

REMEMBER SACCO & VANZETTI!

(Continued from Page 1) conducted the legal defense. There was no coordination of the work in the court room with the work outside. The L.L.D. was the moving spirit in the formation of a united front for the defense of the prisoners. The united front succeeded in arousing a storm of protest from the world proletariat. From China to Argentina, there were outbreaks of indignation against the capitalist colossus of the Western Hemisphere.

Protest Too Late

We, who participated in the mass movement to wrench Sacco and Vanzetti from the clutches of capitalist law, had no illusions that the overwhelming evidence of their innocence would cause the prosecution to relent. We fully understood that the American bourgeoisie, riding triumphantly the crest of a wave of false prosperity, would take vengeance on the two fearless workers in the class struggle who had dared to raise their voices for the emancipation of the working class.

The mass protest was organized too late, as the case was drawing to its close. The result was fatally tragic. Before the mass campaign could reach an intensity and strength, both in this country and on an international scale, which would have challenged the dominant capitalist class decisively, Sacco and Vanzetti heroically met their death at the hands of the agents of capitalist justice.

It is important to remember that these two martyrs to our cause had no illusions about the ultimate outcome of the case or the nature of the forces which implacably sought their doom. Sacco, especially, saw no hope in engaging in the interminable legal tangle of Anglo-Saxon jurisprudence. While he understood the necessity of using the court of the enemy as a forum from which to blazon forth the irreconcilable antagonism of the proletariat, his lack of familiarity with English precluded his taking upon himself the offensive against capitalism which Vanzetti so eloquently carried on. He set himself the task, nevertheless, immediately after his imprisonment of learning English, but never achieved Vanzetti's fluency with the language. The latter has testified in one of his letters that Sacco's warm eloquence in his native tongue frequently brought tears to his eyes.

Heroism of the Defendants

Sacco several times refused to cooperate with the attorney, Thompson, who was representing them in a manner which indicated that he was more concerned with rehabilitating the reputation of Massachusetts justice than with securing the release of the prisoners. It was only at the insistence of Vanzetti, who correctly urged that the battle must be fought with whatever weapons were available that Sacco continued to collaborate with the legal defense. Vanzetti said, "why should we surrender ourselves to the enemy before we have exhausted every means of defense?" And again he said, late in 1928, "Only the thunders of a mighty worldwide agitation and protest could induce the enemy to free us."

Vanzetti never lost sight of the fact that the persecution of the two prisoners was motivated by class hatred. Tirelessly, he pointed out the essential lesson for the working class which the case provided. That he was a representative of a movement which sought the overthrow of the bourgeoisie, nationalist state, the end of imperialist war, the establishment of workers' rule, the abolition of the exploitation of the many by the few. That he was being prosecuted, in reality, for his opinions and his activity in the working class movement. That the sly ferocity of the trial judge and prosecutor who convicted him, of the head of the Massachusetts branch of the Department of Justice who cooperated with the prosecution, of Governor Fuller who refused his petition for executive clemency, of the Advisory Committee selected by the Governor to sanction with their fake impartiality the vicious system that condemned him, the jury of middle-class men obedient to the dictates of the ruling class and subservient to post-war hysteria and race prejudice—that all these phenomena were to be explained as the logical outcome of the hatred and fear of the dominant class in society of the suppressed class, the proletariat. This was the lesson which Sacco and Vanzetti continually hammered home—and which they were joyful and proud to write with their blood.

Vanzetti's Immortal Words

After Vanzetti was sentenced, he was permitted, as is customary, to make a statement. His words were transcribed by a shorthand reporter. The words of Vanzetti, spoken in that uncomprehending courtroom at Dedham are a never failing source of courage and inspiration to us who are carrying on their work.

"If it had not been for these things, I might have lived out my life talking at street corners to

scorning men. I might have died, unmarked unknown, a failure. Now we are not a failure. This is our career and our triumph. Never in our full life could we hope to do such work for tolerance, for justice, for man's understanding of man as now we do by accident. Our words—our lives—our pain—nothing! The taking of our lives—lives of a good shoemaker and a poor fish-peddler—all. That last moment belongs to us that agony is our triumph!"

