

10,000 Plants Geared To Army, Navy Needs

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 in Alaska; and a general extension of military and naval centers in virtually all of the island possessions of the United States.

Spy-Scare Smoke
 The picture of the new war preparations would be in no sense complete unless it included notice of the shameless spy-scare which the Administration is whipping up. Here as elsewhere Roosevelt himself has taken the lead. His Department of Justice is handling the fantastic trial of the four super-awkward "Nazi agents" currently in session in New York. He himself gave the chief statement on the "spy menace" and the need of "adequate" steps to meet it.

Through the spy scare Roosevelt is aiming at a number of birds at once: he seeks to justify in the eyes of the public the new appropriations for Army and Navy; he gets ready to smear with charges of "treason" and "foreign agent" all opponents of his war plans; and he lays the basis for the enlargement of the Army and Navy Intelligence Services into a full-fledged counter-espionage secret police which would have as its main function undercover work against labor and revolutionary opposition to the war.

Armaments For Conquest

Only the naive can have any doubts about the real perspective in Roosevelt's plans. The United States is absolutely immune to the possibility of attack from foreign nations. From a strategic point of view, it simply could not be done. This means that the armaments which Roosevelt is building are and can only be intended for use in external intervention in the coming war that Roosevelt knows is on the way. It does not make any difference how often he or anyone else denies this intention and prattles about peace and "defense." The strategic facts tell the true story.

In spite of the warnings from the past, the American workers are being caught off guard by the vigor and scale of the Roosevelt war campaign, and they are being hamstrung in effective opposition to it by the political reliance on Roosevelt which the Lewises and Greens and Dubinskys have imposed upon them.

If resistance to the war preparations is to be organized, it is now or never. If the forces against the war do not get into action, the American labor movement will awake one morning in the not distant future to find itself clamped solidly in the iron vise of the war machine.

DEFENSE GROUP ORGANIZED FOR G.P.U. VICTIM

Blackwell Committee Is Representative

NEW YORK. — Smashing through the iron ring of official silence that has shrouded the plight of Russell Negrete Blackwell for months, and to save him from the fate that overtook Andres Nin who was assassinated by agents of the G.P.U., a broad defense committee has been organized to push his case into the open where the aroused indignation and public protest of the American working class will force his release.

Blackwell is the 34-year old American militant, who went to Spain two years ago to help fight for Socialism and who has twice been arrested by the "Secret Police."

Among the members of the Committee are Anita Brenner, Ex. Secy, M. Olaj, American representative of the C.N.T., James P. Cannon, Carlo Tresca, James P. Cannon, John Chamberlain, Jas. T. Farrell, Sidney Hook, and others.

Twice Arrested

Blackwell, arrested last May, was released from a Madrid prison on July 26. He was placed aboard a British vessel in Valencia harbor on Aug. 1 scheduled to take him to safety of Marseilles and then home. He was snatched by the Secret Police behind the back of the American Consul into whose custody he had been released for repatriation. He has been held ever since.

Eight tendencies in the American labor movement are represented on the Committee: The Socialist Workers Party, Social Democratic Federation, Independent Labor League, II Martello Group, Challenge, Proletarian Group, Revolutionary Workers League and League for a Revolutionary Workers Party. The permanent American representative of the C.N.T. has joined the Committee and pledged the support of his organization in Spain.

Sirovy, 'Friend' Of Moscow, Outlaws C.P.

Social Democrats and Union Leaders Join in Craven Capitulation to Pro-Hitler Regime

By W. KELLER

The regimentation of the Czechoslovakian labor movement by the new authoritarian regime is approaching completion. The spontaneous attempts of the Czech workers to unify their forces for resistance against the Fascist reorientation have failed. The Stalinists and reformist leaders are determined to drink the bitter cup to the last drop.

The Czech Social Democratic Party has officially abandoned the Second International in order to win the toleration of Hitler. The reformist trade union leaders have taken a similar decision. Jointly with the trade unions of the Benes party they have merged with the company unions of the Agrarians, Catholics, and Fascists. The first act of the united unions was to endorse the compulsory labor service ordered by the military dictatorship.

C.P. Dissolved

At the same time the Prague government, following the example of the Slovak government, has ordered the dissolution of the Communist Party in Bohemia and Moravia and the suspension of its entire press and the cancellation of their parliamentary mandates. Prior to this G. E. R. Gedy, the Times correspondent who has been so partial to the Stalinists, had reported the voluntary cessation of all activity by the Communist Party on the orders of its leaders, Gottwald and Kopetsky. These two versions are not at all contradictory. They fully complement each other.

