Genora and Kermit Johnson, Leading Puppet UAW Board Hits Union Rights, Democracy Auto Workers, Quit S.P., Join S.W.P.

By GEORGE CLARKE

Kermit Johnson and Genora Johnson, nationally prominent workers in the Sociaist Party and outstanding militants in the Michigan automobile Union, have resigned from the S. P. and joined the ranks of the American Fourth Internationalists in the Socialist Workers Party.

Their resignation comes as a protest to the bankrupt policies of the S. P. now culminating in the planned retirement into the reactionary Old Guard Social Democratic Federation.

It comes as a climax to a long, difficult struggle to introduce revolutionary principles into the Socialist Party and revolutionary methods into its trade union work, At every stage, these militants were obstructed in their efforts by the opportunist and careerist leaders at the top of the party. Significant Act

Particularly was this the case in Michigan where Walter Reuther, Stalinist stooge, led the party by the nose through the mud of Communist Party wrecking maneuvers in the auto union . . . while the agents of Norman Thomas and the N.E.C. prevented the militant workers in the auto union from flinging Mr. Reuther out on his ear.

That Genora and Kermit Johnson have left the Socialist Party after valiantly attempting to change its course, is a significant proof of the impossibility of revolutionists to live in a party which expels the left wing and prepares to unite with the decrepit Old Guard. Their action in joining the S.W.P. blazes a trail for all remaining left wingers in the party, for all who refuse to be submerged into the debris of the Old Guard and who wish to strike out on a fresh path of revolutionary activity.

To Those Still In S. P.

The statement of Genora and Kermit Johnson, printed herewith, is especially directed to the automobile workers still in the Socialist Party, to the rank and file S. P. members in the West Side Briggs, Dodge and Hudson locals of the U.A.W. They have had a common experience with the comrades Johnson in struggling for a clean-cut policy in the union against Walter Reuther, Ben Fisher and Co. 'It is now obvious that from the situation in the U.A.W. and from the condition of the S. P. nationally that these efforts have run headlong into a brick wall. Intelligent revolutionists will draw the necessary conclusions -- conclusions which we are convinced can be no different than those drawn by Kermit and Genora Johnson.

Kermit Johnson was the leader of the successful Chevrolet strike during the famous Flint sit-downs early in 1937; he was formerly chairman of Local 156 (Flint) of the U.A.W. In the recent gubernatorial elections in Michigan he ran for Lieutenant-Governor on the S. P. ticket. He was also a member of the State Executive Committee and the National Labor Committee of the S. P.

Organized Emergency Brigade Genora Johnson was the organizer of the Woman's Emergency Brigade in Flint, which was a potent factor in mobilizing the comprehensive review, on The her recent illness she took a ber number of the New Internathe auto union.

The Socialist Appeal and the full and hearty welcome to Genora part to an analysis of the elecand Kermit Johnson into the tion results throughout the counranks of the party and bids all try. A sidelight on the Lovestone their example.

THE TRUTH AT LAST!

Secretary of War Woodring, speaking in Akron Nov. 1 in behalf of labor-supported Dow Harter, candidate for Congress and member of House Military Affairs Committee, dropped New Deal demagogy for a moment to reveal how class-conscious the bourgeoisie really is! Said war-monger Woodring, ". . . Franklin Roosevelt has

the toughest job any man ever had in his efforts to keep the confidence of the great bulk of the people in the profit system. He is the strongest protection for that way of life that we have."

The Publication Of FASCISM AND BIG BUSINESS By Daniel Guerin

has been postponed until December 15th. Several hundred dollars are still required to cover the cost of publication. Everyone interested in assuring the publication of this important book without further delay is urged to send a contribution for this purpose to

Pioneer Publishers at \$1.50, Price on Publication \$2.00.



Above in center is Genora Johnson, enrolling recruits into the famous Women's Emergency Brigade which was an important factor—on the picket lines, in the strike kitchens and elsewhere—in winning the famous sit-down strike in the General Motors plants in Flint in early 1937.

