

# In the World of Labor

By Paul G. Stevens

## Fourth Internationalists Organize Anti-Nazi Fight in Denmark

It is fast becoming a fact that wherever there is organized, militant struggle against fascism, there the Fourth Internationalists will be found at the forefront; wherever a section of the Fourth International exists, there the fascists cannot take to the streets without facing battle.

The Socialist Workers Party brought the masses into the streets to meet the provocations of the Nazi Bund and the various home-baked varieties of fascism in New York, Philadelphia, Los Angeles and San Francisco in the course of the past year. The Revolutionary Socialist Party of Belgium stopped Degrelle's Rexistists in their tracks in one mining town after another, when the fascists attempted to penetrate the proletarian strongholds of the Borinage region. And now, word comes that the newly organized section of the Fourth International in Denmark, the Internationalist Communist Party whose formation we greeted in these columns but a short few months ago, led a successful counter-demonstration against the Danish Nazis in Copenhagen on May 1.

Close to the German border and thus more arrogant than elsewhere, the Danish Nazis provocatively announced a mass meeting in one of the city's public squares on the workers' holiday. The social democrats and the Stalinists responded to this challenge in their usual cowardly fashion—they demonstrated under the national flag in a park miles away from the Nazis. Only our Danish comrades took up the challenge. Thousands of leaflets calling for a counter-demonstration were distributed by the I.C.P. throughout Copenhagen on the day before the demonstration and, on May Day, at the rallies of the Stalinists and the social democrats.

Everywhere the appeal was greeted enthusiastically. Fifteen hundred workers joined the I.C.P. in active combat at the Nazi meeting. Although the police protected the latter, they could not make themselves heard. Every speaker was pelted with a multitude of projectiles from the crowd, which was well-equipped with rotten eggs and ripe tomatoes.

In this action, the I.C.P. for the first time brought into the public streets of Denmark the transitional slogans of the Fourth International. Inscribed on placards, they were greeted enthusiastically by the assembled workers. Altogether, it was an auspicious baptism in action for this fighting infant in the ranks of our internationalists.

More power to the Danish Bolshevik-Leninists!

## Ranks of French "Labor" Leaders Split by Munich Crisis

Some time ago, this column indicated the rift created in the ranks of the major French labor organizations after the September crisis. In the General Federation of Labor (C.G.T.) the formerly militant syndicalist minority—

the "Amis de Syndicats"—countered the Jouhaux-Stalinist war-mongering with nothing but a pro-Munich type of "pacifism". In the official Socialist Party (S.F.I.O.), where Leon Blum joined the Stalinists in their pro-war line, the crisis brought forward the pro-Munich tendency of Paul Faure. Now the rift has widened considerably.

The syndicalists, with their blind apathy toward politics and their superficial anti-Stalinism, were bound to flounder into dangerous waters. At first, their agreement with the Flandin-Bonnet group of capitalist "Munichois" appeared to be a mere coincidence. When their pamphlets were reprinted in the press of this imperialist gang, that should have been cause for them to pause. It was, but instead of re-evaluating their phoney kind of pacifism, they began to "reconsider" . . . their syndicalism.

They have finally arrived at a conclusion which makes their class collaboration no better, and in a sense even more dangerous, than that of Jouhaux and the Stalinists whom they have been fighting for years. Joint meetings with the bosses' association representatives "in the general interest of the country" have been organized by such prominent syndicalists as Georges Dumoulin and Delaisi in the North, where they are in control of the unions. Dumoulin writes in their paper, "Syndicats," with a cynicism characteristic of those whom he has fought in the past:

"There are, of course, some risks. . . We haven't abandoned a particle of our class feelings; we merely think that, like everything else, the class struggle has changed. It has taken on new forms. In every case, constructive work requires collaboration and no durable construction is possible without loyal collaboration. . ."

The syndicalists are thus well on their way into the camp of the Munich group of French capitalists, just as their Stalinist opponents have already lined up with the pro-war group.

## Paul Faure Lines up The S. P. against Blum

In the S.F.I.O., the same tendency is reflected in the struggle between the Paul Faure and Leon Blum factions. Under the cry that "the heavy obligations imposed by national defense are serving as a pretext for a policy of social reaction", Faure demands, not a denunciation of national defense by coalitions with the capitalist parties . . . but a break with the Stalinists on the part of Leon Blum and the Socialist Party. Having been the general secretary of that party Paul Faure lined up a large majority at the party convention last week-end in a test vote on whether to debate a resolution on this subject which he had presented and the National Committee had suppressed. Faure does not yet openly propose alignment with the Flandin-Bonnet group of French capitalists. But his stand in the Munich crisis leaves no doubt that he is headed in the same direction on the political field as the syndicalists are on the trade union field.