The situation is clear as a bell. The Prague government is eager to adapt itself to its Fascist neighbor. At the same time it is compelled to avoid anything which would disrupt "internal peace" and provide a pretext for military intervention by Germany, Poland, and Hungary. It therefore utilizes the aid of the Stalinist and reformist bureaucracies, which are trembling for their lives and their positions, in

order to lace the workers into the Fascist strait-jacket. Having secured the public promise of the Stalinist leaders to sacrifice the labor movement on the altar of the Fatherland, it could safely outlaw the Communist Party.

Perfidious Betrayal

The history of the labor movement is filled with betrayals by bureaucrats who have alienated themselves from their own class. But the exploits of the Czech Stalinist leaders in the domain of peridy and treachery certainly rank with any that have ever gone before. In 1933 the democratic government of Prague under President Masaryk accused the Stalinist leaders of "high treason and espionage in behalf of a hostile state" (the U.S.S.R., Gottwald and Kopetsky fled to Moscow. There they helped to crush all voices of opposition in the Comintern after the German defeat, tenaciously maintaining the theory of "social fascism." At the end of 1935 they returned triumphantly with the People's Front thesis for their newly-discovered "fatherland."

Through the Soviet Embassy in Prague they had obtained promise of immunity in return for drumming up the vote for Benes, then running for election. Sheltered by the bourgeois police, they forced the workers to renounce the class struggle in favor of the rotten democratic regime of Czech imperialism. In order to "defend" the Soviet Union, they became ardent patriots of the capitalist republic.

"Social Fascism" Reincarnate
 Now they have proved that for them, as for all genuine patriots, it is the fatherland, "right or wrong," regardless of its political regime. To avoid hampering the Czech capitalists and to save their own skins, they are voluntarily cooperating with Gen. Sirovy, the democrat of yesterday, and the fascist of today, in bringing about the dissolution of the labor movement. Indeed, if "social fascism" has ever really existed, it is incarnate in the leaders of

the Czech Communist Party. How do Stalin-Dimitrov explain this catastrophic turn of affairs? As at every decisive moment for the international working class, Stalin remains mute. As for Dimitrov—if he is still alive—the bullets of the G.P.U. will assure his silence.

Gold Finds A Farmer

But the leaders of Stalinism in Europe and the United States cannot as easily remain silent. They cannot stifle the doubts and questions of their followers. Waiting for an answer from the Kremlin, they are marking time and are stammering in embarrassment. Mr. Michael Gold, oracle of the Daily Worker, prescribed a homemade remedy. After the Munich deal he advised his readers to retire into the idyllic solitude of the country and to "forget."

Since Stalin remained stubbornly quiet, the rustic Mr. Gold presents us now with a new "line" through the mouth of a "certain chicken farmer . . . who manages to keep a shrewd and diligent eye cocked on the cockeyed world." Said this farmer: "There were also Czechoslovak leaders who sold out their own people."

Through the inspiration of his new political mentor a beam of light has penetrated the chicken-like brain of Mr. Gold. He has discovered: "The overthrow of Hitler is something no reactionary wants—for it might shake world capitalism to its already rotten core. The upper classes never have been patriotic . . . they have always placed class interests above the nation."

Conclusion Avoided

Here Mr. Gold stops. He cannot go further because he would have to recognize the falsity and treachery of the People's Front policy, which harnesses the working masses to the chariot of the "upper classes." But the workers and farmers who have been duped and betrayed by the Golds and Browners, the Stalins and Dimitrovs, must follow these half-confessions to their logical conclusion.

As long as the "upper classes" have the wealth of the nation, they will also have the upper hand in the affairs of the state. It was they who decided until yesterday, as they decide today, the policies of Czechoslovakia. The governments of "democratic" Britain, France and the U. S. equally serve the interests of their respective "upper classes."

The interests of these upper classes—we agree readily with Mr. Gold—have nothing in common with the interests of the real nation, i. e., with the exploited masses. Their wars and their "peace" are determined not by the needs of mankind but by their own profits.

The Real Conflict

The maintenance and broadening of democratic rights of the workers and farmers and their final liberation will be possible only through the irreconcilable conflict between their interests and those of the "upper classes"—that is, the capitalist regimes of all countries.

It is possible only through purging the body of the working class of the Stalinist poison that has penetrated it.

Refused to Be Patriots

"Although we were both members of the League for two years, and held responsible positions, it didn't take us very long to see where Browder and Company were leading the Party and League membership."

