



# The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

*organ of the international brigades* ★

Vol. II N.º 2

Madrid, January 13 - 1938

## LISTER, PEOPLE'S SOLDIER, RAISED TO RANK OF LIEUT.-COL. BY NEW GOVERNMENT DECREE



LISTER

A Division Commander of the 5th Army Corps of the People's Army.

Enrique Lister, commander of the famous division that bears his name, has been promoted from the rank of major to that of lieutenant-colonel. His elevation is the first to take place under the new decree of the Ministry of Defense, which changes the rule that men who were not professional soldiers before the war may not reach higher rank than major. This rule, enacted by the previous Largo Caballero government, could not attempt to limit the degree of responsibility that able members of the People's Army might assume. It simply restricted their official status. Thus it happens that men of the people have risen to the command of brigades and even of divisions without having the title corresponding to their posts.

Certain leaders, tried and tested under the fire of many battles, have seen their names become bywords for heroism and skill. Their

men will follow them to hell and the people of Spain idolize them. Among them are Valentin Gonzales, a peasant now famous as "El Campesino", Modesto, a carpenter, Duran, a musician, and Lister, a stone-cutter. But as they were not professionally trained soldiers, they have remained as majors. That formality, however, has never handicapped their efforts.

Lister's promotion will undoubtedly be followed by others, for the decree states "It is necessary and just that each soldier of the new Army should carry in his knapsack the baton of a field marshal." The division commanded by Lister occupied one of the most crucial positions at Teruel. During the fascist counter-offensive the Lister division withstood a series of terrific attacks against their lines without losing an inch. This achievement perhaps accounts for his selection as the first lieutenant-colonel to emerge from the people's ranks.

### LED 5th REGIMENT

All political quarters are applauding this act of recognition of one of the very great commanders of the People's Army. It is only a proper official reward to a man, a worker, a leader, who in 1932 was sentenced to 30 years' imprisonment as a dangerous labor agitator; who in July 1936 was in the crowd that stormed Montaña Barracks in Madrid and prevented the treacherous garrison from handing over the city to the fascist generals; who, a few days later, was up in the Guadarrama Mountains as a soldier of the unforgettable Fifth

Regiment, which fought not only the enemy troops but also against chaos, and prevailed over both; who eventually became the elected commander-in-chief of the Fifth Regiment, remaining in that difficult post until a short time before the regiment voted itself out of existence as a political entity and gave the original example to other independent militia units of single-minded loyalty to the People's Front Government alone.

### THRU MANY CAMPAIGNS

The Government chose Enrique Lister to organize the first brigade of the People's Army. He took

the volunteers, untrained men mostly but lion-hearted anti-fascists like himself, and what he did with them is known to two armies—ours, who admire the Listers, and the fascists, who fear them. Into the most vital campaigns and through the most decisive battles—Madrid, Carabanchel, Jarama, Guadalajara, Toledo, Valdemoros, Brunete, Belchite and now Teruel—he has led the flower of Spain's heroic manhood. The whole world knows what they have achieved. And Lister's name has become a symbol of flaming personal courage, of brilliant leadership, and of profound popular faith.

### PLEDGE OF THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADE SOLDIER

(This pledge was taken by the 15th Brigade Training Camp soldiers on January 1, 1938.)

We promise, on this New Year's day, to renew our Pledge: With all our hearts, we shall fight until we win our Victory over fascism.

We shall carry out our duties in the Republican Army of the Spanish Republic, and carry forward the victory of Teruel to its final conclusion, and if necessary give our lives for this cause.

We pledge to fight the enemy at the front and defeat the enemy in the rear.

We pledge to fight and carry on until the heart of fascism has been destroyed throughout all the world.

We pledge to the working class of all the world that we will carry high their banner.

We thank the Spanish people for this opportunity to join them in their struggle.

We pledge our Victory as vengeance for our fallen comrades.



# TERUEL RENEWS ANCIENT ROLE IN WAR FOR FREEDOM



OUR SOLDIERS walking through one of the streets in Teruel after we had taken it.

In connection with the liberation of Teruel by the Republican forces, it is interesting to note that this is not the first time that Teruel has played a role in Spanish wars for freedom. The Carlists, one of the fascist organizations among the rebels, were among those who attempted to defend the city during the present war. But during the Carlist war that broke out during the 1840's, they were the ones who besieged the city, which was in the hands of the liberals. On July 2, General Ramon Maria Narvaez, a commander of the liberals, left Valencia with 3600 soldiers and 300 cavalymen to come to the aid of the besieged city.

Twenty-six hundred reactionary Carlists, under the leadership of Enna, were laying siege to Teruel. There were very few defenders in the city at that time; and the place was defended by two things principally. The first was its geographical position, surround-

ded as it was, and still is, by natural fortresses. And the second factor making for its defense was the inefficiency, the apathy, and the lack of enthusiasm on the part of Enna, the Carlists, leader, a man who stood in fear of every obstacle and difficulty that confronted him.

Another of the Carlist reactionary leaders who was attacking Teruel together with Enna, looked with distaste at the dangerous inaction into which the latter had sunk. He therefore convinced Enna that, instead of waiting to be attacked by the liberal commander, Narvaez, the Carlists should march toward the oncoming column of liberals and attack them. It was the plan of Inestal, which was the name of the second Carlist leader, to have his troops put aside everything but arms and ammunition, and then attempt a surprise attack against the liberals, while they were asleep.

In the early hours of July 3rd,

Inestal set out to carry through his surprise attack. Six hours later he heard that Enna's men, who were to have fought at his side, were deserting en masse. A return march to put an end to this cowardice was now necessary. This delay smashed his plans, and his own troops became demoralized by contact with Enna's men. By the time the liberals reached Teruel, they were able to march into it without a fight for the discouraged Carlists had raised their siege and left before their enemies could get close enough to attack.

Narvaez, the liberal, followed up his advantage at once. He sent his cavalry after the fleeing Carlists. The cavalry was unable to overtake the fugitive reactionaries. But Narvaez himself conti-



SAGUNTO HIGHWAY along which the civilians were evacuated.

ruel salient and is of great strategic importance to the fascists, who still control it.

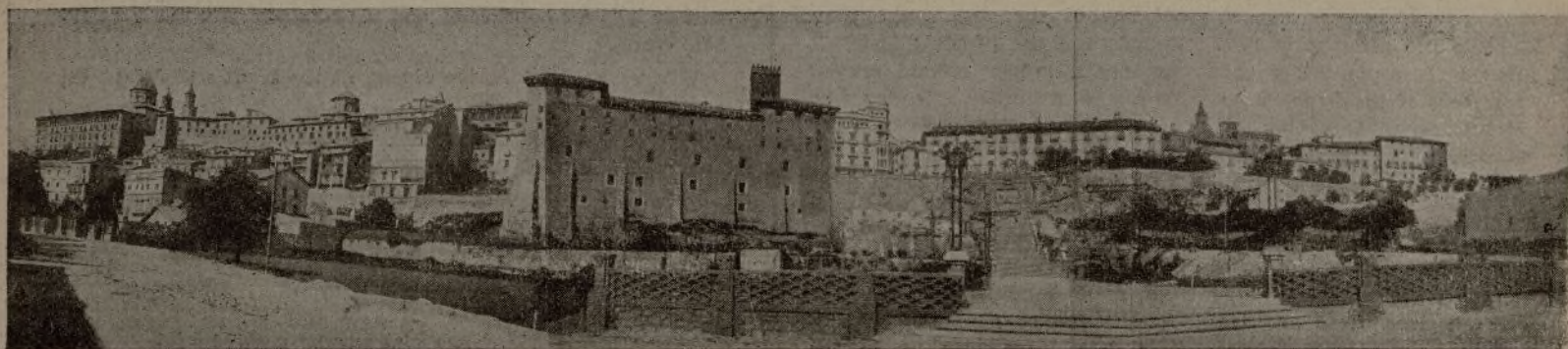
Both Teruel and Calatayud were of great importance in the Carlist war of 1843. They are both of great importance in the present war of independence. In 1843, the liberals defended Teruel, and were not defeated. In 1937, the fascists were the ones who



ONE of the little towns that fell with Teruel.

nued to press north with his men until he reached the city of Calatayud. The name of this city should be borne in mind by all. It stands at the mouth of the Te-

defended it. But despite their immense fortifications, and their excellent war material, they were unable to hold it against the forces of Spanish freedom.



