on this charge, totalling \$1,000 each in cash or twice as much in bond. This includes Chambers, Wilson, Decker, Warnick, Norman, Kirkwood, Hung, Ford, Collentz and Bigham.

Of all these only two have been bailed out. One is Albert Hougardy, whose bail was provided by the I.L.D. and the Conference for Labor's Civil Rights, an organization of liberals headed by Bishop Francis J. McConnell. The other is Norman Mini, bailed out by friends. Norman Mini is being defended by Judge Charles O. Busick, a conservative Republican who, when a Judge several years ago issued the notorious "Busick injunction" against the I.W.W. movement in California. Busick is reported to have subsequently changed his views and is now a critic of the criminal syndicalism law. The remaining defendants are represented by Leo Gallagher, retained by the I.L.D.

The prisoners have been miserably treated in jail. Among other things, Sheriff Cox has refused to deliver to them literature and newspapers sent by friends although such censorship is illegal. Prosecution Is Crooked It has already been made clear that the prosecution will be run on Sacco-Vanzetti lines: an outright attempt to bulldoze and hoodwink the jury by playing upon its prejudices. District Attorney Nell McAllister has already begun his rough stuff. He got the wife of one juror, Mrs. R. B. Nix, to state that she had been threatened by Reds. An investigation disclosed that the claim was a fake. On the other hand, it was re-

Issue New International, Party Organ

With the December issue, the New International appears for the first time as an unofficial organ. The historic importance of this last issue is great. The articles by A. J. Muste and James P. Cannon on the Foundations of the Workers Party contain a survey of the past history of the revolutionary movement and perspectives for the future.

Sydney Hook, in his article on Marx and Hess presents a significant analysis of the evolution of Marxist thought. Ruben Gotesky starts the first round of a battle. In his article on Sydney Hook's book "Towards the Understanding of Karl Marx". His chief criticism is based on Hook's contention 1) That Marxism is not a science, 2) That socialism is not inevitable. Hook will answer Gotesky in the next issue. Arne Swaback writes on a current problem—the significance of the November elections. Among the special features will be another "Archive of the Revolution" and several book reviews on religion, art, science, etc.

Beginning with January, the New International will embark on its new career. According to its editors:

"It will not only be the theoretic organ of the Workers Party dealing with socio-economic and historical problems but will also contain articles of a scientific and technical nature—articles on science, medicine, industrial technique, housing, literature and the arts. From time to time non-party writers will be asked to contribute on these technical subjects, or to engage in open polemics with party writers. The fullest freedom of discussion within the broad party lines will be encouraged between party members. Thus, qualitatively and quantitatively the New International will be the foremost theoretic revolutionary journal in the English-speaking world."

that when our economic system fails to satisfy the minimum needs of the majority, the little minority who profit from that unworkable system will attempt to maintain themselves in power against the will of the majority by force, and that I believe that the majority have a right to act in their own interest and to follow militant leadership in establishing a government which does represent the interests of the majority, who are workers and small farmers, and that I believe it would be my duty to that majority of which I am a part to help establish that government by force, would that prejudice you against me?"

Need of United Defense Movement The Sacramento case has the utmost importance for the labor movement, especially for its progressive and radical section, on a national scale. It is obvious that the defendants are bearing the brunt of a reactionary attack aimed at the working class movement as a whole. Up till now the publicity given to the case has been entirely inadequate, in view of its importance, and the absence of a strong national defense movement greatly endangers the prisoners. The fact that only two of them have been taken out on bail is a striking illustration of the weakness of the defense movement.

"Should the district attorney use such invectives when referring to us as 'Reds', 'agents of Moscow', 'rats', 'alien agitators', 'seditious radicals', 'free lovers', or 'godless people', would that prejudice you against me, and make it impossible for you to decide my case entirely on the basis of the evidence presented?"

Jack Warnick asks this one: "If you should conclude from the evidence that I believe that every young person should be given an opportunity to work at the task for which he is best fitted . . . and if you should conclude that I believe our present economic and social system does not afford such opportunity . . . and if you should conclude that I believe that such a system ought to be changed radically . . . would that prejudice you against me?"

CLEVELAND. — The American Newspaper Guild made another advance toward organization of newspaper editorial writers with the signing of a 1-year contract by the Cleveland News. A minimum of \$40 a week is set for editorial workers with four years' experience. A 5-day, 40-hour week is established.