Following is the text of the statement issued in Flint, Mich., by Genora and Kermit Johnson announcing their adherence to the banner of the Fourth International:

The practical experience we gained in the great auto strike made us left-wingers in the Socialist Party. After seeing the party in the east, with its preponderance of right-wingers, we came back to Michigan to build a real leftwing bloc in the state, with a view to taking over, together with New York left-wingers, the machinery of the Socialist Party. But not being well enough equipped to provide leadership at the time, we felt the only alternative was to support the representative of the left-wing who had been sent to Michigan.

This leadership, in conjunction with some of the Socialist union leaders in Detroit, began to set policy which we felt many times not to be in keeping with revolutionary socialist principles but rather a policy seemingly formed to promote the careers of some of the Socialist leaders in the labor movement-which can only be termed an opportunistic policy in the language of any revolutionary party.

As a result we felt it our duty to investigate the past and present policy of the Socialist Party. Its numerous shortcomings on the national scene, and its entire lack of an international program, on any revolutionary basis whatever, led us to ask ourselves the question, "For what reason does the Socialist Party exist?"

DEALING WITH OLD GUARD

As almost any party member knows, the Second International, insofar as its furtherance of the cause of the international working class is concerned, has long since been completely destroyed, and its pretence of promoting the workers' revolution is as false and degenerate as that of the Stalinist bureaucracy-the voice of the Third International today.

Through our investigation of the facts at hand we saw that the Socialist Party must inevitably move to the right, and not to the left, as we and other left-wing comrades had for some time been hoping and pressing for. Later developments in the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party showed our predictions, based on facts, to be true. The Socialist Party with an everwilting membership-its top leadership fittery

at being left with a party name and no membership-is attempting at this time to effect a deal, a reconciliation with the old guard Social Democratic Federation: not on the basis of a left-wing revolutionary program, but on the basis of uniting all socialists in the country.

Hypocritically they add that this will make their fight against capitalism more effective. We know that a party formed on this basis means a party with about twenty different programs, whose effectiveness as a revolutionary organization, if it can be called that, can easily be divided by twice that number.

As a conclusion to our investigations, we find there is still a party in America today, the Socialist Workers Party, based on real revolu-

JOINING THE S.W.P.

tionary principles, and which has lately, with other revolutionary movements in the Fest of the world, inaugurated the 4th International. Although at present the 4th International probably is not as large and far-reaching as the two old bankrupt Internationals-the 2nd and 3rdits future possibilities on the basis of the progrant that it gives to the working class makes its rapidity of growth and its accomplishments

For these reasons we are leaving the Socialist Party and joining the Socialist Workers Party to build the vanguard of the coming revolution unhampered by reformist maneuvers, petty intriguers, opportunists and careerists.

This is the job facing any man or woman who sincerely calls himself a real revolutionist; for in the crisis which must inevitably follow economic conditions under the declining capitalist system, only the genuine vanguard will lead the working class to the victorious consummation of the revolution.

After seven years' membership in the Socialist Party, striving for the true path to socialism,an investigation of the facts has shown us that the Socialist Party has not, and can not provide the leadership necessary. And we ask all othermembers of the Socialist Party to investigate

Take no one's word, but find out for yourself; and after this has been done we feel that our decision will be your decision.

GENORA and KERMIT JOHNSON.

NEW INT'L HAS LIVELY FEATURES

Headed by L. D. Trotsky's women and in winning the fa- World Situation After Munich mous sit-down in 1937. Prior to and the Coming War, the Decemprominent part in the national tional will be represented by an work of the Ladies' Auxiliary of unusual variety of excellent art-

The Editorial Notes, a regular Socialist Workers Party extends a feature, will be devoted in good other S. P. militants to follow position in the elections will also e included.

> Oskar Fischer, leading German revilutionist, presents an analysis of the German Social-Democratic movement.

