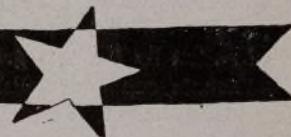




The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

Organ of the international brigades



Vol. I - N.º 5

Madrid, June 22 - 1937

APPEAL OF SPANISH WORKERS ORGANIZATIONS

On June 2nd the Spanish Socialist and Communist Parties and the U. G. T. appealed to the Communist and Socialist Internationals and to the International Federation of Trade Unions asking them yet again to undertake common action of the most determined kind against the Fascist intervention in Spain. The next day Dimitrov made known the text of a telegram sent by the Communist International to the Socialist and Trade Union Internationals to establish unity of action to defend the Spanish people.

De Brouckere's replied, stating that while they realised more than ever the need for energetic action, neither the Chairman nor the Secretary had the power to act on their own initiative.

Such a formal reply in face of such grave issues brought many



José Díaz.



Luigi Gallo, left.

A Victory for working class solidarity.

The fact that the meeting is to take place is in itself a tremendous achievement for working class solidarity. But can we feel entirely confident that even at this late hour there will be no voices in the meeting raised against united action?

Because of previous experiences we are forced to believe that if any such opposition arises, it will be voiced by representatives of the British Labour Party, and this would be exceedingly dangerous because of the decisive influence which the British labour movement commands in the councils of the Second International.

A tremendous responsibility



Maurice Thorez.

protests. The leaders of the 2nd International could not refuse the demands of the Spanish worker organisations in the face of the grim realities of the struggle in Spain and the rapidly growing demand of the workers throughout the world, for action in support of the Spanish people.

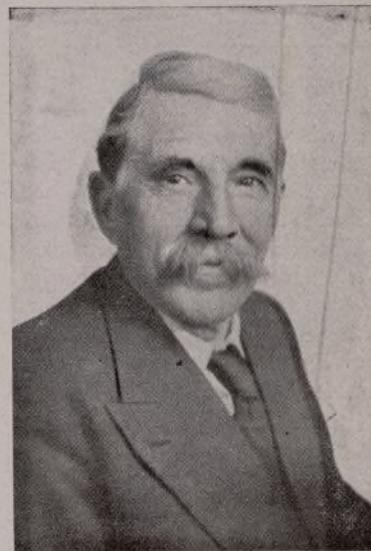
Socialists agree to meet.

De Brouckere sent a further telegram to Dimitrov saying "We too believe it is essential to reach an agreement on action on behalf of Spain and without needless delays" and asked the Communist International to inform him of the place of meeting.

Inspector of the Brigades to attend the meeting.

The Communist International immediately appointed comrades Thorez and Cachin of France, José Díaz leader of the Spanish Communist Party, Franz Dahlem of Germany and Luigi Gallo, of the Italian Communist Party and Inspector of the International Brigades as their representatives at the meeting in Paris on the 19th of June.

The Republican press received the news with general satisfaction. A number of newspapers regret the costly delay which has occurred and consider the meeting as a victory of the working masses throughout the world.



Marcel Cachin.

rests upon the British working class to insist that the meeting decides for action and to ensure that action is energetically carried out.

All of us are in touch with working class organisations back home and each of one us has the duty of informing our comrades outside Spain of their great responsibilities and what this unity of action by the two great Internationals can accomplish.

The tremendous weight of opinion which has compelled this meeting must be strengthened by thousands of resolutions demanding not only food, money and medical supplies, but above all overwhelming pressure on the governments to end the tragedy of "non-intervention" which aids the Fascists; to outlaw the Fascists and secure the withdrawal of German and Italian ships and soldiers; to give the Government of Spain its full rights to procure war materials abroad.

This is no easy task, for too much time has already been lost, but it is well within the powers of the two Internationals at a time when the people of the world are revolted at the crimes of Fascism.

LANCASTER, PA. LOCK WORKS SHUT AS WORKERS WALK OUT

LANCASTER, Pa. — Frain Lock Works is shut down through the courage of a group of workers who shut off the electric switch early Wednesday morning in protest against \$14 for 58-hour weeks and for refusal of Old Sam Frain to negotiate terms with the C.I.O. into which most of the workers are organized.

AL SMITH IN ROME

Our old friend, Wall Street Brown Derby strutter, former Governor of New York, once Democratic Presidential candidate, Al Smith, is in Rome visiting Mussolini. It is well known that Smith is a vigorous fascist supporter.

While in the city he prayed at St. Peter's after being escorted to the altar by two Swiss guards. And he was received in private audience by Pope Pius XI at his summer home. To mark the occasion the Pope presented Mr. Smith an autographed miniature. The gift to the Pope was a miniature Empire State Building of gold. A good symbol of american capitalism.

