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FIGHT REPRESSIONS IN SPAIN

CIO Heads Meet A F L Over Unity

Warring Camps May Form One Big Union

CONSIDER CIO PLAN

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)
WASHINGTON, March 9—The joint committee representing the Congress of Industrial Organizations and the American Federation of Labor, which was initiated at the request of President Roosevelt to consider the possibilities of peace between the A.F. of L. and the C.I.O., recessed yesterday, agreeing to meet in New York again Friday to continue discussions.

At the end of the White House conference last Tuesday, John L. Lewis, one of the C.I.O. members of the joint committee, handed the other representatives and President Roosevelt copies of a proposed plan to form a new organization, the American Congress of Labor, which would embrace both camps, and the independent Big Four railway brotherhoods.

The A.F. of L. promptly rejected the proposal, stating that it did not offer "any possible solution to the problems facing us. We are convinced it was not even designed for serious consideration."

Upon the following day, however, the A.F. of L. announced that it would consider the C.I.O. plan and "any other suggestions that may be laid before it."

F.D. Would Preside
The C.I.O. plan calls for special conventions of the C.I.O. and the A.F. of L. to pass upon and approve the plan for forming a new organization. A convention would then be called with delegates from the A.F. of L., the C.I.O., and the four brotherhoods in the railroad transportation field.

This convention, at which President Roosevelt would preside, would organize the American Congress of Labor designed to supersede and embrace the C.I.O. and the A.F. of L. and to include the railroad unions.

Neither Wm. Green nor John L. Lewis would be eligible for office, the president being selected from the railroad brotherhoods. Wm. Green and Frank Morrison would receive a life long pension at their present salaries.

The plan calls for equal representation from the C.I.O. and the A.F. of L. with proportionate representation from the Brotherhoods, which would give these conservative organizations the balance of power. For a year after the new organization was formed the Department of Labor and its conciliation bureau would mediate all controversial questions affecting overlapping jurisdiction among the member unions.

Tobin Attends
Following the White House conference, Daniel J. Tobin of the teamsters, who has been a strong advocate of unity between the A.F. of L. and the C.I.O., agreed to reconsider his resignation from the joint committee and attended the next meeting of the committee which discussed some of the issues with Secretary of Labor Perkins.

The A.F. of L. committee is composed of Harry C. Bates, President of the Bricklayers, Masons, and Plasterers International, Matthew Wolf, A.F. of L. vice-president, and Thomas A. Rickert, president of the United Garment Workers Union. Daniel J. Tobin, president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters made a fourth member.

The C.I.O. committee consists of John L. Lewis, leader of the C.I.O., Philip Murray, vice-president of the United Mine Workers, and Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers.

First comment from the railroad unions on the proposal for unification came from Alexander F. Whitney, president of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, who stated that although he did not favor the term, "one big union," nevertheless he favored

(Continued on Page 2)

The Gravedigger of the Revolution



Roosevelt Attacks Referendum on War

Gallup Poll Shows Boss Gov't Does Not Represent Will of People

In brutal disregard of overwhelming popular sentiment, the administration war-mongers, headed by President Roosevelt, continued this week to lash out against the new proposal for a constitutional amendment to require a nation-wide referendum before the United States should enter a war overseas.

On Wednesday, the American Institute of Public Opinion (the "Gallup poll") released the results of its latest survey on the question of the war referendum. These showed the decisive majority of 58% in favor of the referendum. Significantly enough, the most frequent reason given for supporting the referendum was, according to the release, that "the politicians should consult the people, because the people have to do the fighting."

Indicates Distrust
The present Gallup majority of 58% is a considerable drop from the really tremendous majorities (ranging up to 71%) shown in previous surveys; but when it is kept in mind that during the past two years an almost unprecedented campaign against the referendum has been conducted by the administration and by the entire press of the country, and that the leading supporters of the referendum have replied in the most feeble and weak-kneed fashion, the 58% figure is a remarkable expression of the distrust felt by the people toward the Roosevelt war plans.

The hypocritical character of the Roosevelt pretense that his war is to be fought "for democracy" could not be more openly shown than by his attitude toward the war referendum. If the war is to defend democracy, then why should not the decision about entering it be made by a democratic vote of the people? The war-mongers have not and cannot have any convincing answer to this question.