Left: Seminary.

Center: Civil Guard Barracks.

Right: Civil Government building.

View of Teruel — picture taken from the south-western part of the captured city.



# IF FRANCO RESORTS TO POISON GAS—

A year ago it was thought likely that the fascists would use gas against the loyal Spanish army. They have not done so yet, but they very well may. So every comrade should know the simple essentials of gas warfare.

The enemy will probably use one of three kinds of substance, a choking gas, a blistering vapor or a smoke causing sneezing. All these are commonly called "gas". It is very unlikely that they will use other gases, for example those which cause tears but not choking, for they are not humanitarians. Nor will they use hydrogen cyanide, for some choking gases are ten or twenty times as poisonous.

## MUSTARD GAS

It is often thought that terrible new gases have been invented. I do not believe this. Mustard gas, the worst so far produced, was invented fifty years ago. There are many more poisonous substances, for example diphtheria toxin. But their molecules are too big to allow them to vaporize, and substances with small molecules have been pretty well studied without finding any very bad new poisons. Finally, if Hitler has a new and very deadly poison (which I don't believe), he will keep it for use on Paris, Moscow or London rather than try it in Spain where a victory would not win the world for fascism.

Choking gases, such as phosgene and tri-chlor-methyl-chloroformate, attack the lungs and eyes at once. They are dangerous but not treacherous, except that after a fit of violent coughing a man may think he has recovered, and then go down with lung inflammation. Your mask gives absolutely complete protection.

Blistering gases, of which mustard gas is the worst, are treacherous. Mustard gas is the vapor of an oily liquid, which attacks your eyes, lungs and skin, in that order. But the eyes are only affected two hours after exposure to the vapor, and the lungs and skin later. Your mask protects your eyes and lungs completely, your skin not at all.

You may get blistered even when wearing a mask, but the blisters are not fatal, nor do they leave permanent scars. Of 170,000 British casualties from mustard gas in the last war, only one in 40 died, and less than one in 100 was invalided for more than six months. The deaths were all due

## First Article of Two Telling What Gas Is, The Way to Combat It and Why Fascists Hesitate to Begin.—By a World Famous British Biologist

PROF.

J. B. S. HALDANE

to not putting on the masks in time. Four of the 170,000 were blinded.

Sneezing is caused by arsenical smokes, often after quite a long delay. They also cause violent pains in the head for a few hours, but never kill. Your mask may not give absolutely complete protection in very dense smoke. If a little gets through, don't take the mask off. You will be worse off without it.

Mustard gas and Lewisite, which has similar blistering properties, and a smell like geraniums, are called persistent, because when they have been scattered over ground in a liquid form this ground is contaminated for

aeroplanes. Dichlor-ethyl-sulphide was sprayed from aeroplanes in Abyssinia.

They can be used for three distinct purposes. Cloud and shell attacks were used to break the line, trench mortar and bomb attacks to cause casualties. Ground was sprayed with mustard gas in order to deny it to both sides. For example, during big attacks the Germans shelled with mustard gas at each side of the sector where they were trying to break through, to prevent British counter-attacks. On the actual front of attack they used high explosive shells, and non-persistent gas and smoke.

## GAS ATTACK UNLIKELY

Why hasn't Franco used gas in Spain? Some of you may think that he is such a perfect gentleman that he would not like to make even the dogs and mules cough, let alone you. There are other rather better reasons. The terrain is unsuitable, especially for cloud attacks. During most of the year the ground is so hot that vertical air currents would lift gas off the ground and scatter it in the air. So if there is a gas attack I expect it will be made before the end of March. Possibly a night attack might be practical later.

But the main reason is something

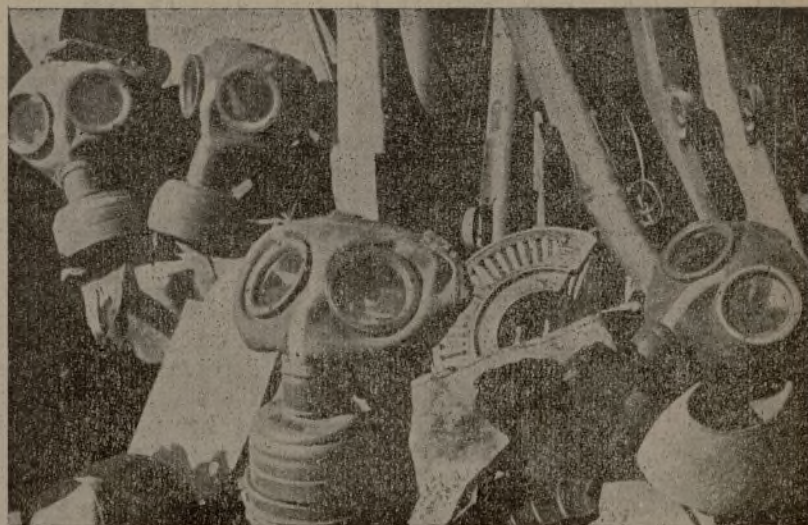
else. Suppose I am shelling a kilometre of front; if I put over 1000 high explosive shells I expect to kill 10 times as many people as if I had put over 100. With 1000 gas shells I expect to kill 20 or 50 as many as with 100. Gases are not poisonous until they reach a certain concentration. Above this concentration, the more gas, the shorter time of exposure needed to disable or kill. So a few gas shells at rare intervals will probably do no harm at all



a time varying from about two days in hot weather to two weeks in cold weather. Other types of gas are called non-persistent, because they clear away in a few minutes if there is a wind or in a few hours in calm weather.

## METHODS USED

In the war of 1914-1918 and later wars these gases were used in five different ways. They were first of all released in great clouds from cylinders in the trenches. Such methods are quite impossible in hilly country, though they were effective on the flat plains of Belgium and Russia. They were also fired in drums from trench mortars of a special type with a range up to about 700 metres. They were released from shells. They were dropped in bombs from



GAS MASKS captured from the enemy at Carabanchel.

Ayuntamiento de Madrid





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PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE MADRID COMMISSARIAT OF THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES

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ALBACETE

VOL. II. — N. 2.

MADRID

JANUARY 13 — 1938

## AMERICAN VOLUNTEERS

The month of January is an especially significant month for Americans in Spain. It was on January 2, 1937—a year ago—that the first large group of American volunteers set foot on Spanish soil. Reaching Albacete four days later, they were officially incorporated into the International Brigades on January 6th. During the entire month there continued to arrive those additional Americans—among them were Canadians and Cubans—who, together with our Irish comrades, made up the original Lincoln Battalion which moved up to the Jarama lines in the middle of February.

These men were the pioneers, the first of the more than 3,000 American volunteers who followed them into Spain, forming the Washington Battalion (merged after the Brunete offensive with the Lincolners) and a good part of the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion. These were, and are, the men who now fight shoulder to shoulder with the British and Spanish comrades in our own brigade: the 15th International Brigade.

In marking this first anniversary, we salute our predecessors: the people of Spain whose bravery held the fascists at bay in those early, critical days of July and August, 1936; the German and French comrades, who were the first international volunteers in Spain; and the British comrades of our own brigade, whose arrival in Spain preceded ours by three months.

And, in noting this anniversary, we look forward with confidence to that celebration which will be the greatest and most satisfying of all: the final victory of the Spanish people over fascism. On that day, as now, we will be here to take part in the victory, as we do now, in the struggle.

## FASCIST DECEPTION

The accident that befell a group of British and American reporters on Franco's side of the lines at Teruel is a new variation on the old theme of fascist unscrupulousness. In a war like this, where so many innocent lives have already been destroyed, a few more deaths do not call for sentiment. Regrettable as the case may be, it was still a risk that war correspondents must run in the course of duty.

The importance of the matter lies in its revelation of how brutally unconcerned fascism is to all human lives. The significance of the incident consists in its complete exposure of Franco's eternal readiness to lie and deceive and befuddle the world. The tragedy of these journalists offers another proof of fascism's roughshod criminality. Let us hope that the inevitable publicity on the case will teach many more people outside of Spain the fundamental lesson we have known for a long time—that fascism will kill until it is killed.

