The C. N. T. and the Madrid Government

During the last twenty-four hours an event of such importance has taken place that the whole face of the Spanish situation may be changed. We refer to the entry into the Madrid government of three responsible members of the C. N. T. and the F. A. I.

The collaboration of the anarcho-syndicalists in a government, even to the extent of abandoning the scruples which they showed as to name at the time of taking part in the Council of the Generalitat of Catalonia, means that although our Anarchist comrades may not be giving up their libertarian principles, they are at least allowing them to be modified by reality.

We would congratulate the anarchists if we thought that they had taken a step towards the path which would lead them to collaborate with other workers’ organisations for the establishment of a proletarian regime without petty bourgeois admixture. If this rectification had come at the proper time, the objective circumstances in Catalonia would have been such that it would have been possible to form an entirely working class government for an earlier victory over fascism and for the realisation of the revolution.

As it is, we greet the entry of our comrades of the C. N. T. and the F. A. I. into the Madrid government with pleasure but without complete satisfaction. Up till now we have given our support to the idea of their entry, and have joined with them in their attitude. Now we fear that the hasty solution found to the difficulty—due to the strong pressure of the fascists on Madrid—will not make of the new Government at Madrid the Government needed for the revolution, but only a broader Popular Front Government.

When the government of the Generality of Catalonia was formed we were not satisfied. We desired the formation of a workers’ government based on the revolutionary organisations of the masses. However, we accepted a place in the Council because it was formed by a workers’ majority, and because it made a declaration in its entirety that it would do nothing to put a brake on the revolutionary impulse of the proletariat, but would, on the contrary, guide it towards the revolution. As we have said before, the day it forsakes the path of this policy, our collaboration will come to an end, since for us it is not merely a question of sharing out ministerial appointments (if it had been, we should never have accepted the proportion allotted to us), but a question as to whether it was possible or not to give a greater impetus to the revolution from the Government of Catalonia by affirming the positions we had already gained.

On the constitution of the Madrid Government, the same circumstances as those attendant upon our entry into the Council of the Generalitat with the C. N. T. and the F. A. I. have not been forthcoming. Neither the government itself, nor the president in its name, have made any declaration of a change from its position in the defence of bourgeois democracy. They have not announced any change in their critical attitude towards Catalonia, or against the continued existence of an army which gives such preponderance to the military caste.

The C. N. T. itself has of course made a declaration of principles in face of this collaboration.
The manifest of the Women's Secretariat of the P.O.U.M.  

The Women's Secretariat of the P.O.U.M., in face of the seriousness of the present struggle against fascism which demands the efforts and sacrifices of everyone to assure the speedy triumph of the proletarian cause, calls upon women workers to assume the important roles at stake in this vital conflict, to all women who have fathers, brothers and companions fighting in the trenches to all women who are suffering from the consequences of the war to realize that they, as well as men, have their duties and obligations. Every woman has her place in the struggle and her definite task to accomplish in order to help our cause towards the final triumph.

No woman must be allowed to forget that the struggle going on at all fronts throughout Spain is a war to the death which can no other end than the complete crushing of one or other of the adversaries. The offensive just begun by the workers must give birth to the triumph of the proletarian cause. But even so, hundreds of comrades will be lost in the struggle, and many other comrades will have to leave their work to go to the front. We women comrades must show ourselves worthy of the great cause of the working class comrades at the front. We also must make sacrifices. We must let those who leave their work know that nothing will suffer in their absence for lack of willing hands. We must take their places when they leave. Every man who is fighting at the front for the triumph of the revolution, must be able to know that his companion, his daughter, his mother is one more militant.

Comrades, militants, sympathizers of the P.O.U.M., all women workers, this war will be long and hard one; there may come a time when there will not be enough hands to wield weapons at the front and direct help will be demanded of us. It is necessary to destroy prejudices and false illusions in order to clear the path for the future. Comrades of the P.O.U.M., sympathetic workers and all women, answer our call by giving your help, your initiative and your good will.