Gov't Is Enemy of People
In a press interview on Tuesday, Roosevelt, agreeing with Hull's earlier statement, tried to argue that the war referendum was in conflict with the "representative" form of government established by the Constitution.

But what is this "representative" government supposed to represent? If it actually represents the will of the people, then it

cannot possibly have any hesitations about laying its proposals before the people through a popular referendum.

The argument that a popular referendum is in conflict with a representative form of government is in reality a demonstration that what the existing government represents is not the will of the people, that on the contrary the government is the enemy of the great masses of the people and the representative of the banks and corporations which are demanding a war of imperialist aggression in order to lift their profits at the expense of the people.

Many Loopholes
The war referendum, as now proposed by the La Follette bloc in the Senate, is so filled with loopholes that it could not, of course, stop the war. Nevertheless, it offers some hindrance and obstacle, some chance for the masses to express their true opinion. The war-mongers are therefore out to smash it to bits because, in their headlong drive toward the war, they cannot endure the slightest brake on their plans.

POLICE GIVE NAZI PERSONAL GUARD

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)
NEW YORK, N. Y., March 8—A personal guard for Fritz Kuhn, fascist leader of the German-American Bund, has been established by LaGuardia police, Inspector Charles Moonney announced today.

Police will guard Kuhn's home at 33-42 73rd St., Jackson Heights, until the Nazi leader no longer wishes them, stated Inspector Moonney.

"I ordered it on my own responsibility," the Inspector said. "I didn't want some crackpot to go there and break windows or interfere with Kuhn when he comes and goes."

On February 20 when LaGuardia assembled the greatest concentration of police in the history of New York around the fascist meeting at Madison Square Garden, Kuhn thanked the LaGuardia Police Department for its protection and led the assembly of fascists in an ovation to the police.

WOULD RESTORE VOUCHER SYSTEM FOR UNEMPLOYED

Tickets for Buying Food Is Latest Plan

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)
WASHINGTON, D. C.—A new plan openly to brand all unemployed and relief workers as paupers was announced this week by the W.P.A. administration, the Department of Agriculture and other relief agencies.

If present arrangements are carried out, the plan will be tried out in six or seven cities beginning April 1.

The plan calls for the issuance of two different-colored stamps—blue and orange are mentioned—to W.P.A. workers and relief clients. These stamps would be used to purchase food in privately owned stores. Additional stamps would be issued for use in the Government Surplus Commodities Stores.

Second-Class Citizens
Only half of the workers' wages would be paid in cash. The tickets, of course, would mark the worker as a relief worker or relief client and many will recall the treatment given to such customers when home-relief vouchers were used in the early days of the relief administration. Inferior groceries, half-rotten fruit and vegetables, second grade eggs and butter were issued to workers who had only relief vouchers to offer for food.

Here is an example of how this plan would work:
W.P.A. worker Smith, who at present receives \$50 a month on a project would, under the new plan, receive \$30 cash and \$20 in orange stamps. These stamps are to be exchanged for food at any grocery store. He would also receive \$10 in blue stamps which he could exchange only for food at the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation—when there is a surplus.

The grocer would take the stamps to the bank and cash them as checks.

The plan is being widely discussed with great enthusiasm by the various merchants' associations. They expect to increase their volume of business by this new measure which would force the purchasing of goods from certain outlets. The Retailers National Council will discuss the plan, in conjunction with Secretary Wallace in Washington on March 13.

HAIL THE FIGHTERS OF MADRID!

AN EDITORIAL

The revolutionary workers and soldiers of Madrid fought this week with their backs against the wall.

Against overwhelming odds, abandoned by their own leaders and their own organizations, they fought with immeasurable courage against the agents of Fascism who sprang up behind them in the government they had been taught to regard as their own.

The boss press has tacked the label "Communist" to these heroes of Madrid but the men and women fighting today in Madrid are the workers and soldiers of all parties, Communists, Socialists, Anarchists, and non-party workers who would fight on to the death rather than accept the enslaving yoke of Fascism.

Now, as before, we salute them and pledge our undying solidarity!

Death rather than Fascist slavery! This is the heroic spirit that has characterized the Spanish masses throughout these bloody 32 months of civil war!

If they have been backed against the wall now, the responsibility lies with their cowardly and treacherous leaders who have known only how to lead them into a blind alley.

