Post-War European Lineup Shattered (Continued from page 1) sent. He disclaimed any knowledge of the arrest or imprison-

(Continued from page 1) off from the working class in all countries, it is now threatened mortally by the friends it tried to make among the capitalists. The "victory" of Hitler in Central Europe is another "victory" for Stalin's brand of "realistic poli-

Re-Making the Map

Both in London and Paris the hope rides high that war has been averted. But that hope has little basis. The troubles of the World War victors are only beginning. The successful German campaign regions of Czechoslovakia has lashed to their respective capital- the G. P. U. also had its indepenquickly aroused the other count- ist classes. That is the role now dent tribunals in Spain. Shrugries bordering the land of many races. Hungary, with full support from Hitler, has demanded "self- and Labor parties, and above all Stalinist tribunals existed. minority in Czechoslovakia. Pol- to war and mutual destruction. and has come forward with a demand for the strip of Czechoslovak Silesia - containing incidentally the richest coal region in Czechoslovakia - in which the Polish minority lives. The map makers will not be able to keep up with the process of dismemberment that will now set in.

What we are witnessing is the alone - toward peace.

dissolution of the entire political ystem created as a result of the last World War. The process, left .n the hands of the bourgeosisie. "democratic" and Fascist, is leading directly toward a Second legal defense in the courts. The World War. It will be sharply interrupted and put on the rails towards a real lasting peace only dependent", even of the Minister by the revolutionary intervention of the workers of all countries. The workers have no side in the pronounce their verdict, and war that is being prepared. To say they have is consciously to accentuate the divisions in the working class along national lines, to fan the national and race for the amputation of the Sudeten hatreds which keep the workers of the Minister of Justice whether played by the reformist trade un- ging his shoulders the Minister, ion leaders, the so-called Socialist determination" for the Hungarian by the Stalinists. That way leads By cutting across these national lines and uniting the workers of

all the would-be belligerent nations and of all the races in Central Europe with a revolutionary program identical with their common interests, the revolutionists will lead the way toward proletarian power and - this way

"We are not interested in the petty squabble between the Trotskyites and Stalinists", Mr. Pena declared. "We have bigger problems to concern ourselves with, such as winning the war." Asked where he stood in the fight between the Trotskyites and Stalinists, Pena replied that he stood in the middle, and that was a difficult position to be in. He made no reply to the query what he thought about people who said

ferences of opinion.

the Civil War.

ernment.

Munis, Carlini and Rodriguez, and said he knew nothing of their

In regard to the P.O.U.M. lead-

ers, he declared that they would

be given every opportunity for a

tribunals in Spain, he insisted

several times, were "absolutely in-

of Justice. The judges draft the

indictment, hold the trial and

it is the function of the govern-

ment only to carry out the decis-

"Denies" G. P. U. Trials

emphatically denied that any such

Later the Minister's interpreter

told another member of the de-

legation, Assistant Secretary

Kluger, that even if the trial

were held, the defendants con-

fessed, and a verdict rendered, he

felt sure the defendants would be

pardoned as they did not wish

to murder workers having dif-

Secretary Novack then inquired

impending trial.

ions of the courts.

Minister Not "Responsible" Asked if he knew whether And-

they stood in the middle during

L.C. in the state of Ohio for the res Nin had been assassinated by month of June only. The courts the G. P. U., he disclaimed any knowledge of Nin's fate. He inof repossession by finance com- ferred that Nin had been killed panies of autos, radios, furniture. during the barricade fighting in Barcelona a year ago last May. He did not answer the question as to the fate of Erwin Wolfe, former secretary to Leon Trotsky, Marc Rein, son of Rafeal Abromowitch, leader of the Second International, and Kurt Landau, Austrian socialist, all reported kidnapped and assassinated by the G.P.U. in Spain. He said he was not responsible for what hap-

> He promised to personally investigate the Russell Blackwell case on his return to Spain, stating that the rearrest had taken place after he left and he had no knowledge of the circumstances surrounding it.

> pened before he entered the gov-

He said that there were no prisoners belonging to the U. G. T. -C. N. T. being held for trial since both these groups were now part of the government.