# Father Coughlin Is Labor's Mortal Enemy

## Friendship for Labor Is So Much Eyewash

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Guard to terrorize the 12,000 miners on strike. The commander of the National Guard has given his men the brutal order: "Shoot to kill!"

Where does Coughlin stand on this clear-cut labor issue? With the workers? Of course not. He stands where he always stands, with the bosses.

Coughlin entitles an article on the Harlan strike (Social Justice, May 22): "Troops Protect Men Working in Kentucky Mines." The "men working" naturally are scabs, but this the pious father conveniently "forgets" to mention. Coughlin whitewashes the bosses—the same bosses who were so scathingly criticized for their anti-labor practices by the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee last year. Coughlin throws the entire blame for the conditions in bloody Harlan County onto John L. Lewis and the union, and seeks to shatter the strikers' morale.

### Peddles Boss Lies

Coughlin peddles the lies of the bosses. Says Social Justice: "To guarantee the men their right to work, Governor Chandler found it necessary to call out nearly 1,000 National Guard troops to stand guard over the mines." The article states further: "Lewis defied the forces of law and order in Harlan County, Ky., where Governor Chandler said that 75 per cent of the mine workers desired to work, despite Lewis' command that they continue in idleness. The cry of revolt (against Lewis) was heard in other sections, sickened by Lewis' one-man rule over their jobs, homes and happiness."

How about the bosses' tyranny over the workers, Father Coughlin? How about the bosses' iron grip over the jobs, homes and happiness of the strikers? On these points Coughlin is silent. He always attacks the workers when they seek to strengthen their unions. He has no word of criticism against the bosses' strike-breaking.

Chandler calls out the troops against the striking miners. The National Guard commander gives the order "shoot to kill." Father Coughlin applauds vehemently, and shouts "Hurrah!" and "Amen!" That's the sort of man that Coughlin is—an enemy of the workingman.

Coughlin's anti-union policies

seek to smash the unions and force workers to meek acceptance of their bosses' hand. Coughlin wants "no conflict" between labor and employer. He wants "national unity," the "corporative state," a la Mussolini. "National unity," says Coughlin (Social Justice, May 8) will solve the problem of the unemployed. The course of national unity "will be open to Americans the day they forget they are . . . workers or capitalists and decide to cooperate in putting the United States back on its feet."

No unions, no strikes, "unity" between workers and capitalists—this is the fascist answer to the problems of decaying capitalism. It is the answer of Coughlin and his backers, the DuPonts, the Morgans,

the Rockefellers—America's Sixty Families.

Labor's interests are in uncompromising conflict with Coughlinism, which is the most hypocritical, the most insidious, and therefore the most dangerous manifestation of American fascism today. Coughlinism means concentration camps, forced labor, a prison regime for the workers of America.

If the workers are passive and deluded here as they were in Germany, Coughlinism will succeed in depressing their living standards to the level of the Chinese coolie. To stamp out American fascism before it breeds and spreads, the workers must prepare now to protect their unions, their meetings and their organizations. Workers must form defense squads to beat back the fascists whenever they launch an attack.

The Socialist Workers Party calls upon the workers to spurn fascist appeals, solidify their ranks, and form their own defense squads. This is the way to fight Coughlinism.

# Dies Investigation of Fascists Is Adjourned

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tee, which Dies characterized as "vaguely cordial."

In one of the letters found by the committee, McWhirter asked Campbell if Gov. Alfred M. Landon, former Republican candidate for the Presidency, was of Jewish descent.

The two Republican members of the committee protested vigorously over this phase of the investigation and later Hamilton was called in for questioning by Dies. Hamilton denied any political connection between himself and Campbell and issued a long statement to the press characterizing the Dies attack as based on "innuendoes." He answered Campbell's letters, he stated, because they were brought to his attention by McWhirter.

When McWhirter took the

stand, he "forgot" all the details concerning the letters he had written fascist Campbell.

Knights of White Camella. The committee then began investigating Maj. Gen. Moseley's connection with the anti-Semitic campaign. They called for questioning, not Moseley, but George Deatherage, head of the Knights of the White Camella.

