

## Answer Hague and Harvey With Workers' Defense

What was expected should cause no surprise when it happens.

Borough President George U. Harvey of Queens has associated himself with Frank Hague, the Jersey Hitler.

In two speeches delivered by Harvey last week, he declared:

"I am for Hague 100 per cent. We need more like him. . . There are only two men in the East who think more of their country than they do of themselves. They are Frank Hague and myself."

Then, according to the *New York Herald-Tribune* (June 10, 1938), "he mentioned that in Italy 'they gave the communists a dose of castor oil in addition to the rubber hose' and reminded the veterans that he was among the first in New York to advocate using the rubber hose on communists."

Hague does not conceal his intention of keeping any and every working class organization he disagrees with from exercising the right of free speech in Jersey City, and of using all the methods of reactionary mob violence to enforce his dictatorship.

### An Admirer Of Mussolini

Harvey does not conceal his admiration for Mussolini's barbaric Blackshirts and their methods—castor oil and rubber hose—and his intention to emulate them in his bailiwick.

Tomorrow, fascist elements elsewhere will copy the Hagues and Harveys, if the workers allow them to get away with it now.

What is to be done to stop this fascist sore from spreading?

Whoever tells the workers to stand with folded arms, to appeal to the "courts of justice" or to the "impartial government," is paralyzing the labor movement in its struggle against these fascists.

In Italy, the socialist and trade union leaders confined their efforts to appeals to the "liberal government" and ended by spending their lives in fascist prisons or in exile.

In Germany, the workers were brought under the heel of Hitler by the social-democratic leaders who kept pleading with the government "to act" against the Nazis.

All the wisdom of these leaders is concentrated in the idea of getting anybody and everybody to undertake the job which only the working class, by its own action, can undertake and carry through.

The Communist Party supports Roosevelt in the name of "democracy versus fascism." But Hague could not last a minute without the tacit support of Roosevelt and the National Committee of the Democratic Party of which they are both an integral part. The Communist Party supported LaGuardia for Mayor of New York in the last election—also in the name of "democracy versus fascism." But the same LaGuardia came out for the election of Harvey as the Queens Borough President.

### Thomas Courts Reactionaries

Norman Thomas, leader of the Socialist Party, apparently believes that the struggle for liberty and against fascism can be won by allying himself with such arch-reactionary enemies of labor as Herbert Hoover, Alfred Landon, Owen D. Young and John W. Davis.

Their road is the road to disaster.

The only way in which the workers can protect themselves against the fascist dictators is by organized defense.

If the workers of Jersey City, especially the unions of the C.I.O., really mean to hold public meetings, in spite of Hague's mobsters, there is an easy way to do it: Surround every meeting with a strong Labor Defense Guard, sufficiently numerous, determined, disciplined and trained to ward off any attacks.

If the workers of Queens, who hate fascism and its petty dictators, are to answer the threat of castor oil and rubber hose, they must organize their self-defense groups.

Nobody ever gained his rights by begging for them on bended knee. Nobody ever kept his rights by pleading with those who are destroying them. The masses have a right to defend themselves from the fascists. And only by exercising that right can they insure the preservation of all their rights.

## SWP Intensifies Campaign Against Firetraps In N. Y.

NEW YORK.—In a week of intense activity, the lower East Side Branch of the Socialist Workers Party and its youth section, the Young People's Socialist League, have been following up the campaign inaugurated last week to galvanize New York's slum population into an organized fight against the fire-trap menace.

The campaign, which was inaugurated when a woman, Mrs. Esther Cohen, and one of her children met death in a tenement blaze at Avenue B and Houston Street, in which more than a score of persons were injured on June 4, swept forward as our comrades continued intensive work through the streets of the

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## Political Strike Staged in Newark

NEWARK, N. J.—The first workers' political strike in many years occurred here last week as an aftermath of the Thomas riot in Military Park of the week before, when the International Ladies Garment Workers Union called out all its 2,800 members to attend the session of the City Commission at which Norman Thomas was scheduled to speak and at which the riot itself was to be discussed.