On August 22, let all workers commemorate the deathless memory of Sacco and Vanzetti—they were of the flesh and blood of the workers. We of the Workers Party will not merely honor them with words, we will emulate them with our deeds. There are working class parties which no longer lead the struggle against imperialist war. They have left the road of unremitting struggle against war, against bourgeois democracy, the road of Lenin and Liebknecht. Conscious of our Marxist heritage, pledging ourselves to the carrying out of the teachings of Lenin and Trotsky, we proclaim our solidarity with the working class, with Sacco and Vanzetti. We urge those of our comrades who are following the road of the misleaders—the road that can lead only to bitter defeat—to ponder well the lesson of Sacco and Vanzetti.

Let us, also, on this day rally to the defense of class war prisoners everywhere. Let us remember that Tom Mooney, Norman Mini and his comrades are still in San Quentin, martyrs in the struggle against the enemies of Sacco and Vanzetti.

Fur Workers Elect New Leadership

(Continued from Page 1) and support Right wing candidates.

At the same time the Progressive League and Unity Groups were denounced as cliques and the fur workers were called upon to defeat their candidates, Ben Gold, in a long manifesto, stated:

"I appeal to everyone of you to give the proper answer to these despicable people who have always been against unity and against one union, and who are at present continuing their malicious work against unity and one union."

This was directed at the very people who in the past were spat on and attacked for proposing unity with what Gold then called the "Scab Joint" (Furriers Joint Council). The campaign to elect Progressives, though partially successful, was weakened by the fact that they were not in one united group standing on a clear cut program. Groups which were formed in the old Joint Council and in the former Industrial Union must now adjust themselves to the new situation. Friendly discussion on the tasks facing them and on programmatic differences dividing them, must be started at once. In this the Unity Group and the Progressive League should take the initiative.

That such a united Progressive group can and should contain members and supporters of different political tendencies, has been shown by experiences in other unions, notably the I.L.G.W.U. The narrow factional and bureaucratic control exercised by the newly elected administration majority when they led the Industrial Union, and their present efforts to unite with reactionaries against progressive forces indicates clearly that there is no time to lose in the building of a united progressive group.

What to Attend

Saturday-Sunday, August 24-25—Gala S.Y.L. overnight-hike to Lake Tiorati, Bear Mountains. Hitch-hike up and back. Swimming, fishing, camp fire, mock-debate (Stalinism vs. Trotskyism), boating, group-singing, etc. Leave Saturday, 8 A.M. For information call at office—Spartacus Youth League, 55 East 11th St., 3rd floor, any weekday.

Oakland, Cal. Saturday, August 31, 8:30 P.M.—Attention! Workers in the bay region. Dancing, entertainment and social to raise funds for the 8-page NEW MILITANT. Jenny Lind Hall 2229, Telegraph Ave., Oakland. Admission 26 cents.

Free instructions by competent musicians in all hand instruments will be given to all sympathizers, Young Spartacus and Party members. Arrangements will be made to procure instruments. All interested apply at once to Morris Lewis, etc., etc.

A.F. of L. Skates Face Crucial Issues in N. J.

(Continued from Page 1) only form in which the leaders understand these issues—begins to cause a division. Today, it is expressed in the Council sessions in a struggle between the John L. Lewis wing, supported essentially by the needle trades officials, on the one hand, and, on the other, the Wm. Green section of dyed-in-the-wool craft union chiefs. Irrespective of the intentions of either side, the main issue is industrial unionism versus craft unionism.

Rubber and Auto Conventions

This is coming to a head once more in the projected national unions of the automobile workers and rubber workers. It is planned to issue national charters in the conventions that are scheduled for these unions, the former to be held this month and the latter in September. And although it is openly acknowledged in all labor circles that craft unions in these industries will be doomed from the outset, the skilled trades are already being quietly segregated into the craft union fold. The national unions would, therefore, consist practically exclusively of production workers and render them an easy prey to the powerful corporations in control of these industries.

John L. Lewis finds it possible in this situation to cover himself with the progressive mantle of industrial unionism. Essentially, however, this is merely a cover in the general jockeying for positions. Insofar as the basic issues are concerned, all the elders on the Council are guided by more weighty considerations. Above all, they fear the dissatisfaction of the rank and file workers and the possibility of control of these unions by progressive elements.