Glass Faces Ten Years On Syndicalist Charge

Stanley Glass, Socialist and active worker in the West Virginia Unemployed League, is facing a ten-year sentence for "conspiracy to overthrow the government" for daring to revive a strike against the Baldwin Shovel Plant, a subsidiary of the notorious Weirton Steel Co.

Last August at the request of the strikers Glass revived the strike at the Parkersburg plant after it seemed to have been broken; reorganized the picket lines; and held several successful meetings outside the plant. At one of these meetings on August 29 Glass was threatened by a scab armed with a pitchfork, who later appeared with a shotgun and fired ten times at the picket line, wounding five persons. Although brought to trial for this atrocity, the case against the scab was immediately dismissed.

At the instigation of the company, state troopers began a search for Glass with machine guns, and Mrs. Glass was told by troopers of their intention to murder Glass, whom they knew solely as a "red-headed agitator". Strikers concealed

Hearst Red-Baiting in School System Vehemently Protested by Educators

That noted scholar, William Randolph Hearst, who failed to obtain his degree when he was a student at Harvard, has recently been conducting an anti-red campaign directed at American schools and colleges. Mr. Hearst's only educational qualification is an honorary L.L.B. from Oglethorpe, a jerk-water college in the south, a degree which he received in 1927 some thirty years after his unsuccessful career at Harvard had been forgotten.

When Professor George S. Counts of Teachers College in New York, received a badly written letter last week asking for "The inside stuff on Socialism, Capitalism, and Communism," he was forearmed. The same crude provocateur's trick had been employed by the Hearst press at Syracuse University. The author of the letter, a Hearst reporter, came into Professor Counts' office on his red-baiting mission to find a stenographer, ready to register every word of the interview.

Cooking Up a Red Scare "Mr. Hearst," said the reporter after some prompting, "is at present engaged in conducting a 'red scare'. Personally I am not in sympathy with that sort of thing, in fact, quite the opposite. But Mr. Hearst wants material along this line."

Asked if he was ashamed of himself the reporter said, "Not of myself, but of the situation that makes it necessary for me to do this to keep alive."

A stenographic report of the whole interview was forwarded to the Dickstein Committee on Un-American activities, together with a petition signed by twenty two New York professors, members of the National Educational Association, that Mr. Hearst be investigated.

Said Professor Counts: "If W. R. Hearst succeeds in his efforts American schools and universities will be reduced to the ignominious condition of German schools under Hitler."

Brownsville Mass Meeting The Message of the Workers Party and the Russian Events

A.J. Muste J.P. Cannon PREMIER PALACE 505 SUTTER FRIDAY, JAN. 4 -- 8:30 P.M.

Resolution Adopted by N.Y. Meeting

(Continued from Page 1) in the "democratic" United States, will not shed tears over the fate of a few White Guards and counter-revolutionists who would restore the capitalist order in the Soviet Union.

"Since the revolutionary workers of the world must know the facts about white guards and foreign agents who may threaten the Soviet state in order to be adequately prepared for its own defense, we protest against the secrecy and mystery in which the Soviet Government has shrouded recent happenings in the 'democratic' United States. will not shed tears over the fate of a few White Guards and counter-revolutionists who would restore order in the dark. Not so the tolling masses; they need to see and know where they are going, especially in this crisis when the threat of war hangs like a sword over the workers of all lands.

"We earnestly protest, furthermore, against sowing confusion and division at this time in the minds of workers everywhere, as the Soviet Government does when it lumps together as counter-revolutionists, White Guards, Japanese imperialists, German Fascist butchers, and revolutionists who are party opponents of the officials of the Soviet Government. We declare that only distrust can arise from laying the charge of conspiring to assassinate Kirov against revolutionists who, as Marxists, have always bitterly opposed individual terrorism.

"We demand, therefore, that persecution of party opponents of the officials of the Soviet Government cease immediately; that the Soviet Government desist from attempts to link proletarian opponents of the present Soviet regime, who stand on the principle of the proletarian dictatorship, with White Guards or with the agents of capitalist governments; and that open trials be held for all charged with conspiracy against the Soviet Union and the widest publicity given to these trials in order that the advanced workers of the world may be armed with the truth about the dangers which threaten the Soviet Union and the machinations of capitalist governments."

W. Norris Joins Workers Party

(Continued from Page 1) Opportunist reaction is now clearly on the offensive in the party, and gaining ground. The reactionary Right wing, led by the New York "Old Guard"—in reality a conservative gang which has nothing in common with the ideas and spirit of socialism—pushes forward. The weak-kneed and unprincipled "Millitants" retreat before them all along the line.