"We became convinced of the complete bankruptcy of the Communist Party and Young Communist League when, at the start of the Lenin Memorial Meeting in Madison Square Garden, the Star Spangled Banner led the way. We refused to rise and sing it. We had too much respect for Lenin to do that. At its conclusion we raised our clenched fists and shouted 'Red Front.' A sudden murmur was heard all around us, and several Party members shouted 'Throw out those dirty Trotskyites.' We thought we had come to a meeting to honor Lenin, but we soon learned different."

Joined Y.P.S.L.

Jaffe and Garfinkel said that they were happy to join the Young People's Socialist League, affiliated to the Fourth International, because "that was the only youth organization in the country which inherited the best traditions of the Communist and Young Communist Internationals—the struggle for the world proletarian revolution. We have saved our revolutionary honor and integrity by joining the ranks of the Fourth International."

In the Ben Leiber Branch, in

"confessed spy," who is also a confessed counter-spy, and who has reluctantly confessed that he has on occasion argued politics privately from a Communist viewpoint, and who looks no more like a Nazi spy than Vishinsky, Krestinsky, Bukharin, Rom or any of the other actors in the Moscow treason trials.

5. Stalin himself links this trial to the frame-up trial in Barcelona and his own "demonstrations" in Moscow.

One may safely say that a sensation is in store.

Kuomintang Gives Up Vital War Positions

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Not a plane, not a gun came from Chiang to aid in Canton's defense. Gen. Yu Han-mou, left in undisputed command at Canton, had achieved that position in 1936 by a judicious betrayal of his previous superior, Gen. Chen Chi-tang. That he had sold out to the Japanese, with the probable connivance of the British, there can now be little doubt. Otherwise the Japanese would never have attempted the attack with so small a force, vulnerable to devastating flanking attacks through its 125-mile inland from the sea.

British Connivance

The Japanese, as usual, chose their moment to invade South China with an eye and ear cocked to the European situation. It was clear that Britain would do nothing to defend its "sphere of influence" in South China, economically dominated by Hong Kong, except to make the best possible arrangement through negotiation.

Long-drawn out hostilities would have prolonged the paralysis of Hong Kong. That is why it is not hard to see the fine English hand in the Canton deal.

The Japanese were positively punctilious in their regard for Hong Kong's territorial boundaries and the British authorities there were correspondingly warm in their praise of the conduct of the Japanese forces. What all this means is that the Japanese have taken Canton as a basis for bargaining with the British in the negotiations now in progress.

Tasks That Remain

The fall of Canton and Hankow means the end of positional warfare along clearly defined fronts. In the western provinces, Hunan, Kweichow, Szechwan, and in the northwest in Shensi, regional Chinese control will continue. But

the real battlefield now becomes all of China nominally under the Japanese flag. The Tokyo freebooters dare not yet color their maps solid.

They hold only the railroads and rivers. The countryside is by no means theirs. This has been and remains the basis for the hope and conviction that Japan, whatever the sweep of its apparent victories, is doomed to ultimate defeat in its whole China adventure.

But that this should be so requires a sharp turn from the policies of resistance directed by Chiang Kai-shek and his fellow-generals. The ex-Communist Eighth Route Army has been forced to remain bottled up in Shansi. Chiang refused to let it take its place on the vital Central China front. The Communist Party leaders deferred in this, as in all things, to the all-mighty generalissimo.

Masses Victimized

The masses of the people—despite all the fanfare about mobilization broadcast abroad by the Stalinists—have been left, the helpless, hapless victims of the war. That is why the defeats and the losses have been so heavy.

Because for the masses the war against the invaders has not been identified with the war in their own interests as workers and peasants, they have remained in large part passive. Freed of the vice of Chiang's dictatorship, aroused by the most vigorous campaign of arming and organization, their energies directed against the impositions of the hated foreign invader and against the native exploiter, the workers and peasants can alone turn the tide, can alone make the vast valleys of China too hot for the invaders to hold.

New Expulsion Wave in Stalinist Youth Ranks

In their frantic attempt to line up the membership of the Young Communist League behind the Roosevelt-New Deal war machine, the leadership of the Y.C.L. is meeting strong resistance from growing sections of the rank and file. In the last few months signs of mass discontent with the social-patriotic line of "collective security" have been seen. From New York to California, and points north and south, militants of long standing in the Y.C.L. are being bureaucratically expelled.

