

SOCIALIST APPEAL

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LABOR DEFENSE ORGANIZATION MUST BE BUILT

The events of the past year and the prospect for the future unite in pointing to a grave and dangerous breach in the armor of the labor and revolutionary movements.

The defense of Trotsky's right of asylum and the inquiry into the Moscow Trial—the crux of the struggle for democratic rights in this last period—had to be conducted by independent and specially created organizations.

With the new slump in this country, and with the deepening of the war crisis, it is entirely certain that the time ahead will see a steadily increasing invasion of democratic rights.

ROOSEVELT'S NAVY BUDGET

At the beginning of the year, President Roosevelt submitted a budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1939, which cut hundreds of millions of dollars off the previous appropriations for Unemployment Relief, work relief, and C. C. C. camps.

French Group Splits On Stalin Trial

(Continued from page 1) the League, and translate them into the required action that stared us in the face: An outrage to the principles of justice—we must intervene; an outrage to humanity—we must intervene.

examination: the place where it should have been committed does not exist, or rather no longer existed; the alleged accomplice without whom the act would have been impossible stated that he can prove that he has never been either in the alleged place or city.

Liberty At Issue

"Justice, humanity, truth—is that all that is at issue? Not yet all. Liberty is no less gravely offended. The Trial is an episode—and it is going to be the epilogue—in a struggle between two political factions.

MARXIST SCHOOL

Opens Week of February 14th

- 1. ELEMENTARY SOCIALISM—Hal Draper Monday, 7 - 8:30 P. M.
2. PROBLEMS OF YOUTH MOVEMENT—Jos. Carter — Monday, 8:45 - 10:15 P. M.
3. MARXIAN ECONOMICS—J. Wright Tuesday, 7 - 8:30 P. M.
4. PRINCIPLES OF REVOLUTIONARY SOCIALISM—M. Spector — Tuesday, 8:45 - 10:15 P. M.
5. PROBLEMS OF TRADE UNIONISM — B. J. Widick - E. R. McKinney —Wed. 7 - 8:30 P. M.
6. HISTORY OF THIRD INTERNATIONAL — Max Shachtman — Wednesday, 8:45 - 10:15 P. M.

All courses will have ten sessions each. Tuition fee is \$2.50 per course. Register now!

Marxist School, 116 University Place, New York. — Telephone, GRamercy 5-9142

year and made it possible for a good Liberty Leaguer like Herbert Hoover to say in his address to the women Republicans: "We are leading the arms race."

More than half a billion dollars was asked for the Navy. Now it is reported that, in his coming special message, the President will ask for an additional appropriation for the navy, variously estimated at between \$100,000,000 and \$200,000,000.

What Big-Navy jingo could ask for better? This is the "peace" budget of the President who continues to declaim: "I hate war!"

The Communist Party press has not had a single word of criticism of this purely imperialist budget, because they are bound by their servitude to the Stalinist bureaucracy in Russia which looks favorably upon increased imperialist armaments in the United States for the simple reason that it looks towards a military alliance with the American spoils-hunters in the coming war.

The naval budget is a war budget! The arguments about "defense"—especially in the light of statements by such experts as Major-General Hagood, Hugh S. Johnson, the late Admiral Sims and others who say that the U. S. coast line is virtually invulnerable—are so much unadulterated buncombe.

In answer to the murder-budget of the imperialists, we reply with the traditional watchword of the revolutionists: "Not a penny and not a man for imperialist war!"

The only war which we will support is a war to the end against the exploiters and oppressors of our "own" country, who, in a land brimming with abundance, keep the masses in unemployment, poverty and servitude.

NO, IT WASN'T HEARST!

Suppose the following had appeared in the columns of the Hearst press:

"In Chinese waters an American boat, the Panay is cruising peacefully on its errand of mercy for American refugees.

"Overhead fly death dealing Japanese planes, a typical sight in the invasion of China.

"SUDDENLY.....

"An Eye-Witness Talking

"Without warning a trio of Japanese bombers dived at the American ships, unloading their terrible burden of high explosives. All hands rushed for cover but the bombs rained on them like a hailstorm and fires burst out on the American vessels.

"When the three Japanese planes had unburdened their explosives, six more took up the savage attack on the helpless river boats and one American ship sank to the bottom of the river."

"Next day black-bordered telegrams were received by American mothers and wives.

"That's the story of the Panay sinking."

Suppose, we repeat, the above appeared in the Hearst press. Wouldn't you say, shrugging your shoulders, that it is simply typical of those yellow rags? That it is habitual with Hearst to try to whip up a jingoist, pro-war spirit among the people? That it is just like him to cover up the fact that the "helpless river boats" were three Standard Oil tankers, working in Chinese waters for the greater glory and profit of the Rockefeller family, and that the Panay was escorting them to insure that glory and profit?