## IN THE FASCIST ZONE

Fascism in the raw! To conceal the Teruel disaster from people in the rebel zone, the heavy trainloads of wounded from that front are brought to the distant rear. When the trains arrive, the alarm sirens are sounded to warn of Loyalist air raids. Spectators naturally scatter, and then the wounded are removed in trucks... Here's an interesting example of fascist morale (after Teruel). Nine Spaniards escaped from Algeciras (a fascist stronghold) to Gibraltar (British territory) by swimming across the bay, one of the roughest stretches of water in Europe. It took them six hours, but they thought getting away was worth the trouble... The British Ambassador in China was badly wounded when a Japanese plane swooped low and shot a burst of bullets into his official car traveling on a highway. That was some months ago and he has finally left the hospital. But a new ambassador is taking his place. Quite right! Antagonizing Tokio the way he did — the very idea!...

Poland has raised voting age to 24 (total population 32,000,000). The Soviet Union sets suffrage at 18 (total population 165,000,000)... It happened in Quinto and Belchite too. Fascist prisoners taken at Teruel had salvo-conductoes for leave to Madrid. Wouldn't they have been disappointed to find that stores and cafes in that particular city do not accept German Reichsmarks as currency?... A certain New York clubman pays seven and a half bucks for a pair of his French lisle socks. Isn't that Japanese silk boycott becoming irksome?... Vargas calls his recently established fascist government in Brazil "authoritative democracy". Add that to your political

education... In the North a campaign is starting to stamp out the Catalan and Basque tongues as being mere "barbarian dialects". Certainly, Italian and German are much more classical languages, not to speak of Moorish... Thousands of sheep were taken at Teruel, including quite a few two-legged ones... The British Government is building a very special bomb-proof shelter for the King. It's really an investment, though. Inaugurations are much more expensive... Phalangists and requ-



tes are quarreling more and more, and postal service has had to be suspended between various points in Francoland. Now that's really too bad. When they start opening each other's mail, it's serious... There's one consolation in winter warfare. The sun doesn't go to work and make you wonder which smells worse — a dead mule or a dead fascist... Here's the way it goes: Japan recognized the Franco government, so Franco recognized Manchukuo. Thereupon Manchukuo exercised its sovereign rights as a nation and recognized Franco too... You won't believe it, but Brazil has banned the "Tarzan" series for Communist tendencies... This one is a little easier to figure out. When Vittorio Mussolini's book "Bombs Over Abyssinia" was translated into German, a couple of Nazi reviewers called it "a charming little book of adventure"... In Czechoslovakia fourteen members of the fascist party were convicted in court on charges of homosexuality. Two were sentenced, but the rest are still around. Whoops!... Captured Basque priests are sent to the Madrid front and forced to dig trenches. That's the new fascist version of defending God and country... "Japan is paying the price which the leadership of the Asiatic races demands", says a Tokio spokesman. According to statistics, Japan has 300,000 prostitutes... The Duke of Alba, Franco's representative in London, points out that when Napoleon invaded Spain, Great Britain sent men and munitions to drive him out, and that Italy and Germany today merely want to do the same to Stalin. But how about the Sultan of Morocco? What the hell does he want?...



JAPAN, the partner of German fascism.



## ONE NEWS IN BRIEF

LONDON.—Mr. Morrison, Labor M. P., made a speech predicting that elections will be held this year in Great Britain which will surely result in changing the foreign policy of the present cabinet.

HANKOW.—In order to devote himself exclusively to his duties as Commander-in-Chief of the Chinese Armies, Chiang-Kai-Shek has resigned the presidency of the Executive Council, being succeeded by Kung, Minister of the Treasury.

This move by Chiang-Kai-Shek is considered a reinforced answer to Japan's offer of peace, made through the German ambassador. The offer was unconditionally rejected.

EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO.—The boycott against Japan was started with a spectacular demonstration in this town, which is the pottery capital of America. Virtually the whole population of 25,000 have joined the boycott. William Green, president of the A. F. of L., personally marched in the parade.

LONDON.—The Dean of Canterbury sent General Miaja a telegram saying: "Your magnificent fight for democracy and the epic events at Teruel strengthen our faith in your final triumph over fascism. We are working here and shall continue to work without rest for democracy, justice and world peace."

MOSCOW.—The most complete atlas of the world is finished. After working for several years scientific authors have now issued the first volume of a projected set of three. The others will appear shortly. The first one contains more than 350 maps so presented that they indicate the physical structure of the seas and oceans, the astronomical system, the distribution of mineral and oil deposits, as well as the climatic conditions of the various regions all over the world.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Congressman Usher Burdick, North Dakota Republican, has introduced a resolution demanding retrial for Tom Mooney in California. He has sent an appeal to both the A. F. of L. and the C. I. O. for support of the measure, pointing out the unconstitutionality of California's legislation on the case



TOM MOONEY

and the complete discrediting of the original evidence upon which Mooney was "framed" twenty-one years ago.

BARCELONA.—A committee of women of Catalonia visited the Ambassador of the United States and delivered to him a message addressed to President Roosevelt, expressing thanks for his assertion of international rights and obligations in his recent speech.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Harold Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, made a speech violently attacking the "sixty families" of the United States who possess practically one-fourth of the national wealth. He said these economic masters are using the present depression to dictate conditions which are "absolutely unacceptable in a democracy". Appealing to the American people to support Roosevelt

in the fight against big business, Ickes declared, "This fight will be a war to the death until either these sixty families or 130 million Americans prevail. The United States must not fall into the chaos of fascist nations; it must be a country with freedom of opportunity, a country of free men and not of slaves".

MOSCOW.—With the creation of a People's Commissariat of Marine, the Soviet Union is coming nearer to the point of adequate naval strength. Progress has been rapid and characteristic since the World War and the Revolution when the country was left with practically no fleet at all. Today strategic naval bases are established, and it is believed that the Soviet Union has the largest number of submarines of any navy. A large fleet of light cruisers performed complex maneuvers recently, while several ships of the line are under construction in American shipyards.



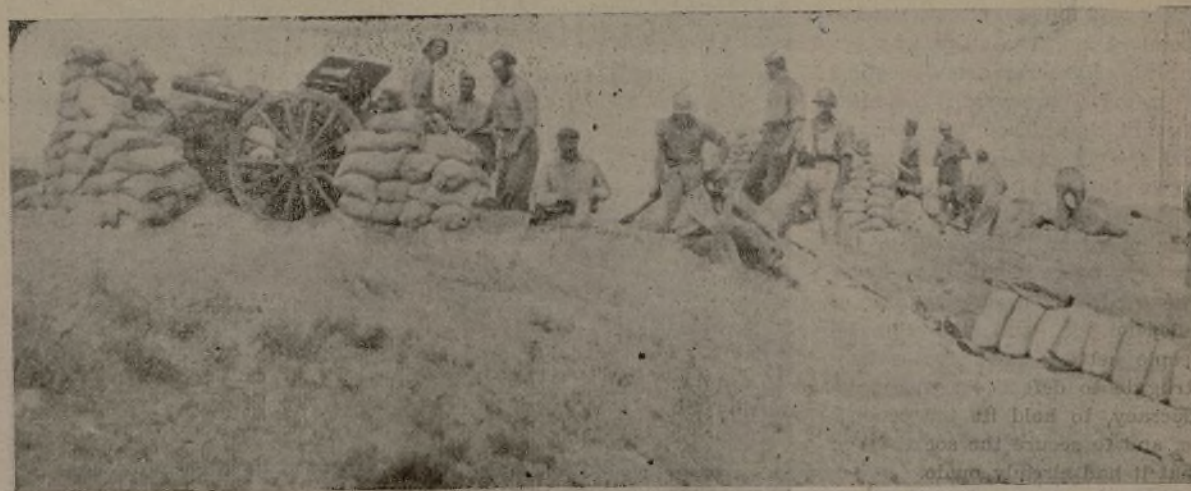
MADRID.—The representative of the Chilean Embassy has delivered to the Spanish Government the sum of 72,000 pesetas donated by people of his country for the welfare of orphaned children. Additional winter clothing and toys will be supplied to the children through this money.