In New York City the number of expulsions is largest. In the past few weeks the president of the Fort Washington Branch, Edward Jaffe, and the Educational Director, Herbert Garfinkel, have been expelled for "Trotskyism." When asked for a statement on their expulsions, Jaffe and Garfinkel had the following to say:

A Fresh Start

"The People's Front in Spain, France, and elsewhere, have brought to the workers defeat after defeat. The only movement which offers the workers a program of revolutionary struggle against imperialist war and fascism is the Fourth International, world party of the proletarian revolution. We have no regrets at our expulsion from the Y.C.L. in the Young People's Socialist League we are able to breathe the fresh air of revolutionary socialism."

In the City College Branch of the Y.C.L. from which not a few members have been expelled in the past for Trotskyism, Al Lindenfeld announced his resignation this week. Lindenfeld expressed his complete disgust with the counter-revolutionary policies of Stalinism.

"After the murders of the Old Bolsheviks in Moscow, I was certain that Stalin was headed towards one thing: the complete destruction of all the conquests of the October Revolution," he said. "I was certain, now more than ever, that the biggest obstacle towards the defense of the Soviet Union is the defunct Comintern, which, in its process of putrefaction, is poisoning the clean well of the working class. For that reason I break with Stalinism and join the only force which has the real program capable of mobilizing the workers in defense of the Soviet Union—the Fourth International."

Appeal to YCLers

Expulsions have also taken place in the Hunts Point and Milt Young Branches in the Bronx, as well as numerous other branches in the city. A former member of the New York State Committee of the Y.C.L., Dave Davidson, has been expelled for Trotskyism.

The Young People's Socialist League, (Fourth Internationalists) appeals to all Y.C.L.ers who believe in the teachings of Marx and Lenin: Break with the corrupt machine of Stalinism. Be aware of the Browners and Greens who want to drag you into another war "for democracy." Join the revolutionary movement, under the red banner of the Fourth International.

POUM Trial Foreshadows Munich Plan for Spain

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of the P. O. U. M., Nin was incarcerated in one of the notorious "preventorios" — private prisons of the G. P. U.—and taken out and executed by a G. P. U. murder squad. The Stalinists still have the effrontery to repeat that he "made his escape to fascist territory."

A similar Stalinist report about Rovira means that that gallant figure is dead at the hands of assassins. A man of little theoretical equipment, a supporter of the right wing in the party, he was, nevertheless, a fine example of a proletarian fighter. In the successful struggle to wipe out the fascist pots in Catalonia, he was in the forefront, and rose to be military commander of an army division after leading P. O. U. M. troops in the victorious assaults which wrested Monte Aragon and Estrecho Quinto from the fascists. Seized by the G. P. U. in July, 1937 we know his terrible fate.

The section of the indictment which has been published indicates a typical Stalinist amalgam. That which the P. O. U. M. did—alas, only in words while in the main they attached themselves to the People's Front, as in the entry of Nin in the Catalan coalition cabinet of September 24, 1936—criticism of the government and the People's Front, criticism of the Soviet Union's policy, is "linked" to the utterly false assertion that P. O. U. M. collaborated with Hitler and Mussolini.

The main reason why the trial, is launched at this moment, is to muddy the waters of understanding of the process which led to the four-power move against antifascist Spain.

Like newborn innocents, the Stalinists report the four-power plan as if it were a veritable thunderbolt never suspected before. See, for example, the front-page story in the Daily Worker of October 8:

"London, Oct. 7.—Democracy's hangman, Chamberlain, hopes to drag the Spanish Republic to the gallows after Czechoslovakia, it was learned here today.

"A diabolical scheme to blockade the Spanish Republic and foist a four-power dictatorship upon the Spanish people has been devised by Chamberlain's pro-Nazi henchmen. It was learned here today.

" . . . This plan—already under discussion in Rome—provides for token withdrawal of 10,000 Italian infantrymen from Spain . . . Then Franco—prompted by the four-powers—would show his 'peaceful intention' by proposing a 'truce' to the Spanish Government.

"This proposal for betrayal, in the British Tory view, would give the four-power line-up of Germany, Britain, and France an opportunity to 'mediate' and arrange a 'settlement' . . .

Fresh 'Revelations'
 The Stalinists pretend to be wide-eyed innocents, just discovering this monstrous business—"it was learned here today." Far from being a new plan, however, this has been the scheme systematically propagated by the "great democracies," England and France, since the very beginning

of the Spanish civil war.

From the first the Socialist Appeal, and before that our former organ, Labor Action in California, raised the cry of warning against this impending betrayal by the "great democracies."

