

### TYLER-ALTMAN BLOC BUILT ON HOSTILITY TO LENINISM

"The manner in which the Trotskyites were separated from the Socialist Party will soon become an affair of academic interest," says Gus Tyler's unsigned editorial in the Call of September 11. With this cynical remark, the ex-leftist Tyler attempts to dismiss the country-wide indignation at the bureaucratic expulsions, and to lift the controversy to a "political" level.

His political justification for the expulsion of the Trotskyites was outlined by Tyler at the National Executive Committee meeting. His bloc with Jack Altman was consummated by their common argument against the Trotskyites. That argument was given to the capitalist press by the N.E.C. in the succinct statement that the Trotskyites were "communists" and therefore had no place in a socialist movement.

"When Leon Trotsky defends the acts perpetrated by the Bolsheviks of his day," said Jack Altman, "he is defending that very system which led to the degeneration of Russia today.... Trotsky may be a much better representative of communism than Stalin, but we are socialists."

#### Something New

This "line" is rather novel for Altman, who has never been known to criticize the Stalinists in public. It has, however, the advantage for the Thomas-Altman-Tyler faction, at this moment, of assuring the labor bureaucrats of the American Labor Party that they have nothing to fear from these La Guardia Socialists.

At the N.E.C. meeting, Tyler flatly declared: "Trotskyism, in common with Leninism, means bureaucratism and terror when in power." This warmed-over precept of the Mensheviks and Social Revolutionaries is becoming stylish again as a pretext for struggle against the principles of Bolshevism.

#### Dutch Courage

Between the N.E.C. meeting and his editorial, however, some of his Dutch courage oozed out of Tyler. In the editorial there is no reference to Leninism. Now it is: "Trotskyism and Stalinism, arch-enemies in program, are nevertheless children born of one womb." What was that womb, according to Tyler? He is afraid to articulate his thought publicly, for he still wants to pose as a radical. But in spite of him the meaning is clear. The source of the evil to him is the Leninist tradition.

If his courage evaporated on this score, Tyler summoned up new nerve on another. Until now he has been complaining that, though he is ready to grant the revolutionary character of the Trotskyites, they refuse to grant him similar status. In the editorial, however, he says: "The Trotsky program is less counter-

revolutionary than that of the Stalinists." Tyler's unprincipled factionalism has already carried him..... to the formulations of the Russian Mensheviks, although, none too informed, Tyler is probably unaware that this is precisely the way in which the emigres characterize the Bolsheviks of today.

As we have already said, Tyler's new line is part of an international phenomenon, the demoralized "re-evaluations" of those unable to analyze the defeats of our epoch by Marxist principles. Next week we shall publish an analysis by Leon Trotsky, "Stalinism and Bolshevism," concerning the historical and organizational roots of the Fourth International. Written as an answer to some European Tylers, it is a definitive reply to the American breed.

### FORGOTTEN ZAM-TYLER WORDS INDICT THEIR OWN PRACTICES IN PARTY

"Repeated experiences of the working-class have proven that party democracy is not just some phrase for the mouths of minorities in a party nor the product of devotion to broadmindedness. The absence of democracy and democratic procedures can only lead to the creation of a Comintern, a British Labor Party, an Old Guard Socialist Party, and in the final analysis to such practices as now mark the Soviet trials. Party democracy is a PRINCIPLE!

"Party democracy can not be maintained unless persons or groups in the minority are permitted to speak their mind, even if it be foolishly, or tactlessly, within the party. Administrative action in the form of grievances and charges can not be brought against the comrades for political characterization of their party

comrades. To make such a criticism a ground for charges makes all criticism impossible, for the champion of an unpopular cause will always be accused of villainy and lying and the majority will sit in judgment upon him.

"Party democracy means the right of comrades of like mind to organize to advance their views in the party. Such groups or individuals have the right to issue printed matter and call meetings, so long as such are conducted for party members only.

#### Minority Rights

"Effective party democracy can only be maintained while significant minority groups in the party are given representation on leading and minor committees. To deprive any impor-

of just representation means to prepare a party split.

"Party democracy today means the extension of the elements of party democracy to the Trotskyites and pacifists as well as to all other comrades. The Socialist Party has no second class citizens.

"Party democracy, in spirit as well as fact, can only be preserved while responsible and leading party comrades foster a spirit of comradeship, maintain a policy of integration to all party groups, and stamp out all tendencies to provoke a split in the party by the expulsion of this group or that group which one comrade or another decides in unassimilable. The task of the leadership is to map a policy and carry through a line; if there be any who are unassimilable, practice will show."—(From Socialist Clarity, March 1, 1937—"A Program—for Left Wing Unity").

### APPEAL FRIENDS SEND IN SUBS

"What a pleasant and delightful surprise it was to find, upon opening a package of paper, the Socialist Appeal. No words can describe my feeling or the rise of my spirits when I beheld the emblazoned heavy black type across the top page. Here was something placed back in my hand after it had been torn away from me by ruthless hands. It was like finding a long-lost child which had been given up as dead. As a member of the State Executive Committee of the Socialist Party of Indiana, I want to commend the Appeal Assn. on the step taken in reviving the Socialist Appeal. We revolutionaries of the SEC of Indiana welcome it with open arms and will do all in our power to place it in the hands of our state membership, despite the edict issued recently by Burt, Thomas and Co. under the title of the NEC."