For the triumph of the Socialist Revolution!
MANIFESTO OF THE SOCIALIST YOUTH OF MEXICO

Long live the Spanish proletariat!
In the struggle at present going on in Spain between the revolutionary proletariat and the fascist reaction, the interests of the working class and the world revolution are at stake. In face of this the Socialist Youth of Mexico express to the Mexican proletariat their point of view:

The experience of the Spanish revolution, from 1931 when the monarchy fell, teaches us that fascism is a manifestation of capitalism and that to ignore it completely it is necessary to break up the regime which gave it birth.

The experience of proletarian struggles during recent years shows us the need for the proletariat to fight in unity victoriously against fascism and imperialist war, and consequently against the power of the bourgeoisie. The present situation in Spain shows that bourgeois democracy will not uphold the liberties and organizations of the working class, that is to say, to allow them the necessary implements to go forward in their struggle against capitalist oppression and to make the socialist revolution.

Historically only two issues remain open to the Spanish proletariat: socialism or fascism. For that reason those who try to remain at the existing stage of bourgeois democracy only hold back the march of the revolution and give the capitalist enemy a chance to strengthen itself.

The international importance of the Spanish revolution is that its triumph will change the correlation of forces between the two fundamental classes of present day capitalist society, that is the proletariat and the bourgeoisie. The triumph of fascist reaction in Spain would cause a wave of world reaction and would be the beginning of the attack by the barbarous Hitlerites on the fortress of the world proletariat, the Soviet Union.

The triumph of the Spanish proletariat would be the signal for the victorious march of the world proletariat against their capitalist oppressors. For this it is necessary for the world proletariat to realize the importance of the struggle being heroically carried out by the workers of Spain and to lend them effective support and solidarity.

As the fascist countries, like Germany, Italy, etc., have openly helped the rebels in Spain, so ought the proletariat of all countries to give frank support to the cause of the Spanish proletariat.

We salute the attitude of the P. O. U. M. and other Catalan parties who have begun the collectivization of industry and are in the vanguard of the revolution in Spain. The Socialist Youth of Mexico calls upon the proletariat of their country to help with energy and enthusiasm their fellow workers in Spain. As the Mexican fascists help the Spanish fascists so the workers of Mexico ought to support their comrades in Spain. Let us prepare to take our place in this international class war and redouble our activities against reaction in this country.

Long live Red Spain!
Long live international proletarian solidarity!

The National Executive Committee of the Socialist Youth of Mexico

This is a magnificent example of the solidarity of the Mexican proletariat towards the Spanish working class. Thousands and thousands of copies of this manifesto have been plaited in the streets of the cities and villages throughout Mexico.

ARMs AND THE FASCISTS

We hear from Paris of the new means adopted by the Itailans for smuggling arms into territory under the control of the Spanish fascists. Orders are given for the ships carrying arms to sail to Tripoli, but, under seals which are to be broken at a certain time, are further orders to change the course and to proceed to some Spanish port held by the rebels. The Itailans are secretly shipped at Leghorn, Livorno, Venice, Bologna, and Genoa, where sailors and soldiers trusted by the fascists are in control of the shipments.

THE STALINISTS AND THE SPANISH REVOLUTION

One of the factors that must be taken into consideration in an estimation of the situation in Spain is the reactionary role that is being played by the Stalinists.

The Stalinists have forced the reactionary character of Marxism-Leninism into these bodies may surprise those who associate the glorious traditions of the Russian revolution and the inspired leadership of Lenin with the Third International of today; but to the Stalinists the counter-revolutionary line of the Stalinists is a logical outcome of the policy of sacrificing the international proletariat for the policy of building socialism in one country.