GENEVA.—The Executive Committee of the World Jewish Congress has petitioned the British and French Governments in protest at the new measures in Roumania curtailing the civic and economic rights of Jews. The petition cites the Treaty of Minorities of December 9, 1919, guaranteed by the League of Nations, which imposes the duty on countries belonging to the Council of the League of protecting Jews and other races under the circumstances described.

PARIS.—Niceto Alcalá Zamora, semi-reactionary president of Spain from 1931 to 1936, who has been in voluntary exile since the People's Front won power, has now published an article saying the Spanish people will never permit a fascist dictatorship to rule their country. "It is very easy to predict", he writes, "that such a regime will be an incessant series of abuses, crimes and rebellions, as well as failures and weaknesses in its duties."

YUGO-SLAVIA.—The "News-Review" of London, commenting on the recent visit of French Foreign Minister Delbos to Belgrade, gives the following illuminating item:

"By the time the car containing the Minister and Premier Stoyadinovitch reached the Foreign Office the crowds were howling Long live Democracy and the Front Populaire! Down with fascism and the Dictatorship of Stoyadinovitch!" Thirty thousand Belgrade citizens swarmed the streets singing "The Marseillaise" which has long been banned in Yugoslavia as being too revolutionary.



ARTILLERY PIECE in action.



# Five Who Want A Crown...

For decades, the Spanish people struggled to rid themselves of the crown and all that it represented. They established a republic in 1931, and thought that they had already achieved democracy and the opportunity to develop what Bertrand Russel calls the "good life". But Gil Robles and Alejandro Lerroux maneuvered their way into the leadership of the republic, and within the framework of that republic that the people had already struggled so hard to establish, they set up a monarchy without a king. A republic that was in reality a monarchy, such was the situation in which the Spanish masses found themselves until the reactionaries were thrown out of power.

The struggle went on. In 1934 the miners of Asturias were butchered and a wave of repression ran through the country. But the deeply rooted demand for a true democracy would not die. 1936, and the Popular Front came into power. At last, after centuries of oppression, the good life was within reach of the people of this country. The people's government set to work. Land for the peasants, work for the workers, a chance given to the intellectuals to build a culture, and schools in which the culture that was being built could be transmitted to the school children.

## FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

But in 1934, the Spanish fascists and the reactionary generals had already laid plans to throw the country into a civil war if they found themselves unable to hold power in any other way. The fascist leaders visited Hitler and Mussolini. They were promised aid. The stage was set. In July, 1936, the army rebellion broke out. There were two months of civil war. Then the German and Italian soldiers came pouring in. Bit by bit the Spanish fascists were pushed into subordinate positions. Their role in the struggle became a secondary one. The civil war became a war of independence, and the Spanish people settled down for a long struggle to defend its young democracy, to hold its independence, and to secure the social gains that it had already made.

The Germans, the Italians, and the Spanish fascists knew what

they wanted: colonies, mines, large land holdings, rights and privileges, the opportunity to rule and exploit and oppress an entire people, and then to use that people as a base to attack still more countries. The war started because the selfish interests, the men who belong to the past wanted to continue their hold on the country. Spain was to continue to belong to the past, so that these men could continue to own Spain.

But one of the ways in which Spain could be kept in the past was by keeping it a monarchy. The crown of Spain must be kept on the head of a king. But what king? That was the question. The crown of Spain is already covered with dust. But there are five men who want that crown. And because they want it, the blood of human beings is flowing on all the fronts of Spain. It is a doubtful sort of crown. It will never rest easy on the head of any king in Spain. But five men want it.

## ALFONSO XIII

Who are these men? Alfonso of Bourbon, who once ruled in Spain under the title of Alfonso XIII, is the first of them. When he fled across the Span-

ish border on April 14, 1931, the people let him go. They made no effort to execute him, to imprison him, or to make him pay in any way for the crimes that he had committed. This was a democracy that they had established, and how could a people that had just ushered in a reign of peace and freedom execute or imprison a king? But once he was safe abroad, Alfonso of Bourbon set to work to regain his crown. He plotted, he entered into conspiracies with the nobility. In 1921, his desire to hold the Arabs of North Africa in slavery had led him to send his army against them, and on one single day, due to the criminal negligence of generals, ten thousand Spanish soldiers, torn from field and store and workshop, were slaughtered by the Riffs of Abd el Krim.

Long before that day, Alfonso had already received the contemptuous nickname of the African. Good, he was the African, and he wanted a crown, and the Moors of North Africa showed that they could slaughter Spaniards. So he lent his aid to the plan of Franco and Sanjurjo whereby the Mohammedans of Morocco were to defend a Christianity that would be topped by Alfonso the African and his unsteady crown.

## HOUSE OF HAPSBURG

Otto of Hapsburg. That is the name and title of the second of those five who so eagerly desire the crown of Spain. His mother was the wife of Carl, last emperor of the Austro-Hungarian empire. When that empire crashed under the thrust of a nation tired of four years of war and centuries of misrule, Otto was taken into exile by his mother Zita. But the woman was determined that her son should have a crown. She has involved herself in plots that cover the face of Europe. Austria and Hungary were still the center of her desires and hopes for her son. But Spain had given her son refuge during the years of wandering. The throne of Austria had once been linked with that of Spain. And the Spanish crown was vacant, though only because it had been thrown into the gutter.

## SEÑORITOS

The Count of Covadonga. Eldest son of Alfonso and Victoria Eugenia. His childhood spent in the midst of palace intrigues. His body torn and wracked by ill health that has brought him to death's door a dozen times. His young manhood spent among the señoritos, the young gentlemen's sons, who had built up a whole cult of luxury and idleness that had won them all the undying hatred of the Spanish people. So far did the señoritos arouse the disgust of the masses that the lower classes developed a code of ethics that was a point-counterpoint sort of thing. It consisted of this principle: don't do anything that the señoritos do. Keep a wall between yourself and the señorito. This attitude on the part of the people contained many elements that will seem peculiar to a man who has lived among traditions of freedom, unless he bears in mind the suffering and the tyranny in which the Spanish masses have lived.

I recall an incident that took place in a small village in the region of La Mancha, a region associated with the Don Quixote of Cervantes. I was escorting a young lady to the home of a friend. We reached a part of the street where the ground had been torn up, and almost instinctively I reached out to take the young woman by



FORMER KING ALFONSO, kissing the hand of an archbishop.





BECAUSE SPAIN won't allow itself to be ruled by kings, their fascist supporters do this. What was once a worker's dwelling is now a heap of ruins as a result of a fascist air bombardment.

the arm and help her across the rough spot. This young woman, it should be pointed out, was the daughter of a peasant; and when I reached out to take her by the arm, she moved away from me in an almost frightened manner.

Later I spoke of the incident to her father, and he explained the girl's reaction to me. The señoritos, he said, during the days when they walked through the streets as though they owned the world, were in the habit of taking a young woman by the arm as they escorted her. And what the señorito did, the people were against. No habit, no custom, no gesture, that had been part of the code of ethics of the young gentlemen's-son, was tolerated by the people in the village.

The Count of Covadonga, therefore, the sick young man who represents in the eyes of the Spanish masses the very essence of *señorismo*, the cult of the young gentleman-son, with its dissipation, its idleness, and its luxury, is the third who stretches out his hand for the crown of Spain.

But there is a fourth aspirant for the Spanish throne. Javier Alfonso, the "legitimate". His supporters are the Carlists, who demand the restoration of the Spanish monarchy under the slogan of "God, Fatherland and King". But though the Carlists want a king in Spain again, they want neither Alfonso, nor the Count of Covadonga, nor anyone but a descendant of the house of Don Carlos, of the house of Austria. That is why they call themselves Carlists. That is why they are supporters of Javier or Alfonso, whom they call the "legitimate". Javier Alfonso is an old man now. He is feeble and he is weak. Should he come to the throne of Spain, the royal coronation would soon be followed by a royal funeral. But that is not the point. Behind Javier Alfonso, behind the Carlists, there stand reactionary elements whose interests would be secure if the throne was set up again in Spain and the crown of Spain were to rest, no matter how briefly or unsteadily, on the doddering head of Javier Alfonso, descendant of Don Carlos, the "legitimate" of the house of Austria.