Gen. Jose Miaja, Casado and the other generals—only yesterday the "heroes" of the People's Front—seized power in Madrid, begged Franco for an "honorable peace" and turned their guns on the revolutionary workers and soldiers.

Premier Negrin, Del Vayo and all the other ministers fled back to France. With them went the leaders of the Communist Party, headed by La Pasionaria, who only a few days ago pledged to keep up the fight as long as there was an inch of soil left to defend. Since their arrival in France, La Pasionaria and the other Stalinist bureaucrats have crawled into their holes and have not even expressed solidarity with their abandoned comrades!

But the workers and peasants cannot run away. They cannot hide from the Fascist terror. Surrender means enslavement for all workers and certain death for all the militant fighters of all parties and all unions of the workers. For the workers it is a choice of slavery or the fight for freedom. The men making the magnificent stand in Madrid have made their choice clear. How worthy of better leaders are these heroic fighters!

This, then, is the tragic, final chapter of the People's Front—the organizer of defeats and new catastrophes for the working class. All the People's Front "heroes"—so loudly hailed by the Communist Party—have today either abandoned the fight or gone over to the other side, to the side of the Fascists.

And today the Communist Party whines that it has been "betrayed."

But who really are the betrayers? For two and a half years the People's Front in Spain has been carrying out the orders of French and British imperialism in the interests of their maneuvers against Italo-German imperialism. To make this possible the Stalinists crushed the magnificent revolutionary movement of the Spanish workers and peasants and yoked them to the generals and the capitalist politicians. Now Britain and France seek and demand liquidation of the civil war in Spain and with perfect consistency, Miaja, Casado, and the others are carrying out their orders.

No, the betrayers are those who said the People's Front would or could defeat Fascism. The betrayers are those who destroyed the mass movement and crushed the Spanish revolution and made it possible for the Fascists to sweep across the country and have now made it possible for the generals and politicians on the Loyalist side to seek salvation for their own skins by making a blood-sacrifice of the revolutionary soldiers and workers.

The Communist Party betrayed the masses of Spain by butchering the revolution. Now its own best militants are reaping the reward: they are being butchered on the streets of Madrid, Valencia, and half a dozen other cities in the remaining Loyalist zone.

In Shanghai 12 years ago—on the bloody day of April 12, 1927—Chiang Kai-shek played exactly the same role that Miaja is playing today in Madrid. He transformed himself overnight from the hero of the "People's Front" of that period into the brutal butcher of the working class. Like Miaja, he too took as his chief victims the same Communist militants who had been taught to follow him so blindly. And like those heroic Chinese workers, the revolutionary militants of Madrid fought back in a desperate, heroic rear-guard battle.

The People's Front—"weapon of the anti-Fascist struggle"—has broken like a reed once more in the hands of the workers. Now all the traitors and cowards and head-shakers want to say that their struggle, their sacrifice, their heroism, has been and is futile.

But the masses have displayed not futility but the most inspiring, most creative courage the world has ever seen! Their struggle has been again and again defeated because they have been misled by those who serve not the interests of the workers but the interests of the bosses, of the capitalist rulers of society.

The workers and soldiers in Madrid are proving again that their will to struggle, guided and molded by a revolutionary party that will unswervingly fight for a workers' revolution, can and will put an end to the dying capitalist system that threatens to engulf us all in war, misery, privation, and death.

We will fight Fascism by fighting capitalism and all its minions, not by compromising with them. This, in their hour of tragedy, the Spanish workers are once more teaching us. Let us prove that their struggle is not in vain!

Workers In Madrid Battle New Junta

Communist Party Leaders Abandon Fight At Critical Hour; Miaja Seeks Franco Favor Through Blood-Bath

WAGE HEROIC STRUGGLE

By FELIX MORROW

Battles in a dozen cities between the forces of the Madrid Defense Junta and troops opposed to surrender to Franco were still going on late Thursday night, in spite of two previous announcements by the Junta that it had succeeded in suppressing its opponents.

Labelled indiscriminately "Communists" by the Popular Front Junta, the resisting troops definitely included regiments never identified with Communist party leadership. Moreover, the fighting broke out Tuesday, whereas the top leadership of the Communist party and the Negrin cabinet had fled the country the previous day.

A Paris dispatch dated Tuesday to the Stalinist Daily Worker already reported that "More than 400 Loyalists, including many Communist leaders, escaped by plane and boat to Oran and other French North African ports."

