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The 'Thieves Kitcher' and Workers' Policy in War

Reformists and liberals of all shades and varieties are fond of calling Marxists "sectarians," "dogmatists," fantastic "extremists." This is the way in which jelly-backed individuals always describe those who have principles and who take them seriously. It is a verbal cover that reformists use to hide their own cowardly refusal to face facts and draw conclusions.

Nowhere is this more evident than on the question of war. Reformists are grievously "offended" when Marxists are not merely scornful of every form of pacifism, but fight mercilessly against it. "So many good people," the reformists complain, "are honestly and sincerely against war; we must all join with them and if enough of us genuinely wish for peace, then peace will surely come." But Marxists have an inconvenient habit of looking beneath men's wishes and hopes to the material reality underlying them. Consequently they reply that pacifism, far from being a force against war, in practice aids the war-makers; they describe pacifism as the hypocritical front for imperialism, a means whereby, under the pretense of opposition to "war in general," this particular war—whichever it may be—is made morally respectable.

Lenin's Analysis of the League of Nations

In a similar manner, reformists objected to the Marxist analysis of the League of Nations. "The League," said the reformists, "may not be perfect. But it represents a great step forward. It symbolizes the desire of the peoples for peace, after the carnage of the Great War. We must aid in strengthening it." Alas, once again the Marxists

spoiled the party. No, they declared, the League is not an agency for peace. On the contrary, it is only a gang-up of the imperialist robbers. Its purposes, its real purposes, are: (1) To make an imperialist united front against the post-war threat of international proletarian revolution; (2) To enforce the Versailles Treaty, and ensure the hegemony of France on the European continent; (3) To protect the colonial empire of Great Britain and to prevent any attempt by Germany to regain its colonies; and (4) to provide a legal and moral coloration for the next war which the dominant imperialist powers undertake.

This analysis of the League, made by Lenin at its foundation, holds as firmly today as ever. The only alteration is to realize that the League is becoming outworn even for these purposes. The issues of proletarian revolution, preservation of France's continental position, and prevention of German colonial recovery, have been intensified to a point that takes them outside the League orbit. Nevertheless, the League has still its role to perform. Before it is thrown into the discard, it can still be used triumphantly for purpose (4): to provide a legal and moral coloration for the next war which the dominant imperialist powers undertake.

Crime of Stalinism
Herein rests one of the great historical crimes of Stalinism. The League can fulfill this function effectively, a function that strikes to the very heart of the working class, solely because of the Soviet Union's entry. Hopelessly discredited by

"Flying Squadrons" Tie Up WPA Projects in Allentown Strike

ALLENTOWN, Pa., Sept. 17.—With every one of the 1017 workers on strike, WPA projects have been closed tight in Allentown and surrounding communities in protest to 140-hour \$65 per month wage scale being foisted on the unemployed of Pennsylvania. Hundreds of pickets organized into flying squadrons persuaded workers in Catasauque, Northampton and Treichers to join the strike which is being conducted jointly by the Pennsylvania Unemployed League and the Keystone Workers Association.

The following demands have been formulated: 1) A minimum wage of \$1 per hour. 2) A minimum of 30 hours per week. 3) Recognition of the principle of collective bargaining. 4) Weekly pay. 5) Pay for rainy days. 6) Adequate compensation for injury. 8) No discrimination against strikers or members of unemployed organizations.

Militant Women Picket
The strike started on Sept. 11 when an attempt was made to open the first WPA project. Four hundred men threw down tools after working for two hours. Picketlines were immediately formed and kept on every job. Militant women were instrumental in preventing scabs from working, on one occasion

Capitulation Planned by Stalinists to Right Wing of Teachers

Reports reaching us from reliable sources state that the trade union opposition groups under the influence of the Stalinists in Local 60 and 22 in the I.L.G.U. and in the Teachers Union have announced their willingness to dissolve and even give up their opposition to the administrations in these unions. This policy shows that the local Stalinists have not been slow in carrying out the new class collaborationist policies adopted by the Seventh World Congress of the Communist International and already carried into practice in France in the early agreement between the two central trade union bodies: the General Confederation of Labor and the Red Unions, which provides among other things for the dissolution of trade union factions. In practice this means the capitulation to the policies of the reformist bureaucracy. This new policy is also in line with the policy of the Stalinists to make blocs and election agreements with shady careeristic cliques and reactionary elements, the most glaring examples of which were those made in the recent elections in Local 22 and attempted in the Furriers Council.

Strikers' Spirit Strong
In spite of adverse propaganda in the capitalist press, the spirit of the strikers remains solid and the community sympathetic. A daily bulletin, Strike News, is issued by the strike committee to inform the public of the true state of affairs. Daily mass meetings open to the public are held.

