

# Yankee Imperialism Is the Main Enemy in Latin America

(Continued from Page 1)  
necessities of a war. Most of these materials are to be found in the rest of the Western Hemisphere. Among these raw materials are Canadian nickel, Bolivian tin, rubber, manganese, Brazilian and Columbian coffee, Argentine wool, Chilean nitrate, Mexican silver, petroleum from Venezuela, Colombia, Mexico, etc.

**Cannon-fodder too**  
Latin-American contains another raw material of primary importance which American military experts greedily eye: man, can-

## American Totalitarianism

The political and military objectives of Wall Street in Latin America are totalitarian, embellished though they are by Rooseveltian democracy. Washington seeks a monopoly in everything: in raw materials and markets, in ideology and politics, in foreign relations, in military missions, war supplies, naval and air lines and bases, in military preparations. Washington wants no other powers—not even "democratic" France!—to maintain military missions in Latin America. Washington obliges the Latin American countries, one after another, to dispense with long-established European military, naval or aviation missions and to establish new, exclusively American ones. It even leases war vessels to Brazil. The old plan for a second canal, in Nicaragua, is taken from the archives. Military aides are sent to all the Latin American capitals with the objective of molding their military mechanisms into the strategic plans elaborated in Washington. American military, naval or aviation missions are already operating in Brazil, Argentina, Peru, Haiti, Guatemala, Colombia, and they are coming in other countries; they do not instruct, nor will they instruct, the forces of these countries in the special problems of their own defense, but aim to create strategic bases for the war plans of American imperialism. Cuba already is nothing more than an outpost of the American naval system, as much so as Porto Rico. All this is geared into Roosevelt's gigantic armament program, for which we are being called upon to provide astronomical sums.

**A Filmy Alibi**  
The pretext for building this tremendous apparatus is a threat by a foreign totalitarian power. Under world conditions today,

non fodder. The potential manpower reserves of Latin America equal those of the United States. Today, in fact, its immediately available trained manpower is superior to that of the Yankee metropolis! Washington estimates that Latin America can immediately put into the field more than a million men with military training. This means that, as soon as war breaks out, the very first shots will initiate payment to Uncle Sam of blood tribute by the oppressed peoples of Latin America!

However, who can believe that threat is imminent, when we see Japan entirely absorbed in China, Germany geared to the Herculean task of devouring Eastern Europe, and Italy preoccupied in the Mediterranean? This pretext was unmasked for their own purposes by the representatives of "democratic" English imperialism at Lima, the Argentine delegates.

**Democracy Stretches**  
The enslaved peoples of Latin America cannot but feel a sarcastic note in the call for common defense of democracy issued by Roosevelt-Hull to the Latin-American governments. What sort of democracy can these governments defend, the straplines of Getulio Vargas, Benévédiz, Somosa, Trujillo, Batista and Company? Today they are the devoted lackeys of Wall Street, but tomorrow they will unhesitatingly sell themselves to Hitler or to the Mikado, if the switch would serve to continue them in power.

## What They Mean by Democracy

The defense of "democratic" institutions means concretely to Washington two things: the eradication of German-Nipponese competition and the preservation of the concessions and privileges of the big American trusts against the bourgeois-nationalist independence movements exemplified by Toro in Bolivia and Cardenas in Mexico.

**Slogans Hide Reality**  
To defend itself against its competitors, Wall Street raises the liberal slogan of return to free commerce; in actual content, however, that slogan gives Latin America the same status as was held by the American colonies when they did not have the right to trade except with the British crown. As for the "defense of international law," it means simply that in spite of the fictitious sovereignty of the dependent nations of the New World, the Yankees reserve for themselves the right to intervene in the internal life of these states to restore, if necessary by force, the privileges and monopolies that they enjoy there, or to impose new ones.

## The Right to Be Squeezed

In essence, Secretary Hull calls upon the Latin American states to concede the right of Wall Street to repeat its past infamous exploits in Mexico, Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, etc.—the right to collect, with machine guns and cannons when required—the div-

## Fight Is Against Imperialism!

We are confident that the Latin American masses will not allow themselves to be duped into abandoning the anti-imperialist struggle, which will continue despite the efforts of dollar diplomacy to stifle it.

