New Trial Is Climax "Son, Friend, Fighter" Trotsky Nails Fresh Of Two-Year Purge

The new trial now being staged in Moscow comes as a logical and revealing culmination to the long series of frame-ups which were inaugurated immediately after the assassination of Kirov.

Actually, there have already been seven trials since Dec. 1, 1934, the date of Kirov's murder, concerned directly with the assassination itself or directed against the Trotskyites in general. As the charges progress and the list of victims mounts steadly, the truly vicious and totalitarian motivation behind these judicial farces becomes strikingly evident. It is worthwhile to outline the process as the frame-up system moved to its present horrible

The trials developed as follows: (1) the trial of Nikolayev and others, Dec. 28-29, 1934 (over a hundred defendants finally convicted and shot for the murder of Kirov); (2) the trial of Zinoviev-Kamenev, Jan. 15-16, 1935 (defendants found guilty of "moral responsibility" for the Kirov assassination and sentenced to prison); (3) trial of G.P.

Tries Again



ANDREY VISHINSKY

U. boss Medved and others, Jan. first test: Holtzman's story of his arrival of an honor guard of 150 23, 1935 (further convictions for meeting with Trotsky and his son members of the Young People's Kirov murder, involving G.P.U. in Copenhagen (the ill-starred Socialist League who marched agents); (4) trial of Kamenev Hotel Bristol episode); Pyataand others, July, 1935 (after key's account of his Kameney, unlike Zinoviey, refus-flight to Oslo; Romm's myster-the hall.

Ernest Erber, National Chairand others, July, 1935 (after kov's account of his airplane ed to make further, more fantastic jous meeting with Trotsky in confessions); (5) trial of Zino-viev-Kamenev, Aug. 1936 (all over-zealous G.P.U. fantasia sixteen defendants found guilty all were crushingly refuted by of terrorism, sabotage, and di- minute and detailed documentaversion; all executed); (6) the tion upon every related point. Novosibirsk trial, Nov. 19-22, The International Commission 1936 (group of "Trotskyite of Inquiry, headed by Dr. John by Leon Trotsky, which will be wreckers" convicted of sabotage Dewey, collated documentary issued in full in pamphlet form, and shot); (7) trial of Pyatakov- materials from many parts of the Radek Jan. 23-30, 1937 (thirteen world in the course of its lengthy out of seventeen defendants ex- investigation, and finally turned ecuted for alliance with Hitler in a vindication of Trotsky and and Mikado and plans to re- Sedoff which was at the same

Charges Grow as Trials Progress flimsy and vicious;" on the basis from boyhood. Recounting the

the charges expanded from moral agreed that Trotsky and Sedoff actionary forces that hounded complicity in the Kirov assas- were innocent, and that the Mos- and reviled them cannot crush sination to direct and purposive cow Trials were a frame-up. complicity; from terrorism against one man to terrorism against the whole bureaucracy; many and Japan, with the purpose there is no retreat for the terrible the methods of the gunmen. Ours of partitioning the country and totalitarian steam-roller. To re- are the methods of the class overthrowing the workers' state. inforce the crumbling trials of struggle. coursed an ever wider and more bloody stream of peremptory blood-purges and executions without benefit of trial, until the whole generation of Old Bolsheviks, and many not so old, were carried away in its wake.

Only two of the trials had any semblance of being "publicly" staged: the Zinoviev-Kamenev trial of 1936 and the Pyatakov-Radek trial of 1937. In the first of these trials, the defendants, without exception, grovelling as abjectly as they did, could discover themselves guilty of no cardinal crimes greater than those of terrorism and murder. In the second trial the startling accusation was made that not only the defendants then being tried, with the breathtaking aims of team. precipitating war, preparing the But the structure of the framedefeat of the U.S.S.R. and its up, as it grows to its appalling dismemberment, with the ultimate proportions, develops ever more purpose of establishing capitalist glaring cracks and fissures. The rule in the country. Throughout, new trial, staged to bolster up the guiding spirit and prime the previous series of frame-ups, mover of the maze of conspir-will inevitably bring them all acies was identified as Leon Trot-tumbling dewn about Stalin's sky, charged with having the head.

Liberals Ask Stay Of New Moscow Frameup

Calling upon the Stalin government to exhibit a "decent respect for the opinion of mankind," a group of prominent liberals, headed by Oswald Garrison Villard, Will Irwin and John Haynes Holmes, wired an appeal to the Soviet Government through Ambassador Troyanovsky on Feb. 28 asking postponement of the Trial of 21 until a qualified international commission could attend the hearings.