As for the Revolutionary Policy Committee, it has forfeited the possibility of playing a serious role by allowing itself to be converted into an agency of the Lovestone faction and consequently, of degenerate and discredited Stalinism.

I know the history and background of the two organizations which came together to found the Workers Party of the U. S. I have read the Declaration of Principles very carefully and fully agree with it. I am convinced that the future belongs to this party. In my opinion, every sincere revolutionary socialist will have to make the same decision.

Fraternally yours, W. W. NORRIS.

Anti-Fascist United Front In Yorkville FRIDAY, JAN. 4, 8 P.M. Labor Temple, 243 E. 84th St. Sponsors: Spartacus Youth League, Proletarische Gemeinschaft, Young People's Socialist League.

New Year's Manifesto of the Workers Party

(Continued from Page 1) nist and Socialist Parties, are among its charter members. The Workers Party of the U. S. is founded on the great principles of revolutionary theory and practice stated by Marx and Lenin and tested by the experience of the workers in the class struggle on an international scale, above all in the Russian revolution of 1917. Proceeding from these principles the Workers Party of the U. S. utilizes the revolutionary possibilities of American tradition and history, including the militant strike tradition of the American workers, and adapts its tactics to the concrete realities and needs of the American masses today.

The revolutionary movement is necessarily international in outlook and character. The establishment of the new revolutionary party in the U. S. therefore means for us that we stand ready to cooperate with all groups, organizations and parties in other countries which stand on the same fundamental program as our own for the speediest possible establishment of the new, Fourth, International.

The formation of the Workers Party is a great step forward. After more than a decade of splits and dis-

integration in the revolutionary labor movement, an example of unity has been given. A center has been built to which the now unattached working class fighters as well as the fighting elements in other parties and groups may rally. A party has been formed which is revolutionary, international, and at the same time rooted in the American working class and adapted to the conditions existing in the U. S. today!

THE ROAD OF STRUGGLE The road ahead for the new year must be the road of determined and militant struggle. This is the New Year's message of the Workers Party. Though plenty is today within our reach, every struggle of the workers against wage cuts or reductions in relief is met with bitter resistance by employers and government.

Every attempt of the workers to organize in order that they may have power to enforce their demands is likewise violently opposed. Why? Because in this period of the decline of capitalism every gain made by the workers and farmers is at the expense of capitalist profits. By the same token, the workers must fight against every cut in wages or relief, must fight daily for a higher standard with every means and weapon

at their disposal. To yield an inch now, to give up the fight for a single moment means to give the capitalists a chance to rally their forces for a new onslaught, to be pushed nearer to the starvation level, nearer to the horrors of Fascism and War.

For the workers of the U. S. in 1935, therefore, the slogans are— Organize — build the Unions and Unemployed Leagues! Fight out the battle for union recognition in steel, automobiles, rubber, public utilities, all the basic industries. Fight it out on the picket line. Union recognition cannot be won in capitalist legislatures or courts. Strike! Strike militantly! Organize the left-progressive wing, the honest fighting elements, in all the unions and on a national scale. Wrest the leadership of the unions from those who preach and practice cooperation with the bosses or the capitalist politicians. Put the leadership into the hands of those who preach and practice irreconcilable struggle against the bosses and their government. Clean out the corruption, racketeering, gangsterism and autocracy which prevent the growth of militant unionism! Demand insurance against unemployment, accident, sickness, old age—at the cost of capitalist profits.

Unite regardless of racial, religious, political or any other differences in order to resist all attacks upon the civil and political rights of workers and farmers.

Oppose all preparations for capitalist wars! Combat all capitalist attacks on the workers regime in the Soviet Union!

Fight every form of discrimination against the Negroes. Remember that today the struggle for bread, for security, for a free and decent life, is the struggle to overthrow capitalism, that the only "way out" for the workers is the revolutionary way.

Organize and prepare, therefore, to establish the rule of the workers! Plenty, security, leisure, freedom, peace for ourselves and our children, are within our reach. A crumbling, insane, unjust economic order stands in the way. We will sweep it aside. Reactionary forces will try to oppose and divide us. We must tear them down.

American capitalists and profiteers would lead the world to degradation, war, chaos. American workers will join the workers of the world in the creation of a new society, a world federation of workers' republics. For Working Class Unity! For A Workers World! NATIONAL COMMITTEE, WORKERS PARTY OF THE U. S.