The interested reader will find the relevant material, documented, in my "Revolution and Counter-Revolution in Spain," which was completed in October, 1937. Furthermore, our movement, both here and abroad, time and again put the question to the Stalinists, why they were silent on the preparations for the betrayal, why they did not even comment on the plain intimations appearing during the last two years in the capitalist press.

The Stalinists were silent, deliberately silent. They were silent because they were perfectly well-prepared to permit the suffocation of the anti-fascist cause in Spain, if in return there would remain some hope of securing for the Soviet Union a military alliance with France and England.

Stalin's Role

More than that, Stalin directly collaborated in the plans for this betrayal. The "non-intervention" apparatus, and the agreement for withdrawal by both sides of "foreign volunteers" were the necessary pre-conditions for the coming betrayal—what is to come is that an armistice will be imposed on the pretext that it is required in order to carry out the withdrawals of volunteers under the direction of the "non-intervention" committee. To all this Stalin agreed, as he was ready to agree to any infamy in return for a military alliance with England. At the time, in our published material on Spain, we pointed out the future consequences of this betrayal, and now, unfortunately, our predictions are coming true.

Only a few days ago the Stalinist hirelings in Spain were still dispatching to the Stalinist press everywhere cable dispatches bathed in faith in the "great democracies." "If the world democracies answer this plea (for arms), Spain feels confident that it can prove to the world," etc. etc. . . . This wrote the Daily Worker's Barcelona correspondent (Daily Worker, September 27, 1938).

Pravda's Admission
 If anyone might still believe, in spite of the obvious evidence, that the Stalinists' systematic propagation of faith in the "world democracies" was not conscious guile but honest obtuseness, then note what Pravda, Stalin's personal organ, has to say on October 11:

"The old British plan of an 'armistice' between both sides in Spain has been taken out of the archives. Under pretext of organizing an armistice, it is intended to smuggle in recognition of Franco as a full-fledged belligerent power, to legalize the existence of Franco's puppet government." (Daily Worker, October 12).

Between October 7, when "it was learned here today" what the British plan was, and October 11, the plan has become "the old British plan" which has now been "taken out of the archives." The explanation for this contradiction is that the Stalinist press in the western world, aware of the difficulties of covering up the line of putting the fate of Spain into the hands of the "great democ-

GPU Odors Spread from Spy Trial

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type, withheld open support. Indeed, a New York Grand Jury indicted two Stalinists, Messrs. Sharfin and Garber, in connection with the Robinson-Rubens passport fraud.

The U. S. Attorney had a chance to conduct an investigation and trial which would have exposed some of the reactionary anti-labor frame-up machinations of the G. P. U. He chose to ignore the chance, and pigeonholed the G. P. U. case. In the Nazi case, he ordered an elaborate and costly investigation, and brought the persons indicted after Sharfin and Garber to trial.

What Trial Reveals

It shows, of course, that the Nazis seek to conduct military espionage. But it does not show that such espionage is clever, serious or successful. The plans of the "spy," Rumrich, have been labeled by every reporter as "ludicrous," "fantastic," "incredible," etc. etc.

Indeed, one may say that if Congress were to base its attitude solely on what this trial proves concerning the espionage conducted by the defendants now in court, including the one who turned State's evidence, it would be justified in refusing to appropriate a penny for counter-espionage against an organization which sets a record for bungling and incompetence. But the government is laboring to get jury and public to take the case seriously, and it has the aid of the Hearst and other militaristic sheeps.

Creating Spy Scare

The government's main aim is to create a general spy-scare, not so much to justify a counter-spy budget, a relatively small item which it could wheedle from Congress on general principles, but to inflate general military propaganda and create a bellicose public mind, facilitating an easy

transition to such an anti-alien, anti-radical drive as featured the last war.

That is why, on the eve of this trial, the President announced that the country is full of spies, a statement which has been called to the attention of every juror in the box at the Nazi spy trial. All this is elementary: the N. Y. World-Telegram, for example, characterized the present trial as a "demonstration."

It is not surprising that the prosecutor should have chosen a military spy case against the Nazi government, rather than a labor spy case against the G.P.U. This servant of U. S. military policy has nothing in principle against G.P.U. anti-labor and anti-radical espionage and frame-ups.

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An Important Aspect

There is one aspect of the trial which is becoming increasingly prominent. As Herbert Solow pointed out in an article in the New Leader last week, the present trial has uncovered no effective Nazi espionage against the American military establishment, but it has contained several references to allegedly successful Nazi espionage directed against the Soviet Union. This was further emphasized by Moscow's reactions to the trial.