General Luckacs is dead, he died a leader and a hero of the International Brigades

General Luckacs (Matei Jalka) one of the very best commanders of the International Brigades, is dead. He died, hit by a grenade, while inspecting the terrain over which his unit was to operate.

He died like a hero on the front line, at the head of his troops, as the generals of the people know how to die, the generals of the glorious Spanish popular Army.

An experienced commander, and a brilliant cavalry officer, well known writer on military questions, a courageous Hungarian antifascist fighter, General Luckacs was one of the first to offer his experience, his knowledge, his wisdom and his courage to the cause of Spanish Freedom.

To the appeal of the Spanish people, cowardly attacked by the rebel generals, traitors to their Country, and threatened by the airplanes and by the bombs of international fascism, General Luckacs, like a thousand others from all lands, left his peaceful activities to come to Spain and fight for the freedom of a brother people and for the independence and liberty of all peoples.

He was General and Commander of one of the greatest of the International Brigades. He was friend and brother of all fighters for liberty, he is a hero among the thousand of heroes who, in this epic war against fascism, make great the name of Spain and continue the noblest traditions of heroism.

He was at University City, during the memorable November days, when the heroic defense of invincible Madrid began. He was at Pozuelo de Alarcón, at Boadilla del Monte, at Mirabuena, at Majadahonda, on the Jarama, at Guadalajara.

He was always at the head of his unit, shoulder to shoulder with the most famous Brigades of the new Spanish popular army. He wrote memorable pages of military power and wisdom, pages which will remain in history.

In a few days he made his unit into a model of organization, of willingness to fight and of capacity for action.

He was among the most con-

vinced supporters for the Popular Front Government's orders for the creation of a strong army, united and disciplined, under a unified command.

But in the name of General Luckacs himself, our great lost hero, our flags are lifted again, once more to be carried forward, in the epic war of the Spanish peo-



General Luckacs.

The blind destiny of war has taken from the Popular Army one of its best Generals; has deprived us of one of our best Commanders, has taken from us a leader, a Comrade, a friend.

His teachings, however, remain. The magnificent military cadres trained by his schooling and by his example also remain; his splendid unit will continue its traditions of courage and combativity.

Every Spanish fighter, every volunteer for liberty, bows before the remains of the great hero. The colors carried in many battles and though many victories, are lowered for a moment.

ple, in defence of its liberties and of its independence and in defence of the future of progressive humanity.

LUIGI GALLO
Inspector-Commissar
of the International Brigades.

ITALY CAN'T PAY U. S. WAR DEBT

In a note, by the U. S. Department of State, to the Italian Government demanding payment of its war debt, Mussolini, through his Italian Ambassador at Washington replied that Italy is not in a position to meet any financial obligations at this time.

Spanish news in brief

June 15.—The Executive Committee of the Catalan U. G. T. has announced that it will not enter into any conversation with the C. N. T. until it has received an answer to its proposals for a unity pact made on the 22d of May.

June 16.—The police have seized 3,000 bombs in possession of incontrollables! The war ministry has at once sent the bombs to the front. No doubt POUM will protest against this counter-revolutionary use of bombs.

June 16. — Comrade Luckacs



What is it?

and other anti-fascist heroes of the International Brigades recently killed in Aragon front were solemnly buried in Valencia. The ministers of Defense, Agriculture and Education, Comrades Prieto, Uribe and Hernández, beside Alvarez Del Vayo and other Government figures were among the guard of honor. Comrade Gallo, Inspector of the International Brigades was also present, with leading representatives of the Spanish Socialist and Communist Parties.

June 17.—A Plenum of the Spanish C. P. has been convened. First problem to be studied is that of the creation of One United Proletarian Party and the strengthening of the Popular Front.

June 17.—The police have arrested the five principal leaders of POUM Andres Nin, Jorge Arquer, David Pérez, Andrade and Ortiz. Nin has been transferred to a Valencia prison.

June 17.—Vigorous and successful offensive on the Huesca front. We wish to draw the mention to the fact that the Aragon front

Yesterday in the House of Commons the Sartorial Expert, Mr. Eden, announced "The German and Italian Governments from today onward recommence their collaboration in the work of the committee of Non-Intervention and the Sub Committee of Control. The House will note that both Governments have taken this position without receiving the securities demanded from both parties in the Spanish conflict."

It would be hard to beat this for cynical insolence. When a German battleship fires on Government's planes, and they reply, the German Control Fleet at once sails to Almeria and commits an act of war which even no decent belligerent would undertake. The German and Italian Governments at once demand 'securities', and Eden, not content with the farce of demanding these from the Popular Front Government, makes a hypocritical pretence of impartiality by demanding that Franco's airplanes shall not bomb German battleships! This is, of course, in case German battle-ships should ever open fire on Franco's planes!