Concluding the interview, he repeated that labor prisoners now being held for trial would be given as fair a trial as could be secured anywhere in the world. Novack replied that hundreds of thousands of supporters of the Spanish workers in the United States were waiting to be con-

A sharp protest against repression of revolutionists in Spain and in particular against the the repressions which have taken legal frameup of militants of the P. O. U. M. and the Bolshevik Leninist group in Barcelona was en the united struggle of the made in a letter last week to Gonzalez Pena, Spanish Loyalist Minister of Justice, by the Socialist

The S. W. P. warned the Loyalropean Crisis." A telescoped, but ist minister against the adoption profound review on various as- of fascist methods by the governpects of "The Political Situation ment he represents.It demanded in Palestine" has been offered by that the Bolshevik-Leninist militants now under menace of death which your government has fol-Shortly there is to be published sentence in Barcelona be accordin book form in the Jewish and ed a free and open trial to be held with an international commission

> Pena arrived in New York to address a mass meeting organized

Text of Letter The S. W. P.'s letter was as fol-

determined anti-fascists who have from the beginning support-Editorial Comment concerns it- ed, with every means in our power, the struggle of the Spanish Government against the ly framed up by the Spanish re-

"The welfare of the workers of the world is bound up with the

"We bring once more to your abrogation of working class taken with respect to these derights and the repression of work- fendants. ing class militants which have taken place within the territory against fascism and reaction, to of your government. It is imposmocracy and freedom can the the workers of Spain and to the





Left: Ignace Reiss, who broke with the Soviet secret service and declared for the Fourth International, was kidnapped and murdered by Stalin's G.P.U. near Lausanne, Switzerland, on Sept. 4, 1937. Vladimir Kondratieff and Dmitry Smizensky (Upper right). Renata Steiner and Gertrude Schildbach (lower right) are the G.P.U. agents who participated in this dastardly crime.

MURDERERS OF REISS SEEK LIFE OF TROTSKY

The G.P.U. that shot down Ignace Reiss in Switzerland a year ago, that kidnapped Erwin Wolf, Trotsky's secretary, in Spain last summer, that kidnapped and probably murdered Rudolph Klement, secretary of the Fourth International, in Paris last July, is now plotting to take the life of Leon Trotsky in Mexico.

This dark international mafia directed by the hand of Stalin in the Kremlin is behind a new campaign that has been begun by the Stalinists and their agents in Mexico in an attempt to work up a lynch atmosphere directed against Trotsky. Stalinist agents in the unions in Mexico are trying to exert pressure in this direction. The Teachers' Union recently adopted a resolution, Stalinist-inspired, hostile to Trotsky. In the Stalinist press the familiar lies and slanders are being whipped up into a fresh frenzy of hysterical hate of the world's premier Bolshevik.

This campaign, begun as soon as Hernan Laborde returned from his secret visit to New York, the G.P.U. center for North America, is designated to create an atmosphere "favorable"

to a terrorist attempt on the life of Trotsky.

We have in the last few months been able to

Another French agent named Georges Fournial was reported in Mexico last March. In April it was reported that George Mink, an American who has carried out some of the most murderous assignments of the G.P.U., especially in Spain, was on his way to Mexico. All these attempts are now going to add up to what the

Safeguard Trotsky's life! Let the guard around him be doubled and trebled. The G.P.U. must not be permitted to carry out the vicious crime it contemplates.

follow the traces of various prominent G.P.U. agents who have been ordered to Mexico to organize the assassination of Trotsky. Last February police investigating the murder of Ignace Reiss, the ex-G.P.U. agent who broke with Stalin and came over to the Fourth International, came upon the effects of one Rossi, alias Rous. Among his belongings were found a map of Mexico City and a copy of Rossi's application for a Mexican

G.P.U. hopes will be the final and successful one.

they are not effective unless

regardless of picket lines.

ing the system.

