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is pending.

Tell Me Who Your Friends Are

There is an old saw: "Tell me who your friends
are and I'll tell you who you are."

The Communist Party and the Thomas-Tyler
wing of the Socialist Party are both supporting
the Little Flower, LaGuardia—one of them brazenly
and shamelessly, the other cravenly and
shamefacedly. La Guardia in turn supports that
eminent guardian of people's liberties, George U.
Harvey.

The candidate of the American Labor Party for
Mayor is the same La Guardia. But to even things
up, LaGuardia endorses that paladin of labor's
rights, advertising tycoon and admirer of Mus-
solini, Bruce Barton, for Congressman in the 17th
District, who is running against the A. L. P. can-
didate, George Backer, the distinguished proletarian
who is a millionaire real estate man on
the side.

All these Knights of the People's Front in New
York acclaim the chief weed in the garden of the
Little Flower, Thomas E. Dewey, Jr. Here indeed
in the People's choice. More than that, he is the
beloved of the labor chieftains. That is why the
Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union contributed
\$5,000 to his campaign. The same amount was
contributed to Dewey by the International Ladies
Garment Workers Union. We do not know how
much Browder has chipped in, but to judge by
his enthusiasm for comrade Dewey, he couldn't
have been tight-fisted about it. They are all the
friends of Dewey, who is a friend of LaGuardia,
who is a friend of Harvey, who is a friend of the
rubber-hose and the lamp-post.

But Dewey has other friends, no less enthusias-
tic, no less generous. John D. Rockefeller 2nd has
given him \$2,500. Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rocke-
feller, Jr. kicked in with \$2,500 a piece. Nelson
A. Rockefeller (same tribe), who hasn't been
doing so well lately, gave only \$1,500, which is
certainly a hell of a paltry contribution for a
People's Fronter to make. It may be safely as-
sumed that if old man Rockefeller were still alive,
the campaign fund would have been enriched by
another dime. Mrs. Daniel Guggenheim, of the
Guggenheims, only gave Dewey \$1,000, but that
was evoked out by Harry F. Guggenheim's \$2,500.
John Hay Whitney, of the Whitneys, who runs a
People's Front brokerage at 2 Wall Street, raised
the ante with a trifle of \$1,000, which was im-
mediately doubled by C. V. Whitney who runs
an exclusive People's Front Penthouse for Popular
Politicians at 230 Park Avenue (not to be con-
fused with the Wall Street Whitney).

The party and the candidates that are good
enough for the Rockefellers and the Guggenheims
(to say absolutely nothing about the Whitneys,
the William Nelson Cromwells, the Thomas D.
Thachers, the Harry Payne Bingham and other
Lumpen-millionaires), may be good enough for
the Twentieth-Century Americans on 13th Street.

But that's just what makes these parties and
candidates no good at all for the working class.
Let the workers of New York show their class
solidarity at the elections by writing in the name
of James P. Cannon, the revolutionary socialist
candidate for mayor.

Bela Kun in Prison

It is now established by the official Stalinist
press that Bela Kun, chairman of the Council of
People's Commissars of the short-lived Hungarian
Soviet Republic, has been arrested and imprisoned.

The formal charges, on the basis of which he
was arrested, are, if we are to believe the ap-
parently authenticated (and in any case, undeni-
ed) press dispatches quoting the official state-
ment in the Communist International magazine,
perfectly monstrous.

"The magazine said," reports the United Press
from Moscow on October 20, "Kun was charged
with Trotskyist activities which undermined the
popular front in Hungary. Such charges," adds
the report casually, "usually mean the death
penalty."

If we assume for a moment that Bela Kun—
known for anything but a critical attitude to-
wards the Stalin regime and its policies—did op-
pose the People's Front line, then what a horri-

fyng commentary it is on the police regime pre-
vailing in the Third International that opposition
to a political line should be answered by im-
prisonment! In Lenin's time, Kun was in real and
very active, open opposition to the Comintern
policy on more than one occasion; and not Kun
alone. Whoever would then have brought a warden
or a firing squad to answer the opponents with,
would have been driven out of the revolutionary
movement with a bullwhip, or sent to an asylum.
"Nous avons change tout cela," Stalin says now—
we have changed all that.—We have no political
arguments for our critics, but we do have the G.
P. U., the police the executioner.

For Bela Kun, a revolutionist can hold no brief.
He was in the forefront of that blackguard crew
headed by Stalin who, since 1923, worked sys-
tematically to drive the knife deeper into the
heart of the Russian revolution and the Com-
munist International. While the genuine prolet-
arian revolutionists were being slandered, ex-
pelled, imprisoned, framed-up, deported and shot,
he never opened his lips save to yell louder than
his neighbor for the blood of the "Trotskyists".