The following is a summary of the text which Eden has sent both to the Spanish Government and to Franco: "First. It is begged of both parties that they give definitive securities that they will respect foreign warships on the high

has become INTENSELY ACTIVE since the work of reorganization, begun by General Pozas, nominated by Valencia Government and welcomed by Catalan Popular Front Organizations.

JUNE 19.—Fourteen more leaders of the P. O. U. M. were arrested amongst them the Editor of "La Batalla". The whole of the buildings printing shops, and offices of the P. O. U. M. organ and every office and building of the Trotskyite party in Barcelona have been seized by the Government. Later in the day 50 more arrests were made. In the San Gervasio barracks of the P. O. U. M. several thousand complete uniforms and military outfits were found.

JUNE 19.—Andres Nin has been transferred to Madrid.

seas or elsewhere and that they will take measures such that their sea and air forces observe these securities. Secondly. With the object of avoiding attack or injuries to foreign warships of the Control when situated in ports of one or the other side, both parties are asked to make arrangements with the four Powers (of the Control) naming Spanish ports which can be used as bases by such warships and appointing safety regions in these ports. Third. Both parties must understand that every infraction against the security of attacks against Control warships will be considered as a question affecting the common interests of the Four Powers. Independent of whatever rapid means of legitimate defense may be judged necessary by the attacked warships, the Four Powers will seek an immediate agreement among themselves about what measures to take, taking into consideration the point of view of the interested Government."

What does this disgusting document mean? Does the third article mean that if a German cruiser again opens fire on Government planes that the British Government and the French will agree to whatever war measures Hitler and Mussolini may decide

THE SARTORIAL EXPERT



Anthony Eden.

to take? Does it mean that these Governments will agree to the bombing of say Valencia or an attack on Loyalist ships moored in Spanish ports? In any case are not Italian Government forces already bombing Spanish cities, and are not German planes doing the same?

So far the Spanish Government has given no official reply though Señor Giral, Foreign Minister, has stated that the Spanish people have a determined objection to allowing any German or Italian warships to enter Spanish ports or territorial waters. The presence of such ships would be an insult to the Spanish Nation. Moreover, remembering that German and Italian warships have taken an active and illegal part in preventing food supplies reaching Spain (sinking of the Komsomol and the attempted blockade of Bilbao and Gijon) are they to be allowed to put into Valencia and requisition food? Probably Mr. Eden expects the Spanish Intendencia to place teams of dock workers and a regiment or two at the disposal of the German Admiral, for revictualling fatigues; so that he may then go to sea and sink food ships.

Here is one task for English workers of the Second and Third Internationals, to undertake a nation wide campaign to remove the National Government. And this, if the Labor Party will cooperate with the other democratic and progressive parties, can definitely be done. In the interests of public sanitation Eden must be removed. VOLONTAIRE (inglés)

HOPKIN'S PROPHECY

In a speech at Scranton, Pa., W. P. A. Administrator, Harry L. Hopkins, prophesied to his audience that: within six months U. S. Labor will have been completely organized in the mass production industrie. "And" he added, "nobody will be talking about it. It will be accepted as a fact."

Americans in Spain will have a hard time recognizing the rapidly growing class-conscious U. S. when they get back.



For three days peasants and field worker delegates from the Madrid province have sat in conference, brought together by the Agrarian Commission of the Madrid Regional Communist Party. It was the first time in Spanish history such a conference had been held: in fact, only in one other country can there have been a parallel event. For this was not a conference of trade union delegates meeting to discuss wage increases or relations with employers. It was a conference of peasants who themselves worked their land, with the aid of their government which has recently given it to them.

In the hall of the Madrid Ateneo, where formerly scholars and aesthetes waged learned debates, the peasants of Castile spoke of their problems, often passionately and sometimes bitterly, but always with that hard sense and determination which is the characteristic of the Castilian peasant. Collective, Cooperative, Reaping, Seed, Land, Shock Brigades! These were the key words of the conference.

THE DEMAND FOR HELP

Delegate after delegate demanded help, materials, seeds, or shock brigades to replace the men now in the trenches. A peasant from the little village of Daganzo, for instance, in a halting yet tremendously moving speech pleaded for help. In that village 80 men will

THE SICKLE THE RIFLE AND THE HAMMER



Deep plowing by means of heavy plows would save many crops from impoverishment by drought. The uppermost picture shows a type coveted in Spain. Both youth and old are represented among the delegates. One of the most thrilling things at the Agrarian Conference was the unity and cordial understanding between army and People. The picture on the right shows a commonly seen proof of this.

have to work desperately to reap 5,000 fanegas of land unless a shock brigade arrives. There are five reaping machines in that village and no one understands their use. Even the mules cannot be fully utilized because of shortage of labor. In some towns the field workers and workers of other trades have formed their own shock brigades. Colmenar possesses 33 of them, all pledged to work whatever hours are necessary to bring in the crops. In this town there are also special brigades to defend the fields from possible fire caused by enemy aviation.

