

Workers
Of the World Unite!

SOCIALIST APPEAL

For the
Fourth International!

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Stalin Stages New Frame-up

War Moves Speeded Up By Roosevelt

Prepare To Knit Latin American States In War Alliance

A favorable report by the House Military Affairs Committee on the notorious May Bill, revised version of the Sheppard-Hill Bill, and preparations on the floor of the House for speedy passage of the huge special Naval Appropriations, last week brought the Roosevelt war program to new heights. Overwhelming endorsement by Congress of the Naval Appropriations was freely predicted for the near future, with the authorized sum in all probability going far beyond the \$800,000,000 originally projected.

Thousands of telegrams from American Legion posts and other jingo organizations were pouring into Washington demanding passage of the Sheppard-Hill May Bill. In its present form this measure provides for universal conscription (draft) of all male citizens between the ages of 21 and 31, a proposal unprecedented in American peace-time history.

Military Dictatorship

Along with the draft section is included blanket authorization for a one hundred percent military dictatorship not merely for the time of the war, but as long as the "emergency" might last. A legal basis is given for the definition on all forms of labor and trade-union activity as treason.

The impact of the current crisis in European affairs served to bring out the fundamental identity of "collective security" and "isolation." Prime Minister Chamberlain's turn toward a deal with Mussolini served to dampen temporarily the enthusiasm of the "quarantine the aggressor" bloc of Congressmen; but this bloc joined as one with the Congressional isolationists to howl for still larger naval and military armament as the answer to the European events.

"Wings of Democracy"

The Administration is utilizing the European crisis as a springboard for re-emphasizing the fundamental plank in its imperialist policy; namely, undisputed U.S. domination over the entire two American continents.

Six of the gigantic new army bombers, by far the most powerful fighting planes in existence, roared their way down through Panama and Peru to play the star role at the inauguration of the new President of Argentina, the rich banker and industrialist, Roberto Ortiz. The peoples of the Central and South American nations were being told in no uncertain terms just which side their bread is buttered on.

At the same time new short wave channels were granted to the General Electric Company and one of its subsidiaries for daily "non-commercial" broadcasts to South America, and plans were announced for direct U.S. Government broadcasts in the same direction. The sugared message of Roosevelt "neighborliness" thus enters into big-scale competition with the broadcasts from Germany, Italy and England.

Simultaneously, rumors were revived about the possibilities of a Pan-American military alliance. In spite of the fact that for years Secretary Hull has denied any thought of such a plan, last week

732 In Teachers Union Take Anti-War Stand

NEW YORK.—A referendum on affiliation to the American League for Peace and Democracy in Teachers Union, Local 5, resulted in victory for affiliation by a vote of 1,955 to 732. The vote was preceded by an intensive campaign by the majority group, favoring affiliation, and by the Independents, who are opposed.

The oppositional vote of 27 percent was the largest ever polled against the leadership since the present administration took control of the union. It showed the considerable growth in influence that the Independent group has enjoyed and also reflected a growing and increasingly intelligent appreciation of the real nature of "collective security"—the issue around which the referendum campaign was fought.

The Independents waged their fight against affiliation, not on the basis of futile pacifist isolationism but upon a program of militant workers' action against the capitalist war-makers. In the course of the struggle the Independents also won a remarkable measure of union democracy from an administration that had to learn that it could not so easily railroad its policies through.

WPA Rolls Used For Recruiting Into U.S. Army

Military, Relief Agencies Cooperate To Put Men In Uniform

The Roosevelt Administration plans to use relief agencies as a channel for recruiting for the next war. This came out into the open February 25 when the New York Times reported that the U.S. army recruiting service had asked the up-state W.P.A. for lists of unmarried men on home or work relief, in order to get them to enlist for military service.

According to the report, the W.P.A. therefore sent out letters

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FDR Offers Meager Sop To Jobless

Hundreds of Thousands Will Starve As War Budget Mounts

The miserly proportions of the financial provisions made by the Roosevelt administration for relief of mounting unemployment, as compared with the inflated war budgets which Congress is being asked to vote, have been brought into prominence by the \$250,000,000 deficiency relief appropriation recommended by Roosevelt for the remainder of the fiscal year ending June 30.