Deatherage gave the history of the Knights of the White Camella and its revival as a fascist movement. It had been his hope, he testified, that Moseley would lead a movement to establish a fascist form of government in the United States. He had discussed the perspective with Moseley but the general had not committed himself.

Deatherage predicted a wave of suicides in the United States like that which swept the Sudetenland after the Nazi occupation, and stated, "In spite of what 10,000 Dies committees can do, you are going to have civil disorder. Any expedient is justified if it's peaceful. The time is over for taking pills. We must have a surgical operation."

His surgical operation would be the substitution of military courts for the Federal government and the State governments "until such time as the people of the country should have re-established their ability to govern themselves."

The Dies committee asked General Moseley if he would testify voluntarily or if it would be necessary to subpoena him. The General replied that it was not convenient for him to appear at present. The committee responded stiffly that it could no longer await his convenience and adjourned indefinitely.

## 400 Hear Shachtman Speak at Harvard

BOSTON, May 27.—A splendid turnout of more than 400 students of Harvard University, members of the faculty, and workers of Boston filled one of the large halls on the University campus for a showing of the film, "From Czar to Lenin," which was followed by an address on the present situation of the Russian Revolution delivered by Max Shachtman, editor of the Socialist Appeal.

The gathering took place under the auspices of the University Socialist Club (4th Internationalist) and its success was all the more gratifying in view of the attempted boycott of the Stalinists and of the fact that many students were unable to attend due to the crowded "exams" period.

Shachtman contrasted the present Stalin regime with the period in which Lenin and the Bolsheviks were at the helm of the revolution and showed the incompatibility of the two political theories and practices.

# Empty Seats Greet Del Vayo's 'Explanation' of Spanish Defeat

By FELIX MORROW

Negrin's last-minute failure to appear, the failure of Del Vayo and the other speakers to answer any of the questions which have been troubling Communist Party members, and thousands of empty seats, sent the audience away with no questions answered and new ones raised, at the Negrin-Del Vayo mass meeting at Madison Square Garden Monday night, May 22.

The meeting took place under the shadow of the revelations of Walter Krivitsky, former chief of the Soviet Military Intelligence in Western Europe, and of Luis Araquistain, left wing Spanish Socialist leader.

Corroborating authoritatively the charges made by revolutionists in Spain and abroad concerning the scabby and sabotaging role of the Stalinist-Negrin regime, these revelations have aroused throughout the Communist Party and its sympathizing circle a widespread demand for an answer from Negrin and the Communist leaders.

But Negrin did not appear, and the explanation finally given for his absence was obviously lame. That very morn-

ing an advertisement appeared in the New York Times, announcing Negrin's appearance that evening. But at the far end of the meeting—after the collection—it was suddenly announced that Negrin had been unable to "return" because he was busy arranging for the entry of refugees into Mexico. The announcement conveyed the implication that Negrin was in Mexico.

But if so, why the advertisement that morning? Even more pertinent, why was he listed as a guest the following evening in New York at a party for Dorothy Parker? Negrin's failure to appear indicates a new schism within the ranks of the Stalinists and their allies. They deny it? Let them produce Negrin on a platform!

Two other speakers prominently advertised that morning failed to appear—Archibald MacLeish and Fannie Hurst. A polemic in the next issue of the New Masses against MacLeish indicates a break there too. As for the distinguished woman novelist, I am authoritatively informed that she refused to share the platform with Negrin and Del Vayo after reading Araquistain's exposure of their role in destroying the Loyalist cause in Spain.

### Thousands Stay Away

Krivitsky's and Araquistain's exposures, and the truth told by the revolutionists finally seeping down into the ranks of the Communist Party and its sympathizers accounted, too, for the thousands of empty seats in the Garden. Workers, disgusted with Stalinist policy in Spain and with the failure of the Stalinist press to answer the insistent questions raised on all sides, voted with their feet, staying away in droves.

This was particularly significant since the Communist Party had staked its prestige on filling the Garden. Weeks of whirlwind preparations for the meeting, front-page banners in the Stalinist press, had been climaxed on the day of the meeting with an editorial hortation in the Daily Worker: "Not an empty seat in the Garden tonight." Nevertheless, a good third of the auditorium was a panorama of gaping rows of empty seats.

The only other Stalinist-sponsored Garden meeting in many years which was as poorly attended was the February 27 Communist party rally which was held just a week after the great February 20 demonstration organized by the Socialist Workers Party against the Nazi Garden meeting; the Stalinist boycott of the anti-Nazi demonstration was answered by thousands of Com-

munist party members and friends who stayed away from the Stalinist meeting.