At Vicálvaro the Municipal Council has decided unanimously that the whole village shall become a shock corps: "even the poor devil of a sacristan" the delegate declared, getting a laugh from the assembly.

The delegate from the hamlet of Anchuelo reported that they had partly solved their labor problem as a result of the visit of

question of field workers. It was said that women could not perform the heavy tasks required of them, but this was false. They had had to do it under the old regime often enough, and Anchuelo was proof that they were eager to help now. She went on to review the part played by women in the struggle against fascism. At Carabañas, for example, 200 women were collectively engaged in washing and repairing soldiers' 60 clothing. At Cercedilla they are helping to run a Home which



Comrade Julia Bea, the women's organizer of the Agrarian Commission. A group of 20 women was formed to carry on in the place of the men who had gone into the army. Today 30 women are in that group. This at once brought Comrade Julia, as she is called by the peasants, to her feet. The Party units have neglected women's work, she said, in this

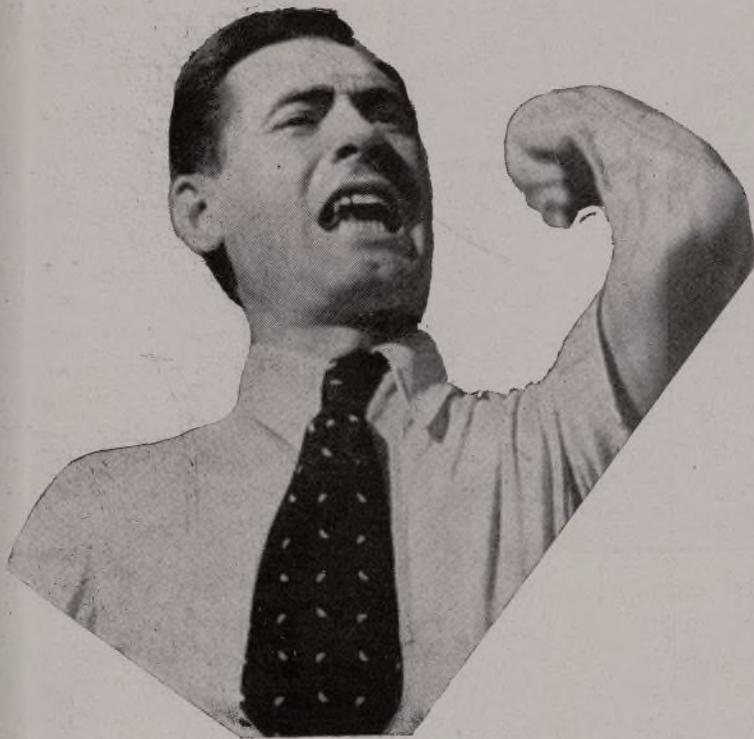
supports 600 children. At Villalba there is a collective workshop producing rope-soled shoes for the army. It was a record of fine work, but the women were capable of playing a far bigger role than they were doing, and this neglect must be remedied.

UNITY OF ARMY AND PEASANTRY

At the third session Comrade Lister, Commander of the First Mixed Brigade, was given a tremendous welcome by the assembled peasants and field workers. In the course of his speech he assured them of the sympathy and the loyalty of the army. At a later session Comrade Modesto, Commander of the Fourth Army Corps, condemned one recent example of shameful conduct, in which the Intendencia of a certain military unit operating in the Guadarrama war zone actually demanded of a village the whole of its live-stock, 130 beasts,



U. G. T. Mayor reports on his village



Comrade Uribe, First peasant of Spain.

some of which were about to calf down. The villagers protested that this would ruin their economy for years to come, but to no avail. "Soldiers who behave like this are a disgrace to the People's Army and a danger to the Republic; this is the work of fascists and these people must be treated as such", General Modesto said. The Hortaleza delegate was prompt to remind the conference that the Lister Brigade had already supplied a shock corps of 100 skilled reapers to the Municipal Council of Hortaleza. Many other regiments have since done the same, including units of the International Brigade. The Command of the English Battalion has approached the Mayor and Municipal Council of their town to discuss the way in which they can give aid to the peasants; the Lincoln Battalion has taken a similar measure.