More than 1,000 of the 2,800 garment workers who quit the shops appeared at City Hall to demonstrate their protest against curtailment of civil liberties for workers' organizations. This number was swelled by hundreds of others, including a goodly representation from the Workers Alliance.

A pamphlet published by the North Jersey District of the Socialist Workers Party, "The Fight Against Haguism: A Program of Action," is being received eagerly by the workers wherever it is sold.

## WPA Workers To Have New Deal Pay Cut

Will Affect More Than  
25,000 On Jobs In  
New York

NEW YORK.—W.P.A. white collar workers were given another taste of New Deal "progress" last week when Col. Somervell, W.P.A. administrator in New York City, announced a 5 per cent pay cut for 11,703 employees previously earning \$103.40 monthly—top salary for security wage employees. The next day he stated that 14,559 lower paid clerks would receive still more drastic cuts, averaging about 15 per cent.

The workers involved knew about impending slashes in pay months ago, when it was announced that as a result of a White House conference the president had decreed a maximum salary on W.P.A. of \$1,000 per man-year, including costs of the projects.

### Leaders Back President

Instead of rallying the workers for action against the Administration to forestall these pay cuts, the Stalinist leadership of the various relief and W.P.A. unions (Workers Alliance, W.P.A. Teachers Union, Artists Union, Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians) spent all their energy in a blanket endorsement of the president's so-called recovery program.

Militants in these organizations pointed out that such complete support of an inadequate relief appropriation bill would only pave the way for pay cuts and dismissals. The Stalinists replied with the slogan: "Pass the Recovery Bill to stop wage cuts." Result: the bill is well on the way to final adoption, and the workers have had their pay cut.

Every W.P.A. organization in New York is completely and bureaucratically controlled by the Communist Party. Some of the unions have been reduced to mere paper organs of People's Frontism. Inasmuch as a properly conducted struggle of these organizations would be one directed against the national and city governments, the bosses of the W.P.A. workers, the Stalinists sacrifice the interests of the workers to support of the government. A rank-and-file march on Washington to protest the \$1,000 ruling was originally planned for the week-end of June 25. When it appeared as if this action might really create a rumpus in Washington, the plans were changed completely.

### To Picket "Reactionaries"

Instead of a rank-and-file march with hundreds of workers traveling by any means at their disposal, the leadership has substituted a plan of sending delegates at a cost of \$8 each. Instead of going on Saturday when the workers were free, they are to go on Monday, June 27, which increases the cost of each delegate by the day's pay he will

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## C.P. Stoooges Suspended By Martin To Forestall Bid For U.A.W. Control

Frankenstein And Four Others Are Affected By  
Order; Stalinists Violate Agreement To  
Observe 20-Point Program

DETROIT.—Two weeks after their crushing defeat at the sessions of the third Executive Board the Stalinists have again made a desperate bid for power in the United Automobile Workers of America and for the ousting of its president, Homer Martin.

Completely routed at the last board meeting, their aims exposed, they were forced to accept humbly Martin's "Twenty-point" program and their followers on the board, dutifully attaching their signatures, promised to return to their districts and honestly execute the union program.

On Wednesday, June 8, another special meeting of the Executive Board was called in Detroit to consider proposals to institute group insurance for the Auto Workers Union.

### Martin Absent

Martin was away in New York in connection with the drive in the aircraft industry. Several other board members were absent from Detroit. The Stalinists saw their big opportunity to catch the opposition unawares. Determined to make good their last defeat, they began playing upon the personal grievances of several of the conservative members of the Martin group. In return for votes, the Stalinists promised support for these members' personal "beefs" and complaints.