#### THE DUKE

The fifth and last of the hopeful five is a son of Amadeo de Savoy, the Duke of Aosta. Although he has an excellent reputation as a good father to his children, the duke is not exactly developed when it comes to the intricacies of politics. Personally he might even prefer to remain a father to his children, rather than enter the lists as an aspirant to the position of father to his people. But the unscrupulous fascist leaders who surround him, or who are in contact with

him, have led him to believe that the people of the country await him as a harbinger of peace and prosperity. And he believes them. The monarchists who are leading the old duke by the nose, hope to seat him on the throne, to surround him with men of their own ilk, and then use him as the innocent cat's paw which will rake their chestnuts out of the fire.

Seventeen months of a cruel war against the invaders are already past. And while the people of Spain continue to fight bitterly for its liberty and independence, over there, in the fascist camp, aristocrats who belong to the past, and priests who have brought the money changers into the temple, and Carlists, and reactionaries of the Renovación Española, the monarchist party, continue to weave their schemes of restoration around Alfonso the

African, around his sick son the Count of Covadonga, around the old and half-dead descendant of Carlos of the house of Austria, around Otto, the last of the house of Hapsburg, and around the Duke of Aosta, who turns from his family board to look with puzzled glance into the scheming eyes of the conspirators who would use him as their tool.

These are five who want the crown of Spain. But the crown of Spain no longer exists except as a museum relic. These are five who would sit on the throne of Spain. But the throne of Spain, rickety and uncertain on its shaky legs for so many years, has crashed into the dust at the strong shove of the millions of Spaniards whose hands are reaching out, not for crowns and power over their fellow men, but toward a new life in democracy.

D. M. M.

## FASCIST GENERAL LETS IT RIP

Queipo de Llano may be an ass, but nobody needs to take his broadcasts seriously, not even his own soldiers. When a fascist general starts playing the same monkey tricks in an official military bulletin, he seems to be asking for trouble. He got it this time. His Sometime Excellency General Muñoz Castellanos has been fired. No wonder. His report on Teruel was a work of genius, but genius knows no rules.

General Castellanos, officer commanding the fascists at Teruel until we took it, put up a prodigious cock and bull story. He dated it December 22. On that day we were in the city and had all of it except two blocks, which were surrounded. Heaven knows what led the General to do it. Perhaps he thought he could take back the city before the truth did its damaging work, or perhaps he was indulging in a lovely daydream. Whatever it was, he let himself go. Copies of his bulletin are in our hands.

He reports that his troops were advancing victoriously to the south of Teruel, which would mean that the Republican forces were being driven further from the city, if it meant anything at all. A few paragraphs later, he states that attempts made by the "Reds" to storm the town had been repulsed. Somewhere between these two statements some valuable kilometres got lost. This little conundrum must have caused a few headaches behind the fascist lines. Gentlemen have their worries.



In the course of the operations, he claimed, his army had wiped out ten International Brigades. The General must have been making whoopee. He was seeing exactly double. Worse than that, he was seeing what wasn't there. With the same bottle he succeeded in annihilating the Listers, the Campesinos and another Spanish Brigade. What he chose to call the Lincoln Brigade had been so heavily reduced that it had been withdrawn from the line and would cease to function as a unit. According to military practice such a step is only taken when a unit has lost 90 % of its strength.

As a result of all this, Franco apologised over the radio to the Great American Nation. In blue-blooded circles this is called old-world courtesy. It's up to the Lincolns to return the compliment, and say they're sorry they couldn't come along, but they had a date with a few turkeys, pigs, etc. and were totally unable to get away.

#### CONSOLATION



Well, anyway, Hitler hasn't got it!



# AN AMERICAN DENTIST IN SPAIN



DR. JACK KLEIN

No other International volunteer in Spain has been in so unique a position as Dr. Jack Klein, the American dentist with a roving commission. Ever-busy, ever-smiling, he has covered all the fronts, travelling over 10,000 miles in his dental truck, and treated about 3,000 persons, including members of all the International Brigades and nearly all of their battalions. He has also penetrated to the little pueblos off the main highways to give many a native Spaniard a first introduction to a common hygienic practice of better-developed countries.

Dr. Klein believes his traveling dental office represents the first time in warfare that such a flexible method has been used to keep troops actually at the front in good shape. At the time he began his work, the 15th Brigade had already been in the line for about three months. It was the idea of Dr. Edward Barsky, original chief of the American Medical Service, to have the men's teeth checked without further delay after such a long time. Since the vast majority of tooth ailments are caused by neglect, treating them would prevent many of the serious cases that had already occurred. The equipment and the science were there, but the soldiers could not come to it. It would therefore go to them.

An American ambulance was too low, so it was exchanged for a British one with a body high enough for Dr. Klein to stand up in. Sanitary cabinets were built tight against the wall of the truck inside. The chair was installed, anchored into a platform, specially devised on the floor of the truck. A flight of steps was tac-

ked on leading from the ground outside. And he was ready for business. First call to the Lincoln Battalion and its neighbors.

## BEGINS AT JARAMA

One case on his very first day of work, May 5, is an example of the strange experiences in store for the former Brooklyn practitioner. Twenty patients were waiting at the Jarama cook-house when he drew up. Gradually they were disposed of, but one comrade refused to mount the chair, declining his turn time and again because there was no "gas". Once in a while he would take a gulp of anis from the canteen he had brought along. He could not be convinced that the anesthetic administered by injection could deaden pain. Dr. Klein had actually begun to clean up the "office" when the reluctant man finally decided to take a chance without "gas". He turned out to be Englishman who had never been to a dentist in his life. Eight rotten upper teeth and roots were removed in that single sitting. So satisfied was he with the painlessness of the operation that he insisted on having the lower teeth also treated before departing.

He was persuaded to come back another time, and thereafter he returned whenever possible. In the next few weeks Dr. Klein extracted all of the poor teeth and subjected the gums to a hardening process as preparation to fitting a plate into the mouth. He had actually taken measurements. Dr. Klein still keeps them as a memory of a comrade who had become one of his best friends. For on July 8, in the surging advance of the 15th Brigade at Brunete, he fell as adjutant of the British Battalion. He was Lieutenant Charles Goodfellow, of Glasgow, who had come to Spain in December 1936.

## IMPROVEMENTS

The American dentist found that although there were many difficulties only one could not be overcome. That was the constant presence of flies. It was only the coming of cool weather at the end of October that drove the plague away. The other problems were soon solved through experience, ingenuity, inspiration or resignation. Thus he became used to

working without a perfectly adjustable dental chair; with a jerky engine operated by foot as a substitute for a smooth and silent-turning electric unit for drilling; with doubly extra effort to sterilize his instruments on an open truck into which the breeze blew germ-laden dust. Thus he improved his services until he was able not only to extract teeth, but also to treat infected jaws and gums and to make silver amalgam restorations.

The strangest hardship of all was one that eventually became quite a pleasure. That was the business of operating in public. Ten years of practice in a quiet, sheltered, completely private office had bred habits which took Dr. Klein a considerable effort to overcome. But almost as if he had actor's blood in his veins, he adapted himself to standing on what is practically a stage before an audience intently scrutinizing his every move. He has even devised a few tricks for effect, such as making extractions ahead of other work in order to impress the waiting (and watching) group of patients with the before-and-after contrast.

## PEASANTS GRATEFUL

Together with the assistant he found and trained here, George Waters, 20 year old San Francisco Negro, Dr. Klein has driven and drilled his way through the fronts of Jarama, Cordoba and Aragon; the training camps, the rest homes, the convalescent hospitals. His greatest thrills, however, have come from the plain and simple dwellers of the villages. He finds it easy to understand but hard to accept the homage a peasant pays him for surcease from pain. He has treated very many of these people. Almost all have pressed some gift



ENGINEERS working on our trenches in the Aragon.

upon him which he with equal insistence has refused. His Spanish is good enough to enable him to explain that this is merely an example of what their People's Front Government wants to institute fully and universally after victory; that for such and similar reasons the International Brigades have come to help, both at the front and in the rear.

In the last few campaigns Dr. Klein has accompanied the 15th Brigade to the actual fronts. Right in the line of fire he has taken his place, supervising the stretcher-bearers, assisting the battalion doctors. He has readily adapted his professional skill and experience in jaw surgery to wounds and other frontline needs.

After a campaign he takes his truck out again and resumes his busy dental routine. His office hours are as long as daylight lasts.