According to an estimate made by the administration, this deficiency appropriation, if passed, will enable the W.P.A. to employ an additional 2,500,000 people between now and the end of the fiscal year.

"Revolutionary" Criticism

The Stalinist-controlled National Executive Committee of the Workers Alliance, has taken issue with Aubrey Williams, assistant W.P.A. administrator, on this figure and has declared that the appropriation is sufficient to give employment to an additional 2,900,000 people, or 400,000 more than the official estimate.

By this they intend to convey the idea that Williams is just holding out on the unemployed. This is in line with their general policy of directing their "revolutionary" criticism, not against the capitalist system and its political administration as a whole, but against the "bad" capitalists, the "economic royalists," and the "bad" administrators in Washington. As the twentieth-century exponents of reformism they outdo all the reformists of the classical schools.

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Trotsky Nails Fresh Attack On His Asylum

Answers Toledano's Move To Gag Him As New Trial Opens

On February 23, 1938, the C. T. M. (Mexican trade union federation dominated by a Stalinist clique under the leadership of Lombardo Toledano and Hernan Laborde, secretary of the Mexican Communist Party) without any previous discussion adopted a resolution attacking Leon Trotsky and repeating all the slanders concocted by Stalin against the leaders of the October Revolution—slanders which were completely exploded and branded as sheer frame-up by the impartial Commission of Inquiry under the leadership of Dr. John Dewey. The following is the text of Comrade Trotsky's reply to this infamous resolution.

By Leon Trotsky

COYOACAN, D.F., Feb. 24.—Mr. Lombardo Toledano and his clique, after lengthy and assiduous preparation, have made a malicious attempt to deceive public opinion in this country. The "material" on which they based themselves at the February Convention of the Confederation of Trade Unions of Mexico (C.T.M.) does not represent anything new: it is the material of Yagoda, Yezhov, Vyshinsky, Stalin, and their international lackeys. The twenty-first paragraph of the verdict states: "We find the Prosecutor fantastically falsified Trotsky's role before, during, and after the October revolution." It is exactly this "fantastic falsification" which lies at the root of the slanders of Mr. Toledano, and his helpers.

Real Views Available

My real politics are accessible to all. They are set forth in my books and articles. As in October, 1917, I defend the interests and rights of the workers and peasants in the U.S.S.R.—against the new, insatiable and tyrannical

Known GPU Agent Goes To Mexico

Fears that definite plans are on foot to assassinate Leon Trotsky were heightened this week with receipt of word that Georges Fournial, a known agent of Stalin's GPU, has arrived in Mexico City, ostensibly as delegate of the International of Educational Workers, one of those vague paper organizations which serve the Kremlin Borgia as a cover for his international plottings.

Fournial's arrival at the place of Trotsky's asylum followed revelation in last week's "Socialist Appeal" that a man named Rossi, alias Rous, the actual murderer of Ignace Reiss in Switzerland last year, had been assigned, the job of murdering Trotsky. Among Rossi's belongings were found a map of Mexico City and suburbs, a map of Mexico, a number of American addresses, and, most important of all, a duplicate of Rossi's application for a visa to visit Mexico.

and his kind by several heads. The Commission, point by point, refuted all the accusations of Yagoda, Yezhov, Vyshinsky, Stalin, and their international lackeys. The twenty-first paragraph of the verdict states: "We find the Prosecutor fantastically falsified Trotsky's role before, during, and after the October revolution." It is exactly this "fantastic falsification" which lies at the root of the slanders of Mr. Toledano, and his helpers.

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NIKOLAI BUKHARIN

GPU TRIES TO FRAME CHINESE BOLSHEVIKS

Chinese Comrades Spike Stalinist Charges Against Them

Tying in closely with the international campaign being conducted by the Stalinists against the revolutionists gathered under the banner of the Fourth International, a violent lynch drive, with provocation and slander as its instruments, is being waged against the Communist League of China (Bolshevik-Leninists) according to reports reaching here from our comrades in Shanghai.