"Nothing could be more harmful to the interests of the Soviet government itself," they, wired, than another trial "that would further shake the faith of civilized mankind in Soviet justice."

A similar telegram sent by an equally prominent group following the announcement of the Radek-Piatakov trial in January, 1937, was never answered.

The American Committee for the Defense of Leon Trotsky, which supported the work of the Dewey Commission in its study of the previous Moscow trials, which it pronounced to be frameups, issued a statement declaring that the new trial of 21 was an effort "to cover the previous failures." The committee asked that wires of protest be sent to Ambassador Troyanovsky at the Soviet Embassy in Washington, demanding that the lives of the 21 be spared.

technical collaboration of his late son, Leon Sedoff.

Fantastic "Evidence"

The records of these two trials, published in many languages throughout the world, are startling for their lack of documentary or factual proof. The testimony is unique in its general avoidance of concrete names, places and Sunday evening, February 27, to dates. Wherever the G.P.U. pay tribute to the memory of bunglers tried to base themselves Leon Sedoff, Trotsky's son who on specific references their fab- died suddenly in Paris on Feb. rications crumbled to bits at the 16. The meeting opened with the

Public Scepticism Increases

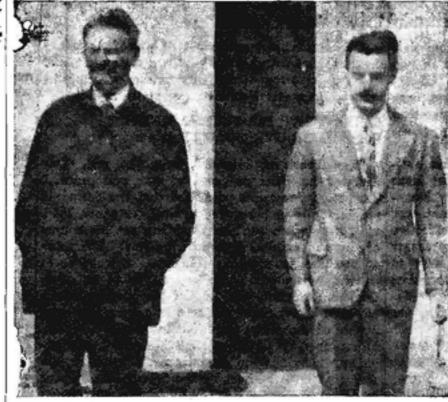
Public scepticisim has grown from sabotage and diversion as simultaneously with the expan- which they have tried to bessuch to wrecking in the service sion of the charges to their pre- mirch it. We are pledged to aof the espionage services of Ger- sent gigantic proportions. But venge his death, but we disdain The roster of victims expanded the past, new and more fantastic from ex-Oppositionists, long since ones must be staged. To elimincapitulated to the Stalin regime, ate the last vestiges of opposiuntil it embraced all those who tion and of the October revoluhad once harbored "deviationist" tion, more and more staggering tional and formerly of the Exsentiments, and finally caught up amalgams must be forged. The in its all-inclusive fold some of former Right Opposition, the Stalin's most faithful and ruth- Bukharinites, must now be linkless henchmen. Alongside the ed to the "Trotskyite scum." recurrent juridical "trials," most Within this formula new airplane lution, comparing Sedoff's strugof them held in strictest secrecy, flights to Coyoacan must be in-

Presides Again



V. V. ULRICH

vented, new Hotel Bristols must but all the previous ones long be uncovered in Mexico City, since convicted and executed, fresh links, through the hapless had conducted their nefarious Robinsons-Rubinses or others like activities as agents of German them, must be forged between fascism and Japanese militarism, Trotsky and the Hitler-Mikado



Leon Trotsky and his son, Leon Sedoff, who died under mysterious circumstances in Paris on Feb. 16. In a memorial dedicated by him and Natalia Sedoff to the proletarian youth of the world, Trotsky reviews the career of young Leon, "son, friend and fighter," who devoted more than half of his 32 years to the cause of the proletarian revolution. The memorial, of which an excerpt appears in the current issue of Challenge, organ of the Young People's Socialist League, out this week, will shortly be published by the League as a pamphlet.

"Good-by, Leon," it concludes. "We bequeath your irreproachable memory to the younger generation of the workers of the world. You will rightly live in the hearts of all those who work, suffer, and struggle for a better world. Revolutionary youth of all countries! Accept from us the memory of our Leon, adopt him as your son-he is worthy of it-and let him henceforth participate invisibly in your battles, since destiny has refused him the happiness of participating in your final victory."

Leon Sedoff Honored By 700 At New York Memorial Meeting

Shachtman, Erber Pay Final Tribute To Late Warrior

NEW YORK .- More than 700 revolutionary workers jammed the hall in Manhattan Plaza behind red banners from the City

man of the Y.P.S.L., paid tribute to Sedoff as a leader of the younger generation in the fight for the principles of Marx and Lenin. Excerpts from the moving memorial to his son written were read by comrade Erber.

Life Reviewed

the usual terrorism, sabotage, of Stalin's inquisitorial regime. off's life and services in the revo-during the last war. Prof. Dewey and his associates lutionary movement to which he found the entire "trial procedure devoted his talent and energies of voluminous documents and ex- tragic fate visited on Trotsky's Over a period of two years tensive historic research they family by Stalin, he said the rethe proletarian revolution.