### Del Vayo Ducks

Conscious that his audience wanted an answer to the Araquistain and Krivitsky charges, Del Vayo began by saying that it was no time to make a political speech. When would be the time? He did not say. His opening formula was, however, merely a pretext for not answering the charges. For his masters, the Stalinists, would not and could not answer.

The only reference to the charges that they permitted him was: "Certain elements say we blocked the social revolution in Spain; but the same elements also say we are Reds."

This tricky attempt to find a contradiction in the charges is of course thoroughly dishonest. There is no contradiction. They did block the social revolution in Spain, destroyed the workers' and peasants' morale, and made possible the victory of Franco. And they did so in alliance with the Stalinist leadership which wanted no social revolution in Spain, but on the contrary, sought to demonstrate by their conservative, counter-revolutionary policy, that Stalin deserved an alliance at the hands of British and French imperialism.

As soon as Del Vayo stated that he was not going to make a political speech, a large number in the audience left. They had come to hear the answer of Negrin and the Communist Party to the mountain of evidence growing against these destroyers of the anti-fascist struggle. They heard nothing, because the Stalinists cannot and dare not answer.

# SOCIETY NOTES

## Refugee Family Dying From Gas Poisoning, Charged with Homicide

Two weeks ago, Rheinart Lowengart, 40, looked forward to a life of freedom and happiness as he embarked for this country with his wife, 27, and their 6-year-old son, Manfred. Today, their third day in America, all three are dying in Bellevue Hospital, where they were taken from a furnished room at 305 E. 51st St., after police broke in and found them overcome by gas.

Lowengart and his wife, assigned to the prison ward, were formally charged with attempted homicide. If by remote chance they recover from the effects of the gas, they will be brought to trial.

Lowengart, police said, had slashed the wrists of his wife and son, and then his own, after the gas jets in the tiny room had been turned on. He left no note of explanation, but despondency was thought to be a contributing cause.

Police and an emergency crew from the Consolidated Edison Company worked frantically on the trio, using 4 tanks of oxygen in the attempt to save their lives. But they considered the chances for success slight.

## Spends \$1,000 a Day On Racing Stable After Leaving Poetry

Many, many years ago, say six or seven generations of horses ago, Helen Hay was young and dark-eyed and soft to look on and she was known as the Rose of Washington. She wrote poetry and illustrated the poems herself. She was an artistic young person.

But that was many years ago, and it came to pass that Helen Hay married into the Whitney family, which thinks a Whitney may speak only to a thoroughbred race horse, and a thoroughbred race horse may speak only to god.

Today Helen Hay, now Mrs. Payne Whitney, spends \$1,000 a day on the upkeep of her Greentree Stable, and she no longer writes poetry. When Payne Whitney died in 1927 he left behind the world's largest recorded estate—\$200,000,000—and before Mrs. Whitney could catch her breath and get the news from the Department of Taxation, a bull market sent the securities up another \$100,000,000. Here was all this money and nothing to do with it, so the former poet spread-eagled into the sport of millionaires with beaucoup splash and in the last twelve years has tossed more than \$10,000,000 into the racing pot.

# On the Line . . . with Bill Morgan

EN ROUTE—One night last week I am sitting in Molly's Cafe in Milford, Utah, enjoying a glass of lukewarm beer and listening to the nickel music-box which is playing my favorite swing tune, the Beer Barrel Polka, when the door swings open with a bang and in stalks a long, slim guy all dolled up in a red silk shirt and cowboy boots.

He stands in the doorway for a couple of seconds like a fire alarm box before he spots me and then he makes a beeline for my table, and then he waits for a lull in the music before he opens up that down at the post office he heard I am in possession of radical literature.

Sure, I says, knowing it is too late to make a quick exit and with a quiver in my otherwise normal voice, it is still a free country to some extent and the post office ain't run by Hitler is it?

### Slim Beaver Explains Himself

No, he says slowly, and he smiles just a little which right off makes the severe pain in my solar plexus ease up considerably.

Then he smiles again like before, and introduces himself as Slim Beaver, and explains that all he wants is some information on Socialism because he is in a jam since 1932 when he voted a straight Socialist ticket merely because he figured that the other two parties on the ballot are nothing but horses from the same nest even if they do call each other dirty names, and no matter which gets a grip on the public payroll the difference is the same, whereas the Socialists might be on the level, only what happened to the Socialist Party anyway and how can he find out where it is?