Among the Stalinist chieftains who fled were La Pasionaria, vice-president of the Cortes; Vincente Uribe, Minister of Agriculture; Jesus Hernandez, Minister of Education; Col. Hidalgo de Cisneros, Negrin's air force chief; Gen. Juan Modesto, Col. Enrique Lister, Gen. Antonio Cordon, Garcia Antonio Compaz, Pereda Goiri, and Carlos Nunez Mazas.

With the main leadership of the Communist party out of the country before the outbreak of fighting on Tuesday, it is difficult to credit the Junta's claim that their opponents are exclusively "Communists."

Communist Leaders Fled
Moreover, such leaders as remain appear nowhere in the reports by name as active figures.

On the contrary the United Press stated Thursday afternoon that "It was reported the Communists defied orders of their leaders to surrender and renewed the revolt."

SWP PICKET LINE FIGHTS FASCISTS IN LOS ANGELES

Cops Use Tear Gas To Guard Nazi Meeting

Ten persons were beaten and hundreds tear-gassed in a battle between anti-fascist pickets and police and fascists in Los Angeles Wednesday night, according to a special dispatch Thursday morning in La Voz, Spanish-language anti-fascist daily of New York.

Several hundred pickets, identified in the dispatch as members of the Socialist Workers Party, the Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, the North American Committee, and the American League for Peace and Democracy, were demonstrating at the Wilshire Ebell theater where Alleen O'Brien, fascist "nurse" was propagandizing for Franco.

Fascist students from the Saint Ignatius of Loyola school, acting as "ushers" at the meeting, attacked the picket line but without success.

The police came to the rescue of the fascists, the reserves being called out. They attacked the picket line with clubs, following up with a tear-gas barrage. Pickets caught some of the bombs before they exploded and threw them back at the police, and two officers were injured, according to the La Voz dispatch.

One of the injured anti-fascists had been picketing, with a sign announcing that the handbags he wore were the result of one of Franco's bombing expeditions. The fascist meeting was under

(Continued on Page 2)

Furthermore, the Communist party press here, serviced by Comintern cable service, gives no indication of accepting responsibility for leadership of the fight against the Junta. It describes the resistance as "spontaneously" developed.

Had the Communist party actually planned to resist the Junta's program of capitulation to Franco, it would have arranged, it seems reasonable to assume, for its leadership to remain in Spain, if necessary in hiding, instead of ignominiously fleeing to foreign soil.

Certainly the allegation of the Popular Front Junta that the resisting troops are fighting at the behest of the Negrin cabinet is nonsense, for Negrin himself has refused to support the opposition to the Junta.

Negrin "Reconciled"
In an interview while on the way from Toulouse to Paris on Tuesday, Dr. Negrin "expressed himself as reconciled to the failure of his long effort and hopeful that peace could now be made between the generals in charge of Spain." (N.Y. Times, Mar. 9)

Later attempts to get Negrin to declare himself proved unavailing. The most that was published was a statement by a person near Negrin "duly authorized" to speak. And this—published in the Daily Worker under the misleading heading, "Negrin aide gives facts behind Casado betrayal"—not only did not denounce the Junta in any way but made no bones about the fact that Negrin himself was seeking to make peace with Franco.

The Negrin ministers, it said, "were mainly concerned with one task—to save the lives of tens of thousands of their comrades, Republicans, Socialists and Communists, who would become victims of reprisals from Franco if peace were to be signed without guarantees."

In other words, the Negrin ministers did envision a peace without really binding guarantees of amnesty, and at most justified their course on the basis that they would precede the peace by evacuating from the country the Popular Front's leading elements.

It is clear, then, that this shade of difference—if there is even a shade—between the Negrin government and that of Miaja—can scarcely be the issue over which tens of thousands of troops are refusing to yield to the Junta.

Fighting Widespread
All of the Junta's claims to the contrary, the fighting is of major proportions. The Junta has had to bring a whole army corps into Madrid to attack the fighters in the working class district of Cuatro Caminos. Thursday afternoon, it was officially admitted that the "rebellion" was gaining ground in Ciudad Real, south of Toledo, and that Almeria had been captured by the "rebels."

Valencian troops of the Junta were preparing to defend the city against advancing "Communists." Communications between Madrid and Valencia had been cut. Pre-

(Continued on Page 3)