Campesino, Dr. Pando, and other famous Commanders of the People's Army also took part in the discussion. It was a magnificent experience this, of realizing that in Spain a People's Army exists and that the peasantry trusts that army and asks help of its Generals, and receives it. One realized the reason for that trust and sympathy when one heard from an officer of the 69th Brigade that 90 per cent of the officers and men were peasants themselves, and had, before they

became soldiers of the Regular Army, helped to defeat fascism in their own villages. These men know that the army is their's because the army serves a Popular Front Government whose land policy has filled them with courage and hope.

INDIVIDUAL BRAVERY ALSO

Besides the record of orderly work there were also tales of heroism and devotion. The Mayor of Rascafrias, a little mountain town in the Guadarrama, has refused to leave his post though he has been compelled more than a score of times to shift his residence because of enemy shells. Despite constant bombardment and the danger of long range machine-gun fire, the field work has been carried on by 60 shock groups organized by the Mayor. It is almost unbelievable that despite these difficulties Rascafrias has provided more than a half million pesetas worth of produce since the beginning of the fascist rebellion. At Aranjuez last year, daring bands of young peasants actually reaped crops by night in territory already in the power of fascist terror; passing through our own lines in order to do it and receiving volunteer help from the militia. At Chinchon also, night work has been resorted to in the gathering of crops which were within range of enemy artillery. Two workers of Arganda, were killed gathering the olive crops in the

front lines. And these comrades were not merely "adventurists" or acting upon their own initiative but were communist peasants, members of the U. G. T., who had responded to a call from their organizations.

The conference did not tell of a story of simple plain sailing. It told of enormous difficulties and in the early days of absence of means to solve them; it was a story of increasing order as a result of systematic aid from the Ministry of Agriculture. But there were stories of error also, and let it be said candidly, of offenses against the peasants that they will never forget. We shall deal with the problem of the Collectives next week in a commentary on the new decree legalizing these units. But there were several stories of coercion, and in a few cases of definite crime committed by "incontrollables" who had lodged themselves within syndical organizations. On the other hand there were accounts of collectives which are doing splendid work precisely because there are composed of workers whose wills have been consulted. Of these Perales de Tajuña is a good example. In some cases small proprietors who do not yet wish to enter a collective have nevertheless formed co-operatives. In the case of one village the name of which we withhold a Committee formerly paid 70 to 80 centimos per kilo of peas to the peasants. During last week the newly formed Coop foond that it could pay one peseta forty cents, bear all transport costs etc. and sell at the legal price of one peseta 85 cents in Madrid.

At the conference the city working class was represented by a comrade of the Northern Railway, which line is especially concerned with the work of supplying Madrid. A comrade of the United States C. P. gave greetings to the conference, as also one from the Italian Party.

THE BALANCE OF WORK

What were the negative notes of the conference? One has been dealt with, the failure to do intensive work among women; there were also a few rare failures to guide less instructed comrades in the village committees. Comrade Dieguez of the Agrarian Commission, in expressing his pleasure that in certain villages complete and warm hearted unity exists between the C. N. T. and the U. G. T., warned delegates against provocators who had clearly tried to antagonize the two great federations. The land was of the people and not of a section of the people, just as the conference was serving the interests of all they peasants and not only of those possessing one particular political ideal.

On the positive side the balance was enormous. The deep conviction of the peasants that at last they had a Government which understood their needs was put beyond question. Their determination to extort as much from the land as their present technique allows them was proved, not by pious statements, but by figures of production, hours worked, and men engaged. It was proved also by the fact that Madrid stands undefeated!



General Lister and other army leaders listen to the peasants.

THE IRON WILL OF THE SPANISH LANDWORKERS

One felt that one was taking part in a magnificent drama, indeed one knew that one was taking part in the incomparable drama of a popular revolution. Here were men who had been oppressed, who had been little better than slaves, whose forefathers had lived under the yoke for centuries, and at last they were struggling free. The writer confesses that it was a salutary lesson. To listen to those tales of body-breaking labor, of unbending will overcoming difficulties, shortage of labor, of seed, of knowledge (to administer a town with thousands of fanegas of land with only a handful of literate comrades is a tremendous task). And of sabotage by "los gandules" or the wandering trobadores of violence and demagogy, made one feel that one's only difficulty were not so great as they had seemed. There was a feeling of power and purpose in the men gathered in the hall of the Ateneo, and at moments a deep and moving poetry, at other moments a fierce and blazing passion, all of it surging and deliberating within the framework of a clear and profoundly human policy.