Only, it did not appear in the Hearst press. It is taken, word for word, from a leaflet issued by the Young Communist League of Brooklyn, N. Y., advertising a meeting in Premier Palace on Jan. 14, 1938, at which the names of those great revolutionary internationalists, Lenin, Liebknecht and Luxemburg were to be desecrated by young patriotic flag-wavers from the Stalinist school.

its adversaries; it is at the same time judge and party to the dispute. On the one side appears the State, spread out in a mighty apparatus; on the other, beating its breast sixteen times, and sixteen times falling to the lowest rung of the human ladder, appears the individual. Quite apart from the testimony, we know that the accused were only a bodily fragment in the accusation; they were chosen, deliberately selected from among 50 others involved, whose absence permits the supposition that they refused to enter the path of confessions where, with a single step, the 16 who were on hand marched, and who seemed in no way free to confess or not confess. Even at the threshold of the police court there came to us the uncouth echo of a press (the only press which exists there, the State press) which furiously demanded death and which called for the destruction of the mad dogs who were the defendants.

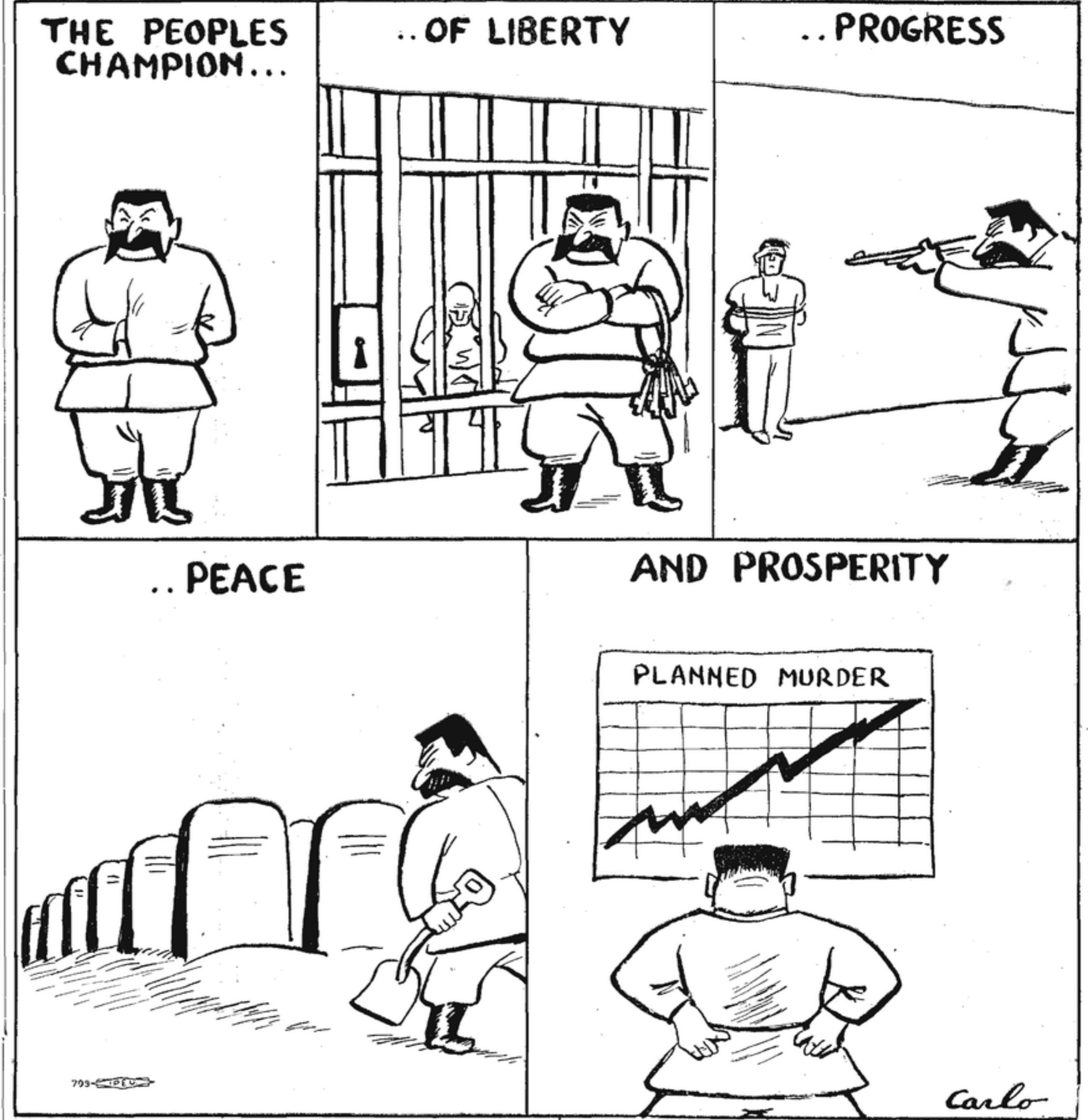
Even at the threshold of the tragedy, a heavy odor of mystery, of slime, of terror, of an arbitrary and macabre farce, caught at our throats. No, there was no liberty there....