The New York Times of Oct. 22 reported the trial being followed "with great interest" in Moscow, "because it is held to prove . . . that Germany has sown the Soviet Union and other countries with spies. Soviet commentators link German espionage with Trotskyists." The dispatch added that "significance is seen in the fact that the New York trial is occurring simultaneously with the trial of an alleged Trotskyist group in Barcelona on charges of being agents of German-Italian Fascists. Pravda says: 'Both trials illustrate the work and methods of Fascist intelligence services and their foul Trotskyist agents.'"

The Daily Worker features an article retailing Moscow's comments under a big head: "PRAVDA LINKS SPY TRIALS WITH BARCELONA CASE." There is, says Stalin's New York rag, "an organic connection."

Enter the G.P.U.

It begins to appear as though certain aspects of this trial were rigged in advance to serve this very end. This trial, contributing little indeed to a knowledge of real Nazi espionage, is being staged for the benefit of militarist propaganda. But at the same time it begins to look as if the G.P.U. had somehow succeeded in hitching its caboose to the U.S. Attorney's train.

The possibility of such a combination is real. Rumrich, the

defendant who has turned state's evidence after pleading guilty, admitted, under cross-examination, that he established contacts with the German espionage service solely in order to trap German agents and thus win forgiveness for having deserted from the American army.

Some Curious Facts

He was arrested last year in the midst of the hullabaloo about the Robinson-Rubens case, while posing as an American Under-Secretary of State in a clumsy "effort" to get blank passports for use in Russia. He did not come to trial until he had spent some time in "a Governor's Island dungeon." He has admitted that he consults daily, during the trial, with the prosecutor. He has never been tried as a deserter. On the stand he characterized his brother as "a little roughneck and a typical little Nazi." He has used such colorful phrases as "patriotism is an abstract conception" and such words as "ideology."

Under cross-examination he has called himself a patriot and American counter-spy — after swearing for four days under direct examination by Mr. Dunigan that he is a German spy. In answer to a question by the judge, he has answered that if he had ever gotten his hands on any such military secrets, unlike such "junk" which he found in his photo album, he would never have turned it over to the Germans.

Who Is Rumrich?

Who is Rumrich? Why is he confessing? What is his confession worth?

Like a bombshell at Tuesday's session, Mr. B. Matthews, war-time prosecutor of German spies and now government-appointed counsel for the defendant Erich Gasser, asked Rumrich:

"Did you ever in political discussion defend the Communist position?"

"Yes, I did," answered Rumrich.

"Did you do that in a discussion with a Mr. Bauer?"

"Yes," was the reply.

"Did you have any discussions with any other people?"

"With some."

"Who were they?"

"I'd rather not give their names," Rumrich answered.

In the midst of this colloquy, the prosecution objected to the line of Mr. Matthews' questioning, but the judge declared that it was permissible. Rumrich himself turned to the judge and said that he did not think it was proper of Mr. Matthews to ask him about political discussions, but the judge instructed him to answer, which he did after some hesitation. Mr. Matthews, who has been characterized by the Daily Work-

er as not having "his heart in the defense," dropped the subject.

And Matthews?
 It is interesting that Mr. Matthews, in his opening address to the jury, expressly dissociated himself from the line of defense of the two other defense lawyers, both of whom are rumored to have official German backing. Where his heart is, remains to be seen.

Mr. Matthews himself has denied in the courtroom that he sees any connection between the present case and the Robinson-Rubens case. His denial came in response to an objection raised by the prosecution against a question Matthews put to the confessed spy. He asked Rumrich whether he had been reading the stories about the expose of the Robinson-Rubens passport fraud ring early this year at the time Rumrich attempted his farcical passport coup.

He Read the Papers

The prosecution objected to the question on the grounds that it was immaterial unless Matthews first established that the Robinson case is related to the present case. Matthews declared that he makes no such connection, but that he thought the question justified on other grounds. The judge allowed the question and Rumrich replied that he had been reading the papers at the time but went ahead with his scheme anyway. Matthews asked him if he then thought that was a good time to try a passport fraud and Rumrich answered simply that he tried it.

To summarize:

1. This trial has been staged by a prosecutor who chose it as opposed to the Robinson-Rubens case.
2. This trial has revealed much more realistic anti-Stalin espionage work by Nazis than it has anti-American espionage work by Nazis.
3. This trial is halled with glee by Stalin's press in Russia and here.
4. Involved in this trial is a