**Enemy Is At Home**  
In the advanced democratic countries, not to struggle above all against your own national capitalist class and its "democratic" governments, means not to defend democracy but to prepare the way for fascism. If the examples of Italy, Germany, Austria, and Spain did not suffice, we now have the fresh examples of Czechoslovakia and France. Czech democracy quietly and automatically transformed itself into fascism. In France the much-acclaimed chief of the People's Front, Daladier, decided almost overnight, with the complete support of his party, to begin the reactionary offensive and consciously prepare for the transition to fascism. The same process of democratic degeneration will inevitably take place in this country unless the American workers succeed in overthrowing the capitalists and establishing a Work-

**Knows No Limit**  
In squeezing the Latin American lemon, Wall Street piles contradiction upon contradiction. It obliges the tributary countries to buy only in the American markets, but at the same time drains into its own coffers the gold of these countries, demands prompt payment for old debts, the end of exchange control by the Latin American governments, and the immediate handing over of Wall Street credits now frozen in Latin American banks for lack of exchange. As if this were not enough, Wall Street tries to deprive these countries of their traditional markets for products which America also produces (wheat, cotton, sugar, etc.). The catalogue is not complete without referring to the reprisals and boycotts organized by Wall Street against any country which, like Mexico, dares to expatriate imperialist concessions. Wall Street cannot but strangle the goose that lays its golden eggs.

## Rulers Cannot Fight Fascism

The reactionary dictatorships in the majority of Latin American countries cannot serve as instruments of struggle against international fascism but rather as channels for its penetration. The mock constitution granted by divine right? to Brazil by President Vargas on Nov. 10, 1937, was directly modeled on totalitarian lines. His coup d'état was planned and carried out with the active participation of the Integralists and other Nazi agents. If Vargas did not at that time transform himself into a Brazilian Hitler, it was only because he feared popular opposition and civil war and could not count on sufficient direct aid from Hitler.

**Dictators Backed by U. S.**  
The reactionary dictatorships that rule most of Latin America are maintained by the support they get from Washington or London, the imperialist capitals. The danger of a Nazi, Italian, or Japanese invasion of Peru, Argentina, or Nicaragua does not lie in a spectacular armed invasion by the armies and navies of the totalitarian powers. The rivalries among the imperialist bandits serve to protect Latin America from such an invasion. In order to make a landing on the coast of Brazil, Germany would first have to destroy the American fleet, and probably the British as well. But their chances of doing that are still remote.

## Fascist Danger Is At Home

The immediate danger of fascist domination in Latin America is internal. It rears its head in each and every country. It is

## economic vassals of the Northern colossus.

**Pave Way For Fascists**  
When petty bourgeois nationalist leaders like Haya de la Torre or Grau San Martín, or "socialist" leaders like Grove, abandon the traditional struggle against U. S. imperialism in order to unite with it for a "common" struggle against fascism, the Nazi agents in Latin America are quite content. The capitulation of these leaders makes it easier to reach the masses with fascist demagoguery. It also makes it easier for the fascists to make connections with those national capitalists (mainly the local industrialists) who aspire to economic independence. The agents of Hitler or Mussolini can thus mask themselves as nationalists. They can make use of the masses' hatred

of the great foreign monopolies—mostly American or British—to make them believe that the anti-imperialist fighters and the revolutionary militants are nothing but agents of Wall Street and London. This method is the principal one used by all the native fascists in Latin America backed directly or indirectly by Hitler or Mussolini: the Integralistas of Brazil, the Gold Shirts of Mexico, the Naclistas of Chile, the Brown Shirts of Argentina, etc.

Thus, to suspend the struggle against Yankee or British imperialism, even for a single moment, is to hand the masses over to the mercies of the fascists, to make it easier for the fascist enemy to conquer from the inside!

## Struggle Must Be Revolutionary

The conclusion from all this is clear: semi-colonial Latin America, an oppressed continent, cannot escape Fascism without struggling against imperialist oppression. But this struggle means national independence. It means an agrarian revolution to bring about the distribution of land to the tillers. It means expropriation of the foreign monopolies. It means the granting of unrestricted democratic liberties to the people and the elevation of the living standard of the masses. This is the only program that can liberate the millions of Latin American slaves from the chains of imperialist oppression, of fascism, and creole dictatorships!

## "Anti-Fascist" Illusions

Unfortunately, this program is rejected not only by imperialist hirelings but by nationalist petty-bourgeois leaders who are impressed by the advance of the fascist powers and by noisy Stalinist demagoguery. Haya de la Torre, for example, believes in the "sincerity" of Roosevelt. Why? Because Roosevelt has not yet used troops and cannons like some of his predecessors and teachers (Wilson!). Haya de la Torre simply does not understand that Wall Street is not yet reduced to methods of last resort and desperation. Hitler cannot wait; but Roosevelt can.