It would be impossible ever to forget the speech of the delegate of Torremocha. A tall lean figure with the long head of the oldest of Spanish stocks, his face burned and fleshless from long years of labor under a blazing sun, of intense and searching gaze, he stood on the platform, speaking in public for the first time. "Mi pueblo es muy chico", he began. And no translation can convey the mingled modesty and



Sincere and thoughtful men have taken the place of the absentee señoritos.

pride in his tiny hamlet. "My town is very small. Two demands only I make. Once we had 180 men to reap our fields, now only 36 are left. You must send us help." He went on to recount the history of these 11 months of war and struggle in his village of 30 families, where already half the houses had been deserted before the war began. "Then I need twine to bind our wheat, I need 8 bundles and for each bundle I shall be able to provide wheat that will have the value of 1200 pesetas. And if you send help, send food also; we have not eaten meat for 10 months in our little town." There were bitter things in his speech, protests against old injustice; simple elemental sentences that were like the impersonal utterances of all the peasantry of Spain. The peasants rose to their feet and applauded fiercely. The time limit was forgotten as the conference listened to this summary and essence of all their stories. Afterwards there

was silence for a moment and then everyone rose to his feet and the International rang through the hall and corridors of the Ateneo.

A conference of peasants, confirming the policy of their Minister, Comrade Uribe, and speaking directly to him. The unity of Government and People was felt in a way one had never felt it before.

FORD'S ATTORNEYS ATTEMPT TO SPIKE COURT INQUIRY

DETROIT. — The battle of unionism against Fordism entered the courts as a one-man grand jury began an inquiry into the assault upon union organizers at the Ford plant little more than a week ago.

Although subpoenas were issued for Edsel Ford, president of the company, and Harry Bennet, commander-in-chief of its notorious service department, both succeeded in evading process servers.

Meeting of Socialist and Communist International

The news that Labour and Socialist International and the Communist International are to meet to decide on common action in aid of Spain will be welcomed by every member of the Brigades. Nowhere is there a deeper understanding than in the Brigades of how much international working class action can do to shorten the agony of the Spanish people and to lessen the danger of a world war. We know only too well that it has been lack of unity in the working class movement which has made possible the martyrdom of Madrid, Malaga, Almeria and Euzkadi. Throughout the struggle the sympathy of the working class has been with the Spanish Republic, but this sympathy has not been able to express itself in decisive action because the leaders of a very large section of the working class have not given the signal. Our earnest desire is that this signal will come from the meeting in Paris.

On May 1st, after Guernica had been destroyed, the Ex-President of the 2nd International asked Léon Blum in an open letter: "How long actually is this scandal, or as the Dean of Canterbury said, this ridiculous and tragic farce, going to last?"

The bombardment of Almeria has raised everywhere in the working class movement the demand for the cessation of the hypocrisy of non-intervention.



July 1936.



July 1937.

"NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC" ON ITALIAN FINANCES

The National Geographic Magazine, in its latest number, publishes startling revelations concerning the critical financial situation in Italy and the low standard of living among the people.

It declares that the fascist government of Il Duce, in spite of the various revenues from the railroads, postal service, telegraph, industries, monopolies, and the taxation levied on the population, finds itself always in a greater deficit.

The story goes on to tell of the great expense the railroads have been to the government, each year leaving a more grave deficit than the preceding one. It attributes this to the fact that the general population of Italy cannot travel, they can't afford to. The only people who use the railroads are the foreign tourists. The Italian is too poor to travel, and his standard of living is becoming even lower.

The account mentions a form of taxation that compels a special tax on every window and balcony that faces the street. And, there is a tax on every basket of farm products purchased at the market.

"BILLY'S" MASS BACKING

At one time, years back, William Green, was President of the Morgan Run Local of the U. M. W. of A., in his home town, Coshoc-ton, Ohio. The Local faded away for awhile but held its charter. Not long ago the Local was revived when John L. Lewis asked Billy to show cause as to why he shouldn't be expelled from the U. M. W. The Local haughtily boasted to the world that out of the twelve remaining members, only one, President J. R. McCormick, would vote to expel Bill.

Where are the "slanderers" who say that Bill Green has no mass support?

500 HOUSTON WORKERS DEMONSTRATE FOR RELIEF

HOUSTON, Texas.—More than 500 workers and citizens gathered before the City Hall recently in a mass demonstration against the proposed cut in the Federal appropriation for WPA and the resulting layoff of unemployed workers.