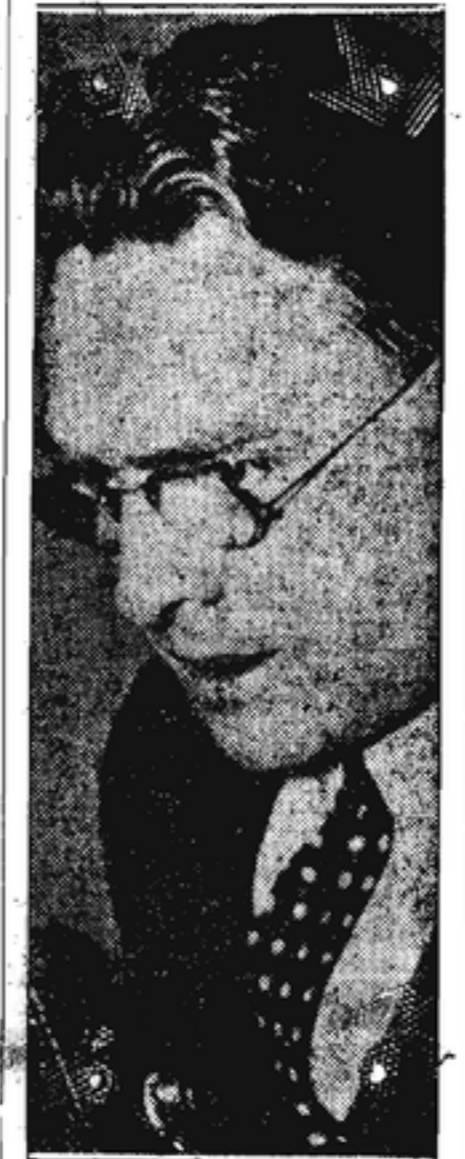
Confident now of a clear majority, the Stalinists boldly entered the Executive Board meeting and proposed to reverse the program and decisions of the last regular board meeting. Vice-president Thomas, who was in the chair, declared them out of order, stating that the special meeting was called solely to consider the question of group insurance. The Stalinist speaker appealed from the decision of the chair. With that the meeting broke up in an uproar!

### Stalinist Double-Cross

Most of the auto unionists took the Stalinists' word for good coin and believed that, with the unanimous adoption of a union program, the factional struggle would end and peace and unity would be achieved. So much the more bitter and resentful was their reaction to the Stalinist double cross!

Thursday afternoon, Martin returned to Detroit and after a few brief conferences, left for Washington, D. C. to meet with John J. Lewis. Martin was determined to have a showdown with the Stalinists and wanted to have Lewis' approval for the suspension of several of the Stalinist officers. On Sunday, June 12, the entire Executive Board met with Lewis in Washington, D. C. and after a six-hour conference, Martin announced the

### Suspends Five



HOMER MARTIN

suspension of Mortimer, Hall, Frankenstein, Ades and Welles, with the approval of the majority of the board. A special board meeting will be called to conduct a trial into the charges against the suspended members.

### Membership Ignored

In general, disciplinary measures are bad in a union, unless the great majority of the membership understands the issues involved and agrees with the necessity for the imposition of discipline. Otherwise confusion and panic ensue and a great portion of the progressive membership fear that their democratic rights are being violated and destroyed. The Martin leadership has failed

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## Japanese Air Raids Ravage China's Cities

Air Attacks On Canton  
Take Immense Toll  
Of Human Life

Under the leadership of its newly-formed "War Cabinet," Japan is making a desperate effort to push its robber war in China to a rapid conclusion.

The chief manifestation of the new drive was 16 days of unremitting aerial bombardment of the thickly-crowded civilian quarters of Canton. Nearly 4,000 men, women and children were killed by this merciless aerial offensive which continued without let-up while the powers delivered so-called humanitarian protests to Tokio.

### Canton Unaided

Chiang Kai-shek left Canton to its fate. Not a single Chinese airplane rose to repel these unprecedented attacks. There were only the feeble puffs of futile anti-aircraft batteries which were no menace at all to the attackers.

Meanwhile in both Hankow and Tokyo new developments of the utmost significance were taking place, which clearly indicated that on both sides the war is entering into a new phase.

In Tokyo, along with the decision to carry out "unlimited" or "total" warfare in China, preparations were made to put in force most of the provisions of the National Mobilization Law which is designed to mobilize all the material and human resources of the country under the rigid control of a virtual military dictatorship. Effort is also being pushed to hasten plans for the immediate economic exploitation of North China in the hope of lightening the terrific burdens which the war has already placed upon the frail economic structure of Japan.

