

# SOCIALIST APPEAL

Published Weekly as the Organ of the Socialist Party of New York, Left Wing Branches.

VOL. 1. - No. 2.

401

Saturday, August 21, 1937

5 Cents per Copy

## Tory Press Declares For LaGuardia As Mayor Enters G. O. P. Primaries

'Tribune' and 'Times' for Browder-Thomas-ALP People's Front Candidate

### The Capitalist Press For LaGuardia

#### The New York Times:

"The alternative to both Mr. Copeland and Mr. Mahoney is Mr. LaGuardia, on the Fusion ticket... During the early days of his administration it was apparently his belief that trade unions could do no wrong, even when they resorted to violence in the pursuit of their objectives, and his action in the taxicab strike reflected this conviction. Fortunately, his opinions on this point are undergoing an unmistakable change. His handling of the attempted sit-down strikes in this community last Spring—and his present handling of two great strikes in the dockyards of Brooklyn and Richmond—has shown admirable firmness... Mr. Dewey's presence adds great weight to the Fusion ticket, which, with its other sterling candidates, now offers the voters of this city an opportunity to put in command of the municipal government for the next four years an administration which is honest and humane, non-partisan and capable."

—N. Y. Times, Aug. 15, 1937.

#### The New York Herald-Tribune:

"The leaders of Fusion and their allies within the Republican party have every reason to be proud of their ticket... There have been nervous moments in the last week, but the result is what counts. That could hardly be better. The ticket that will be offered the city, given the cooperation of the Republicans in their primary, will be the ablest and best that local politics has ever achieved... They Mayor, rejecting the advice of some of his closest advisors, remained in the Republican primary. Thereby he turned his back on a smart political trick to play fair with his many Republican supporters. As usual, the Mayor's final decision is the right one... We shall hope and expect that Mr. Dewey's entrance into the primary will mean a sweeping victory for the Mayor over Senator Copeland. Surrounded as he will be by a predominantly Republican ticket of extraordinary ability and staunchness and pledged to devote himself completely to local affairs for the next four years, Mr. LaGuardia is entitled to ask for votes upon the basis of the city's welfare."

—N. Y. Herald-Tribune, Aug. 15, 1937

Oneal, Earl Browder and Jay Lovestone. All of them are associated in a policy and movement which the convention of the Socialist Party almost unanimously condemned—the policy of the People's Front, ranging from Thomas and Altman, through Lovestone and Browder, to LaGuardia and the Republican Party machine.

#### People's Front Line Fatal

Instead of emphasizing to the working class the imperative need for independence from the capitalist class and all its political institutions and organizations, they help implant the disastrous illusion that these organizations can be utilized by labor. Instead of enhancing the class consciousness of the workers, they help to blunt it by smearing over all class lines. On an American scale, the People's Fronters of all varieties are smoothing the path for the same catastrophe that befell the workers of Germany and Austria and which now threatens the workers of Spain.

What a revealing commentary on the right wing in the Socialist Party that, while it is ready to dissolve the movement for the sake of supporting the Republican nominee for Mayor of New York, it cannot abide for another instant the presence in the party of the revolutionary socialists! Is it not significant that simultaneous with the bureaucratic mass expulsions of the left wing militants comes the disgraceful sell-out of the party to LaGuardia that the right wing is carrying out?

As if derisively answering the "People's Fronters" in all camps who have advertized him as "Labor's Candidate", Fiorello H. LaGuardia threw off all pretense by entering the race in the New York Republican primaries in order to win the Mayoralty nomination of the party of Landon, Hoover, the DuPonts, Ford, Mellon and Mills.

At the same time, not only the main organ of American capitalist "Democracy", the New York Times, but also the leading reactionary Republican organ and chief spokesman for Landon in the last presidential campaign the New York Herald-Tribune, came out flatfootedly an enthusiastically for the candidate of the New York bankers and real estate men. LaGuardia has already been endorsed by the Fusion Party, the Seabury "progressive", the Simpson Republican machine, the American Labor Party, the Communist Party, the Lovestone group, the Old Guard "Social Democrats" and the Italian "socialist" daily, La Stampa Libera, edited by G. Valenti (financial wizard of the Altman-Thomas caucus).

