

World Youth Rallies to Aid Spanish People

International Commission Asks Withdrawal of German, Italian Armies, Action by League Against Aggressors

By Angelo Herndon

The International Youth Commission for Aid to Republican Spain, has issued a statement urging the youth of the world to rally to the defense of Democratic Spain.

The Commission was formed in Paris on June 26. Participating were: World Youth Community, In-

ternational Student Alliance for Socialism, Socialist Youth International and Young Communist International. There were also represented at the meeting progressive youth organizations from close to a dozen countries. This move on the part of international youth organizations is of supreme importance not only for the people of Spain, but for young people in all countries who are desirous of maintaining peace and democracy and defeating fascism in their own countries.

The Commission states in the communique that "the youth of Europe and the youth of the world desire peace. We desire it all the more as it is a question of our own lives and our own future."

The Commission went on record demanding the withdrawal of Germany and Italy from the system of international control and the evacuation of large armed forces of these two countries from the Mediterranean. It also demands:

LISTS DEMANDS

(1) The immediate convening of the League of Nations Council in order to take all measures which are envisaged for such cases in the League Covenant—aggression against a member state;

(2) The raising of the blockade against the legal government which was democratically elected by the Spanish people;

(3) The return to the Spanish government of the right to buy and transport the arms which it needs for the defense of the country;

(4) The immediate withdrawal of the German and Italian fleet from the Mediterranean where their presence can give rise to the most grave complications;

(5) That measures be taken for the immediate withdrawal from Spain of military units from foreign countries;

(6) The aid of the European and American Governments for the evacuation from Spain of the civil population, and in the first place, the women and children, and also the protection for the ships which are carrying out this evacuation.

The unity achieved by the I.Y.C. and the program of action which it adopted for positive aid to Spain should be hailed by progressive young people in all lands. Of special significance is the fact that the Y.C.I. and the Y.S.I. are represented in the I.Y.C. This unification of young people will be a powerful weapon in supporting the Negrin Government which has established a centralized command for a real decisive onslaught against the fascist invaders.

TROTZKYITES OPPOSE

Anyone who would lambast as "tragedy raised to a world scale" the results of the Paris meeting of the I.Y.C., can be regarded only as a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde friend of the Spanish people. Incredible, but all in conformity with the Trotskyist venom which has permeated the ranks of the Young People's Socialist League, such a statement was made by Al Hamilton, national secretary of the Y.P.S.L., in the July 31 issue of the Socialist Call. Al Hamilton finds it extremely difficult to agree with any of the points listed above. He continues:

"The face of this meeting was turned toward Geneva, toward sanctions and the inevitable development of war if the nations of the League were to carry through sanctions against the fascist powers for their aid to Franco.

"Revolutionary socialists are compelled to ask the question: 'Then what—support for the military forces of the government engaged in this war?' And the logical answer in line with the policy laid down by the I.Y.C. would be—'yes.'"

Will Al Hamilton answer a few questions?

(1) Are you against the immediate convening of the League of Nations Council to take measures against the fascists?

(2) Are you against the raising of the blockade against the legal government of Spain? Do you not agree that this would aid the Loyalist forces in Spain?

(3) Are you against the return to the Spanish government of the right to buy and transport arms which it needs for self defense? Would this be "a tragedy raised to a world scale"?

(4) Are you against the withdrawal of the German and Italian fleet from the Mediterranean?

(5) Are you against the driving out of Spain military units that have been sent there by foreign countries?

(6) Are you against American and European governments aiding the civil population of Spain to travel safely to other countries?

This policy of the I.Y.C. was worked out by the best representatives of the working class youth throughout the world to defeat the fascist forces who are actually engaged in a war against the Spanish people. It should be clear to any sane-minded person that it is necessary to organize the independent activity of the masses, while at the same time everything must be done to bring pressure upon the capitalist governments for aid to the democratic people of Spain. This does not mean that the working class forces must align themselves with any capitalist government.

HAMILTON DISSENTS

Al Hamilton does not only condemn the policies of the I.Y.C., but



he also reads into the minutes of the United Youth Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy his interpretation of the position of the U.Y.C. on the policies adopted by the I.Y.C. He claims:

"The United Youth Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy which had a representative at the Paris meeting has issued a statement to the commission that amounts to a repudiation of the actions of its representative in voting for the recommendations of the commission." This is actually a denial of the truth.

In a recent statement by the United Youth Committee, the actions of the International Youth Commission were unanimously endorsed. Nancy Bedford-Jones, in announcing the endorsement and support of the I.Y.C., stated:

"Just as the progressive and liberal youth forces of America are joined with the young Socialists and Communists in support of Spanish Democracy, so now, by the formation of the I.Y.C., are the progressive youth forces of the world joined with the Young Socialist and Communist Internationals to support the youth of Spain and the Loyalist Government. The motions were introduced to show that we hail the I.Y.C. as a great achievement of very concrete help of greatest significance to the Spanish youth and that we desire to do everything possible to support the I.Y.C. and to render genuine help and support to the Spanish Government."

Where does Al Hamilton find so much fuel and ammunition with which to vilify progressive youth action that is being organized in bonds of international solidarity to save Spain from fascism—when at the same time he utters anemic and meaningless phrases about the fascist wreckers? It is clear that his only source of supply flows directly from that stream of poison—Trotskyism.

Says Roosevelt Okays Voluntary Jobless Census

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19. (UP).—Speaker of the House William B. Bankhead, D., Ala., predicted today after a conference with President Roosevelt that the president would approve a "voluntary registration" national unemployment census if such a measure is passed by Congress.

Bankhead intimated he would press for consideration of the census bill in the House before adjournment. A census bill already has been passed by the Senate.

"I feel safe in saying," Bankhead said, "that Mr. Roosevelt would approve an unemployment census bill if it takes the count of jobless by their voluntary registration."

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