Karl Kautsky's life and role are subject to a detailed inspection in Max Shachtman's article. Albert Goldman writes on the politics of Martov, the Menshevist leader and opponent of Lenin's line in the latter's life-time. This article is especially timely in-view of the revival of Menshevist ideology in some American circles, based on Martov's brochure, "The State and the Soman reviews.

in the Archives Section.

subject matter will complete the ists fanning the air!" December number, rounding out The day of the big game is one year of the revived New In- drawing near. Don't forget: it's December issue, it is suggested 43rd Street, New York City. 100 Fifth Ave., New York City | scription rate is \$2.00 per year; throw out the first ball. The con- Arthur Pincus......1st base some concocted tale of Japanese-Advance Orders still accepted | single copy, 20 cents, Address: test will be umpired by the vet- David Glusker.......Right field Nazi espionage in this country

LEWIS 'PLEDGES' C.I.O. WORKERS

(Continued from page 1) give proper treatment to ourselves," he added, making a bid for his place in a Roosevelt

war cabinet, glow in pride over the adop- racies."

tion of their pro-war line. mocracy in this country.

Protection for Capitalism

other fascist minded American "Labor!"

Jews, all creeds, any school of thought that maintains respect for our institutions." That is, for all believers in capitalism.

Lewis is against democracy within the C.I.O. No radical will be protected by the C.I.O., if he has it his way. Only believers in capitalism can expect support from him!

"The United States may some day face a great external crisis It was tragic to hear the ap- when the bloodthirsty German plause of the delegates to that government, following upon its war-mongering speech. It was invasion of Czechoslovakia, inhorrible to watch the Stalinist cites other attacks on the democ-

"Possibly we'll have to meet "Democracy is in peril," Lewis the German dictator as he exsaid. "And in the United States we tends his power to the Western want to preserve democracy." He Hemisphere," Lewis declared in appearance of this article may Ossip Garber, proved Stalinists, blasted at Hitler for destroying another Orson Welles phantasy the German labor movement but to frighten the workers. "Who is didn't make one word of criti- going to protect the institutions Stalinists. The attempt was made cism of Mayor Frank Hague, or of this country?" Lewis asked. nearly a year ago but was aban-

politicians because he didn't John L. Lewis has openly anwant to expose the fraud of de- nounced his intention to assist country published information in recruiting labor, into another linking the Rubens' to the Stalinworld slaughter. Perhaps the ist party in this country by a "The C.I.O. stands for protec- | C.I.O. rank and file will have a dozen threads. The American ject of a lecture by Jack Weber, tion of all Americans-Gentiles, different answer.

ALL SET FOR THE BALL GAME!

The sandlots on New York's , ness to all. cialist Revolution," which Gold- lower East Side have been re- And it's all for the benefit of sounding all week long. Jim Far- the American Fund for Political Dwight MacDonald resumes rell, captain and stellar pitcher Prisoners and Refugees! his column, "They, the People," for the Studs Lonigan A. C., has Here's the line-up for the big Karl Marx's "Model Inquiry been putting his boys through game. Who you betting on? Into Conditions of the Working their paces and doing no mean Class," never before published in job of it, either! "When my boys George Novack... Capt. & pitcher about that first would be to atthis country, will be of unusual get out on that dance floor," says Max ShachtmanRight field tempt to link all anti-Stalinist interest to all interested in the Jim "Studs" Farrell, "we're gonna James Burnham2nd base elements in this country to the history of Marxism. This docu- make those Marxist Maulers look George Clarke3rd base German Nazi espionage system. leaguers from the sticks. And is Lyman PaineLeft field "Footnote for Historians," nu- my screwball smoking hot these Frank Lovell Catcher lines, it appeared fairly certain,

Marxist Maulers

J. WassermanShortstop and they are now apparently Felix Morrow (mascot)

Studs Lonigan A. C. ternational. To make certain next Wednesday - Thanksgiving James T. Farrell. . Capt. & pitcher of a new trial if it comes off this that all interested will obtain the eve-at the Hotel Center, 108 West Max Eastman Center field time. Rubens, who by every evid-Sidney Hook......Shortstop ence appeared to have been a that advance orders be placed by Frida Rivera, wife of artist James Rorty.......Catcher G.P.U. agent, will in all probindividuals and agents. The sub- Diego Rivera, will be on hand to Dwight MacDonald 2nd base ability be made the center of the rules ensures scrupulous fair- Al Margolies (mascot)

(Continued from page 1) posals for "peace" and reinstated the expelled union officers.