Only, it is not for his crimes that the police
regime has arrested and imprisoned him; other-
wise, Stalin and Yezhov would head the list of
the arrested. Kun's arrest is but a link in the
chain with which Stalin is strangling the world
revolutionary movement.

As will be seen elsewhere in this issue, the order
has come from the Kremlin to prepare the official
dissolution of the Comintern. Sinking deeper into
the swamp of his own creation, Stalin must every
day give a new gage of his respectability, of his
hostility to revolution, to the world bourgeoisie.
To the capitalist class, Bela Kun has for a long
time symbolized the "subversive agitator," speed-
ing conspiratively from one land to another, light-
ing the flames of insurrection. Wherever the
class struggle raged fiercely, the frightened
reptile press reported that the "Hungarian dic-
tator, Bela Kun" was on the scene.

Now, Stalin, who has murdered all the old Rus-
sian revolutionists in order to prove how little the
bourgeoisie need fear him, is saying to his im-
perialist allies: "You are afraid of such people as
Kun, just because of his old reputation for making
trouble for you? Well, you need be afraid no
longer. And Kun is not the last of non-Russian
communists I intend taking care of."

This is how the Genghis Khan of the Kremlin
keeps adding to those dreadful crimes for which
he shall yet render an accounting to a re-awak-
ened world proletariat.

The Government of Defeat

The fall of Gijon at the hands of the Fascists
tragically serves to underscore the real nature
of the People's Front regime in Spain.

The main argument used by its partisans
against the struggle for proletarian power in
Spain has been that a "democratic People's Front
regime" would be a government of victory against
Fascism. Naive souls drew solace from the
thought that if we did not have a working class
in power, at least the Fascists would be defeated.

But with its vacillation, its toleration of treason,
its vicious suppression of proletarian organiza-
tions, the People's Front has accumulated nothing
but defeats—inevitable consequence of its course.

Early in September 1936, Irun fell, for lack of
ammunition supplied by the government. In the
middle of that month, fell San Sebastian, surren-
dered intact by the traitorous chiefs of the de-
fense. In the month that followed, Franco was
allowed to march straight east from Badajoz,
through Talavera de la Reina, to Toledo, and then
to the very gates of Madrid. On February 10,
1937, Malaga was lost, betrayed by socialist min-
ister Prieto, who deprived it of the navy, and by
under-secretary of war Asensio, only now openly
denounced as a traitor. On June 19, Bilbao was
surrendered intact, despite the heroic insistence
of the revolutionary militiamen that only ruins
be left for the Fascists,

The famous June "offensive" on the Aragon
Front, left without artillery or airplanes, was
used to wipe out the anarchists and the POUM,
and the collectivized farms. The much-touted July
offensive on the Madrid front proved to be a
fiasco. The great victories of the People's Front
are two: the destruction of the famous Aragon
Council (the collectives of the peasants) by the
Stalinist Lister Brigade, and the employment of
10,000 Assault Guards in punitive expeditions
throughout Catalonia against the anarchist and
POUM workers and peasants in June and July.

The People's Front government, like class col-
laboration in general, is equivalent to surrender,
capitulation, treachery, defeat. Victory is pos-
sible only by the most widespread mobilization of
the proletariat and peasantry—on a working class
line, with working class methods, with working
class objectives.

Roosevelt Regime Is Main Prop of Brazil Oligarchy

By Bernard Ross

For the second time since the November 1935 rebellion, the
Vargas government in Brazil has decreed a "state of siege". It
means the re-establishment of the death penalty, the annulment of
home inviolability, a strict military censorship not only of the press
but of the private mails, and the removal of legislative, judicial
and gubernatorial immunity. The government justifies such drastic
action by maintaining that a
"vast communist plot" fabricated
with the aid of Moscow gold is
afoot.

The Imperialist Hand

What lies behind the action of
Vargas? Does a communist plot
really exist? Unfortunately, ge-
nuine communist activities and
ideas play an insignificant role
in Brazil today. It is not threat-
ening "communist" activities that
determined Vargas' action but
the sinister forces of interna-
tional imperialist rivalries jockey-
ing for positions. The govern-
ment decree has as its fundamen-
tal purpose the perpetuation of
American imperialist hegemony.