"We dedicate ourselves," said, "to rescuing Sedoff's name from the foul slanders with

Wire To Trotsky

Maurice Spector, of the editorial Board of the New Internaecutive Committee of the Communist International, stated that Leon Sedoff would take his place among the martyrs of the revogle for the principles of Marx

1610, 100 Fifth Avenue.



NATALIA TROTSKY

and Lenin in a period of reaction, proletarian defeats, and persecu- not wish to keep quiet in Switzertion of revolutionists to the land during the war. The French Max Shachtman, editor of the courageous stand of Rosa Lux- allies of the Czar expelled me in establish capitalism, as well as time the most terrible indictment Socialist Appeal, reviewed Sed-emburg and Karl Liebknecht 1916 from France for the same

lutionists, gathered in New York

VANGUARD FORUM Public Lecture By CARLO TRESCA SUBJECT: The GPU in

America An exposure of the facts behind the Poyntz and Robinson Sunday, March 6, at 8:30 P. M.

Vanguard Hall, 22 W. 17th St., New York City Admission: 15 cents.

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Mass Meeting

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SAVE THE LIVES OF THE 21!

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New York City

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AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENSE

OF LEON TROTSKY

Room 1619, 100 Fifth Ave. N. Y. C.

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Attack On His Asylum

(Continued from page 1) which guaranteed the victory of Fascism in Germany, Austria and other countries, and which are laying the basis for the victory of General Franco. Throughout the world I defend those irreconcilable methods of struggle against imperialism which Lenin, Rosa Luxemburg, and Karl Liebknecht, my old friends and companions-in-arms, applied; opposing the methods of the now thoroughly putrid Comintern which crawls on all fours before 'democratic" imperialism, betraying the interests of the colonial and semi-colonial peoples for the sake of caste privileges for the Soviet bureaucracy. Such are my views. I do not intend to change them. I carry full responsibility for them.

After the decision of the Inernational Inquiry Commission I have no reason to enter into political or juridical altercations with Mr. Lombardo Toledano. But I will be able to explain the build their game on the accusatruth to the people who have been deceived by him. It is this tion that I am breaking my obthe authors themselves have ers from Moscow and their trans-

Inspired By Moscow

They act, of course, not upon their own initiative. Their inspirer lives in Moscow. The verdict of the International Commission; the published stenographic report of the Inquiry at Coyoacan, the disclosures of the former responsible agents of the Kremlin, Reiss, Barmine, and Walter Krivitsky, as well as many other facts during the past year, delivered an irreparable blow to the Kremlin clique. My latest book, "The Chimes of Stalin," has already appeared in several languages. I hope that it will also appear in Spanish. Progressive public opinion throughout the world, with ever greater disgust, is turning away from Stalin. This explains the furious attempt of the G.P.U. to force me into silence. Mr. Lombardo Toledano and

his clique are mistaken, however, if they think that they will succeed in executing the mission entrusted to them. Many much stronger than they have tried to accomplish this task before without success. The Czar taught me silence for four years in prison and twice exiled me to Siberia. Kaiser Wilhelm sentenced me to prison in contumacy because I did crime. King Alfonso XIII threw The following telegram was me into a Madrid prison in order sent by the meeting to Leon to force me into silence. With Trotsky: "Seven hundred revo- the same objective, the British imperialists threw me into a Catonight to pay homage to that nadian concentration camp. The stainless young soldier of the lawyer Kerensky, who was sucworld revolution, Leon Sedoff, cessful during a certain period share with you and his mother of time in deceiving a considerthe deepest grief at his untimely able part of public opinion, tried departure from our ranks. Leon to seal my mouth in the Petrowill live in the hearts of revolu- grad Kresty Prison. But it is tionary-fighters the whole world written on the pages of history that I have not learned to be silent on command. On the other hand, during forty years of revolutionary struggle I have seen in the ranks of the workers' movement not a few carcerists who can not only be silent but also slanderous on command.