Leading the campaign in China is Chen Shao-yi (known abroad as Wang-Ming.) Chinese representative on the Executive Committee of the Communist International, who, under the protecting wing of the reactionary Kuomintang government at Hankow, where he arrived recently from Moscow, is calling for "the

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Last Surviving Old Bolsheviks Facing Death

Bukharin, Rykov, Rakovsky, and Eighteen Others Tried on New Frame-up Charges of Treason and Murder

BUKHARIN WAS ALLY OF STALIN

Nikolai Krestinsky, former first vice-commissar of Foreign Affairs, ripped the Stalin frame-up fabric wide open at the opening session of the Trial of 21 on Mar. 2, by repudiating his "confession" that he had engaged in espionage at the direct orders of Leon Trotsky.

To an astounded court, Krestinsky declared: "I am not guilty! I never was a spy!"

When Judge V. V. Ulrich reminded him that he had "confessed," Krestinsky repeated: "I am not guilty!"

With the customary suddenness that characterized all the previous frame-up trials, Moscow announced at the end of last week its plans to open up the latest of its frightful travesties on justice, this time involving the lives of 21 men, headed by such prominent architects of the Russian Revolution as Alexis Rykov, Lenin's successor as Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars, Nikolai Bukharin, former chairman of the Communist International who, together with Rykov and Stalin, formed the ruling trio in Russia from 1925 to 1929, and Christian Rakovsky, first head of the Ukrainian Soviet Republic, Henrik Yagoda, until recently the head of the G.P.U. who organized the two big trials against Zinoviev-Kamenev in 1936 and Radek-Pyatakov in 1937, is also included.

Charges Go Back to 1921!

The accusations against the 21, who have been sentenced in advance by the Stalinist machine, exceed by far anything that has yet been witnessed. The defendants are not only charged with the murder of Kirov, but with having assassinated Maxim Gorky, V. Kuibyshev, and V. K. Menzhinsky, ex-chief of the G.P.U.

As if this were not sufficiently fantastic, the announcement of the trial includes the charge that Leon Trotsky has been a spy of one foreign power since 1921 and of another one since 1926, and that Bukharin, Trotsky and others conspired as early as 1918, that is, immediately after the revolution, to overturn the Soviet Government by murdering Lenin, Stalin and Sverdlov!

Stalin in Desperation

The very wording of the charges reveals that, in his determination to cover up the flagrant contradictions in the previous trials, to rid himself of all possible critics and opponents, to terrorize the population as a

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whole, and to distract attention from the utter collapse of his entire course in foreign policy. Stalin has become supremely desperate and mad. For no person in his right mind, who has the slightest knowledge of the Russian Revolution, can place the slightest credence in the outrageously absurd accusations that are leveled at the defendants.

That Stalin has again succeeded in extorting confessions from his prisoners, confessions written for them in advance, goes without saying. Otherwise, he would never risk the explosion of his frame-up system that would follow if the men were brought into a public court.

But whatever the prisoners feel themselves compelled to repeat by heart in court, nothing in the world can make the charges stick.

N. N. KRESTINSKY

Born 1883: Old Bolshevik. Son of a high-school teacher. In revolutionary movement since 1902; joined party in 1903. Arrested several times and exiled. After February revolution, member of Ural provincial committee and of Ekaterinburg city committee. October 1917: elected Commissar of Justice. August, 1918 to end of 1922: served as People's Commissar of Finance. 1917-1921: member of Central Committee of party. 1919-1921: secretary of the Central Committee. Member of Central Executive Committee of the Soviets under Lenin. October 1921: made Soviet Ambassador to Berlin. 1922: participated in Hague Conference. Originally in Opposition. Capitulated to Stalin.

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Ex-Ally of Stalin

The only association between the Bukharin-Rykov group and any other, was not with Trotsky, but with Stalin. Between 1928 and 1929, Bukharin, Rykov, Stalin and Voroshilov marched arm-in-arm in a relentless crusade against Trotsky and his supporters. At the end of that period, during which the four and their associates mutually defended each other, Bukharin-Rykov-Tomsky were opened up on by the Stalin machine, which threatened them with expulsion unless they capitulated, which they finally did.

The right wing faction of Bukharin was restored to important Soviet and party positions and simply resumed their previous campaign against "Trotskyism."

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Last of Lenin's Colleagues Face Doom

N. I. BUKHARIN

Born 1888. "One of the leaders and theoreticians of the C.P.S.U., member of the C.E.C. and the Political Committee, editor of Pravda, member of the C.C.I." (Small Soviet Encyclopedia). Son of a school-teacher. Participated as high-school student in 1905 revolution. Entered Bolshevik party in 1906. Member of Moscow Committee, 1908. Arrested several times. Exiled at end of 1910 to Omsk, whence he escaped abroad. Became closely connected with Lenin, "who, immediately recognized his great abilities and talent."