Compulsory Arbitration Looms

In the clerks' strike Stalinists

are united behind a policy of

"peaceful" picketing and spend

most of their efforts in seeking to

win the support of "public opin-

ion." With the solid support of

the whole trade union movement

behind them the clerks' are in a

position to win a decisive victory,

given determined leadership. Un-

fortunately, this is lacking. The

leadership seems willing to settle

on any basis, with the bosses

holding out for complete capitu-

The intervention of Meyer

Lewis is only a danger to the

strikers. This personal represen-

tative of William Green entered

the situation uninvited and im-

mediately offered to settle the

strike. The unions in San Fran-

cisco suffer enough from the

The Defense of BRIDGES ACCEPTS the Marine Firemen, have arbitration clauses in their contracts,

(Continued from page 1)

ions as a whole. The drive of the bosses aimed to prevent the unions from tying up shipping. either in protest against infractions of agreements or in sympathy with other unions. Statements by Almon E. Roth, president of the Waterfront Employers Association, declare that this has been accomplished. Bridges Willing That Harry Bridges, head

the I.L.W.U., was not opposed to such an agreement, striking at the power of the union, is known from both statements and actions. Elementary labor solidarity has often been violated by Bridges, culminating in an open attack on picket lines established by the S.U.P.

From statements of both union and employers, it seems clear that all work must continue during such arbitration. While other unions, such as the S.U.P. and

"We demand that they be given full right to independent counsel; that they be permitted to communicate freely wth friends, witnesses, and colleagues; that all charges against them be made precise and public; that their trial be held publicly. We demand, furthermore, that an international commission, composed of known supporters of the fight against Franco, and having the confidence of the international labor movements, shall be admitted to Spain to have free access to these defendants, and to be present as observers at their

"Against the Moscow trial frame-up methods in the international labor movement.

For full unity and solidarity class-collaboration of the Stalinin the struggle against fascism ists. There is no room for imand reaction."

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PENA QUERIED ON G.P.U. Assassins and Their Victim War Crisis Curbs Strikes In France

French Bosses Use National Defense Plans to Break Strikes and Chain Workers to War Machine

By F. L. DEMBY ening and the Marseilles dock into action. workers were conducting a twomonth-old militant strike. Has the French government used the tors which play a part in the international crisis to mobilize its present struggle in France, and war apparatus, calling the work- which are so difficult to estimate ers to the colors and thus putting an end to the strike movement? We do know that the National Committee of the C.G.T. (trade union federation) has approved bourgeoisie.

obvious characteristics of a period of social reaction. The miser- revolutionary crisis. able showing of July 14 was one

It is easy to read the minds of these workers. They say to themselves: "We had everything. Now we have nothing. We cannot even trust our leaders. Daladier does not represent the People's Front. Maybe the People's Front is no good. What can we do? We night just as well enjoy ourselves in the short time that remains before we have to fight against Hitler." This reaction and chauvinistic sweep is, of course, the logical fruit of the People's Front. But the French proletariat does not, as a whole, yet understand this elementary truth. agreed to by both parties. Thus, It is easy for us to trace the

arbitration boards the unions are tion, because we predicted it. It able to force the employers to ne- is not so easy to estimate the gotiate directly on the matters extend and duration of the reaction. That depends on too many Under the old agreement, which | variable factors. True, there is was renewed unchanged by the certainly a legitimate economic seamen's unions, a ship, if nec- base for a strike wave at present. essary, could be tied up. This But are the present strikes is what the owners wished to merely the tail-end of the whole avoid, but were unable to force preceding period of sharp class the seamen to agree. Now it ap- struggles, the last desperate gespears as if they have done the two s on the part of the leadernext best thing and will force the less workers before the vise of longshoremen to work such ships, the reaction clamps down completely? Or, on the contrary, do these strikes mark the end of the the gravity of the present situa-By offering to extend the same reaction and the beginnings of a tion in France, and intimate that type of contract to the ware- desperate upsurge on the part of houses, the Stalinist leadership of the working class? A third elethe I.L.W.U. is threatening to ment, which cannot be neglected, saddle all the shore workers with is the possibility that (as was compulsory arbitration. Experi- the case in April of this year ence has proven that the machin- when the Blum government fell ery of arbitration works solely in and the Daladier government the interests of the bosses, and came into power) the Communist all maritime unions will suffer if Party is principally responsible the employers succeed in install- for the strikes.