Both the automobile workers and the rubber workers have clearly expressed their desire for an industrial union. Moreover, in the present federal locals in the automobile industry, a distinctly progressive movement has been launched, receiving its impetus and drawing its inspiration from Toledo. This movement is presenting resolutions to the coming convention for an industrial union comprising all the workers in the auto and auto parts factories. It proposes measures for the election of officials from the rank and file delegates present at the convention, for limitation of salaries to be granted officials, and for prevention of any interference in the affairs of the union by paid A. F. of L. organizers, together with provisions for recall of elected officials any time it is deemed necessary. Finally, the progressive movement proposes to introduce measures for the exemption from dues payments of unemployed members and for no discrimination in the establishment of a union because of race, color, nationality, political beliefs or affiliations.

Lewis Pulling Wires

Of course, such measures are known to prove popular with the rank and file. So the Executive Council finds itself unanimous in its efforts to countermand the progressive movement. Its main attention is centered on the problem of securing control of the important elective offices for its trusted lieutenants. But behind the scenes the John L. Lewis wing pulls the strings for his separate interest in opposition to the craft union officials posing as the friend and supporter of industrial unionism. It appears that John L. Lewis has his own slate to put forward.

The deceptive motivation of the industrial union wing is even more clearly demonstrated in the case of the maritime unions. On the Pacific Coast, the longshoremen, the seamen, the marine engineers, the masters, mates and pilots, and crafts affiliated with the seamen, such as the firemen, cooks and stewards, succeeded in setting up a Maritime Federation. The progressive forces who had advocated this measure became an important factor in the leadership. So this question also looms large behind the scenes at Atlantic City. In face of the danger that the Maritime Federation may pass into the hands of a progressive leadership, unity prevails within the strategy board. It presents a solid front, extending it to the steamship companies in the attempt to break up the Maritime Federation.

At the Crossroads

However, all these issues are tied up in one knot in the consideration given by the Executive Council to the recently united furriers' union. Shall that unification be permitted to stand? The Executive Council fears that this would be tantamount to an open recognition and an open sanction of activities by revolutionary and Left wing elements within the unions. Here is the crux of the whole trade union problem as the A. F. of L. officials see it. In this they are not in error. Fundamentally, the future of the movement depends upon which policies and what leadership prevails.

SUPPORT THE EIGHT-PAGE NEW MILITANT.

Free the Sacramento Prisoners!

The formation of the National Sacramento Appeal Committee which was recently announced, is welcome news, indeed. Especially to the eight Sacramento "criminal syndicalism" prisoners now in San Quentin and Tehachapi, to which development give new courage.

Before the trial began in January, the International Labor Defense, informed by the Stalinist bureaucracy that some of the Sacramento prisoners had not paid the proper respect to the District Committee, sabotaged the whole struggle for their freedom. The I.L.D. not only played the case down on the publicity side, but deliberately withheld bail from 16 prisoners for six months.

Not until the Non-Partisan Labor Defense, at the request of Norman Mini of the W.P. and Caroline Decker and Jack Warnick of the C. P., entered the Sacramento struggle, did the fate of the prisoners become a matter of general interest. Since their conviction, the I.L.D. and C.P. have again played down the case. It was the N.P.L.D. which, by its highly successful Appeal Dinner in New York last month, revived the attention of the working class public, and threw the Sacramento boss press into a frenzy of fear lest the Sacramento case become a new Mooney issue.

The N.P.L.D. has also taken a leading role in setting up the new united defense committee. On it are the official delegates of the N.P.L.D., the Workers Party, the Socialist Party, the I. W. W., the League for Industrial Democracy, the National Unemployed League, the Workmen's Sick and Death Benefit Fund, the Spartacus Youth League and the Y.P.S.L. The criminal syndicalism law being a threat to the entire working class, it is fitting that such diverse organizations should make common cause to overturn the infamous Sacramento verdict.

It is also fitting that the appeal struggle is being conceived of on a national scale. Hearst is shouting for a Federal criminal syndicalism law to supplement the laws now existing in a dozen or more states. The working class has the task of wiping all such legislation off the books and freeing all the victims of it. For this a national struggle is needed.

It is not surprising to read in the new committee's announcement that the I.L.D. has failed to answer letters of invitation. That organization does not dare come before

such a committee as the N.E.A.C. because of its shameful past in the Sacramento case. The Stalinist dispatches have backed down on the charge that Norman Mini is a "stoopid" but they cannot make anybody forget to sordid spectacle Stalinism made throughout the 8-month struggle preceding conviction. The alternative to admitting their past is to split the defense and commit more crimes to cover up. We may expect plenty of "covering up" from the Stalinists during the appeal fight and plenty of mud-slinging.

