

SOCIALIST APPEAL

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

Vol. 1. - No. 9. 401

Saturday October 9, 1937

5 Cents per Copy

Nominate James P. Cannon for Mayor In New York Municipal Campaign

Trotsky Sees Jap Blow-up

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS PUT BY MR. J. P. MCKNIGHT OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS REGARDING THE FAR EASTERN SITUATION

By Leon Trotsky

1) An actual and serious victory of Japan over China would signify the forcing out of Great Britain from China, hermetically sealed doors for the United States and a direct threat to the Soviet Far East and, in the next stage, a threat to French Indo-China and to Holland's island's I do not believe, however, in the possibility of the execution of this plan. As I have written more than once in the past 10 years, the first great war will end in the greatest social catastrophe for Japan.

Blow-up Threatens Japan

2) The Empire of the Mikado contains within it all the social contradictions which, in its time, exploded the Czarist Empire: half-feudal agrarian relations; a monarchy by "divine right"; terrible poverty of the people; a tight internal market for industry; a monstrous growth of the military budget; a military caste which reflects in itself all the inner contradictions of the country, and so forth, and so forth.

3) The masses of Japanese soldiers reflect the deep dissatisfaction of the Japanese peasants and workers. In the beginning of the war, the chauvinists wave will, as always, seize the whole army but the reaction to it will not be long in waiting.

4) Great Britain could not, in the 20 century, win India; on the contrary, it is getting ready to lose her. Japan is not Great Britain. China is stronger than India. Japanese imperialism will break its head by its Chinese adventure.

Stalin Regime Doomed

5) Stalin is conducting a civil war against the people. In all spheres of public life—in economics, in the army, in literature, etc.—the discontent of the masses with the demoralized bureaucratic caste is manifested through

the more honest, gifted, critically thinking representatives. Stalin systematically exterminates them through the GPU. The bureaucracy has become the chief hindrance to the economic and cultural development of the land. The hydra of dissatisfaction will therefore grow more and more heads. The regime of Stalin is doomed. A good deal of recent correspondence from Moscow, censored or "uncensored", tries to prove that the bloody purge "strengthened" the position of Stalin. The authors of these reports either understand nothing, or they understand too much.

The external politics of Stalin are dictated not by the interests of the U.S.S.R. but by the concern of the self-preservation of the ruling caste. Stalin is retreating and will continue to retreat. War will tame the ruling bureaucratic caste. However, I do not doubt that the U.S.S.R. will emerge victorious from a war in the Far East. Coyoacan, Sept. 20, 1937.

RODGERS EXPELLED

By unanimous decision, the Oakland (California) Branch of the Socialist Party expelled Ward Rodgers for going to the District Attorney and instituting criminal charges against Glen Trimble. At the same time the branch, also by unanimous decision, expelled Clarence Rust, attorney, for collaborating with Rodgers in calling in the cops.

Open Write-in Drive for Only Labor Candidate

On Sunday, October 3rd, Ernest R. McKinney, New York organizer of the Socialist Party (Left Wing) announced to the press that the Party had nominated James P. Cannon as its candidate for Mayor of New York. This action was the response of the revolutionary socialists in New York to the sell-out to the LaGuardia machine engineered by every other working class party in the City.

A campaign Committee headed by Alex Retzkin has been set up, and is already functioning on a city-wide basis. The campaign will be carried into every section of

Our Candidate



JAMES P. CANNON

Harry Milton on National Tour

Following the highly enthusiastic meeting held with Harry Milton in New York upon his return from Spain, it has been decided to sponsor a national tour to enable workers throughout the country to listen to any eye-witness tell his story.

Milton, a well known militant in New York labor movement, went to Spain in February 1937 as a member of the Debs Brigade. He fought on the Aragon Front and was wounded in battle. He was chairman of the Independent Labor Party contingent of the P.O.U.M. militia. He participated in the May Days' struggle in Barcelona.

(Full Itinerary: Page 7)

New York, with street meetings, mass meetings, rallies, and distribution of literature. A comprehensive platform has been adopted, and will be issued as a popular pamphlet.

Only Labor Candidate

The nomination of Cannon places in the field the only working class candidate who will figure in this extremely important election. One by one, during the past months, the reformist parties and groups have capitulated to LaGuardia. Through the American Labor Party, formed last year, during the Roosevelt campaign in order to keep labor votes lined up for Roosevelt, the labor bureaucrats led the way. The Lovestonites followed shortly after. They Browder and the Communist Party. Finally, ten days ago, the procession ended when Norman Thomas, apostle of "socialism in our time," announced the withdrawal of his name from the list of candidates.

Meanwhile, the real character of the LaGuardia People's Front has been made daily clear. LaGuardia himself has endorsed the entire Republican slate, including the red-baiter, George U. Harvey. The A. L. P., tied to LaGuardia's coat-tails, followed along after him, though still balking mildly at Harvey. Last week the Communist Party took its next logical steps, and withdrew its candidates for virtually every city-wide office. McGoldrick and Morris, the Landon-Republican candidates for City comptroller and President of the

(Continued on page 6)

New Crisis Hits People's Front Gov't in France

By Frank L. Demby

The rapidly approaching cantonal elections and the October 2 communique of the French cabinet serve once again to focus the eyes of the politically conscious on France. The long-smouldering crisis bids fair to break out into the open with far-reaching consequences for France and the entire world. P. J. Philip, Paris correspondent of the New York Times, describes the recent cabinet meeting as having "altered the whole course along which France has been traveling since the Popular Front Government came into power fifteen months ago."

Signs of the coming crisis and indications as to its nature have not been lacking. Already, during the last months of the Blum cabinet, it was not difficult to see that the major political parties in the Peoples Front were being subjected to different social pressures, which, together with the exigencies of diplomacy and political maneuvering, were tending to pull the Peoples Front apart—or, at least, sufficed to show that the honeymoon period was over.

The Radicals, conscious instrument of French finance imperialism, have steadily pulled in the

(Continued on page 6)

Ratification Meeting

FOR AN INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST MAYORALTY CAMPAIGN!
AGAINST THE LA GUARDIA-HILLMAN-BROWDER-THOMAS PEOPLE FRONT!

Speakers:

JAMES P. CANNON
Socialist Candidate for Mayor
MAX SHACHTMAN
JAMES BURNHAM

IRVING PLAZA
Irving Place and 15th Street

ROBERT MENAKER
Socialist Candidate for Assembly 14th A. D. Manhattan
MAURICE SPECTOR
HAL DRAPER

SUNDAY, October 13, 1937, 8 P. M.
Auspices: Socialist Party of New York
Left Wing