The degeneration of the line of the Third International has never been so clearly illustrated as in our country today. Political bankruptcy goes hand in hand with open opportunism, without even the pretense of Marxist thought or revolutionary leadership. The whole of the political mistakes of the Comintern can be found in its basic desire to maintain the status quo; that is, in Spain, the bourgeois democratic role of the capitalist class, and to hold back the mighty upsurge of the masses moving toward a new social order, the situation could not be more disquieting. Only the working classes can forestall the catastrophe that is being prepared.

Even after the fateful days of July the Stalinists were unable to draw lessons from the struggle. «It is possible to get prosperity within the framework of our democratic republics,» said the robots of Stalin in August. After five years of bourgeois republican rule that contributed nothing to the workers but paper policies and empty slogans! This is merely a repetition of that most reactionary slogan «Prosperity is around the corners,» which the bourgeoisie of America and England use in order to bolster up their same capitalist democracy that the Stalinists want to defend in Spain. Their unprincipled acceptance of the peoples' front and their fight against a red army means in effect that they become conscious allies of the bourgeoisie in its fight to maintain the existing bourgeois state apparatus in the face of the advancing demand of the proletariat for the end of capitalism and for workers control.

Thus the Stalinists take their place in the camp of the counter revolution and against the revolutionary upsurge of the workers and peasants. This base betrayal of the masses by the Stalinists has not gone unnoticed here. The P. S. U. C. (Stalinist party in Catalonia) has rapidly degenerated, while its support for the petty agrarian reforms of Asa i a place it even to the right of the Catalan Left Republicans (Esquerra). The phenomenal growth of the P. O. U. M. on the other hand can be traced to the fact that they, unlike the Stalinists, are carrying out a line of Lenin for the attainment of workers power and socialism. They are proud to declare with Marx «Communists openly declare that their end can only be obtained by the forceful overthrow of all existing conditions» (Communist Manifesto).

The working masses, with the new consciousness that the revolution is providing, will sweep these defenders of Capitalism and half-baked revolutionary theorists from the path of the advancing socialist revolution. Spain has provided, for all the world to see, examples of the prostitution of the teachings of Lenin and of the depths of trickery to which the Stalinists will descend.

A clean break with the policy of reformism and the status quo means in every country the creation of Marxist parties such as the P. O. U. M. If this lesson is assimilated the base trickery of the Stalinists will have served some purpose.
THE MILITAR

The fascist generals continue to encircle Madrid. According to information supplied by the General Staff of the government forces, five fascist columns are operating on the various fronts in the center of Spain. These columns have been made up of picked men and are furnished with the best war equipment with which their fascist allies, Germany and Italy, can provide them. Their aim from the start has been to take Madrid; the fascist generals counted on the capital escaping their control and established strategic positions for capturing it as soon as possible during the Lerroux-Gi Robles government they had carefully fortified the Sierra de Guadarrama with the sole object of advancing on Madrid. So confident were the fascists that their plan would succeed that they gave the story to the press that Mola and his troops had entered the city on the 24th of July. Since that date the fascist press and radio and the foreign newspapers, which help the fascists with their lies, have announced the fall of Madrid fifty times. This obsession merely shows their desires but nothing more.

We must recognize that the fascists have had a certain success in their tactic of surrounding Madrid, but this success of theirs has been largely due to a lack of discipline and military cohesion on our part. Starting with the false idea that the civil war would not last long, we have neglected those very measures which would have given us the maximum guarantee of triumphing within a short period.

During these last weeks the fascist generals have exerted a very strong pressure on the Central front. Madrid is the principal objective not only of the militarist and fascist reaction in Spain, but in Europe. Thanks to the European fascist powers, the Spanish militarists are able to prolong the struggle against the Spanish people by using the most modern and effective engines of war.

The Spanish proletariat understood from the very beginning the political and strategic importance of Madrid. Precisely for this reason the proletariat of all Spain go to the Madrid front to offer their services as practical proof of their solidarity in the struggle. All the workers' parties in Madrid have reached the unanimous conclusion that it is necessary to take the offensive in the center sections to thwart the plans of the enemy. The combatants understand this necessity perfectly and are acting resolutely in accordance.

