

## G.P.U. KIDNAPS SEC'Y OF IV INTERNAT'L

### Bosses Hurl Armed Mobs Against C.I.O. Unions In 2 Strikes

#### California Lumber Workers Driven From Homes by Hoodlums; Cops Battle New Orleans Taxi Drivers

Editorial Note.—The news stories below describe the methods used in a California lumber town and in New Orleans to crush and terrorize workers that dared give vent to their discontent—methods that the capitalist masters of America view with increasing favor.

As in Jersey City, the city administration of New Orleans combined with the lowest elements of the population—petty gangsters, hoodlums, riff-raff of the city—to drive C.I.O. unionists off the streets. In Westwood, certain sections of the workers, demoralized by years of a more subtle terror, the "company town," joined hands with imported thugs to carry out the company's well-laid plan to rid the town of union members.

In the face of open aggression on the part of the capitalists, the workers must prepare their own organized resistance. Against the guns, knives and blackjacks of the hoodlums the workers in the trade unions must mobilize their own defense groups. The brutal thugs of reaction must be repaid, blow for blow.

Build Workers' Defense Guards!

WESTWOOD, Calif. — Armed and deputized vigilantes last week drove striking lumberworkers and their families from this "company" sawmill town, climaxing a night of terror with an attack on the strikers' picket line that resulted in the shooting of one and a horrible beating for 30 others.

More than 1000 men, women and children camped on the highway between Westwood and Red Bluff, 80 miles west of here, as police of the latter town refused to permit the homeless sawmill workers to remain in the town. The harried strikers were permitted to return, one at a time, to Westwood in order to retrieve their belongings.

Strike Against Wage-Cut  
When a wage cut of 17 1/2 per cent was instituted by the Red River Lumber Company, which owns this town lock, stock and barrel, members of the C.I.O. of America called a strike and successfully closed down the sawmill, one of the largest in the world and the town's only industry.

As the strike held firm and an attempt to reopen the mill with members of the company union, called the "Industrial Employees Union," failed, company agents aroused a lynch spirit amongst the non-union residents, many of them recently imported with just such a contingency in view.

At 1 A.M. the morning of July 13, organized groups of vigilantes began systematically visiting the homes of union members. Some were given an hour to get themselves and their families out of town. Others were routed out of their houses and herded at gunpoint to the town limits and forced to flee.

Mob Attacks Pickets  
At 6 A.M. the town siren sounded a prearranged signal for a general attack on the picket line. A mob of more than 1,000 marched on the picket lines, swinging pick handles, axes, knives and other weapons, and overpowered the striking unionists. Under the direction of the town constable fire hoses were turned on the pickets, rendering them helpless before the brutal blows of the vigilantes.

With many of the union lumberjacks forced to flee with their families during the night, and the strikers' picket line crushed, the mob took over the town and proceeded to terrorize the remaining union members. Armed with rifles, 800 men patrolled the streets, searched out every worker even suspected of belonging to the

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### East Side Labor to Hold Housing Parade

The East Side Workers Housing Committee has set plans under way for the holding of a parade through the lower East Side of New York on Saturday, July 30. Participating will be members of the S.W.P., Y.P.S.L., Workers Alliance Local 15, other Progressive locals of the W.A.A., United Handicapped Workers of America, and members and sympathizers of other labor organizations.

The Committee is planning to issue 10,000 leaflets to be distributed at the parade to draw attention and support to the fight for better housing. Also, plans are under way to approach trade unions for endorsement of the program and aims of the Committee in preparation for calling a future conference of labor to broaden the fight for better housing.

### COURTS CRACK DOWN AGAIN ON N. Y. STRIKERS

#### Labor's Right Mere "Privileges," Says Jersey Judge

NEW YORK.—Following on the heels of the wave of injunctions issued against union picketing by Justices Cotillo, Levy, McCooey in New York recently, new judicial attacks were made here against labor unions last week.

In the case of the Busch Jewelry Company strikers, the same workers against whom Justice Cotillo issued his anti-picketing injunction, Supreme Court Justice Aron Steuer handed down a decision holding the union, the United Optical Workers, C.I.O., liable to civil suits for damages "resulting from breach of contract."

The decision was termed unprecedented by labor and liberal circles and comparable only to the decision in the case of the Danbury hatmakers, handed down back in 1903. That decision, affecting union hatmakers in the town of Danbury, Connecticut, resulted in a law suit in which the United Hatmakers union of the A. F. of L., in spite of twelve years of legal contest, had to pay \$252,000 in damages, the homes of 200 workers being attached for years while the union was raising the money.

Union attorneys are preparing for a legal battle. The experience of the Danbury hatmakers should, however, warn the Busch workers that a court fight will hardly yield them satisfaction. The stand of the capitalist judiciary was sufficiently illumined last week in another case, to serve as an additional warning.

In a decision prohibiting "secondary" picketing, Vice Chancellor Major Leon Berry of Toms River, New Jersey, maintained that free speech was really a privilege inferior, under the law, to such "inherent rights" as "acquiring and protecting property."