At a conference on Sept. 15 attended by 25 delegates from as many labor organizations, including the Central Trades and Labor Council, the WPA strike was unanimously endorsed and a committee was appointed to work in conjunction with the project workers' strike committee in conducting the struggle. The conference called upon the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor to support WPA strikes wherever they occur and offered to do anything in its power to aid in winning the local strike, even to the extent of calling a general walk-out of all union labor.

Organizations at Conference
Among the organizations represented at the conference were: The Central Trades and Labor Council, International Ladies Garment Workers, Amalgamated Clothing Workers, Carpenters and Joiners, Brick Layers, American Federation of Teachers, Typographical Union, Electrical Workers Union, Stagehands, Keystone Workers, Citizens' Union, Pennsylvania Unemployed League.

On Monday, Sept. 16, when Ray Bader, local labor faker, appealed to the strikers to go back to work pending arbitration of the demands before the WPA appeal board, he was given a loud and long Bronx cheer. At a mass meeting later in the day, the strikers passed a resolution condemning Bader's strike-breaking appeal and calling upon the Central Trades and Labor Council, of which he is secretary, to take appropriate action in the matter.

Minneapolis Workers Battle

Rubber Workers Ride Over Green Machine

By JACK WILSON
AKRON, Ohio, Sept. 16.—Delegates here were rallying around the banner of their autonomous new international union, the United Rubberworkers of America, this week to consolidate the gains of their tremendous victory over William Green and the A. F. of L. bureaucracy.

Led by progressives, the delegates resisted successfully every effort of Green to choke down their throats through threats and intimidation of the reactionary leadership of Coleman C. Claberty, symbol of the betrayal policies used in the past two years by the bureaucrats in the rubber industry.

Cannon to Speak Sunday Night on "Lenin to Stalin"
"From Lenin to Stalin, the Delegation of the Communist International," is the subject of James P. Cannon's lecture this Sunday evening at Irving Plaza. It is the first of a series of four lectures "On the Road to the Fourth International."

Lenin, the leader of the Bolshevik Party, the founder of the Communist International, is the symbol of revolutionary Marxism. Stalin, head of the Soviet bureaucracy, revisionist of Marxism, symbolizes the distortions and falsifications of the early Comintern theories and practices which are responsible for the working class defeats of the last decade.

The social democratic scribes of our time try to pass off "Stalinism" as a logical continuation of "Leninism." They write that the Leninist theory of the dictatorship of the proletariat leads to the dictatorship of the leaders within the party, to the stifling of workers' democracy and the supremacy of the bureaucracy. Stalinism conspires with the social democrats to make effective this distortion of Lenin's views.

All the more important is it therefore that a sharp contrast be made between the Comintern under Lenin and the organization using the same name, under Stalin's domination. The lecture "From Lenin to Stalin" will clearly reveal the unbridgeable gap between Leninism and Stalinism.

The other lectures of the series include: Sept. 29—Working Class Policy in the Impending War! Oct. 6—The Struggle Against Fascism; Oct. 13—The Road to the Fourth International.

Plan Expulsion of the French Bolshevik-Leninists as War Nears

By H. F. ROBERTS
The bureaucracy of the French Socialist Party has openly announced its intention to smash, if it can, the revolutionary left wing represented by the Bolshevik-Leninist group. In the face of the imminent threat of war the Socialist and Stalinist bureaucracies with one voice call for "pressure on the League of Nations" and the extermination of the revolutionary left wing of the French labor movement. Shouting loudly to drown out the rumble of tomorrow's war and of tomorrow's betrayal, the bureaucrats hope to silence the one voice in France which is calling for the revolutionary mobilization of the masses for the seizure of power, for the proletariat's only answer to the threat of imperialism—the overthrow of the war-mongers and imperialist freebooters.

A set of special decisions adopted by the Permanent Administrative Committee of the S.F.I.O. (French Socialist Party) on August 28 (Populaire, August 30) call for the excommunication of La Verite, organ of the French Bolshevik-Leninists, which is "no longer to be regarded as an organ of the Socialist Party." Populaire is expressly forbidden to mention or cite from the columns of La Verite, or to publish any announcements of meetings of any groups in any way connected with La Verite. Party members who help distribute this journal are to be informed that they are carrying out work "prejudicial to the interests of the whole party and of the International to which they belong." Finally—and here is the threat itself—the committee decided to "request that the very next National Council of the Party take any measures, however grave they may be, against the comrades responsible for the editing of La Verite, as are required by the interests and unity of the Party."

The "Crime" of La Verite
What, according to the French Socialist bureaucrats, has been the crime of La Verite? That reprehensible little sheet, it seems, has been guilty of "outrageous attacks" on good, sterling revolutionaries,

Tarov Makes Escape From Stalin Prison

The heroic Russian Bolshevik-Leninist, Tarov, who has been in prison and exile since 1928, has made his escape and is now in Asia awaiting financial aid from his international comrades to enable him to make the journey to Europe where he will unfold the full story of the bestial persecutions and tortures inflicted on the Bolshevik-Leninists in the Soviet Union. Comrade Tarov, a locksmith by trade, is the first Bolshevik-Leninist to escape from a Stalinist jail.