OUR OFFENSIVE

Last week our big offensive began on all fronts. The only adequate means of defense is to attack. Our armament factories are working night and day for the front as a reply to the foreign aid which the fascist are securing. The proletariat arms now have tanks, aeroplanes and cannon thanks to the untiring efforts of the workers and their spirit of sacrifice.

An attempt is being made by the friends of Spain fascism to charge the anti-fascist forces with receiving foreign help. They maintain that the war machinery which we have was provided by our Russian comrades. They know this to be quite untrue but make this claim in order to justify the German and Italian aid to General Franco. The same newspapers and the same diplomats who, up to the present have cynically denied receiving foreign aid, now that we are attacking effectively with modern equipment, at once admit the foreign fascist help and try to justify it.

What has been the immediate result of the offensive on all fronts? On the Aragon front the workers are at the gates of Huesca, and their encirclement of this city is almost complete. They have entered the Alcubierre Mountains and are driving the fascists back. Desertions of soldiers coming over to join our forces, bringing their arms with them, have become very frequent. At times there are dozens in a single day. The proletariat knows where its interests lie; many of the soldiers who have been obliged to fight in the fascist ranks are the sons of peasants who know that under a workers' government the land they work will be their own.

On the northern front our offensive has broken through the reinforced columns which were marching to join Aranda and the fascist troops in Oviedo. The victorious advance of the miners' forces moves like a wave through the Asturias. At the Southern and Center fronts around Madrid the militia has attacked with the help of armored trains and tanks.
Y SITUATION

specially built by the workers, and have succeeded in driving back the fascists from various positions which they had conquered near Madrid. Our airforce, reinforced by more and better aeroplanes, has flown over enemy territory and heavily bombed various strongholds belonging to the fascists. In this way we have managed to destroy almost the whole of the Seville aerodrome and about sixteen planes belonging to the enemy.

Our military squadron has met with repercussions throughout the country. The hand of the fascists has been forced and they have been obliged to attempt many spectacular feats in order to save their prestige in the eyes of their allies. Their immediate reply has been to drop bombs on Madrid and Malaga, with the sole result of injuring a crowd of women and children in an open square. These acts have only earned them the disapproval of many sections of the foreign capitalist press. This week they undertook a more dashing and considerably more useless action.

FASCIST REPRISAL

A few days ago the town of Rosas was bombarded by the rebel cruiser, Canarias. As soon as this information was received in Figueras, a mixed column was mobilized composed of elements of the P. O. U. M. and the C. N. T. together with some of the U. G. T. Like a torrent the workers and peasants poured to the scene of attack. As soon as the mad intentions of the fascists had become known, our trade union radio in Gerona began to give instructions for concentration. Our party was the first to issue a call to arms. The members of our youth movement marched through the streets of Gerona with drums, trumpets and a red flag at the head of the troops to the cry of, Communists of the P. O. U. M., to arms!

On arriving at Rosas the blackshirts of the fascists manning the cruiser were visible. The fascists were not able to land and their bombardment made no victims. At five o'clock the next afternoon, the warship Combe Mar Velza, also entered the bay. Further forces at once set out for Rosas and other places on the coast. A detachment came from the Lenin barracks of the P. O. U. M. in Barcelona. The Italian warship has since left the bay, but continues cruising in the vicinity.

The ill-fated action of the fascists at Rosas, as is now known, was meant as propaganda for the enemy's colleagues in Italy, Germany and Portugal, to show what they thought they could do in reply to our bombardment of Seville. Such acts have no purpose in themselves and only serve as reprisals.

The struggle taking place in Spain is no longer a civil war confined to one country. On the outcome of the Spanish struggle depends not only the fate of the proletariat in Spain, but throughout Europe. A fascist victory in Spain would mean a fascist future for Europe. Hitler and Mussolini realized this long ago; they realized in time to foment the military rising before the 19th of July. It has taken Stalin three months to understand this simple fact and Leon Blum has not yet grasped it. In spite of our criticism of the mistaken policy of the Third International, and the dangers of the theory of socialism in one country for the cause of the international working class, we are the first to recognize the importance of the new decision taken by the Soviet Union to offer us its powerful aid against the criminal intentions of Germany, Italy and Portugal.