As a fresh imperialist carnage
becomes more imminent with
each passing day, Yankee imperi-
alism exerts greater efforts to
assure its economic hegemony in
the western hemisphere so that
in the coming war Latin-Ameri-
ca's immeasurable resources will
be at Wall Street's disposal. Ar-
mando de Salles Oliveira, ex-
governor of Sao Paulo, is the
candidate of British imperialism
which dominates the economic
life of that state, holding in its
hands the coffee plantations,
railroads and the tramway and
electric power industries. Ostens-
ibly being used against commu-
nism, the state of siege, by pro-
hibiting any criticism of the
government, will be used to ham-
per and intimidate the Oliveira
opposition. That opposition pre-
tends to stand for more "democ-
racy" but it should not be for-
gotten that when Vargas carried
through his coup in 1930 against
the British puppet, Washington
Luis, the former employed the
same liberal terminology in his
efforts to win popular support.

Since 1930, Brazil has been
living through one of the most
dictatorial periods of its post-
revolutionary history. Vargas has
ruthlessly suppressed every de-
mocratic, anti-imperialist mani-
festation of the Brazilian people,
in the revolutions of October
1931 and July 1932. The greatest
mass explosion against Vargas,
the November 1935 rebellion, was
drowned in a sea of blood.

Brazil is the most backward of
all the Latin-American nations,
with feudalism supreme. Coffee,
the economic foundation of Bra-
zilian economy, accounting for 70

per cent. of the national income,
is controlled by a handful of
opulent feudal "fazendeiros".
The clearest expression of Bra-
zil's economic backwardness lies
in the fact that in spite of its
larger land surface it only has
17,000 miles of railroads to the
250,000 of the United States.

Labor Conditions

The economic condition of the
rural and industrial workers is
pathetic. According to Brazilian
labor office statistics the
average daily wage of the rural
worker is 10 cents (American)
and that of the industrial work-
er is 70 cents. The cultural state
of the poverty-stricken Brazilian
masses is equally deplorable, with
over two-thirds of the 47,000,000
population illiterate. Public health
reflecting the economic misery of
the people, is at a wretched level
with tuberculosis and venereal
diseases the highest in Latin-
America.

What has been the attitude of
Roosevelt, the great "humanitar-
ian" and "lover of democracy"
owards the dictatorial govern-
ment of Vargas? The administra-
tion, hypocritically designating
the western hemisphere as a
"bulwark of democracy", has
been giving its unwavering sup-
port to Vargas. Do we not recall
how Roosevelt lauded Vargas one
year ago at Rio de Janeiro? The
support of the Roosevelt govern-
ment has not been purely moral.
A few months ago Washington
rejuvenated tottering Brazilian
finances by setting aside 100
million dollars for the stabiliza-
tion of that country's currency.
And just a week ago, an agree-
ment was signed to rent out to
Brazil six warships.

An unholy alliance exists be-
tween Yankee imperialism and the
Brazilian feudal satraps, support-
ed by an impotent national
bourgeoisie, and it is this alliance
which retards the economic, po-
litical and cultural development
of Brazil. This alliance is res-
ponsible for the black reign of
terror which since 1935 has cast
17,000 political opponents into
concentration camps and media-
eval dungeons.

All revolutionists, every anti-
imperialist, must raise their
voices in protest against the
present reign of terror in Brazil.

20th ANNIVERSARY

The Socialist Party of New
York (Left wing) and the Young
People's Socialist League will
hold a 20th Anniversary Russian
Revolution meeting at the Irving
Plaza, Irving Place and 15th St.,
on Monday, November 8, 1937, at
8 p. m. Admission will be 25
cents and prominent speakers
will address the audience. Re-
serve the date!

N. Y. MEMBERS!

The New York local, in addi-
tion to regular discussion at the
weekly branch meetings, has ar-
ranged also for three weekly
general membership meetings to
discuss the convention problems.
The first of these general mem-
bership meetings will be held at
Irving Plaza, 15th Street and

Irving Place, Sunday, October
31, at 1 P. M.

"CHALLENGE" OUT

The second issue of the Chal-
lenge of Youth is now off the
press! Brimming with news,
cuts, features, and articles, it
represents a new high in a revo-
lutionary youth paper, an organ
with which we can reach the
young workers in offices, shops,
and factories throughout the
country.

We appeal to the party mem-
bers for subscriptions in line
with our new special offer, a
cloth-bound copy of "Behind the
Moscow Trials" by Max Shacht-
man which will be given absolu-
tely free with every year's subscrip-
tion. In each branch throughout
the country we expect party
members to subscribe