COMRADE LITVINOF EXPOSES THE NEW TECHNIQUE OF FASCIST IMPERIALISM

"... But it is not a matter of Spain alone. The Spanish events have created one of the greatest menaces to European and universal peace. This menace arises in consequence of an attempt at armed interference in the internal affairs of a European state, an attempt to force upon the people of this state an internal regime which is alien to it, and mainly, a foreign policy orientation, and under cover of this interference to deprive this country of its independence and subordinate it to other states. If these attempts were to be successful and were to be carried out with impunity, then there would be no guarantee that in a short time another attempt will not be made to bring about an insurrection in

some other country, to recognize the leader of the insurgents as head of the government, to send thither foreign troops and arms to help the insurgents and thus effect aggression and carry out the national policy of the intervening state. Intervention displays a tendency, according to the example of the religious wars of the past, to begin a series of new wars and, under cover of ideologies and political regimes, to carry out the policy of aggression and expansion. It should not be forgotten that in Spain, at the moment when the insurrection broke out, a government was in existence whose program was similar to that of governments existing in many other countries."

(Litvinov at Geneva.)

ALVAREZ DEL VAYO



Spain's champion at Geneva exposes fascist plan for world war.

WHOLE TOWN FIGHTS BOOST IN PONTIAC

DETROIT, Mich.—"Everything points to Pontiac for 1937", says a General Motors' billboard on the town. That's more literally true for landlord victims throughout the country than was originally intended.

Pontiac is today the seat of the biggest rent strike in history. At least 15,000 families are backing up the call of the Pontiac local of the United Auto Workers to pay no rents before sizeable reductions are made.

In a town with a total population of 75,000 a rent strike of 15,00 families means that it's just about as unanimous as anything could be.

One typical Pontiac landlord admits that he "tried to step up rents gradually as they (auto workers) were able to pay". He thought, possibly, that the auto workers were fighting for higher wages for his sake. He goes on to threaten that "rents must be even higher than they were before if capital is to be advanced for more accommodations".

But the workers say that rents will come down before any more of their hard-won dough is advanced for outrageous rents.

In eviction or garnishment cases, the union intends to leave it to the jury to give a judgment in the amount it thinks is a proper rental.

NOTE

In a certain number of copies of last week's number a whole line was left out, because of a technical error.

A sentence in the article on British Imperialism should have read:

"...the British Government began to look longingly at the apparent fascist solution and to think that Democracy was dangerous. Democracy began to like Communism."

read instead:

"...the British Government began to look longingly at the apparent fascist solution and to look like Communism."

THE SOVIET UNION AND THE THIRD 5 YEAR PLAN

Because the 2nd 5 year Plan is being completed ahead of time the Soviet Government has invited the State Commission to speed up the elaboration of the 3rd 5 year Plan. Vast projects are already being studied, so that the 3rd 5 Year Plan will surpass in achievement its predecessors. The most interesting of all the proposals is that which is being called "The Grand Volga".

THE LARGEST HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME EVER

Between the frozen marshes of the north and the Caspian Sea lie enormous plains of rich soil which might support vastly increased and happy populations. Unfortunately, the rainfall is low, especially in the south, and the waters of the Volga are not as yet properly used for irrigation. A grandiose series of dams is to be built, solving two problems at once, that of irrigation, and the problem of electrical energy.

Dams, between 65 and 100 feet high are to be built at strategically chosen places, enabling a reservoir of water between 300 and 375 miles long to be stored behind each. These will be built at intervals of three hundred to 375 miles therefore, so that the Volga shall be navigable throughout to ships of deeper draft than at present. The same will be done with the great tributary of the Kama.

A VAST NETWORK OF POWER

The stupendous nature of this project can be seen from the fact that it will attain a total power output of ten million kilowatts supplying 50,000 million kwh per year, the equivalent of about 25 million tons of Donetz Basin coal or 60 to 70 million tons of the less useful local fuel.

As Soviet technique permits of the carrying of electrical power to distances of 625 miles this means that according to the Grand Volga Plan the area to be served is nearly a million square miles, containing 70 millions population. The industrial significance of this is evident. It is the regions of Moscow and the Ural Mountains on the northerly part of the Volga Basin which will use up the greatest quantity of electrical energy.

At present over 50 per cent of the fuel used in these regions is derived from distance sources. Saving of transport, as well as speeding up production, will be the gain therefore.