Crawl To Stalin

If I had wished to remain si-

his agents, does not doubt that al aristocracy. In Spain I defend Toledano will be unsuccessful in those methods of struggle against forcing me into silence by some Fascism which guaranteed the ancient warmed-up slanders. It victory of the Soviets in the Civil is exactly because of this that War (1917-1920), and I oppose the Stalin is preparing other meruinous methods of the Comintern asures, considerably more realistic. But for these plans, about which we will speak in due time, Born 1889. Old Bolshevik, Party Stalin as a preliminary needs to member since 1905. Arrested, in poison public opinion. For this 1907. After February revolution, work he requires Lombardo To-

Several months ago this man asserted at a public meeting that tee. 1918; member of Council of was plotting a general strike People's Commissars. 1918-1921: against the Mexican government served on fronts during civil war; in the interest of Fascism. In also member of Revolutionary his turn, Mr. Laborde-partly a Military Committees of 5th, 7th, helper of Toledano in slander, 8th, 13th and 15th armies. 1922: partly his master-asserted after member of Collegium of People's this at a public marrifestation Commissariat of Finance. 1923that I was conspiring with "fasc- 1924: placed in charge of Air ist generals." The answer to this Force. 1925-1927: attached to accusation" was a general con- embassy in London. At XV contemptuous laugh. But it is im- gress of party, elected member possible to embarrass these gen- of Central Committee. This fact tlemen. They cast these accusa- alone indicates his hostility to tions aside only in order to present "Trotskyism." Commissar of others immediately. If you throw Foreign Trade under Stalin. enough mud, as the saying goes, some of it is bound to stick!

Odious Slanders

Messrs. Slanderers continue to

that Mr. Lombardo Toledano and ligation about "non-interference his clique fear. Their whole ma- in the internal politics of Mexico." chination at the Convention, as The importation of odious slandquite clearly revealed, follows but lation into Spanish these gentleone single aim: to seal my mouth. men identify . . . with the internal politics of Mexico. I announce; no one has ever demanded of me and I at no time promised anyone that I would renounce the right to defend my political honor from slanderers, and my formation of Uzbek Soviet Repledged the government of General Cardenas that I would not interfere in the internal politics of this country according to the general understanding of the word "politics." This pledge I am fulfilling with absolute conscientiousness. But if on the streets of this capital someone ries front-page photo of Presidshould shove his hand into my ium of VII All-Union Congress pocket in order to steal my do- of Soviets. Caption under photo: ture. Strong Stalin supporter. cuments and letters, I would "Listening to Tukhachevsky's Not listed in any Soviet encyconsider myself completely in the speech (subject: "Red Army clopedia. Elected at VII Soviet right to seize the criminal's hand. Mighter than Ever Before ; Congress (1935) to C.E.C. of And let the owner of the hand Stalin, Voroshilov, Kalinin, Bud- the Soviets. 1935: People's Cominterfering in the internal poli- loded (missing), Mussabekov Oppositionist, tics of Mexico! Lombardo Tole- (shot), and F. Khodzhaev (dedano tries to despoil something fendant)." bigger, my political honor, and demands at that-O'democrat, O revolutionist!--that I be hindered by force from designating his actions and himself by those names which they deserve.

public actions of Mr. Toledano, Institute. Upon graduation electnor with his references to Lenin, cd secretary of Tashkent party which belong in the sphere of committee. Then made secretary unintentional humor. Likewise I of the C.C. of the Communist concerning the kind of machinations that made it possible for Toledano to palm off on the C. of the C.P.S.U. At the XV in 1927. Trade Union Convention a deci- congress (when the Opposition sion upon a question about which was expelled), was elected canthe overwhelming majority had didate to Central Committee, In is completely clear that when porter of Stalin throughout. Aexile who has no relations what- drafted Stalin constitution. ever with the trade unions of Mexico, and does this with but a single aim-to force me into silence or to deprive me of the right of asylum-then Mr. Toledano acts not as a representative of the internal politics of Mexico but as an agent of the foreign politics of the G.P.U. Let him then carry the responsibility of this unworthy function!

Compelled To Answer

The readers of these lines will lent about the crimes of the Sta- understand without difficulty lin bureaucracy against the work- that neither the present circumers and peasants, they would stances of my personal life nor have raised me high on their the general character of my shield and the Messrs. Lombardo work afford me time to occupy Toledanos of the whole world myself over Mr. Toledano. But would have crawled before me as this question is something altothey now crawl before the Krem- gether different. It is a question lin clique. The Norwegian Social concerning public opinion in the Democrats, older brothers in country which has shown me and spirit to Toledano, discovered my wife hospitality and which only one means with which to during the past year I have force me into silence about the learned to value and to love. It G.P.U.: to throw me into prison. is because of this, and only this, But through a book, my son, whom that I consider myself compelled only death has now brought to to answer with this declaration silence, answered for me. Stalin, the carefully prepared slander who understands this better than of the Mexican agents of Stalin.

member of Presidium of Moscow Soviet, October 1917; member of Revolutionary Military Commit-

(Continued from page 1)

A. P. ROSENGOLTZ

F. KHODZHAEV

Born 1,896. Former president

of Uzbekistan, removed June,

1937. Listed in Small Encyclo-

pedia, as prominent Communist

in Uzbekistan. Participated in

national revolutionary move-

ments since 1914. Established

contact with Bolsheviks after

October revolution, joining party

in 1920. 1920-1924: chairman of

Council of People's Nazirs (Com-

missars), member of C.C. of C.