### Repression Under Way

In Hankow, the increasing military difficulties on the Central China front were paralleled by the beginning of repressive measures against Communists and against various left-wing intellectuals and organizations.

Following the collapse of the defenses around Hsuehchow three weeks ago, the Chinese retreat along the Lunghai Railway turned into a virtual rout. The situation bore many distinct similarities to the conditions that existed after the fall of Shanghai last November, when the Chinese army, ill-armed, ill-fed and sabotaged by its own command, finally broke in panic across the Yangtze delta.

That rout was followed by the

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## N. Y. Painters Deal Blow At CP Wreckers

Ousting Of Weinstock From Top Post In District  
Council Marks High Point In Rank-and-File  
Revolt Against The Stalinists

### VICTORY FOR PROGRESSIVES

NEW YORK.—Climaxing a long but only recently organized struggle, progressives in the New York painters union won a signal victory last week in the defeat of Louis Weinstock, Stalinist secretary-treasurer of District Council No. 9, by a majority of 449 to 385 of his own local union.

Local Union 848 nominated Lewis J. Stevens, the progressive candidate for the highest office in the District Council in accordance with the union's by-laws, which require that a candidate in district-wide general elections must first receive the nomination of his own local in the primaries.

### Resentment Against Stalinists

The elimination of Weinstock from the race by a local which in the past supported him almost unanimously is significant of the nation-wide sweep of progressive resentment against the Stalinist union-busters in the entire trade union movement.

Wherever these agents of Stalin's G.P.U. have in the past managed to seize trade union administrations, as in seamen's unions and the furriers' union strong rank-and-file opposition groups have arisen to challenge their rule and to organize for their exposure and removal from office. Weinstock's defeat foreshadows the doom of Stalinism in the trade unions as a whole. It will undoubtedly serve as a tremendous impetus to progressives in other labor organizations.

The Stalinist big shot's rout in Local 848 was more than duplicated by a two to one landslide against another Communist Party candidate for the same office, a certain Schnurman, in Local 892. The progressive who defeated Schnurman, William Haupt, has declined in favor of L. J. Stevens. A third G.P.U. candidate for the office of secretary-treasurer, one Morris Gainer, who was nominated by Local 905—the C.P. stronghold in the union—was found to be ineligible because of time requirements.

### Rally To Stoooge

They have consequently rallied around one of their stoooges nominated by Local 51, one Al Ghidoni, a man whom they do not deign to present before the members of the various locals for campaigning because of his obvious lack of qualifications: he is neither a speaker nor an organizer nor much of anything except an obedient hand-raiser. Their whole procedure in the matter shows that the Stalinists were entirely taken by surprise and that they are entering into

the election campaign in complete disarray, relying entirely on a straight machine vote.

Progressives in all the locals are cheered by the victory in Local 848. The Inter-Local Conference of Progressive Clubs which was formed only recently, and which has been conducting a splendid fight against the Weinstock administration through its weekly paper, the "Progressive Painter," has endorsed Stevens unanimously to head the slate running under its banner in the elections scheduled for Saturday, June 25.

At a mass meeting held last Saturday in the Labor Temple on East 84th Street, Stevens and the progressive candidates for business agents were acclaimed by a crowd of nearly 1,000 painters who packed the hall to capacity. Spokesmen of the progressives appeared confident and said that their chances of success in the elections were the best in the two years since the Stalinists came to power in the union.

### The Secret Ballot

From the first, the "Progressive Painter," now in its fifth week of publication, has claimed that secret balloting would show the membership in growing opposition to the administration. Wherever the secret ballot was used in referendums, the paper pointed out, the progressives were constantly making headway, winning one local after another. Wherever open voting was in effect, the administration won by intimidation and by punishing opponents through job discrimination. In Local 848, Weinstock won a referendum on the establishment of a "maintenance department" only last month by a heavy majority of 350 to 18 in an open vote. The voting on candidates, which according to the by-laws must take place by secret ballot, showed conclusively that Weinstock's referendum majority was entirely a product of the members' fear of retaliation.

