

MARCH OF EVENTS

By JACK WEBER

America Plans for War

The outcome of modern war depends on the home front as much if not more than on the battle front.

The news of the embargo on export of tin scrap is an indication of the mutual helpfulness of this intimate relationship.

DETINING AND WAR

Tin is not an essential or "strategic" commodity. It is more a convenience in modern life than a necessity.

department wishes to maintain these plants. But it would be quite incorrect to assume that the only reason is to assure a supply of tin for the war.

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR

Precisely because war involves the utmost need of technical preparation, the careful planning of the complete industrial life of the nation, it takes a number of years for a country to build up the stocks necessary and to see that the plant equipment is adequate.

Tokyo-Berlin Alliance

(Continued from Page 1)

(2) Tokyo, preparing to bring renewed pressure on Nanking, once more circulated the report that a Soviet-Nanking pact was likewise in the offing.

There has never been any basis for previous Japanese reports of similar tenor and the sharp denials issued at Nanking and Moscow on this occasion can be taken at their face value.

Offer to Liquidate Red Army
The new turn of the Stalinist party in China, the offer to liquidate completely the peasant Red armies and to suspend entirely all revolutionary struggle within the country (if it can), represents an attempt on the part of the Soviet bureaucracy to find possible allies in Nanking or in other sections of the Chinese bourgeoisie.

For such is the nature of all Stalinist pacts. There would not nor could be any objection to a Soviet pact with Nanking or any other bourgeois government if required by the diplomatic and strategic interests of the Soviet Union.

France, as they will seek to do tomorrow (indeed, already today!) in the United States, the Stalinists now seek to do in China.

The Treaty Myth

But in any event, this process has not gone as far as actual contact between Nanking and Moscow.

On the very day of the Tokyo report of a Nanking-Soviet agreement, Nanking forwarded a protest against the Soviet-Mongolian pact of mutual assistance, claiming that it infringed Chinese sovereignty.

NEW MILITANT with which is merged THE MILITANT

Published weekly by the New Militant Publishing Co., 55 East 11th St., N. Y. C. Phone: ALgon 4-9088. Entered as second class mail matter at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. under the act of March 3, 1917.

THE ELECTORAL PACT

Full Text of the People's Front Agreement in Spain for the Elections to the Cortes

Editor's Note: In response to many requests for the full text of the Spanish electoral pact, we publish it below as translated from El Socialista (Jan. 16, 1936), organ of the Socialist Party of Spain.

The pact begins with a few sentences that the undersigned organizations retain their own principles but agree on the following measures as necessary to "public peace":

- 1. Amnesty for all political offenses after November 1933, and "those of a similar character" not released by the April, 1934 amnesty. 2. Public functionaries (municipal and provincial officials) fired or suspended for political reasons to be returned to their jobs...

- 1. The constitution to be re-established; all violations of it to be revised. 2. Laws necessary to implement the constitution shall be passed, especially the municipal and provincial regulations as provided for in the constitution (local government). 3. The principle of authority is declared in all its vigor but its exercise is bound up with full recognition of the principles of liberty and justice.

- 1. "Great plans" of construction of urban and rural housing, also cooperative and public services, ports, communications, irrigation works and other land improvements. 2. To carry these out, legislative and administrative arrangements to be made, which shall guarantee the usefulness of the work, its good administration and "its contribution of the same to the private industries directly favored."

- 1. Direct the Bank of Spain in such a way as that it shall fulfill its function of regulating the credit according to the interests "of our economy shall dictate." 2. Subjecting the private banking system to rules of organization which shall benefit its liquidity on the "basis of the classic principles which have been emphasized by the experience of the last crisis."

- 1. Direct taxation to be completely revised and reorganized on a progressive basis. 2. Indirect taxation reformed "aiming at coordination"—(completely unclear) (yet the one point important to workers). 3. Fiscal administration perfected to serve as an efficient instrument.

- 1. Re-establish the social legislation "in the purity of its principles" for which they will dictate the necessary dispositions in order to cancel all the laws which detract from upright sense of justice, revising all the checks and punishments established. 2. Reorganize the jurisdiction of labor (labor boards) in conditions of independence, in order not only that the interested parties "may acquire a consciousness of the impartiality of their decisions," but also in order "that in no case shall the general interests be minimized."