Now Slim is in a tough spot and his difficulties increase all the time because for one thing, as everybody knows, Norman Thomas did not get elected and for another thing, as everyone in Milford knows, the way you vote in a small town is public news, and for another thing Slim doesn't know a thing about Socialism, and ever since that election he has been pestered by the local yokels to explain Marxism, which is a complete mystery to Slim, but which he knows would pin back the ears of these birds, if only he had the answers, and he knows from just figuring out

Now my pain is entirely gone. I encourage Slim to go ahead and ask questions. He does, and I answer, without once using words like recapitulation and bourgeois, which would sound like the Ladies Afternoon Literary Club in a jam session fit to suffocate any cow-puncher who might be in the same corral. After five or six beers, Slim and I are now the best of pals, and he is hanging on every word, as I tell him about the Socialist Workers Party and the Fourth International and how it was organized by revolutionists from every nook and cranny of the country and was preparing to have a real show-down with Capitalism, and how he ought to join up and fight against the war which the bosses are aiming to set off in order to boost profits in the name of Democracy, and I also explain why the Stalinists have taken to fitterbugging to the tune of the Star Spangled Banner.

Slim eats it all up. Then he says he has a

bunch of the boys from the Lazy R ranch who are all hot about the idea of organizing. If he calls them in, would I mind?

They come tramping in and when their hard boots hit Molly's new mail-order linoleum, it sounds like a herd of wild mustangs racing across a tin roof. It looks like a rodeo, what with all the blue, green and yellow shirts and the horse-opera hats.

### Cowboy and Cattle Owner

It seems that there is considerable unemployment, and cowboys are being forced to apply for home relief and W.P.A. jobs digging ditches which is a sorry come down the way they look at it, and anyway the W.P.A. is about washed up and that means just home relief.

At the same time the Cattle Owners Association is raising hell and blaming Roosevelt, because he has signed a trade treaty with Argentine to ship beef in cans from South America for the Army and Navy here in the U.S.A. Now these cattle owners are Republicans who want to put the Democrats on the spot, but at the same time they are very strong patriots who are saying that this country could lick the whole world and that we must protect South America from invasion because the Italians and the Germans have their eye on it and by right it belongs to us. They tell the unemployed cowhands to join the Army or the Navy and show their patriotism and gratitude at being born in a free country.

Now the cattle owners are in a fix because how can they keep a straight face when they talk about defending American trade rights in South America, when these trade rights mean that the more trade in this canned beef throws men out of jobs and on to the home relief and the W.P.A. which the Republicans want to do away with outright instead of diplomatic like Roosevelt is doing it? This is the main question out in the cow country and Slim and his friends are anxious to hear the answer because things are getting tougher every day.

Well, I am almost stuck because these fellows are sure there is a mistake being made by somebody in this whole mess and that if this little misunderstanding would only be cleared up everything would be hunky dory once more. So I start out carefully and explain that there is no mistake and that no one really is fooled by all this except a few dopes who cannot see through the game which is part of a system. Little by little I try to show them that the bosses are forced into situations which can be solved only by a war. Then I go on and explain also how the patriots in the steel industry are also yelling about defending America and all the while they are selling scrap iron to Japan which makes it into bullets and how the armament bosses sell arms and patents to any country which will buy them for good money, regardless of who will get shot with all the guns they sell. Patriotism depends entirely on profits and it is only natural that they will give your life for their country if you let them get away with it. It can't be otherwise unless we organize and put the damper on them in a hurry.

# New International to Suspend Publication, Unless . . . . .

The June number of the New International, reviewed elsewhere in the Appeal, is off the press. On this occasion it is necessary, and painful, to announce that the New International WILL CEASE PUBLICATION FORTHWITH unless its readers come to its support immediately. Revenue has fallen off sharply. Particularly have many S.W.P. units neglected to pay for their bundles for a considerable period. This failure to pay for the bundles is the immediate cause for the crisis with the New International. Likewise, the Branches have failed to take advantage of first-class opportunities to obtain subscriptions, especially RENEWALS, of which several hundred have expired. Now the management stresses the imperative need for the BRANCHES TO PAY THEIR BUNDLE BILLS AT ONCE. OTHERWISE THERE WILL BE NO JULY ISSUE OF THE NEW INTERNATIONAL.

In the matter of SUBSCRIPTIONS, with main reference here to RENEWALS, the following cities have several hundred long-expired subscriptions to follow up and are in a position to assist the magazine greatly through an organized effort to obtain renewal subscriptions:

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