"Thus, all the reasons which the League has ever had for acting were concentrated, all the doubts which could stir the consciousness of a League member were brought to a head. The defense of justice, the defense of humanity, the defense of truth, the defense of liberty: everything called upon the League to assemble all of its forces in order to go forward, in the face of such an attack, to a kind of general mobilization...."

League As Censor

(The orator then described how a small committee appoint-

LIFE IN THE SOVIET UNION TODAY



MOSCOW DENIES HULL REQUEST

(Continued from page 1) slinging machine. Hence, it would seem, he has been under consideration on 13th Street as raw material for the phony link which must be forged in an effort to connect the Rubens couple with the Trotskyites.

"...the method is unchanging, the procedure always the same: secret investigations, selection of the defendants, complete confessions. The study of the earlier trials brings out an already established tradition of outrages against justice, humanity, truth, and liberty; it clarifies at one and at the same time the environment, the men, the system, the accused and accusers; and permits an estimation of the worth of the confessions...."

SOVIET PARLIAMENT SANCTIFIES PURGE

(Continued from page 1) (Herald-Tribune, March 14, 1937.) "The newspaper (Pravda) contained many real enemies of the party escaped successive housecleanings and still were on the rolls while thousands of loyal members were dropped for slight infractions or for no reason at all." (N. Y. Times, March 14, 1937.)

Left Jabs

NATIVE TAXATION IN S. A. South African 4th Internationalist paper. SLANDER AND APOLOGY Early in December Mike Gold had the following to say in his Daily Worker column: "Here is something for the marine workers to look into: an item in Newsweek of December 6th charges Harry Lundeberg, head of the Sailors Union of the Pacific, with being nothing short of a rat."

THE "GENTLE STIMULUS" The pressure of this tax is by no means finished once it is paid. The tax receipt must be produced on the demand of a policeman, at any hour of the day or night. In or out of working hours, in the streets and other public places, on the way to work, at wedding parties or funerals, at any place and at any time the police may demand the receipt, and failure to produce it means summary arrest.

ANOTHER GOLD BONER In the same column Gold had this to say: "Why the sailors retain Lundeberg is one of those things that must be charged to the red-tape clumsiness that sometimes accompanies democratic administration. It is at present hard to recall him for technical reasons."

THE SEQUEL An election was held in the Sailors Union and one of Mike's friends ran against Lundeberg, but again those "technical reasons" interfered; the Sailors voted Lundeberg 6-1. Shortly thereafter the Marine Firemen also took a vote and now in that Union also "technical reasons" stand in the way of the wrecking crew. The Stalinist leadership was voted out all along the line.

SLAVERY CALLED LIBERTY Listen to General Smuts, great lawyer and S. Africa's most famous statesman: "The British Empire has weathered all storms because it is based on the fundamental principles of liberty and equality and trust in the people." The above excerpts are taken from "Taxation of the Bantu" Published in the "Spark,"

MINNEAPOLIS

Not content with sewing up the West Coast, Mike Gold still in the same column decided to do another good deed before calling it a day. "What have they got to say about the Dunne brothers, for example, Trotskyist labor leaders in Minneapolis who are said to have made alliances with racketeers and now are on the hot spot in a typical gangster bumping off case? The full charges against them have been printed in the Daily Worker and other papers, but I fail to hear any suits of libel or Norman Thomas uttering a word. And I doubt that he will comment on Lundeberg."

THE SEQUEL I don't know whether Norman Thomas has said a word, but Mike will have the opportunity to say several words, for the Dunne brothers took his tip and have instituted libel suit.

WAA GROUP DANCE

The Progressive Group of the Workers Alliance of Greater New York, organized to fight for a more militant and democratic regime in the Alliance, will hold its first public entertainment and dance, Saturday, January 29, at 8 P.M., at the East Side Labor Center, 159 Rivington Street. All those interested in militant trade unionism and all those friends of democracy within the organized labor movement are invited to attend. Come, not only because you will have a swell time—which you will—but also because you will be helping in your own way the struggle for a more militant, more progressive and more democratic Workers Alliance in New York.

BE IT A GAL OR A PAL You'll Find Them At Upper West Side 916 NINTH AVENUE SATURDAY, JAN. 29 8.30 P. M. Dancing — Weenies — Drinks and "Booths" Full of Fun