M. M.

## FAMILY EVACUATED LONG AGO

The Jews were expelled from Spain by King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella almost 450 years ago, and it is said that Christopher Columbus was thus forced into exile and a career of exploration. Today a significant percentage of Jews from all countries are members of the International Brigades. It strikes an interesting historical balance, but the point is mentioned only in order to illuminate a little tale.

An American volunteer went to a hotel while on leave in Madrid. The law requires all hotel guests to comply with two conditions before being registered. The first one was very easy for him. Was he in war service? Yes, of course, his appearance showed he belonged to a battalion. So did his papers.

The hotel clerk was strict, and also unimaginative. He asked the second question. Was the applicant's family evacuated from Madrid? The American, who happened to be of Jewish extraction, was puzzled. It took him a few moments to get the idea. But when he did, inspiration came with it.

He leaned across the desk and looked the clerk straight in the eye. "Yes", he said. "My family was evacuated all right. Don't you remember? Back in 1492!"



# A Review of the Present World Scene

The two fronts of war and peace are more sharply aligned than ever. There is talk of Germany's "last reasonable proposal":

1. Incorporation of Austria.
2. The transformation of Czechoslovakia into a Federal State.
3. The return of Germany's former colonies.

Italy's withdrawal from the League of Nations, where she was working in the interests of war as vigorously as the Soviet Union for peace, is being taken to mean that in her prospective adventures she does not feel she can be encumbered even with the modest burden of her present collective commitments, which she carried through the Ethiopian War and which have not prevented her from sending whole divisions to Spain.

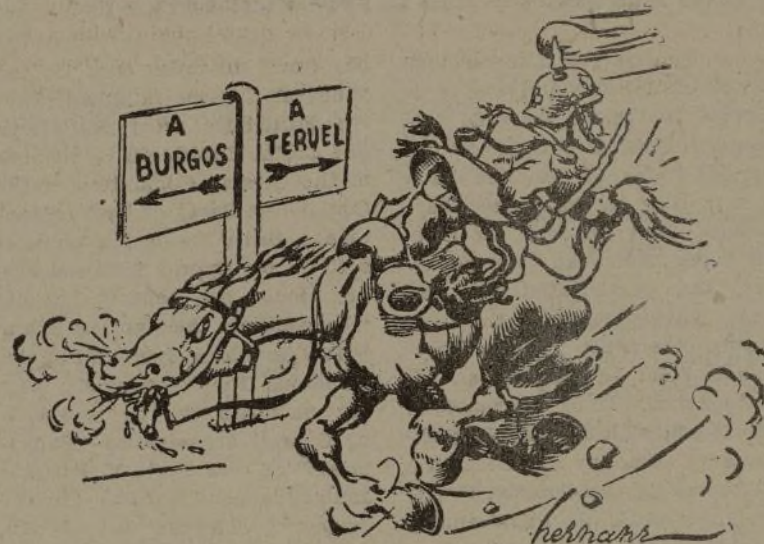
Because of the policy of the handshake for the robber and the cold shoulder for the victim, the organisation of peace presents many more difficulties than it did twelve months ago, but that does not mean that it is impossible.

In Spain, China and Czechoslovakia the people are asking: "When, if ever, will the democracies act? Where are the French People's Front, the British Labor movement?" Too many have already sunk into a fatalist acceptance of the inevitability of war.

But as the searchlights of world opinion are more and more sharply focussed on the fascist enemies of peace, it grows increasingly difficult for certain alleged friends of peace to continue their acrobatics in no man's land.

The Edens and Delbos can still say: "We believe in collective security. We will make every effort for collective security, but we cannot become involved in sanctions and suchlike measures, because that would mean war." They can still say this, but they have less chance of being believed.

That argument, which has been used to condone the abandonment of Ethiopia, Spain and China, and may tomorrow be used against Czechoslovakia, is utterly false. Though position after position, meekly or hypocritically, has been ceded to the enemy, yet the forces of democracy and peace, mobilised and united, would still be a hundredfold stronger than the fascist armies with their rearguard of threatening economic crisis and mass upheaval.



THE ONLY ROAD. All the Generals that Franco sends to Teruel dash back to Burgos defeated.

The resources of peaceful action against the aggressor states, far from being exhausted, have not yet been tried.

The alternative is clear enough — a continuation of the "diplomacy" of Eden and Delbos, which has already helped to bring the world two major wars and the prospect of greater wars just over the skyline; a diplomacy which has helped to turn Europe into a powder magazine with the incendiaries at large and everyone waiting for the next explosion. The "Pax Eden" still reigns — with two very important exceptions — but all sense of security is gone from the world.

At the Congress of the Communist Party of France, Thorez uttered the feeling of millions of Frenchmen: "When we see the attitude of France to the Spanish Republic we must blush with shame". He declared that in returning to a correct foreign policy, as laid down in the program of the People's Front, France should "repudiate secret diplomacy and appeal to the mass of the people for their co-operation. This is indispensable. While the fate of millions of human beings is at stake we are still in ignorance of the result of the conversations between Hitler and Lord Halifax." He showed that if such methods were followed it would be impossible for the British reactionaries to justify their capitulations with the authority of democratic France, and it would also be impossible for some men in the People's Front to make excuses for their

policy on the grounds of British pressure on France.

What then are the possibilities of preventing war from spreading to far greater areas in 1938? It seems that Washington, D. C., is beginning to realise that isolation and "neutrality" are fatal. It is known that America was prepared to go a considerable way towards co-operation against Japanese aggression at the Brussels Conference which betrayed China. Britain was not, and the Conference collapsed. The same thing is seen when we contrast the American and British official reactions to the sinking of the "Panay" and the "Ladybird". The British National Government is putting the brake on Roosevelt, for the British rulers are not only concerned about British interests in China. They fear effective peaceful action because they fear a Japanese collapse, a Chinese victory, and the consequent upsurge of the colonial and semi-colonial peoples in the Far East.

In his speech on January 3rd Roosevelt answered Mussolini's boast that "Europe tomorrow will be fascist." Roosevelt declared that peace was strongly threatened by or in the nations which rejected democracy or had never known it; but democracy would be restored in the countries which today were without it and on that hope depended the peace of mankind.

If the United States takes a definite stand for collective action the position of the British National Government will be very dif-

ficult. Previously Eden and Co. have excused themselves before the people with the alibi: "The others are not prepared to do anything. Why should we act alone?" The National Government would be seriously embarrassed precisely at a time when the British Labor movement is swinging into action on behalf of Republican Spain and simultaneously is launching a campaign against the rising cost of living. With such a background we can appreciate the importance of Herbert Morrison's statement that 1938 may see elections in Britain resulting in a change in British foreign policy — coming as it does from the leader of the London County Council, a man not given to making rash statements on such a question.

It is needless to insist on the fact that a change, or even the near prospect of a change in Britain's foreign policy in the direction of collective security, would meet with an immediate sympathetic response in France.

There exists, then, the possibility of a transformation in the international situation which would be very favorable to the Spanish Republic. The forces which can play the decisive role in bringing about this transformation have been enormously strengthened by the Republican victory of Teruel, for Teruel is also the victory of the French People's Front, the British Labor movement and of all the forces of peace and progress in the world.

A. M. E.

## ALL TOO QUIET



And you're the man who said he didn't believe in non-intervention.



# CONTRIBUTION OF CYPRUS TO THE CAUSE OF SPANISH DEMOCRACY

Cyprus, a small island in the Eastern Mediterranean, has a population of 340,000. Cyprus, now a British colony, has been under British imperialist domination since 1878. The foreign ruler subjects the people to a life of de-



**COSTAS LAPITHIOTIS**  
Leader in the working class movement of Cyprus.

gradation and misery. The people are bled white by excessive taxation and of exploitation by the landlords. The peasant is propertyless and works from sunrise to sunset for 8 piastres to a shilling (20 cents) a day.

The most elementary civil rights and liberties are denied to the people. Freedom of political and trade union organisation, of assembly, and freedom of the press, do not exist. Strikes are criminal offences punishable by many years of imprisonment.

The people of Cyprus have a feeling of gratitude and admiration towards the Spanish people and the Cypriots in Spain in their struggle for Spanish and world democracy.