"Democracy" In Action Two other major proposals were | ized except into one organization. adopted, it is reported on good authority: first, that the previous its WPA workers, the Steel Union are going to do; what is good the board members must reason, the WPA workers. is good enough for us.) Secondly. four monthly fifty-cent assessments were levied to replenish the bankrupted auto union treasury. (After squandering the money ganizations in Cleveland, Detroit, in an unprincipled factional fight, they figured the men in the shops ought to foot the bill.)

However you look at it, it was not a very impressing contribution for a board meeting in session a full week! Thus the new "Neo-Unity" leadership that now the regions, means to throw the controls a majority of the recon- WPA workers back to the tender stituted National Executive Board | mercies of the Stalinists who unlaunched the auto union for the coming year!

Salaries Voted After these exhaustive delibera- union, as in Cleveland, Toledo, tions, the board adjourned to re- Detroit, South Bend. It means in convene again in Washington, effect giving the Stalinists a free D. C., the beginning of November. hand to wreck these bona-fide As the decisions of the board are, WPA organizations attached to under the new ruling, secrets that the labor movement, in favor of cannot be disclosed to the local the defunct, Stalinist-controlled unions any longer, militants are Workers Alliance. It is very now forced to scan the columns doubtful whether the WPA workof the daily capitalist press to ers will show much appreciation learn of the plans and decisions for this decision, of the leadership.

The leadership upon thinking it over was apparently a bit ap- International Executive Board reprehensive about the effects upon semble the labors of the mounthe membership of a sudden an- tain that brought forth a mouse. nouncement of a new \$2 assess- As far as presenting even half a ment. At the second board ses- program or solution to the many sion, then, the assessment seems to have been pigeon-holed for the time being. As if to better prove the board is so far zero, why the membership should not allow themselves to be assessed back salary to the five officers expense of \$6,000!

Paper Abolished Martin administration. Still, relatively speaking, it was quite a fought the pro-war, collective se-

erendum on war. Hillman-Murray bureaucracies. WPA Set-up Revised

WPA set-up. The WPA workers, henceforth will be attached to

and several other centers, uniting

all the WPA workers, while the

C.I.O. was floundering around

with no definite policy or pro-

be discontinued. (You never hear is to bring back the worst dis-Amounts to Liquidation It is to the honor of the Auto Workers Union that it set out and established functioning WPA or-

cal wrecking by the Stalinists.

As everyone who has the faint-

est experience in this field knows,

gram of its own. To turn these WPA organizations, at this late date, back to fortunately control both the C.I.O. councils and the Auto Councils in many key cities of the Auto

Score Zero All in all, the labors of the unpostponable problems which the auto workers face, the score of

The Stalinist-bureaucratic majority of the National Executive by these irresponsible spend- Board has launched its adminis- at these meetings by having comthrifts, they then voted to pay tration by taking away from the rades wear posters put out by Auto Workers Union its paper, who were suspended last June, its bona-fide WPA organizations, amounting to \$1,200 each, A total and some of its most important democratic rights.

In the October 8 issue of the The board then proceeded, it is Socialist Appeal we stated: "Leave reported, to abolish its weekly it to the Executive Board to work publication, the "United Auto out a realistic program of action Worker" and voted the "CIO and to carry this program into News" its new official organ, One effect? No! The International could write a page full of criti- Executive Board composed of cism of the "United Auto Work- Stalinists and reactionary bureauof so many of the rotten, inde- saved, the rank and file memberfensible policies of the famous ship of the locals must save it." Expect No Miracles

The recent Washington sessions progressive paper, as union papers | further substantiate the truthfulof the Stalinist and the Lewis- and standardize wages and work- rights. ing conditions in the parts indus-

membership. cision amounts in its practical will back up their fight to put union, etc. consequences to deliberate, typi this program across in the union.