## Lackeys Do Not Speak For Us!

The labor lieutenants of Wall Street, lackeys of the imperialist exploiters of the Western Hemisphere, by their presence at Lima attempted to convey to the Latin American peoples and their most popular leaders (the Haya de la Torre, Grau San Martín, Grove, etc.) the idea that the American working class solidar-

## izes itself with the imperialists of their own country. This is false! These lackeys of imperialism represent only the labor aristocracy which lives off the crumbs cast to them by the imperialists from their feasts at the expense of the Latin American peoples.

But the vast majority of the

## DRIVERS' LEADERS JAILED IN AKRON

**By R. FERGUSON**  
AKRON, Ohio—Two drivers' union business agents were sentenced to one and two day jail terms for violation of an anti-picketing injunction last week here. The charge of contempt of court sent them to the "jug," after they made a test-case of the validity of a sweeping injunction against all picketing of a tank gasoline station.

Chet Smead, president of the Truck Drivers Joint Council, and T. C. Dethloff, president of Taxi Drivers local 345 were the leaders sentenced for protesting the issuance of the injunction against "all persons" aiding Drivers Local 348. Together with John Ellis and Sam Pollock, two other A.F. of L. union business agents, these unionists formed a "Civil Liberties Committee" to carry on picketing activities while Local 348 was under legal restraint. The last two named escaped sentences because the judge found "a reasonable doubt whether these two men had willfully violated the court order."

The courtroom sessions were attended by large crowds of A.F. of L. and C.I.O. unionists intensely interested in the case. The presence of these unionists "convinced" the judge that he had better tread lightly in his anti-labor activities.



Only a few days after the Lima Conference came to an end huzzas for the united front of the American democracies—the black splotches on the map show those countries actually ruled by grinding dictatorships—the New York Times correspondent suddenly revealed that at Lima the dictatorship of President Benévédiz had actually submitted the conference delegates to a kind of reign of terror. The Times headlined "censorship, intimidation and espionage" at Lima and the correspondent detailed a lengthy account of how Benévédiz had hounded the newsmen at the conference to prevent any news of an anti-Fascist character from being sent abroad!

## Moscow Frameups Bared By Ukraine G.P.U. Trial

(Continued from page 1)  
tract the false confessions from the ten men who appeared as prosecution witnesses. The witnesses were limited to describing that G.P.U. officials "compelled" them to make the confessions. Ordinarily news out of Soviet Russia is limited to what emanates from Moscow officials and the Moscow press. Apparently Denny picked up the Kiev story independently of the official news sources. In view of his former uncritical attitude, Denny's underlining of the fact that the trial did not bring out the instrumentalities employed to secure confessions speaks volumes.

**Preserve Faith in G.P.U.**  
Denny further points out the motivation for this trial in the fact that "much stress was placed by the prosecution on the necessity of the public's having faith in the political police." "This crime is particularly heinous," the prosecution declared in asking the death sentence, "because it has sullied the honorable name of Chekist (G.P.U.) with contemptible deeds."

## Why Truth Comes Out

Why the present revelation? The murderous onslaught of the degenerate bureaucracy against all its potential enemies let loose a Frankenstein which threatens to destroy everything, including the bureaucracy itself. Industrial production, military work, administration in every sphere—everything falters as fear-paralyzed functionaries and workers flinch at every step, fearing that any initiative, anything, may bring them into the view of the secret police and cause their downfall. As though stricken with a plague of inertia, the whole nation sinks into passive sullenness. The terroristic methods of the ruling clique thus endanger its own security, for its own power and privileges require a functioning society.

The ruling clique is therefore driven to find ways and means to reassure the people, or at least the millions of functionaries. In the past year, therefore, Soviet leaders have made various reassuring speeches. But these have not achieved their aim. Finally, in desperation, the bureaucracy has had to expose part of its own mechanism in the hope that this extraordinary step will create the necessary reassurance. But in the nature of the whole regime—ironical touch!—the scapegoats had to ape their own methods, convicting themselves in the Kiev trial by self-confessions.

No doubt these confessions, too, had to be extorted by those very efficacious methods of "compelling" which the authorities were very careful not to have described in the courtroom. The extortion methods are kept secret, undoubtedly, for the good and sufficient reason that they are still to be used in future purges.

The Kiev trial was attended by officials and intellectuals, administrators and Stakhanovists, who presumably were summoned in order to be directly reassured. The fact that the trials were not reported throughout the Soviet Union indicates that the ruling clique still hopes to provide such reassurance by such local trial-demonstrations, with discreetly-limited audiences, and without much publicity. The all-devouring paralysis, however, will not be lifted by these measures or, indeed, by any measures which the bureaucracy itself can undertake. Nothing but the removal of the Stalinist bureaucracy, the revival of the Soviet and the establishment of a new revolutionary party can save the Soviet Union from destruction.

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