## MAKE CONTRIBUTION

The people of the islands follow with great interest the course of the war. Many enthusiastic articles were written in support of the cause of Spanish democracy. The British Government does not allow the collection of money for Spain. This is "in accordance with the policy of non-intervention" pursued by His Majesty's Government which prohibits support "to either side". However, in spite of the ban, in the small villages and towns of the island, collections were made for Spain and the sum of £4000 has been collected and sent to Spain via London. Further collections are continued in all the districts of the island.

The Cypriots of London and New York are very active in their support for Spain. Over 60 Cypriots from Great Britain and the United States of America have been fighting on the Spanish battlefields. They are with the British and American Battalions. They have participated in all the major engagements of the war. Among others are Antonis Theodoulou, from Leonalissou, and J. Papaioannou, from Yermasoyia, who fought with the first English-speaking Company last December at Lopera on the Cordoba Front. At that battle J. Papaioannou, well known in the Cyprus colony of London for his good work on behalf of Cyprus, was wounded in the leg. Now he's back in London. Although crippled he continues the fight. Panayiotis Katsaronas is known amongst the Cypriots of both New York and London. He was a veteran of the Greco-Turkish war. He was killed on the Jarama on February 13th. He was defending with a machine-gun and when surrounded by the fascists in Company Two (Lieut. Fry's company), he refused to give up. The fascists riddled him with bullets.

Nicos Perdikos from Rizokarpason, a quiet and steadfast comrade, was killed on the Jarama on the 14th of February, during the counter attack of the British Battalion. Nicos Vasilou from Nicosia wounded at Brunete, Anastasios Anastasiou and Yiakoumis Georgiou, both from Ayios Elias, George Dimitrou from Lapithos, Pantelis Zacharia from Yialousa, Christos Constantinou from Kerynia, Nicolas Dimitri from Famagusta, Serghios Kossi-

des from Mesaoria, only 17, the youngest Cypriot in Spain, Spyros Fantelides from Kato-Drys and Costas Lapithiotis, a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cyprus, sentenced three times for political activity for Cyprus independence, are among the London Cypriots who continue the fight in Spain.

The American Cypriots are also numerous. The following six, leading members of the progressive Cypriot organisation "Pankypriaki" of New York, V. Pattikis, Jimis Joannou, Christis Christodoulou, A. Thomas, Jacovos Kummillos and Georgios Pantazis have fought at Jarama, Brunete



**ANTONIS THEODOULOU**  
Fighter in the first English-Speaking Company of December, 1938.

and the Aragon. Georgios Pantazis, one of the founders of the "Pankypriaki", and expert machine gunner, and Christos Christodoulou were killed on the last advance on Saragossa. There was Athanasiades from Bella-Pais who received wounds at Peñaroya while with the 86th Brigade last April, also Captain Nicolaidis from Lanarka.

## WORLD FIGHT

The fight of the Spanish people for the defence of their democratic liberties and their national independence, is at the same time the struggle of all the colonial peoples and oppressed national minorities.

The Cypriots, who have made the supreme sacrifice and those who continue the fight, together with their colonial brothers; the Indians and the Chinese, those

## JAPAN FACED WITH LIKELY REVOLT IF WAR LASTS

Japan is faced with a revolution unless the war ends immediately. That is the opinion expressed by Charles C. Batchelder, former assistant chief of the Far Eastern Division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, which is a branch of the U. S. Government that keeps extremely close watch over all events affecting foreign trade. Batchelder's views are recognised as careful and authoritative. Speaking before an audience of 500 persons in Town Hall, New York City, he indicated that while such a revolt could be suppressed by the rigorous military discipline now existing in Japan, the present course of events almost made a people's rising inevitable.

China's strategy is to draw the Japanese forces further into the interior, prolong the war and increase the strain on Japanese finances and resources. Tokio has therefore resorted, he pointed out, to a series of crushing taxes imposed on both the industrial and agricultural workers who form the bulk of the population. Specifically, he declared, more than half the soil under cultivation is owned by eight percent of the large landlords, and everywhere a great resentment is spreading against the rich.

"As a result", he concluded, "the laboring classes are honeycombed with socialism and communism. Police have tried to curtail these sentiments, but have succeeded only in aggravating the situation."

from New Zealand and Africa, the Cubans, the Philipinos and American Negroes, the Irish, and the hundreds from the dominion of Canada, have known the life of degradation and slavery in a colonial country. It is their firm determination to continue the fight and defeat fascism, so that Spain will never become a colony. The men here represent the expression of the will and aspirations of the colonial peoples throughout the world—a victory for democracy in Spain. These men represent the symbol of unity in the field of action between the colonial peoples and the workers and progressives of all countries in their struggle against the common enemy—fascism.

MICHAEL ECONOMIDES



—And who are these 160,000 men?  
—Oh, just a few of our 40,000 volunteers.



## ON BEARDS—A REPLY

In a recent issue of "The Volunteer for Liberty" we find a scholarly article deriding the many beard wearers in the International Brigades. A very astute and interesting article — to the beardless. But to the man with a beard! To the man with a beard that has been the envy of all Spain, this article smacks of lack of foresight and misunderstanding.

The anonymous writer of the article "What's in a Beard?" is



THE AUTHOR of this article.

addressing a limited audience. He speaks to the small group of males in the Brigade who are hairless. He speaks to the children in our midst and to those to whom "HARRY'S LOTION FOR THE HAIRLESS", despite its attractive bottle and prohibitive price, was a waste of money. He addresses the weaklings and the sops.

### BEARDS' REPUTATION

Beards have played an important role in the history of our civilization. We know that Adam boasted of a foot-long beard. The left group in Egypt and their leader Moses, all were men with chin adornments. Abe Lincoln, the famous axe and shovel man, had one and in the most progressive part of the world to-day, the Soviet Union, we find the bearded in the forefront. Marx, Engels and Lenin were proud bearers of a a hirsute chin.

In Spain to-day we find grave problems confronting us. We who arrived here in the Spring of last year encountered a new country fighting for its democratic rights. We found an army in the process of unification — and we found beards. We found them covering

the necks of our leaders: Camposino, Galleani and many others had recognized their value.

### HISTORIC ROLE

Why did all these men have beards? The answer is simple. The answer is shown in the example set by our French comrades in the last war. During the GRANDE GUERRE the beard was prominent amongst the men that saved Paris. Practically every taxi driver that took Joffre's men to the Marne wore one. They had ample reason. Before the end of the war they found that the beard was worth its weight in bully beef. They found, as were the anti-fascist fighters in Spain to find, that a beard on the chin is worth more than a rolling stone.

In the defense of Madrid the beard played its part. When blankets were scarce, when food was not at hand — what men were able to stand longest against the guns of the enemy? The bearded!

With a beard to chew on and to cover you at night you are invincible. When you must stand long hours on guard at the front or in line for beer in Madrid — what comfort has the beardless man? When one of the greatest shortages in Spain has made itself evident, the great lack of "cambio", who among us has helped to ease the load of the government? Who among us? Can you beardless who must visit the barber daily answer in the affirmative? NO.

### ATTRACTS GIRLS

Now to the final point, a point the anonymous author in the "Volunteer" dared not even mention. The effect of the beard on the female. Visit Albacete, Madrid, Barcelona or any town in which an International Brigade may have representatives. Walk down the "Calle Mayor", the "Gran Via", "Calle Paz", or the "Ramblas" and what do you find? You find that the beardless travel alone. But what has that handsome bearded volunteer dangling on his arm, looking fondly into his eyes and listening oh so intently? A woman. And what a woman! Invariably she will be a masterpiece. A symphony of femininity.

The effect of the beard on nur-

## BALLAD OF TERUEL

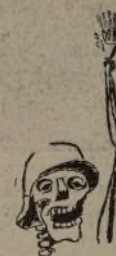
The General stood in Teruel  
Whence not a few had fled;  
He called his brave defenders up  
And unto them he said:  
"Soldiers, today we stand as one  
To crush the wicked Red."



"On you, my brave ten thousand men,  
I know I can depend  
To guard our virgin citadel  
Unto the bitter end."

"My staunch five thousand, mustered here,  
Will march against the foe  
And die with laughter on their lips  
Because they like it so."

"I place implicit faith in you,  
My fine six hundred men,  
And I'll repay you all in gold  
One day (no matter when)."