While abroad was arrested by Austrian police as a "spy," but was set free on intervention of Austrian Socialists. Says the Small Encyclopedia: "this charge was too absurd." Deported to Switzerland. In 1915 went to Sweden, where the Swedish police arrested him as an "agent of Lenin" for his anti-militarist propaganda, charging him with alleged preparations to "blow up bridges" and "throw bombs." Deported from Sweden. Went to Norway, then Denmark. Finally

came illegally to the United States in 1916, where he edited the *Novy Mir*.

After the February revolution made his way to Moscow through Japan and Siberia.

"All his qualities make Bukharin one of the best beloved personalities of the Russian revolution." (Small Encyclopedia.) Referred to by Lenin in his Testament as "the most valuable and biggest theoretician of the party," and the "favorite of the whole party." 1919-1926: head of the Communist International.

After his capitulation to Stalin, was sent on European tour by Stalin. Delivered speeches in Paris. At approximately the same time, Rakovsky was sent to Japan. These trips will undoubtedly be used in the trial to establish links between the defendants and foreign enemies.

Bukharin was one of the committee of 30 which drafted the Stalin Constitution.

A. I. RYKOV

Born 1881. "One of the most eminent members of the Bolshevik party." Participant in revolution-

ary movement since 1900. Arrested in March, 1901. Went to Geneva in 1902, immediately sent back to Russia for underground work. Participated in 1905 revolution, member of Petersburg Soviet of Workers' Deputies. 1906: exiled to Siberia, escaped to Moscow. 1907: arrested and exiled to Taganrog. Went abroad, returning to Russia in Summer of 1909. Arrested almost immediately, escaped, arrested (performance repeated many times over). Exiled in Naryn when February revolution broke. Member of Presidium of Moscow Soviet shortly after. Member of first Council of People's Commissars as Commissar of the Interior. February 1918: Lenin's deputy in Council of People's Commissars and Council of Labor and Defense. Lenin's successor as chairman of Council of People's Commissars. Member of Politburo since 1919. One of most highly honored personages in the Soviet Union.

1896: participated in labor movement of Switzerland, Germany and France. 1896-1903: worked in Rumania and Russia; collaborated on Lenin's *Iskra* (under pen name of Insarov). 1907: arrested by Rumanian government and deported. During Balkan wars and World War arrested on several occasions. 1915: Participated in Zimmerwald Conference. May 1917: freed from prison by Russian soldiers. January-March 1918: headed struggle against counter-revolution in the Ukraine. 1919: Chairman of Council of People's Commissars in the Ukraine. 1925-1927: ambassador to France. Oppositionist; expelled, exiled, capitulated in 1934. Sent by Stalin to Japan (undoubtedly in preparation for the trial). Appointed head of Gynecological Medical Institute. Arrested after Zinoviev-Kameney trial.

C. F. GRINKO

Born 1890. Participated in revolutionary movement (with the Social-Revolutionists) at age of 16. Expelled from university in 1913 for participating in student strike. Drafted into the army, where he remained until 1917. Spent 1914-1917 at the front, where he was promoted to rank of officer. After October revolution worked in the Ukraine as member of the Borotbysti (left wing of the Ukrainian S.R.'s), which fused in 1920 with the C.P.S.U.

H. G. YAGODA

Born 1891. Son of an artisan. Official Stalinist biography states that he was active in the revolutionary movement since his youth. Joined party in 1907. Arrested in Moscow in 1911 and exiled. Drafted into army in 1915;

served until 1916. Active participant in October revolution in Petrograd. 1920: appointed to post in Cheka, became head of G.P.U. under Stalin. Organizer of Zinoviev-Kameney trial.

C. G. RAKOVSKY

Born 1873. Old revolutionist. 1889: participated in revolutionary movement in Bulgaria. 1890-

Mass Meeting
FRIDAY, MARCH 4,
8 P. M.

PROTEST THE TRIAL OF 21!

Stuyvesant Casino, Second Ave. and Ninth Street

Speaker
MAX SHACHTMAN
Editor, Socialist Appeal