So writes Herbert S. Kimmel, part of whose letter we reprint because he says more succinctly what scores of other comrades are saying. And not only party members:

"Enclosed is one dollar for subscription. I wish to state that I am highly pleased with your first number. I hope that in succeeding issues, there will be a full Marxian discussion of national and world events," writes Robert Lee, Yonkers, N. Y.

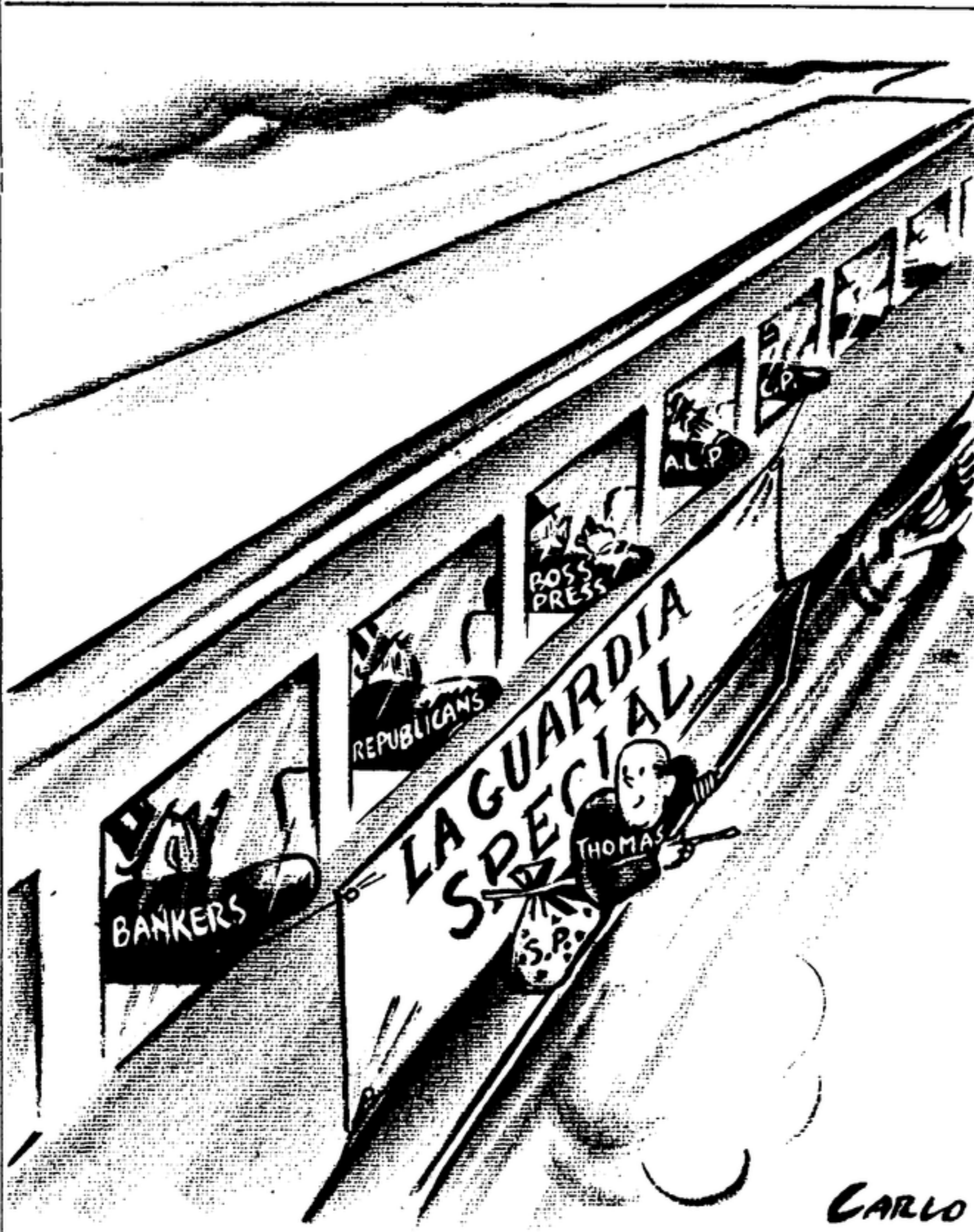
### Brockway Aids Stalin Frame-Up

(Continued from page 7)  
tempt to use the investigation of Nin's murder as a pretext to settle scores with Nin's policies. To wage a struggle against opportunism and centrism we have no need to hide behind a "commission", created for a totally different purpose. We leave such methods to the Tartuffes of idealistic morality. We, gross materialists, prefer to call a "nettle but a nettle and the faults of fools but folly". We deal blows to our adversaries openly and in our own names.

Coyoacan Sept. 5, 1937.

### RIDING THE RODS ...

BY CARLO



## Hear the Truth About The Sell Out of the Socialist Party to La Guardia

Greet the Newly Elected National Executive Committee of the Young Peoples Socialist League

#### SPEAKERS

JAMES P. CANNON

Chairman

MAX SHACHTMAN

ERNEST ERBER

E. R. MCKINNEY

NATHAN GOULD

National Chairman, YPSL

National Organizer, YPSL

Friday Evening, September 17, 8:15 P. M.

IRVING PLAZA

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