Imperialist Ring Around Ethiopia

(Continued from Page 1) justified in demanding, in a special appeal to the League that he be permitted to import arms, to be in some measure prepared for the impending combat which is taking on day by day more the character of a horrifying reality.

Fascist troops are carrying on an unceasing penetration into the Italian territories bordering on Ethiopia. Already valuable are being transported to the French possession of Djibuti from Addis Ababa in fear of a sudden invasion. Considerably outranked in matters of war materials, supplies, etc., it is pathetic to hear Ethiopia's hopeless plea for equal rights to arms from the very people who control them. As stated in previous issues of the NEW MILITANT, England would like to find an "amicable" solution to the problem. The reason being that it fears the unleashing of a colonial war that may well put an end to British imperialist oppression in Africa. To a large extent this is the case with France, too. These two powers represent the largest holders of imperialist possessions in Africa. An Italian conflict may put an end to it all.

So Laval and Eden with the consent of Baron Aloisi will endeavor to come to some agreement for the "peaceful" partitioning of Ethiopia, even if they have to resort to the legality of applying treaties never recognized by Ethiopia and since repudiated by all concerned. However, even this effort may fail.

Italy is too far involved already. Some 250,000 troops are cooling their heels—if they were physically possible in arid Eritrea—waiting for orders to strike. Besides it does not seem likely that either France or Britain will grant Mussolini's demands for a political as well as economic protectorate. There is also the possibility that the three powers directly involved will decide to cut up and divide Ethiopia into three parts and thus again show to the world what an instrument for peace is the League of Nations. Maxim Litvinoff will again be able to offer his quick remedies for beligerent powers, the world will again have been made safe for peace and Stalin will rest at ease at the safeguarding of the status quo.

For a Soviet Italy

To a large extent Ethiopia stands with regard to the rest of the world in the same relation as some of the Russo-Asiatic nationalities stood with regard to Russia prior to the October revolution. Just as the Revolution emancipated the primitive, feudal and pre-feudal tribes of outlying Czarist Russia so today the emancipation of the Ethiopian people can be accomplished only by the world revolution. Concretely we mean that a Soviet Italy would be the best guarantor for a free and independent Ethiopia. Combined with a Soviet France and Britain the cultural and revolutionary development of Ethiopia would be absolutely assured.

Hence all our agitation and propaganda should be directed to those ends. While it would be impossible for us to reach the Ethiopian masses with proletarian propaganda, for the simple reason that there is no proletariat there, we can and must reach the Italian laboring masses. A time limited boycott against Fascist Italy such as was proposed by the International Communist League and printed in a recent issue of the NEW MILITANT is a concrete application of the task at hand. The boycott must however be so instituted as not to make a negative impression on the Italian proletariat. It must be as effective in its message of class solidarity with our Italian brothers as in its defiance of Il Duce.

It is important for the international boycott to get under way. Mussolini has made up his mind. The League of Nations, with Litvinoff at its head is only a cover for the international imperialist bandits. It is high time the international working class intervened.

The Manager's Corner

The Boston branch still leads the field in the campaign for the eighth page weekly with a total contribution to date of \$59.50. However, with the additional contributions recorded this week, there has been no change in the comparative standing of the branches, but the Party organizations have been outdistanced by far through the splendid example set by a group of New York fur workers whose \$10.00 contribution is recorded here.

During the past week we have received the following amounts:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes Hildegard Smith, Eugene Morris, West Side branch, Boro Park branch, Boston branch, W. Greenan, Santa Cruz, Cal.

Total 17.50

Advance Subs (8-page)

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes A. M. Berman, Paul Graves, Subs (Club Fees), Helen L. Frank, Dayton, Ohio.

Greetings

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes Group of N. Y. Fur Workers, Previously Reports.

Grand Total \$457.96

AUGUST NEW INTERNATIONAL IS OUT

The August issue of the NEW

INTERNATIONAL is off the press. Living up to its usual standard, this issue contains especially rich and fundamental material on topics of vital importance to the movement.

The situation in France, which is rapidly becoming the storm-center of revolutionary events, is elucidated in an Open Letter by L. D. Trotsky to the French workers. Questions of particular interest in the United States at the present time are answered in three important articles, one by A. J. Muste on the trade unions and problems of the revolution, one article by J. P. Cannon entitled "The Socialist Party at the Crossroads" and an article on the third party movement by Arne Swabeck.