GPU BREWS NEW RUBENS TRIAL

a trial involving American anti-

(Continued from page 1)

doned when the Socialist Appeal and other newspapers in this and others earlier this year.

understanding with American im- dollar for the whole course. perialism. Stalin's way of going

Rubens' "Prepared" For something along these "ready" to play their assigned roles. That will be the meaning

cent Nazi spy trial will have TION in preparing the Goodyear caused the American public to workers for the struggle that lies ASK FOR THE APPEAL have forgotten the shelved in ahead. The time for words and dictments of Arthur Sharfin and "talk" has long since disappeared. portend a new attempt to stage who helped Rubens get his phony American passport.

> WEBER TO LECTURE ON MOSCOW FOREIGN POLICY

"Will Stalin Seek An Alliance With Hitler?" will be the subangle was left abruptly unfin- expert on foreign affairs, at the ished in the trial of Bukharin Marxist School, 116 University Place, N.Y.C., on Monday, Nov. This is made the more plaus- 21, at 8:45 P. M. The lecture is ible by the fact that the diplo- part of a series of six which matic requirements of the Krem- offers a Marxist interpretation of lin now center almost exclusively current events in the world politaround the necessity for arriving, ical arena. Admission is twentyif possible, at some kind of an five cents for the lecture or one

> Just Published The Black Jacobins By C. L. R. JAMES

(Author of WORLD REVO-LUTION: 1917-1936

Toussaint Louverture and the San Domingo Revolution The story of the only successful slave revolt in history \$3.75

at the

APPEAL

. . . And still letters of praise come in from all over the world about the World-Congress issue!

The latest one is from a com-

rade in London, England, who WPA workers cannot be organwrites: "I have just received which are listed as covering my usual number of Appeals newsstands in our column. There To have the auto unions organize from the Revolutionary Socialist are some still left and they can League literature secretary. It is be obtained by writing the Appractice of sending Executive its WPA workers, the Rubber, all the World Congress issue. The peal. The cost is only 5c each. Board minutes to the local unions the other unions following suit, Appeal is always interesting, but this issue is the finest I've yet about Hillman or Murray report- eases of the old A.F.L. craft seen. It is an historical number ing to the membership what they unionism into the WPA field. In worthy of the widest distribution. effect such a policy excludes the Your efforts must be heartily enough for Hillman and Murray, building of any organization of congratulated in rising to such a tremendous effort, I am sure 1 could sell 3 dozen of them so I'm enclosing cash for same. As you would say in America, they certainly were the goods! . . .

> a comrade in South Bend, Indiana, writes as follows: "My opinion of the APPEAL? It suits me swell. I have found nothing to rival it. I have at least one with me at all times. The tri-weekly anti-war issues more than proved which is the vanguard party of the work-". . . The main thing I like

. . . And coming nearer home,

about the APPEAL is that it not only tells the workers what is happening, but it tells them 'what is to be done'. . ."

How To Sell the Appeal:

Everett Washburn, new literature agent of St. Louis, Mo., writes us of his branch's plan to per week . . . Comrade Taylor of increase its weekly sales quota: | Seattle has already increased his

"To accomplish this we have decided to concentrate on the sale of the APPEAL at four places. The Liberal Forum which meets every Sunday evening; the C.I.O. Council which meets twice each monthabout 100 attend this meeting; the Shop Stewards meeting of the United Auto Workers which about 200 attend, and the Gas House Workers Union."

The branch plans to advertise due, the Appeal and other literature our Appeal Poster Shop.

Newsstand Poster Out: The Appeal Poster Shop, ably directed by Comrade R., has just put out an extremely attractive poster for newsstands. They are being mailed to all branches

The following is a list of new subscriptions obtained during the

NEW YORK CITY 16 Massachusetts 4 Illinois 4 New York State 3 Indiana 2 California 2 Ohio 2 Montana 2 Michigan 2 Foreign 2 Colorado 1 Missouri 1 Total 41

The most notable bundle order increase of the past few weeks has been that of New York City which has gone up by 400! Abe Miller, New York's literature director, now handles and directs the distribution of 1600 Appeals per week. And pays for them,

In addition, the new Flint, Michigan section of the S.W.P., is starting off with an order of 10' order to 30 per week after only a few short weeks of effort . . . From San Francisco's lit-agent, Art Moore, comes a weekly increase of 40 copies, making a total of 115 handled each week . . .