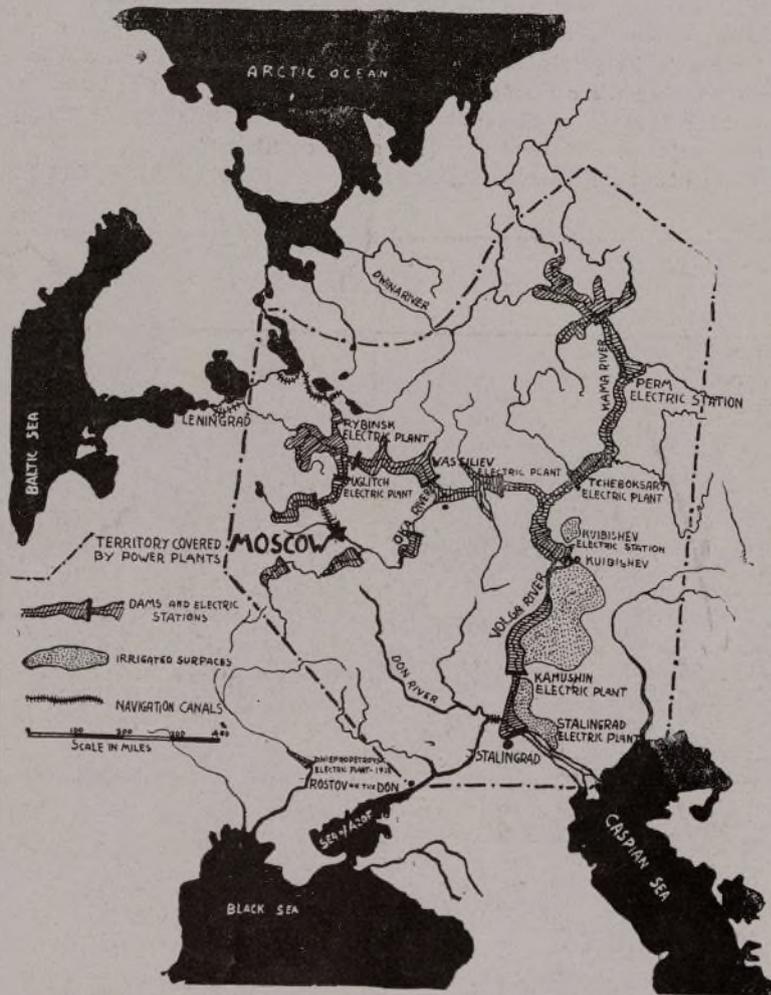
Not less important are the agricultural aspects of the Grand Volga Plan. The southern Volga plains are particularly arid, and at present constitute a peril for Soviet economy, in that their crops cannot be relied upon. After Grand Volga Plan is carried through millions of acres will be watered, ensuring rich and regular crops of wheat.

Industry and agriculture are provided for by this scheme. River communications also are to be cared for, finally, the depths maintained are to be sufficient to allow the passage of warships from the Caspian to the Baltic and the White Seas.

The same plan which will create wealth for the Soviet people will enable them to defend it against whatever fascist or capitalist power is foolish enough to try a fall with the U. S. S. R.

This, then, is what a Peoples' Government can do when it has beaten back its enemies, and con-

sent utterly waterless. For instance, in the Ebro Basin alone there are 900,000 acres which could be watered if electrical stations were built and canals constructed. In the Central Región, even with the limited water of the Tagus a quarter of a million acres are unnecessarily lying dry. The Republic had begun this work. Victory then, will mean that the work can go forward again, and with increased energy, because of the revitalizing of economic life which the democratic revolution will have accomplished.



This map will show the vast extend of the Grand Volga scheme.

MAN NOW HAS POWER TO ALTER NATURE

In fact, so much water will be used that there is a danger of lowering the level of the Caspian Sea! Military and navigational reasons and the interests of the fishing industry make it essential that this should be corrected by pouring into the Volga water from the adjacent river basins.

solidated itself. The Spanish Republic had already planned great irrigation work before Franco's revolt. The need for irrigation is not less acute in Spain than in the Soviet Union. The green floor of the Tajuña Valley contrast sharply, for example, with the grey green slopes above it towards Chinchon. Enormous level areas of Spain are composed of this grey-green 'pardo' earth, at pre-

27 ARE INJURED

AS JERSEY POLICE

ATTACK PICKETS

LITTLE FALLS, N. J. — This small industrial town had its echo of Dearborn and South Chicago when police attacked a picket line at the Little Falls laundry.

Twenty-seven were injured as clubs, tear gas bombs and other weapons were used freely by State Police. Firemen directed streams of water at the pickets from rooftops.

500 MILLION RUBLES FOR ART, THEATER AND MUSIC

More than 500 million rubles have been appropriated this year by the Soviet Government for theater and cinema construction, organization and upkeep of orchestras and choruses, expenditure on art schools, and so on.

The U. S. S. R. will have 813 theaters by January 1938, as against 775 at the beginning of this year. Large theaters are to be opened at Novo-Sibirsk, Smolensk, Ivanovo and Kirov, while the new premises of the Meyerhold Theater at Moscow will be completed.

The total number of students attending art colleges (music, drama, pictorial and plastic art and similar institutions) this year is ten thousand. Over 40,000 pupils are studying in the corresponding secondary schools. As compared with 1936, the number of art students has increased by 30% in the current year.