The Hand of the C. P. That the C. P. is the driving

force behind the strikes may seem strange, but not if one the French working class which knows what has been happening will have the decisive say in the recently. We know that the Sta- coming momentous battles in linists did not hesitate to use the magnificent strike action of the French proletariat as blackmail against the French bourgeoisie, when they thought that the formation of the Daladier government meant the abandonment of the Franco-Soviet pact and the entry of France into the politics of the Four-Power bloc. We know, too, that the 73 deputies of the C.P. voted for Daladier only on the basis of an agreement that no open steps would be taken by the French bourgeoisie to break the Franco-Soviet Pact during the summer period. If, as is quite possible, the British-French "sell-out" of Czechosovakia is to be used as a step towards the formation of a Four-Power pact, then the motivation for previous Stalinist-inis definitely understandable.

Aside from the possible repercussions of the international situation upon French domestic affairs, there is, however, another for Political Prisoners and Refureason which might cause one to gees singed, among others, by suspect the Stalinists. For the John Dewey, John Chamberlain, past four or five months there Ludwig Lore, Dorothy Dunbar has been a steady drift of the Bromley, Dwight Macdonald.) French workers away from the The demand must now be raised its base amongst the petty-bour- Stalinist-G. P. U. jailers. geoisie, intellectual and lumpen elements. The bureaucracy, however, knows that not only will ASK FOR THE APPEAL they not be able to exert any AT YOUR NEWSSTAND

pressure on the French bour-What has happened to the re- geoisie if they continue to lose cent strikes of the French work- their working-class following, but ers against the extension of the also that not all the workers who working week to 48 hours by the leave their ranks will retire into Daladier Government? Two political inactivity. Some will find weeks ago the red flag was re- their way to the revolutionary ported waving over factories in ranks, the Fourth International. Amiens, a general strike of the Hence, in order to keep their fol-50,000 textile workers was threat- lowing, the Stalinists are forced

Economic Battles Inevitable In spite of all the variable fac-

precisely, it is absolutely inevitable that the present reaction and general discouragement amongst the workers must give way to stormy battles either in the national defense plans of the the immediate present or in the very near future, unless war in-The contrast between the mo- tervenes. The economic struggle rale of the French proletariat to- alone, that is the general and day and last year, between the rapid worsening of the living course of the class struggle to- standards of the masses, is forcday and a year ago, is really ing the French working class amazing. Gone is the enthusiasm, once again onto the path of exspirit and militancy of the tra-parliamentary action, A pre-French workers. In its place revolutionary situation goes reigns discouragement, disinter- through many ups and downs estedness in politics, and all the before the final crisis is reached, but inevitably it merges into a

Whether the progressive eleexample. The steady drift of the ments in the C.G.T. will succeed workers away from the C.G.T. in calling an extraordinary con-(General Confederation of Labor) gress to prepare for the present is obviously proof of the reaction. struggles remains to be seen. The French workers still have time to prepare for their decisive battles (these decisive battles might take place before, during or after the war), but their time is becoming increasingly short. The People's Front has not only wasted valuable time in the last two years, but it has also, while entrenching the reaction, disarmed the workers ideologically, weakened their fighting organizations, criminally sabotaged the struggle in the colonies and placed the officers' corps (solidly fascist) in a commanding position. What were once very favorable conditions for a revolution in France have become definitely less favorable, due especially to the betrayal of by refusing to refer disputes to origin and course of this reactive workers by their leaders.

One thing, however, which must not be overlooked is that the French working class has a long and militant tradition of class struggle behind it. It is definitely anti-fascist. This, of course, is no guarantee that fascism will not triumph in France, but it gives the revolutionary forces an advantage. The fascist movement itself has not grown and, as a matter of fact, has had great difficulty in maintaining its positions. All forces, from extreme left to extreme right, recognize they expect decisive battles in the

The present Daladier government will surely fall then, although it is not excluded that Daladier himself will again be chosen to head the new cabinet, this time possibly a national union government. One gets the feeling, however, from a stay in France that, in spite of everything, the biggest unknown factor is what will the French workers do. It is France, and it is here that the great opportunity for the P.O.I. (French section of the Fourth International) lies.