Comrade Tarov spent three years in exile and four years in prison, the Werchne-Uralski "Isolator." In this one prison alone 485 Bolshevik-Leninists were confined. After a great hunger strike, during which they were subjected to terrible beatings and tortures, they were dispersed to various other prisons. The hunger strike was declared because the prison terms of the comrades were automatically extended from two to three years after the original sentences had been served. The intention is not to let our comrades get out alive.

During the hunger strike, which lasted 18 days, the prisoners were artificially fed, beaten and shot at through the windows of their cells. Several comrades attempted to commit suicide.

In the near future we will be able to publish extensive and detailed information about the conditions in Stalin's exile camps and prisons. Already, from this brief report, the situation of the Bolshevik-Leninists in the Soviet Union is shown. The Stalinists are seeking to annihilate them physically. They can pursue this course only because the truth has been hidden from the international working class. The escape of comrade Tarov, and the information supplied by him, will now make possible a campaign to mobilize proletarian public opinion throughout the world. We must set ourselves resolutely to this task.

First in order is the collection of a fund to provide comrade Tarov with the necessities of life and the means to travel to Europe. Every internationalist must regard it as an urgent duty to contribute to this fund. Collections will be received by the National Office of the Workers Party, A. J. Muste, Secretary, 55 East 11th Street, New York City.

Mass Uprising against Traitor 'Labor' Mayor

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Sept. 16.—Not for a year has Minneapolis had such a hectic week of working class struggles as took place during the past week. On Monday, September 9, around 9 o'clock at night, a group of strikers and sympathizers staged a demonstration at the Flour City Ornamental Iron Company, where a strike of structural iron workers, Local 1313, A. F. of L., has been in progress for about two months. Again on Tuesday night, over 5,000 demonstrators gathered at the plant, to be finally scattered at midnight by repeated police charges. Armored cars patrolled the district, drenching block after block with tear gas, and mercilessly clubbing men and women.

Latimer Convicted As Murderer At Mpls Mass Trial

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Sept. 17.—A jury of more than 800 workers met last night and after hearing testimony on the massacre of pickets by the Minneapolis police unanimously convicted Farmer-Labor Mayor Thomas Latimer and his administration as exclusively responsible.

The public trial, widely reported in the local press, was held under the auspices of the Minneapolis Committee of the Non-Partisan Labor Defense. Francis Heisler, Chicago attorney who represented the N.P.L.D. in the Fargo "riot" cases early this year, and who will shortly take the Fargo appeal to the North Dakota Supreme Court, acted as prosecuting attorney at the mass trial.

Latimer having announced he would hold his own investigation of the murders committed by his police, the N.P.L.D. tried on Sunday to get in touch with him to discuss methods of establishing the truth of what caused the massacre.

When Latimer evaded the N.P.L.D., a public statement was issued by the N.P.L.D. asking him to bear its witnesses and to permit its attorney to cross-examine witnesses assembled by the Mayor.

The N.P.L.D. also declared that, should the Mayor abandon the hearing or forbid the N.P.L.D.'s participation, the N.P.L.D. would hold a trial of its own.

While the white-wash hearing was going on in the Mayor's office leaflets appeared, announcing the N.P.L.D. mass trial, Attorney Heisler visited pickets, by-standers and neighbors of the Flour City plant where the massacre occurred, and last night appeared before the workers to present the truth about Latimer's police.

Proletariat the Road to Victory...

Proletariat the road to victory. . . Forward to the battles of the future!" A youth comrade writes from Tarn: "Words fail me, but I bid you keep courage. Do not forget you have comrades behind you!" The secretary from Lot: "I can assure you that the Federation of Lot is entirely in solidarity with you." From Grenoble in the Federation of L'Isere: "The Socialist Youth of Grenoble declare themselves prepared if necessary to follow their comrades of the Seine along the path of revolutionary action against the capitulators." From the Federation of Finistere: "We have decided to govern our future conduct by the instructions of the comrades of the Paris region." Scores of such letters, official communications from whole sections of the youth, overflow the columns of Revolution. Step by step but surely the revolutionary youth are drawing the necessary conclusions from the reformist-Stalinist betrayal.

Voice after voice joins those of the Bolshevik-Leninists and their allies. In Paris, the unemployed organization of St. Denis, counting in its ranks 6,000 workers, has announced solidarity with the revolutionary left wing. The Communist Youth of St. Denis, expelled from the Stalinist Party, announced on August 10, its readiness to work with the expelled youth leaders for "the regrouping of truly revolutionary forces."

Convulsions in S. F.
It is this ferment which is driving the bureaucracies of both parties to hasten their unholy union and to sharpen, if they can, their blows to the left. The attempt to amputate the living, vital left wing of the French Socialist Party will not take place without terrific convulsions within the whole party.

Continued on Page 3