Russia has realized that the neutrality pact consisted in practice of allowing the intervention of fascist countries. A fascist Europe would menace the existence of the Soviet Union. Russia cannot stand passively aside when her own fate is bound up in the fate of the Spanish proletariat. Henceforth we will fight with renewed courage and optimism, for help is at hand.

RADIO P. O. U. M.

The P. O. U. M. broadcasting station is Radio Barcelona E. C. P. 2., wave length 42 metres. There are broadcasts in English every evening except Sundays, from 6.40. p.m. to 7 o'clock.

The comrades who listen-in to P. O. U. M. broadcasts are cordially invited to send comments and criticism to this office. It will help the organisers to know how the P. O. U. M. radio program is received in other countries.
The New Municipal Organization in Catalonia

The fascist uprising which started the present revolution found the working class without those organs of power which could be substituted for the bourgeois regime. The obstinacy of certain workers' organizations, in systematically blocking the path of the proposed Workers' Alliance, was a serious error. Now it is plain that we were right when we said that the Workers' Alliance would be the future organ of power. It was necessary, however, to improvise. As soon as the fascist movement broke out, the workers' organizations proceeded quickly to set up a unified committee, on which all of them were represented, preserving their relative forces in each locality. Nevertheless, the creation of these new organs of power did not lead to the suppression of the old ones, due possibly to the representation on them, with a majority, of our allies the middle class and petty bourgeoisie.

Once the revolution is under way, dual power, a classical phase of the pre-revolution, has just the opposite effect to that intended. Two months of revolution and civil war have amply demonstrated the danger of such dual power. There has been invasion of spheres, confusion of responsibility and duplication of activity.

Then there is the town, at least in the region of Girona, where there was no a central committee with subcommittees of war, labor, supplies, and finance, each with its small army. Besides each committee had a separate headquarters. Each made its own rules and would break the interference of nothing or no-one.

The Central Anti-fascist Committee at Barcelona was dissolved as a logical consequence of the new government or Council of Generalitat. One of its principal aims was to straighten out tangled governmental situation in the towns. In this they had the fortunate example of the Town Council of Lerida, where the comrades, as they have done in so many fields, showed the way.

Lerida at first found the political direction in the hands of the working class and at the same time the bodies of the local government had not been discarded. The town government has now been put under the power of the workers and direct representatives of the proletarian organizations administer the life of Lerida. The Town Council, though it is not very old, has nevertheless accomplished an important work. It was formed September 9th, and since then has not paused a moment in studying the subjects related to the municipal problems of our people and in finding solutions adequate for, and in line with, the present revolutionary moment.

Here are the more important results:

Organization of town activities into five large departments: economic, construction, culture, order, and provisions.

Abolition of all salaries and payment for municipal office holders.

Transformation of the well known dependency of the poorhouses and reorganization of the transient bureaus.

Cancellation of the payment of bond and amortization coupons due this year.

Dismissal of judicial employees.

Enrollment of all children of Lerida in schools and provision of adequate school facilities.

Disolution of the School of Musics, to be replaced by one that will do honor to Lerida.

Cancellation of the wine tax, the building tax, the tenants' tax and suspension of the tax on new buildings not up to specified standards.

Construction of necessary roads through the irrigated lands.

Suspension of supplementary payments and bonuses for all classes of employees pending study of a new scale of salaries.

Furthermore, the members of the Municipal Council are continually searching for means essential to the other necessary changes, as they are determined to realize a truly revolutionary work.