'TREASON TRIAL' DELAYED AGAIN

(Continued from page 1)

three Bolshevik-Leninists named above. There are several others involved in this trial and many in prison of whose fate it has been impossible to learn any-

Legal Murder Attempt

It is in any case plain that an attempt at legal murder of our Spenish comrades is under way spired strikes and for the re- despite the protests that have ported present opposition of the poured into the Spanish Loyalist C. P. to the Daladier government capital from labor organizations and liberals throughout the world.

(A telegram of protest was dispatched by the American Fund

C. P. and its periphery apparatus. with redoubled vigor that all This has been part of, and one these accused militants be given of the signs of, the general reac-|an open trial, the right to choose tion. Numerically, the C. P. has counsel and an immediate end to compensated for these defections the shameful third degree torture to a certain extent by extending methods applied by the Spanish-

Lying Liberty Article By R. FERGUSON | in the county, more than one-AKRON. - Akron fabor began its response to the vicious anti-C.I.O. attack launched against the local union movement in the article "Why Akron Is a Ghost City - How Strikes Brought Ruin" published in last week's Liberty

Akron Unionists Blast

for \$500,000 damages against the author, publisher, and local distributors of the article. C. Nelson Sparks, ex-mayor of Akron and founder of the late Law and Order League which fizzed out in the Goodyear strike of 1936, wrote the article from his customary stock-in-trade of rabble-rousing vigilantism. Its publication in a nationally known magazine such as Liberty signifles that this type of reactionary propaganda is steadily gaining favor with the real rulers of

Workers Know Sparks

magazine, by entering a libel suit

Sparks, in the legal action taken against him, is charged talists. with being "irresponsible, untruthful, unreliable, bankrupt, a distorter of facts, a disgruntled OCTOBER N. I. HAS politician, an exploiter of World War veterans for his personal gain," etc.—all of which charges gain," etc.-all of which charges the workers of Akron have long since substantiated as the result of their experiences with him in the first Goodyear strike. The extreme verbal violence of Sparks' fascist appeal to run the "out- Canada and other important artside agitators" out of town in March, 1936, even caused so much alarm amongst the more "responsible" Akron capitalists that the Beacon Journal immediately respects, readers are likely to printed a bold front-page editorial "No Room for Vigilantes" to

disavow him. The Liberty article obviously is meant to be for outside-of-Akron consumption, inasmuch as everyone locally knows Sparks as a Tire and Rubber Co., in whose service at that time he appealed to war veterans to help his Law and Order League crash the picket lines around Goodyear. His league flopped dismally because all Akron labor was waiting with

weapons in hand to meet it. The article claims to show how Akron as a community has been "ruined" by the "invasion" of the C.I.O. and how law and order has "broken down." The truth of the matter, however, is altogether different, and it is to be hoped that the C.I.O. movement will not be content with taking Sparks to task merely for his obvious fakeries, but that it will utilize this occasion to take the offensive against the real inspirers of Sparks, the rubber barons and Wall Street banking houses,

Who Ruined Akron?

od of intimidating the Goodrich Archive material never before success of this struggle against of counsel, without public indictcut or be faced with loss of 5,000 age; a discussion article contrib- eyes of all workers follow with defend themselves. Secret trials jobs through decentralization to uted on the "Their Morals and the most intimate concern every have been planned for them. One New York, etc., etc., where bosses ing material, complete the confelt by all serious anti-fascist mihave moved production away to tents of the forthcoming October litants at the invasions and that has marked all the actions the South or to Hague-protected issue of the New International. New Jersey, in order to chisel away at labor standards.