- 1. Measures to help the direct farmer ("cultivador directo," apparently the farmer, peasant, or landworker indiscriminately, only differentiating them from the non-working landowner); lowering of taxes and tributes; special attention to the repression of usury; lowering of abusive rents; increase of agricultural credits; re-valuation of the products of the land, especially of wheat and other cereals (in Spain, the government fixes the price of wheat); adopting measures for the elimination of the middleman; doing away with the agreements (confabulaciones) among the millers; and stimulation of the export of agricultural products (this last is bait for the small landowning farmers of the Mediterranean coast, who depend on export of olives, grapes, etc.).

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"Our industry cannot raise itself from the depression in which it now finds itself unless we revise the complicated system of protection by the state, according to a strict criterion of the coordinated subordination of the national economy to the general interest. As a consequence it is in order":

The Republicans consider public works not only as a public service or an imperfect method of unemployment relief, but also as a potent means of developing sources of wealth not being developed by private entrepreneurs.

The Republic must consider education as the inalienable attribute of the state

The necessary measures to guarantee to the youth of the working class and in general to students of capacity, access to intermediate and superior education.

The second lively point of controversy was over the decree of Jouxhaux and Co. that it was "incompatible" for a leading functionary of the C.G.T. to be a member of the leading body of any political party.

WORLD OF LABOR

What Happened at the Trade Union Unity Congress in Toulouse, France

By JOHN G. WRIGHT

The Congress held in Toulouse, March 2-5, was not a fusion congress, but the first Congress of an already united trade union movement. The Toulouse Congress only ratified formally the already effected merger between the reformist C.G.T. and the Stalinist-controlled C.G.T.U., which took place last September, when, after both the C.G.T. and the C.G.T.U. had held their conventions, the parallel units of these organizations merged on a local, territorial and national scale.

The membership of the new General Confederation of Labor is about 1,000,000 (in 1920, on the eve of the split, the old C.G.T. had a membership of 1,500,000). More than 1,700 delegates attended the Congress to deal with the two questions that were before the Congress: (1) the statutes of the united Confederation; (2) the political policy to be pursued.

Under the organizational question, the following three points were in dispute: what the structure of the Confederation should be, whether it is "compatible" to combine trade union posts with leading functions in political organizations, and, finally, which international affiliations to maintain.

The structural make-up of the hidebound C.G.T. appears on the surface to be very loose, very autonomous and quite de-centralized, but, in reality, its so-called Federalist structure is ideally suited for rigid bureaucratic control.

Each syndicate, however large or small, can send one delegate to the Congress, and each has but a single vote (the National Federations and the Departmental Unions can send delegates to the Congress, but only with consultative votes).

The self-same procedure was gone through on the second point of the agenda, pertaining to the "political policy." Racamond made an impassioned speech, pleading that the Congress solemnly proclaim that the program of the People's Front "is the program of the struggle of the organized workers."

Thus, the social-patriots of 1936 are standing shoulder to shoulder with those who betrayed the French working class in 1914. The united trade union movement in France will march to victory only in the irreconcilable struggle against the policy and practice of Jouxhaux-Racamond and their associates.

RESULTS OF THE SPANISH ELECTIONS

We have received an inquiry relating to the results of the last Spanish elections. The reports as to the outcome in the American bourgeois press appear to conflict primarily because the various reporters in recording the results of the elections differ in their manner of listing the parties of the Right and of the Center.

We print below the final results of the elections as reported in a Havas dispatch of March 3rd. The "People's Front" electoral bloc won 263 seats. The Socialist Party obtained 94 seats. The Communist Party—14. The seats that fell to the share of the petty bourgeois partners in the electoral bloc, the party of the Left Republicans, were 85.

The three parties of the extreme Right obtained 135 seats, the C.E.D. A. (the concentration led by Gil Robles) getting 99 of them.

The Basque Nationalists obtained 10 seats.

The relationship of forces in the parliamentary fraction of the Socialist Party of Spain between the right wing led by Prieto and the left wing led by Caballero can be gleaned from the results of the contest for the election of the Presidium of the Socialist fraction: in the voting, 49 votes were cast for Caballero and 32 for Prieto.

The elections show that as a result of the People's Front policies not only did the petty bourgeois parties obtain representation far exceeding their actual social and political weight in the country, but also within the Socialist Party itself, the Right wing was able to capitalize on these policies.

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