The Council of the Generalitat had the Lerida experiment in mind when it recently approved the two decrees, which may be summarized as follows: New town Councils will be formed throughout Catalonia of representatives of political parties and antifascist organizations with the same proportion as to the number of posts as in the Council of the Generalitat (4 representatives of the left republican parties; 2 representatives of the IIrd. International, 3 representatives of the C. N. T. or anarchist trade unions, 1 representative of the P. O. U. M. and 1 representative of the Union of Rabassaires, which is largely under P. O. U. M.'s influence).

This proportion is to be maintained until the Council of the Generalitat has studied and agreed upon the procedure by means of which the political and workers' representatives will be able to demonstrate their numerical force more exactly.

(The solution, given, so far as the proportioning is concerned does not exactly reflect the strength of the various organizations in the various towns.)

These bodies are to take over, with full autonomy, the functions of municipal government, which have been defined as administration, culture, public works and defense; and all other local committees, whatever their function, are to be dissolved.

Concentration Camps in the Canary Islands

After repeated efforts we have discovered the truth about the situation in the Canary Islands. The revolution there was nipped in the bud. 1,300 trade unionists and members of workers' political parties being thrown into prison on the eve of the military rising, including the best leaders and the most responsible comrades of our movement. Naturally this handicapped our cause, and the people, disarmed two months previously, were unable to beat back the armed insurrection.

Under the leadership of Lieutenant Campos of the Assault Guards an attempt was made by a small number of workers and soldiers to rise against the fascists. Most of these men, however, were betrayed, imprisoned and shot. Within a few hours the prisoners were crowded with workers. So great was the number of prisoners that the fascist were forced to open concentration camps in which the workers were put to hard labor. The clothing given to the workers was quite inadequate and after long hours of toil they were obliged to sleep out in the fields without shelter or cover of any kind. Under these conditions many of the workers contracted pneumonia and others died from hunger. How could one expect them to be well fed when the fascists themselves could not get enough to eat due to the absence of foodstuffs on the island? For a long time it was impossible to get eggs, milk, potatoes, oil, etc.

August 15th was made a feast day and the occasion of changing the republican flag for the royalist flag; a moving incident took place as the procession went through the town. The sister of Lieutenant Campos sprang out of the crowd, and, jumping onto the official car, tore down the royalist flag. She was seized and immediately executed like her brother.

Even the soldiers were disarmed because the chiefs feared they would rise against them. In the ranks there is a violent feeling against the fascists and their oppression. September 2nd provided evidence of this spirit latent in the minds of the working class. A few days earlier an antifascist plot had been hatched. Two of the organizers were Captain Vega and his son, a lieutenant in the army. The arms collected from the soldiers and the shops, were distributed among the workers. In the small hours of September 2nd the movement was to break
The New School

Part I

One of the greatest enemies of the Spanish proletariat in its fight against fascism is ignorance and illiteracy. We intend to publish a series of articles in THE SPANISH REVOLUTION, on this very important question.

THE OLD SCHOOLS

Of all the countries of Europe, Spain has the highest percentage of illiteracy, almost half of the population being unable to read or write, compared with 2% to 5% in most European countries. Only one other country surpassed Spain in illiteracy and that was Russia before the revolution, and when the workers had triumphed there, education became one of the problems to which they devoted the most careful attention.

In Madrid, before the revolution, over 50,000 children had never attended school, while in Barcelona, according to official statistics, the number reached 70,250. The school buildings were totally inadequate, often the poorest buildings in the town — veritable pig-sties— lacking in the most elementary hygienic conditions or educational facilities. In Barcelona the model schools are palaces, but there are scores of state schools, stuck in dirty apartment buildings, in narrow alleys, where the sun and fresh air cannot penetrate.

The teachers in the state schools were among the lowest paid of Spanish officials. The lowest paid policeman received 71 duros (355 pesetas) compared with the teachers’ 47 duros per month. The average salary of the post, telegraph and financial employees was 3,500 pesetas per year, while the average teacher received no more than 2,500 pesetas. 88% of the teachers, according to 1928-36 figures, received less than 3,000 pesetas per year.