Of special interest, however, will be the first contribution to a discussion submitted by Max Eastman on the subject "Marxism: Science or Philosophy?" Comrade Trotsky also contributes a second article entitled, "Rosa Luxemburg and the Fourth International." And, finally, there appears in this issue, together with other valuable material, a reply to Olgin's latest fulminations against Trotskyism.

Please remember the combination offer of \$2.00 for a yearly subscription to the NEW MILITANT and NEW INTERNATIONAL still holds good for a limited period of time.

Call for Uniting Opposition Groups in Teachers Union

This is the last of a series of five articles on the situation in the Teachers Union—Ed.

Unification of opposition groups within the teachers' union! That is the road which leads to victory over the Lefkowitz-Linville splitters!

An examination of the programs of two of the largest opposition groups in the Teachers Union—the Progressive Group and the Rank and File—will show that barring minor details both programs are in substantial agreement. Both take the same position on democracy in the union, on building the union, on mass activity, on admission of the unemployed with full membership rights at nominal dues, etc. For a long time, strong sentiment for unification inside and outside both groups have made themselves felt. This sentiment has undoubtedly grown stronger since the liquidation of the Classroom Teachers Groups.

Furthermore, the recent action of the Administration in calling for the "investigation" as a means of getting rid of the opposition has created an entirely new situation. The Administration now has the official sanction of the powerful Green-Wall bureaucracy in its campaign. It is determined to go through with its destructive course. To defeat these powerful forces, more than a united front against expulsions is necessary. It is necessary to confront the Administration, here and at the convention, as one unified opposition in order to impress upon the delegates and the leaders of the A.F.T. the fact that expulsion of the opposition which represents over 40 percent of the

voting membership means the destruction of the largest local in the national organization.

A unified opposition, united on a minimum trade union program, boldly and openly confronting the convention, will constitute the strongest factor in convincing the majority of the delegates that they must reject the course of the Lefkowitz-Linville faction as destructive not only to the local, but to the national organization.

The unification of the opposition on a minimum basis has thus become the most pressing need of the hour. Upon its realization depends not only the fate of the opposition, but of the whole union as well. If this analysis is correct, and there can be no doubt of it, why then has the unification not already taken place? The answer is that factional rivalry and the desire for control outweigh, in the minds of the leaders of the two groups, their duty as trade unionists. These are the factors that have thus far blocked the road to unification.

In spite of the difficulties and prejudices which undoubtedly exist there are manifestations that these obstacles are beginning to crumble, although they have not yet been removed. The Committee for Democracy in the Union has paved the way by approaching the representatives of the groups unofficially with a proposal for unification. Mr. Hendley, the leader of the Militants, has stated that a realignment of the forces in opposition has become necessary. The Rank and File has proposed a united front in the elections for the Delegate Assembly this fall, and the Progressives have indicated that they would be opposed to it.

But these manifestations and moves are insufficient. It is necessary to move rapidly even before the convention is opened. Even though it may not be possible to reach a definitive unification before the school term begins, it is possible to arrange a tentative agreement in that direction. Recourse to technicalities or subterfuges under these circumstances may seriously hurt the chances of victory or may even prove fatal to the opposition. The leadership of the groups and their membership have an opportunity to rise to the occasion. They must utilize it. Unification of the opposition is the road which leads to victory over the Administration!

Fight for Sway In Rubber Union

(Continued from Page 1)

convention and has a good deal of prestige. Since then he has become an A. F. of L. organizer and his position is not clear. The workers will have to prevent a split in their votes or else Claberty's candidate will win.

The progressive bloc will announce a slate of candidates this week too. A serious attempt will be made by the progressives to coordinate the local workers so that they will present a united front against the bureaucracy. William Green is expected to preside at the convention which means that he, personally, will try to place into office a hand-picked bunch of reactionaries so he can control the rubber workers in the future. His presence will make the progressives' job more difficult but they realize it. One thing however appears certain, Coleman Claberty is definitely on his way out as rubber organizer for the A. F. of L. He has been told he will be removed by virtually every union in Akron. The Mohawk local won't let him even come to any of its meetings!

The convention must be used to place progressives in control. Then the unions must be built up so that they can wage a successful strike for wages and recognition and reduction of the speed-up.

Engrossed in the trade union work, rubber workers are inclined to forget at least momentarily the long time perspectives necessary for the rubber industry to insure the working class correct preparation for its historic task—the overthrow of American capitalism. For this the Workers Party pledges its loyal assistance and support.

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