The decision was handed down against members of Local 66 of Furniture Workers Union, a C.I.O. affiliate, to restrain them from distributing circulars and carrying on other picketing activities in the vicinity of stores that buy goods from the Metropolitan Upholstery Company in Newark.

In speaking as frankly as he did while handing down this decision, Berry merely affirmed what intelligent workers have always known. Namely, that capitalist law is based upon private property and that in the protection of private property rights, the human rights of workers are, in Berry's own words, only "qualified constitutional rights." In other words, when the welfare of the bosses' profits is endangered, the law regards it as a matter of

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### Auto Union Threatened By Split As Wreckers Force Fight For Power

#### Unscrupulous Tactics of Stalinists Paralyze Militant Union: Lewis Intervention Danger

BULLETIN  
Following the expulsion of their stooge, George F. Addes, former Secretary-Treasurer, from the United Automobile Workers Union, the Stalinist union wreckers have been speeding their campaign to bring about the collapse of this most militant and most progressive of C.I.O. unions. After a whirlwind move to bring pressure upon John L. Lewis, chairman of the C.I.O., to intervene in the affairs of the Auto union—in the course of which they appear to have garnered only some purely verbal concessions from the C.I.O. chief—they are announcing veiled plans for a rump convention in the near future. No shabby trick, no reactionary union-splitting maneuver, is too low for these professional rule-or-ruin misleaders of the labor movement.

In self-protection, President Martin and the majority of the General Executive Board of the union have had to resort to emergency measures—crude in many instances, but unavoidable, given the character of the struggle and the background of the union as well as the past policies of its leadership—to save themselves from the threatening ruin of the organization planned by the Stalinist wrecking crew.

Locals Taken Over  
In the Tarrytown, New York, local of the U.A.W. the Stalinist officers and their allies were kicked out, under the direction of Bert Harris, representative of the Executive Board, last week. The books and property of the Aills-Chalmers local of the U.A.W. in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, were seized by executive board representatives under the guidance of George Kiebler, president of the District Council of the union. Kiebler was appointed temporary administrator of the Aills-Chalmers unit.

Apparently, the union leadership is not resigned to the prospect of the "capture" of their organization by the Communist Party bureaucrats. As appears from the article following below, they are not only taking the practical steps dictated by the tactics of the disrupters but are also carrying on an educational campaign to protect the progressive membership of the union from a dictatorial regime under the blessings of John L. Lewis as well as from an outright split machinated by the Stalinists.

Ask Lewis' Aid  
After this brilliant stroke of generalship, the Stalinist wreckers fled to Washington, where they pleaded with John L. Lewis to save the union from collapse. They only omitted to mention that it was they who were working overtime, attempting to organize the collapse of the union. In addition, a committee of seven from the so-called "Peace Faction" went to Washington last week to see Lewis and ask him

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### TRIP ACROSS COUNTRY HAS POLITICAL AIM

#### President Adds to Party Prestige By Tour

Climaxing his cross-country junket with an official review of the assembled battlefleet of American imperialism, President Roosevelt last week departed in search of fish in southern waters, incidentally at the same time giving Mexico and the Central American nations ample opportunities for observing and meditating on the latest types of U.S. Navy construction.

In spite of Howard Hughes' lack of consideration in grabbing the headlines for a number of days, Roosevelt had good reason to be pleased with the results of his tour. Flushed with the recent rise in the stock market and the findings of the latest Gallup and Fortune polls, the turnout of the crowds and the attitudes of the local politicians showed Roosevelt that he is still holding the whip hand.

Consolidates Position  
Steering midway between the drastic "purge" course advocated by certain of the younger White House group and the conciliatory policy favored by Farley, Roosevelt utilized his tour not merely to rally general mass sentiment to him, but in particular to consolidate his leadership within the Democratic Party, a leadership stormily threatened by the conflicts during the past sessions of Congress.

Understanding that the pressure of the double depression is driving inexorably toward new political alignments in the United States, Roosevelt is compelled to maneuver both to keep within the controlling group of the Democratic Party itself, and, in addition, to maintain within its folds any mass tendencies toward Third Party or Labor Party action.

He expects 1940 to be the crucial test, and he aims to gain control of the 1940 convention, guarding it both against the opposition to him within the Democratic Party, now rumored to be headed by Vice-President Garner, and the new party tendencies to break outside the framework of the Democratic Party.

Intervenes in Primaries  
In pursuit of this aim, Roosevelt utilized the tour to intervene skillfully in a number of the State Primaries; cautiously tak-

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### Trotskyist Leader Seized In Paris; Taken To Spain

#### Young German Revolutionist in Hands of Stalin's Assassins; Clues Lead to Spanish Border

### FORGED LETTER POINTS TO FRAMEUP

(Cable to the Socialist Appeal)

PARIS, July 18.—Rudolph Klement, secretary of the Bureau of the Fourth International, has been kidnapped from Paris by the G.P.U.

The missing revolutionist was last seen by his comrades at midnight of Tuesday, July 12, when he left an important meeting at which problems of the international movement were being discussed.

Prior to his retirement for the night, he sent a cablegram to the American section of the International—the Socialist Workers Party—informing it of the discussions that had just taken place.