Thousands of children without schooling; those in the schools housed in inadequate buildings; teachers receiving a miserable pitance in return for their services — that was a picture of the Spanish schools. Can the reader wonder at the slave mentality and intellectual poverty that these conditions fostered?

THE SCHOOL UNDER THE REPUBLIC

What has the Republic done for education during the last five years? It merely added the words “slay and unifies to the old monarchist name of compulsory and free. But in reality everything went on as before. A free compulsory school had been one of the great slogans of the French Jacobins in 1793. A school free for all regardless of income, and free from the influence of the church. If this was possible in the France of 1793 it was difficult and almost impossible for the Spain of our day.

The industrial bourgeoisie had lost all its revolutionary drive and had merged with feudalism. The republican petty bourgeoisie could not solve the school problem, nor any of the problems facing the democratic revolution. Theoretical paper solutions were its only contribution.

Its compulsory schools had no room for thousands of children; its free schools furnished no books or paper for the children of the poor workers; its lay schools left the majority of the children still illiterate. The church schools, many of them simply because they could not find a place elsewhere. The following figures illustrate the situation in Barcelona which was typical.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barcelona Schools</th>
<th>Official</th>
<th>Religious</th>
<th>Private</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children attending</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of schools</td>
<td>33,277</td>
<td>30,343</td>
<td>51,330</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Most of those classified as private schools were religious in spirit and directly supported by Catholic societies. Nothing was done to find a solution to this question (which is really the problem of the state and church in Spain) just as nothing was done to eradicate illiteracy.

The republic built only 5,000 schools in five years. Although even the dictatorship of Primo de Rivera had averaged a thousand schools per year, and the schools that were built were poor and understaffed. The failure of the republican petty bourgeoisie to reform the schools is apparent. In the days of the Jacobins, compulsory and lay schools helped the bourgeoisie in their struggle against feudalism. Today it would help the working class to free itself from class domination.

In a following article, we shall discuss the relation of the school to the new society.

(To be continued)

An I. L. P. Comrade Commanding Artillery

Comrade Martin, who came over with the Joaquin Mau- riri Ambulance, has after having served briefly with the P. O. U. M. medical corps transferred to the artillery. He is now doing good work on the Huesca front, commanding the artillery of the Miguel Pedrada column. Of the 50 comrades who work with him, about 35 belong to the P. O. U. M. and the others to the F. A. L. Comrade Martin, who returned to Barcelona last week, on short leave, declared himself highly satisfied with the courage and initiative of all these comrades.

Subscribe to «The Spanish Revolution»

The price is two pence or five cents; it may be ordered from The Independent Labour Party, 35 St. Bride St., London; The Marxist League, 238 Edgeware Road, London W 2; The Socialist League, 3 Victoria St., London; The Labor Book Shop, 28 E. 12th St., New York City and The Y. P. S. L., 549 Randolph St., Chicago Ill.

Or you may write direct to us at 10 Rambles de los Estudios, Barcelona, Spain.

Aims! Arms!! Arms!!!
We must Have Arms!
NEWS AND NOTES

Comrade Trotsky and the Press

The Norwegian government, in the service of Stalinism, is preventing Leon Trotsky from defending himself. As a consequence of its decision not to allow Comrade Trotsky to bring a case for slander against a communist newspaper and a fascist publication, declarations have been made by the Norwegian government that the measures taken against Trotsky are due to diplomatic considerations. The case for slander, say government officials, might endanger the friendly relations between Norway and the Soviet Union.

Trotsky’s legal advisor is questioning the legality of the decree.

The U. S. A. Strikes

We learn with the greatest sympathy of the strike being carried out by the American seamen. The strike movement has reached as far as the gulf of Mexico; we wish it every success.

Toward a Revolutionary International

The International Congress against War and Fascism and in support of the Spanish revolution ended its work on November 3rd. The question of aid for the Spanish workers was the main topic of discussion.