Attention: Literature Agents: At the end of this week we are mailing out the regular monthly financial statements. We urge prompt attention and even more prompt remittance of payments

Send all contributions to: SOCIALIST APPEAL 116 University Place, New York, N. Y.

RUBBER UNIONS Real militancy and a display of determination to defend the in-

(Continued from page 1) the end of last May, the company means business this time. has done nothing but stall the er," about its timidity, its lack of crats has shown that it is union representatives in negotiapunch, its lack of program, its worthless in important matters of tions for a signed contract. More uninspiring style and its defense this kind. If the union is to be than that it has baidly stated that it intends to institute a wage cut and return to the 8-hour day cial leadership and their Commu-"when the time is ripe."

Union Unprepared

Meanwhile, the union has done go. It bears the honor of having ness of this statement. The rank little or nothing in the way of steps. This can mean only reand file cannot afford to wait and solidifying its strength among treat in the face of difficulties. curity policy of the Stalinists and hope for miracles. It is up to the workers and preparing for a On the contrary, the labor moveof championing the Ludlow ref- them to take the initiative now showdown with the bosses. As a ment can advance only by showand weld all militants into a new result, the company union has ing a bolder resolution. Precisely because of this the progressive group, work out a apparently been able to scratch Stalinists vowed to abolish it. sound and realistic program how together sufficient signatures ing boss propaganda of Dies Now the auto membership will to launch a new drive to organize from "red-apple" workers, who committee witnesses who will receive all of its union informa- the 150,000 unorganized Ford think the union is on the run, to testify this week in Washington, tion from the "CIO News," the workers, how to organize the un- enable it to take this new move labor will most effectively make journalistic product of the fusion organized competitive parts plants | challenging the U.R.W.A.'s | headway by proclaiming its de-

Goodyear's anti-labor record is try, and how to combat the gen- notoriously the most victous and Finally, it is reported, the board eral offensive of the auto em- brutal of all the rubber compa- Goodyear local's coming elecdecided to revise the existing ployers against the union and its nies. Every thinking worker has tions will mean progress or deno reason to believe that the cline for the union in the next Let the progressives espouse a company's attitude will change in year. All weak-kneed leaders who their respective regional organiza- real program of this character the future, in spite of pleas to have brought the union to its tions, rather than have a national and they will arouse the enthusi- the N.L.R.B. attempt to bring re- present position, and all the can-WPA Auxiliary connected with asm of the membership who will spectable "public opinion" of didates of the reactionary Comthe International Union. This de- rally to their support and who business men onto the side of the munist Party which has been

used time and time again in re- of those with known records of Socialists, Lovestonites, and cent months, to no avail. What consistent militancy if the union the situation demands most ob- is to climb back to its old posiviously is that the union itself tion and influence. The G.P.U. figures that the re- take decisive, well-planned AC-

terests of the workers must take the form of concrete preparations to meet the company's offensive. Such action alone will convince the waverers that the union

Smash Election Alibi!

The election defeat of Sawyer for governor of Ohio by the Republican Bricker must not be utilized successfully by the offinist Party stooges to argue that the union must now refrain from taking concrete preparatory

Likewise, in answering the lytermination to enter upon a course of militant action.

To a great extent the result of supporting these leaders, will All such methods have been have to be swept aside in favor

AT YOUR NEWSSTAND

"Excellent"—The Criterion (London) . . . "Congratulations!" -- John Dos Passos . . . "Very good"--Edmund Wilson . . . "Pretty good"-Gertrude Stein . . . "Insincere"-Malcolm Cowley . . . "Trotskyite imposters!" - V. J. Jerome in the Daily Worker.

PARTISAN REVIEW

In the Fall Number, now on sale:

Ignazio Silone: The School for Dictators Edmund Wilson: The Myth of the Marxist Dialectic [With a reply, "The Devil Theory of the Dialectic,"

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Munich and the Intellectuals-and other editorial com-

Franz Kafka: An Elderly Bachelon And Work by Robert Fitzgerald, William Troy, Louise

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Name....