The next afternoon, he was seen collecting his mail, and from that moment on none of his comrades or friends laid eyes on him again in Paris.

Strange Letter  
Friday evening, July 15, one of the leaders of the Internationalist Workers Party, the French Trotskyist organization, received a most peculiar letter, or more accurately, a carbon copy of a letter ostensibly sent by Klement to Leon Trotsky in Mexico.

The letter was postmarked July 15 and had been mailed from Perpignan, a French town on the Spanish frontier.

The communication stated, most unexpectedly for all those acquainted with Klement, that he was breaking with the Fourth International, on the grounds that it was impotent, because of its alleged "objective collaboration with the fascists," but declared that the undersigned promised not "to make a public exposure" of the Fourth International. In face of these statements, the letter to "Mr. Trotsky" was couched in surprisingly friendly terms.

All the circumstances surrounding the letter, as well as the letter itself, immediately aroused the suspicion and fears of Klement's comrades in Paris.

No Previous Sign  
Up to the time of his disappearance, Klement had not given the slightest sign of any differences with the organization which he served in such a prominent and responsible capacity. In fact, less than twenty-four hours before he vanished from Paris, he had, as stated above, sent an important cablegram to New York.

The letter, moreover, was typewritten in German, as was also the signature "Rudolph Klement," which, in turn, was counterfeited in ink with Klement's pen-name—an entirely unprecedented procedure on his part. In addition, the date-line on the letter was typed off as "July 1938," leaving the actual day—"14"—to be filled in by hand. His comrades immediately concluded that the letter had been typed out in advance by Klement's kidnapers, and that the date and signature, if

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### Evian Conference Is Dismal Flop; Powers Offer No Aid To Refugees

After laboring for several weeks, the Intergovernmental Committee on Political Refugees gave birth to a mouse. Before adjourning, it set up an independent continuous committee which is scheduled to start work August 3rd in London under American direction. The committee's scope will be limited to assisting German refugees only.

As foretold, the actions of this conference of the world's mightiest powers mocked their preliminary pretensions of solving this social problem. The conference was converted by the powers into an auxiliary agency for exerting diplomatic pressure upon Germany and for appeasing the powerful pressure of public opinion upon the participating governments. As little was done as was consistent with saving their faces.

The N. Y. Times itself placed a low estimate upon the accomplishments of the conference. "It cannot be said that the conference solved the problem. It did not find a landing place for the thousands of refugees cast upon the world by the policy of the German Government. Except by a few Central and South American States, no doors were thrown open to the involuntary exiles whose fate must now be determined by nations other than their own. All the delegates professed a sincere desire to do what they could, but none offered to relax the quotas and restrictions that every country has put on immigration."

Although the conference did not open any doors, it let a thin ray of light shine through by vaguely promising to extend the scope of its work some time in the future.

The terrible plight of the Jewish and anti-fascist exiles has been little relieved by the events at Evian. All the greater is the responsibility of the militants in the American labor movement to aid their suffering comrades across the Atlantic. That means support, and more support, to the current campaign of the American Fund for Political Prisoners and Refugees.

## Socialist Appeal Needs Your Aid!

### EMERGENCY CALL FOR FUNDS

TO ALL COMRADES AND FRIENDS:

Our paper has run smack-up against the usual summer financial difficulties. It was only after the greatest squeezing that we were able to go to press this week. We don't know about next week!

We had thought it possible to avoid any such emergency financial call for help as this. By dint of cutting our expenses not merely to the bone, but to its inner marrow, we had been going along satisfactorily. But this was based upon a minimum income every week. That minimum has dropped by over 25% for the past few weeks, with the result that the publication of the Appeal is seriously threatened. We must maintain a minimum income.

It was for this purpose of combatting the summer slump that we launched our present circulation campaign. We have to regretfully report that branches of the Party far from carrying out the campaign and thus helping us to tide over the summer months, have evidently succumbed to the summer heat! The results have been miserable. So few subscriptions came in this past week that we are ashamed to print our weekly Appeal Army report!

Can there be any doubt as to the absolute necessity of not only appearing regularly but expanding the size

and circulation of the Appeal? It is our elementary duty to the American working class. Those branches and literature agents who, for one reason or another, are failing in their duty of handling the paper properly, must be made aware of the fact that a heavy responsibility rests upon them if the Appeal skips any issues. There is many times more than enough due to us in debts on bundle orders from all branches throughout the country. In addition, if literature agents would see to it that the directives outlined for the present campaign were carried out, a flock of subs would come pouring in.

There will shortly be held in Europe the First World Congress of the Fourth International. We are planning to issue the largest and most important issue of our paper yet published, containing a full report on this momentous historic event. We have innumerable plans for the future of the Appeal.

But right now we're faced with the job of raising sufficient money for next week's issue. Frankly, only if a real amount comes in will there be a paper next week.

We urge all branches and locals to immediately make every effort to pay up on their back bills. We urge all comrades and sympathizers to rush contributions to us. So serious is this emergency that we request all funds to be sent via Air-Mail. The Appeal must not miss an issue!

—The Business Manager.