#### Thomas View Rejected

LaGuardia apparently did not read Norman Thomas' column in the Socialist Call of August 7, when he wrote of the ALP that "This year for Mayor it endorses LaGuardia who has publicly expressed his general support for the ALP, who is fighting the leaders of the Republican Party, and may not run in the Primary." The Mayor's eagerness to obtain the nomination of the Republican Party and the vigor

with the Tory press has given its support of his candidacy, emphasizes more plainly than anything else that LaGuardia is a capitalist candidate, running on a capitalist platform, with the direct support of the class conscious capitalists.

In the article referred to, Norman Thomas argued for the withdrawal of an independent socialist ticket by comparing the ALP last year with the ALP this year. "A year ago the condition

of membership in it was support for Roosevelt and Lehman. Today it is support for working class political action." This argument is now more plainly revealed as utterly false in face of the fact that the "working class political action" of the ALP consists merely in anticipating the key nominations of the Republican party. As in the presidential campaign of 1936, when the ALP corralled the labor vote for the Democratic Party, it func-

tions, now also, as an obstacle in the path of independent working class political action and as a means of keeping the workers subordinated to one or the other of the two old capitalist parties.

The role of the right wing in the Socialist Party today with regard to the election campaign is thus entirely indistinguishable from that played by the Old Guard in the 1936 elections or from that played at the present time by Charney Vladeck, James

## Stalinists Applaud Ousting of Left wing from S. P.

The Communist Party bureaucracy, which has spared neither energy nor funds in its efforts to undermine and corrupt the Socialist Party has put the stamp of of hearty approval on the expulsion of the revolutionary left wing of the SP by the Altman-Thomas combination.

"We greet the New York local of the Socialist Party", says the leading editorial of the Daily Worker, on August 14, 1937, "for its expulsion of 54 counter-revolutionary Trotskyists as conspiratorial enemies of the Socialist Party."

#### Urge Deeper Split in SP

"The New York Socialists," continues the editorial, "have discovered from bitter experience that it is not possible to tolerate these counter-revolutionary dregs

within their ranks. It is now possible—by cleansing all traces of Trotskyism from the SP organization—to strengthen the prestige of the Socialist Party and give it new health.

"Not only is it necessary to throw out Shachtman, Burnham, Aborn and their tools. It is also essential, in the interests of the Socialist Party and of the working class, that all ideas and practices of Trotskyism and the Trotskyists be cleaned out entirely from within the Socialist Party."

By purging the SP of "all ideas and practices of Trotskyism", the Stalinists mean today what they have meant ever since they started their drive for the expulsion of the left wing: to convert the Socialist Party into an appendage of the Communist Party, molded in its image, to tear it off

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## NEC Suspends California Charter

By Glen Trimble

The charter of the Socialist Party of California has been suspended by the National Executive Committee! On Wednesday, August 11, the Clarity faction openly placed itself at the head of the party splitters and wreckers. Ward Rodgers, author of the suspension resolution has been appointed "impartial" executor of the possessions, locals and members of the state party.

With this action last lingering doubt as to the complete alliance between the Altman-Thomas social-patriotic party liquidators and the "Clarity" NEC majority is dispelled. In flagrant violation of every party tradition, law and decision, the NEC has acted in haste and conspiratorial secrecy to cut down the largest and most active state organization in the entire Western United States.

No chance was given to the (Continued on page 2)

## Violent Crisis Drives Japanese Imperialism to Invade China

By James Wills

Goaded by an internal economic crisis that has become intolerably acute, Japanese imperialism has struck again at continental China in a supremely desperate effort to find a way out by establishing its mastery over all Asia. Coming late upon the scene of the capitalist world and lacking the natural resources vital to the development of the basic industries, Japanese capitalism very early in its life found it necessary to embark upon the path of imperialist expansion. Since 1895, the year of the first Sino-Japanese war, the Japanese bourgeoisie has been depending on the exploitation of China to bolster up the frail economic structure on which Japanese capitalism rests. The first phase of expansion won them Korea, Formosa and a foothold in Manchuria.

The world crisis of 1929 drove Japan to find new markets and new sources of raw material. But there is no room in the present-day imperialist world for peaceful expansion. Thus Japan has been compelled to erect a military and naval machine utterly disproportionate to its economic capacities and to seek the expansion it desperately needs by resort to force. Yet precisely this resort to force has aggravated the economic difficulties and hastens the day when this weak and top-heavy structure must topple down.

A few brief facts tell the story of Japan's deep inner crisis, aggravated as it has been by the heavy burdens of the six-year invasion in China. For the first seven months of 1937, Japan had an adverse trade balance of 720,- (Continued on page 6)