P. of Bokhara, Chairman of

People's Commissars and mem-

ber of C.C. of Uzbek C.P. since

Pravda of Jan. 31, 1935, car-

THE R. P. LEWIS CO., LANSING, MICH.

AKMAL IKRAMOV

Born 1898. Joined C.P.S.U.

V. I. IVANOV

Born 1893. Former chief of

umber industry under Stalin.

Party member since 1915. Served

Next?

SOVIET UNION NOTES

Trial Defendants Include Last of Lenin's Colleagues - They Now Face Their

Turn Before Firing Squad

By JOHN G. WRIGHT

burg; escaped; arrested again and sent back into exile. 1921: arrested and exiled to Naryma escaped in 1931. Caught and escaped again in 1914. Arrested in 1915, escaped in 1916. After February revolution, organizer of Moscow district committee of the party. Later Chairman of district committee. 1921-1924: secretary of Moscow committee. 1924-1931: secretary of Central Asiatic Bureau of the C.C. of the C.P.S.U. From 1931 on: chairman of Centrosoyuz (Soviet foreign trading organization). Elected candidate to C.C. at

Purger Purged



HENRY YAGODA

Honored many times. Decorated with Orders of the Red Banner tenth party congress. Member and the Red Star. One of 30 Comof C.C. from the XI congress. missioners appointed at VII con-Not an Oppositionist. Elected at gress of Soviets to draft Stalin XV congress to C.C.

M. CHERNOV

Former Commissar of Agriculnot scream after this that I am emy, Cherviakov (suicide), Go- missar of Agriculture. Never an

Of the doctors listed: Dr. L. V. Levin (head of the Kremlin hospital) signed the statement is sued by G.N. Kaminsky, then Commissar of Health, on the death of Ordjonikidze, Commisin Bebruary, 1918. Carried on sar of Heavy Industry who alleg-I have never concerned myself party activity until 1922, when edly died at his home on Feb. 18, with the political program and he entered Sverdlov Communist 1937. Prof. Pletney was reputed to have refused to sign this statement. Pletnev and Levin were also among the physicians who signed the death certificate of now leave aside the question party of Uzbekistan. Starting Joffe, Oppositionist and former with 1931, third secretary of the ambassador to Tokyo, Berlin and Central Asiatic Bureau of the C. Peiping, who committed suicide

This leaves among the political unknowns" the following: V. not the least conception. But it 1935 elected to C.C. Solid sup- Kruchkov (identified as secretary to Gorky), B. B. Sharangovich Mr. Toledano with the help of mong those picked to speak on (former secretary of the White forged material mobilizes the Red Square at Kuibyshev's fu- Russian Communist Party), S. whole convention against me, a neral (Pravda, Jan. 28, 1935). A. Bessonov (former secretary) private individual, a political Member of commission which to the Soviet Embassy in Berlin); Dr. I. N. Kazakov, P. Zubarev, V. Maximov. (Note: There was an oppositionist named Bessonov who capitulated to Stafin. His relation to the accused Bessonov is not known to us.)

FDR Speeds His War Preparation

(Continued from page 1)

a prominent spokesman of the State Department casually remarked that it had for long been a cherished dream of U.S. policy.

Thus the blue-print of Roosevelt imperialism comes more fully into the open. Fastening its stranglehold on the two Americas, it strengthens its long arm to keep open the market and investment fields of the Far East, Knowing with complete realism that its aims require war for their 'fulfillment, it forges the arms and the ideas which it hopes will wring out of that war the maximum of privilege and pro-

MAXIM LITVINOV

in civil war. On southern front, 1920-1921. During same period secretary of Yaroslav district committee of C.P.S.U. 1924-1927: secretary of the Central Committee of Uzbekistan, 1927-1931: secretary of North Caucasian regional committee. Elected candidate to C.C. at XV and XVI Congress. Never a Trotskyite.

I. A. ZELENSKY

Born in 1890. Worker-Bolshevik. Former head of Consumers' Copperatives under Stalin. Joined party in 1908 in Samara. Arrested in 1908 and exiled to OrenSTALINISM and BOLSHEVISM

> Leon TROTSKY

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