But there is a certain truth in 12,000 individuals on direct relief YORK, N. Y.

fourth of the population is directly dependent on relief to prevent starvation. Thousands more work two or three days per week, just enough to keep them off relief, Akron shares a great part of the 10,000 evictions by the H.O. are jammed with countless cases

Akron is a "ghost town" to the extent that the rubber barons have ruthlessly exploited it, pushed the vast majority of its people down under a grinding stone of economic crisis, maintained the armed force of capitalist law and order as a threat against serious attempts to better workers' conditions. To the same extent all other cities are "ghost cities," and the country itself a "ghost country"-ruined not by the C.I.O., but by the consuming greed of a tiny clique of capi-

Varied, lively, thorough articles on the Congress of the Fourth International, Czechia, Palestine icles will feature the October issue of the New International, now going to press. In many regard the October number as the outstanding issue of a maga-

zine already first in its field. Leon Trotsky writes on the founding Congress of the Fourth International, recently concluded former agent of the Goodyear in Paris, in an article, "A Great

> A qualified writer, signing himself "D. S." contributes an article Workers Party. on "Czecho-slovakia and the Eu-L. Rock, writing from Jerusalem. English languages a comprehensive historical study of the Jewish attending. question in Palestine by the same writer, an adherent of the Fourth International, now at the Hebrew by the Trade Union Relief.

University in Jerusalem. Maurice Spector writes in extenso on "The Soviets and Democracy." "Is Canada Going Fascist?" is the subject of an excellent article by E. Robertson.

self with current burning issues, The "ghost city" aspect of Czechoslovakia, War, American Sparks' propaganda was origin- Politics, and a special editorial on mercenary hordes of the fascist ally propounded by the Chamber the "Position of the American Franco and his reactionary allies. of Commerce and the rubber Farmer." The Soviet Arts today companies this Spring as a meth- are reviewed by Edna Margolin. unionists to accept a drastic wage published in the English languout-of-town plants. In this respect | Ours" discussion by R. E. Scoul- phase of the events in Spain. Akron is no more of a "ghost ler, Marxist journalist from Glascity" than Flint, Detroit, Toledo, gow, Scotland; and other interest- attention the grave apprehension

Readers who wish to make sure of not missing an issue of the calling Akron a "ghost city." It major Marxist organ published is that for thousands upon thou- today are invited to subscribe. sible to defeat fascism by borrow- lives, we demand for these defend sands of workers and their fam- The price for a single copy is 20c. ing from the methods of fascism. ants their full rights so that they illes, with 21,000 men and their For one year, \$2.00. Address. The Only through full proletarian de- will be able to make known to families dependent on W.P.A.

NEW INTERNATIONAL, 116
boundless resource of the workworld, their complete innocence trying to get on W.P.A., and UNIVERSITY PLACE, NEW ers be gathered together for suc- of the GPU's frame-up charges

Czechoslovakia

In an article, "The Defense of Czecho-slovakia," Walter Held analyzes the positions of various working class and pacifist forces in relation to the Czecho-slovakian Government and War, and sets forth the policies to be pursued by revolutionists in case of war between Czechoslovakia and German Fascism. This penetrating article, taking the form of a controversy with Willi Schlamm, former Communist Party leader, and having direct implications concerning the attitude of similar forces and individuals in the United States, such as Eugene Lyons, and Charles Yale Harrison, will appear in the October number of the New Interna-

over, their enemies. The effect of place within the territory of your government can only be to weakworkers, to sow division in the face of the enemy and therby to act as a grievous obstacle to the workers and their allies through-

out the world. Held Incommunicado

"In particular we are alarmed and indignant at the proceedings lowed with respect to the trials instigated against the leading members of the POUM and the leaders of the Spanish Bolshevik-Leninist group, Munis, Carlini and Rodriguez.

"These good comrades, all of them with long and spotless records in the labor movement of Spain, stern and front-rank fighters in the struggle against Franco were long months ago imprisoned on charges obviously and brazenpresentatives of Stalin's GPU. In violation of the most elementary civil rights, they have been held incommunicado, without benefit the fascists, and consequently the ment and with no opportunity to such trial was scheduled for August 20, but without either prior or subsequent explanation, it was

"In the name of the struggle which we have dedicated our cessful resistance to, and triumph | against them.