"None dare assert there's braver troops  
Or fairer flowers of youth  
Than the two hundred standing here  
(Well, not with any truth)."

"Courage, my strong one hundred hearts!  
The enemy arrive!  
My fifty boys, my twenty lads,  
My ten, my seven, my five..."

One soldier stood in Teruel  
And boldly up spake he:  
"You said, today we stand as one  
That one shall not be me."



"Get off my horse!" the General roared.  
(The rest is history.)



ses is well known to all our on it minutely would be unfair to the beardless. But I must say, that the average wounded man bearing a beard is, without fail, at the top of the list among "Young Men Popular With Their Nurses".

To close: When beards are worn in the I. B., and you beardless are interested in mending your ways, wounded comrades and to touch

I say, "Ask the man who owns one!" Viva La Barba!

M. H.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Do you think that the growing of "Beards" should be encouraged or discouraged in our People's Army? Comrades with views on the subject are urged to send in their contributions.)



## CHRISTMAS AT THE BRIGADE

In case any of the folks at home paused in the middle of their Christmas dinners to have a few sober thoughts about the boys in Spain, they will be glad to know that the boys had a very good time. The Brigade was in reserve over the festival, quarters were reasonably comfortable and the weather was fine and sunny. Units made arrangements for their own celebrations, in some cases combin-



PART of the 15th Brigade Political Commissariat staff at work.

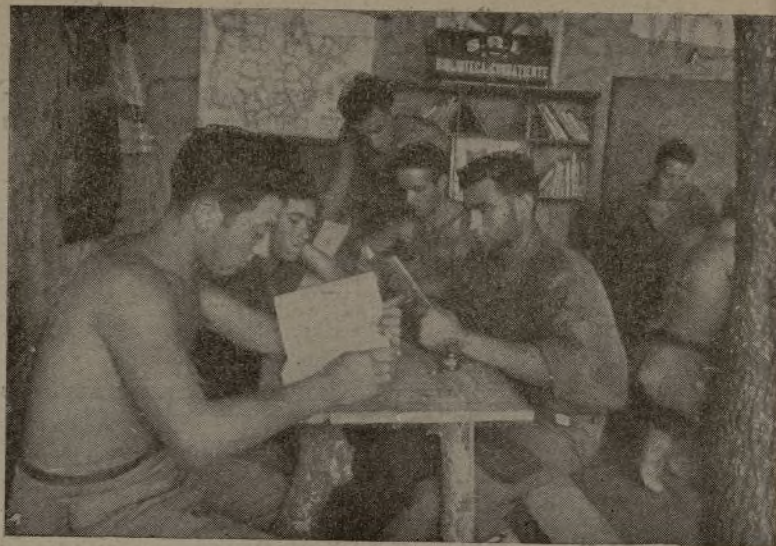
ing; each is convinced that its own party was the best.

There was an abundance of good food, including as much meat as any man could put away. The Brigade boys ate turkey, chicken, pork, Christmas pudding and cakes. The sweeter side of the meal was largely made possible by the generosity of our friends at home, who sent parcels full of good stuff. It was a timely gift and much appreciated.

In each of the villages through which the Brigade units were distributed, the army and the people celebrated together. Music and dancing were organised, and toys and cakes given to the children, many of whom were refugees from the North. The toys included those which had been sent out from America.

When the Republican Army goes into fiesta, it does not set out to forget the war that brought it into the field. The fascists may need that sort of medicine. With us, the spirit of fiesta and military duties run side by side. Only an army that believes in what it is fighting for can combine the two. Together with the banquets and celebrations, parades and marches were organised and carried out with the same spirit. Owing to a change of timetable the Lincolns and the Twenty-Fourth Battalion were called to parade off the football field at a moment's notice. They went by as if they were used to doing it every day. Awards were made to men of the battalions who had given good service.

General Walter of the 35th Division visited the Brigade; distinguished visitors from Britain and America found their way up. Headquarters Staff were kept busy dashing from one banquet to another. A ghost appeared at the British Battalion's evening meal. Anti-Tanks claim to have gone one better with a Scarlet Woman, the



LOYALIST SOLDIERS in an S. R. I. library at the front.

central character in a sketch put on by the unit's dramatic group. The man who took this part had appeared once in public before, as the hind legs of a horse.

Brigade Commander Copic received a very fine gold watch, which had been subscribed for by all units. The following message was engraved on it in Spanish:

"To our friend and leader, Lt. Col. Copic, from all the men of the Fifteenth Brigade."

## Rebellion Planned Long Ago

Fully two years before the war broke out in Spain, the reactionary groups began making arrangements with Italy. This fact is reported in a significant article written by the diplomatic correspondent of the "Manchester Guardian". "For the first time, probably, since the beginning of the war", says the article, "one of the rebel chiefs—Antonio Goicoechea, leader of the Monarchist Party called Renovacion Española—has admitted the true purposes of the insurrection".

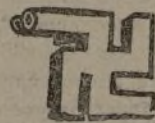
Pointing out that since July 1936 the rebels have unceasingly declared that they never would have taken up arms if a Bolshevik revolution were not imminent, the article shows that facts and quotations prove otherwise.

In a speech at San Sebastian on November 22, Goicoechea announced openly that since March 1934, certain conservative parties—including his own—had planned to seize the government and call upon the army to rebel. "If necessary for the good of Spain", he said, "we would precipitate a civil war".

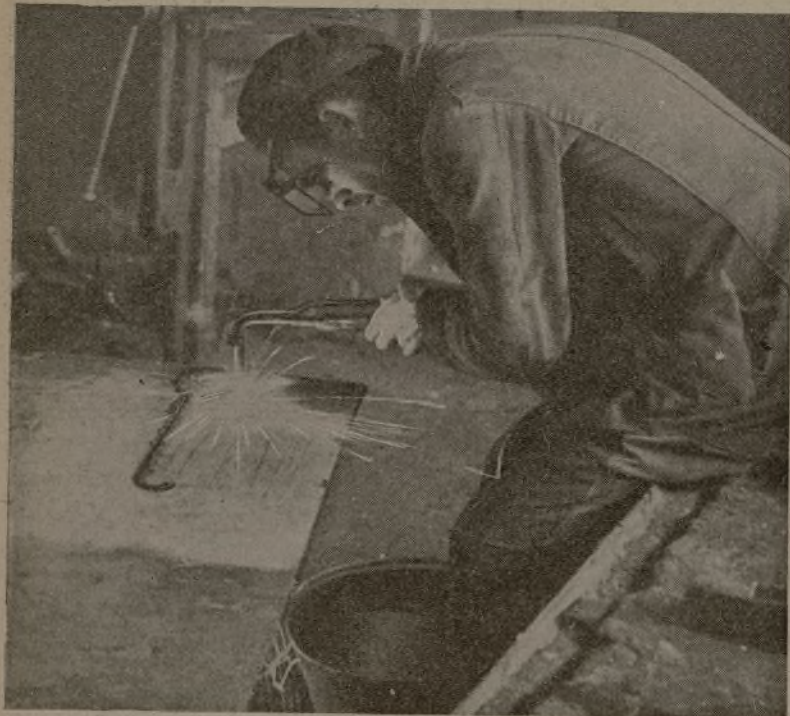
## Fascists Cause Newsmen Tragedy

Two British and one American journalists were killed and another American reporter severely wounded at the beginning of Franco's desperate counter-offensive to regain Teruel from the Loyalists. From available accounts it seems that the mishap was the direct outcome of the fascists' acts of deception and denial of the facts in order to prevent their disaster from becoming known. When these reporters insisted on definite information, Franco assured them the city was still in his hands and invited them to go there and see for themselves. Under fascist escort they were led directly into the line of fire and were killed by Loyalist artillery covering the enemy rear at Teruel.

Eleven correspondents were in automobiles proceeding to the city and had come within a few kilometers of Teruel without being



warned of the peril when a shell struck the car containing the victims. They were Sheephanks, of the British Reuter Agency; Johnson, of the American magazine "Spur"; Neil, an American member of the Associated Press; and Philby, of the London "Times". The latter survives, while the bodies of the others are being shipped home to relatives.



WORKER in one of Madrid's factories which supply the War Medical Service department with metal medical equipment to be used at the front, or in the hospitals throughout Spain.