The first day Julian Gorkin of the executive committee of the P. O. U. M. gave a full report of the situation in Spain. The delegates, who had come from all the countries in the world, unanimously acclaimed this report in the name of millions of workers.

Three commissions were set up: one on the Spanish revolution, one on war and fascism, and one on the Russian question.

The resolution on Spain was carried unanimously, as was that on war and fascism. Finally, the discussion of the Russian situation was tabled until the next meeting of the Conference to be held at Barcelona. It was decided that the International Secretariat of the P. O. U. M., together with the London Bureau should call this conference here to examine the conditions and to organize the forces working toward the formation of a really revolutionary international. The organizational committee consists of Comrades Gorkin, Brockway and Walcher. The Spanish delegation has been charged with publishing the resolutions in the «Batallas» and in a pamphlet to be distributed throughout the world.

The Brussels Congress, which took this step toward a revolutionary workers international represents Marxist revolutionary parties and trade unions of many countries: Germany, France, England, United States, Belgium, Sweden, Roumania, etc. Workers everywhere await the developments which should follow these decisions.

FORWARD TO THE WORLD REVOLUTION!

A column of 30,000 calalans

«In Catalonia», said «Solidaridad Obrera», the anarcho-syndicalist paper, on the 9th of January, that the anarchists were joining the government at Madrid, at the C. N. T. and the F. A. I. could organize within a few days a column of more than 30,000 men who could drive the enemy back from the Madrid fronts and through the Extremadura. Why isn’t this done? Because there are not sufficient arms in Catalonia and the Madrid Government in its present structure does not offer sufficient guarantee of responsibility. We know that outside Catalonia there are arms to be had. Why aren’t we given these arms? The war is long drawn out because the Madrid Government does not know how to manage the war. Now is not the time for the tricksters who have brought war to Spain. The only way to save Spain is to put its destiny into the hands of the workers.»

Spanish exhibition in London

Two comrades have already arrived from London in connection with the Spanish Revolution Exhibition shortly to be opened there. Comrades Penrose and Fletcher are busy collecting exhibits from the P. O. U. M. and other workers’ organizations. It is hoped, by various pieces of material evidence to be produced before the British public, to cut the ground from under the feet of Mr. Eden and his recent declaration that he could find no proof of Italian and German help having been sent to the Spanish fascists.

Comrade Smithie, likewise of the I. L. P., has also joined us in Barcelona where he is working energetically for the P. O. U. M.

The «Joaquim Maurin» ambulance

This ambulance, sent by the I. L. P. as a present to their comrades of the P. O. U. M. has already been in service on the Aragon front for some time now. Doctor Morros and comrade Eva, who are on the staff of the ambulance together with other P. O. U. M. comrades, were under fire during the whole of our recent big attack on Huesca and served with the ambulance in the front line, doing invaluable work in caring for our wounded.

INFORMATION BUREAU

We invite our readers to address questions about the Spanish revolution to our Information Bureau, care of THE SPANISH REVOLUTION, 10, Rambla de los Estudios, Barcelona.

I. — Is it true that Barcelona has been bombed? asks a Glasgow reader.

With great frequency over the Seville radio, but not so far as we are aware.

II. — A letter from a comrade in New Jersey asks if we cannot publish an article on the women fighting at the front, if the reports are true concerning women militias.

There are a great many women fighting at the front, including volunteers from abroad. The are handling rifles and machine guns in the Milicias belonging to all of the workers’ parties throughout Spain. As to women’s militia, see our article in this number on the Women’s Secretariat of the P. O. U. M.

III. — We have received several requests for additional sources in English on the Spanish revolution.

We recommend the following pamphlets which we have received:

- «The Civil War in Spain» by Felix Morrow: 64 pages; 15 cents; Pioneer Publishers, 100 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y.
- «The背景 of the present events is very well treated in this pamphlet.»

We shall be glad to receive any other material published in English.

I. C. S. I. O., / Barcelona (España)