One of the strongest planks in the progressive program is, therefore, the demand for the use of the secret ballot in all voting on district-wide propositions except strikes. Among other planks in the program, around which the opposition has rallied the rank-and-file, are the following: 1. The establishment of a machine rotation system such as is used in other building trade unions for a fair dispensation of jobs coming into the district office among the members; 2. the election of all paid officials—no appointments; 3. for a genuine

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## N. Y. Committee Launches Fund To Assist Persecuted Revolutionists

The desperate plight of revolutionary refugees who are denied all relief and the right to work, and who are threatened with deportation from France and Czechoslovakia, has called forth an organized effort to come to their aid. Last week the American Fund for Political Prisoners and Refugees was organized in New York City, with George Novack as Secretary.

### NOVACK AS SECRETARY

George Novack is widely known as the former secretary of the American Committee for the Defense of Leon Trotsky, one of the most efficiently conducted and successful defense activities seen in the United States. He will be assisted by Pearl Kluger, who was also associated with him in the work of that committee.

homes for themselves. Laws have been passed denying them citizenship and making it impossible for non-citizens to obtain any work. Hundreds are in danger of being deported to Fascist countries, where concentration camps and death await them.

### PLIGHT OF REVOLUTIONISTS

But it is the plight of revolutionary refugees which is the most tragic of all. Denied relief by liberal and Stalinist organizations and constantly harried by the government, they lead a precarious existence, in constant danger of being deported. Outright starvation is the fate of many of them. Some, driven to desperation, have already turned to suicide as the only alternative to slow starvation.

The American Fund for Political Prisoners and Refugees has been organized to raise funds for these revolutionists, to enable them to live and to fight deportation into the hands of the Fascist butchers. Plans are under way to form local bodies in all the main centers to aid the work of the American Fund.

### RUSH AID NOW!

The American Fund calls upon workers to aid it in raising funds for this purpose. Give now to enable these valiant comrades to live and to fight for their ideals! Collection lists are now available and may be obtained at the office of the American Fund, Room 1609, 100 Fifth Avenue, New York City. Checks and money orders should be made payable to George Novack, secretary, and sent to the office of the Fund.

## Youthful Revolutionist Is Arrested By GPU In Spain

"Independent News" reports the arrest of Wilebaldo Solano, leader of the Iberian Communist Youth (P.O.U.M.) as well as several other members of the same organization. Following the attempted frame-up of Mumis, Adolpho and other Bolshevik-Leninists, reported in the Socialist Appeal of May 28, the G.P.U. and its allies are apparently moving against all Spanish revolutionists still at liberty.

Wilebaldo Solano is not unknown among the revolutionary youth. He is the leader of an organization which has furnished the revolutionary fronts of the civil war with hundreds of brave and heroic combatants. The number of his comrades-in-arms who figure on the honor roll of revolutionary martyrs is legion.

While these heroes of the struggle against Franco languish in prison under charges of treason and espionage, the leader of the anti-Trotskyist campaign against them—a man named Jaime Casadamont, head of the

Stalinist Unified Socialist Youth (J.S.U.), whose Trotsky-killing brought him such titles of acclaim as "beloved leader," "shining guide," "illustrious chief," etc.—has been unmasked as a pure and simple Fascist!

Of course, this case is not just an ironic incident. Every Fascist who wanted to protect his hide has found that simple enough. All that was necessary was to get a P.S.U.C. or J.S.U. card and join in leading the fight against "Trotskyism." The Stalinists have from the first pursued a policy of "extending hands to the discontented Fascists." Not a single Fascist, on the other hand, has been able to hide in the ranks of the Iberian Communist Youth.

Solano's life is in danger! Every true anti-Fascist, every true friend of workers' Spain, must come to his aid! Protest the arrest and imprisonment of the heroic I.C.U. comrades, the veterans of 1936.