



# The VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

*organ of the international brigades*



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## LABOR SHOCK BRIGADES IN MADRID

When the Spanish War of Independence is over and everything is said about what is happening in Spain today, the movement for rationalization in war production will supply more than one chapter in the history of war.

This movement, called Stakanovism now, started when the workers and the petty bourgeoisie of Spain realized that the military revolt could not be crushed with a few blows, but that behind the Spanish feudal and military caste were the resources of the two principal fascist countries, Italy and Germany.

Madrid is not and never has been an industrial city. Its proletariat is made up of craftsmen, store, hotel and restaurant employees or of civil servants who never had any industrial training. Yet Madrid was the main goal of the fascist bands and required more war material than any other front. The rail communications with the coast were cut, the remaining highways congested, the city was suffering from lack of food and the army of defenders insufficiently supplied with war equipment and ammunitions.

The situation, while perhaps not desperate, was acute. The activities of the Non-Intervention Control Commission, which did not in the least interfere with the supply of men and war material to the fascists, certainly was the last blow to the small trickle of equipment brought into Spain from outside.

### A MILITIA COMMANDER'S INITIATIVE

It was in this emergency that a number of workers, petty-bourgeois and professional people, formed, without any help from the Government or anyone else, the first group of workers which were to become the chief influence in injecting life, system and efficiency into the production of war

emergency, were producing without putting that energy in their work which is all important for superior production, were insufficient to supply even ordinary rifle cartridges to the central sector. Machinery was lacking. Toledo, with its recently modernized arms factories, fully supplied with up to date American machinery, was lost to the fascists.

materials were scarce and already in possession of shops in going condition. The job consisted in establishing, without means, without wages, without materials, buildings or machinery, factories capable of producing the sinews of war.

### PERSONAL SACRIFICES

Those in the group who had any savings brought their funds. These were necessarily petty bourgeois. They brought more than their savings. They brought an enthusiasm and willingness to work which was in no way inferior to that of the peasants or workers in the group. Regardless of the position they occupied in the social or economic life of the city before the military revolt, they set about to learn, to strive and work.

The war zone became their supply base. They went where trenches were being dug, in some cases in no man's land, under the enemy's fire taking machines from destroyed factories, besides supplies in metals either in bars or ingots, and even scrap. They took anything which might be of any use. They had no truck, and for weeks they hitch-hiked with their booty from whichever front they were towards Madrid, the proud bearers of a bar of steel or brass, of a piece of machinery, later to be set up and made to work.

The government or the army could not spare a truck for them and they were not out to create difficulties for the authorities, but to help, to help at all costs.

Their courage and energy inspi-



Every member of the Stakanovite movement is pledged to undergo military training. And this is undertaken after work hours.

material in Madrid and, through their example in all Spain.

To Garcia Izquierdo, Commander of "Milicianos" at Arena de San Pedro on the Sierra Guadarrama, goes the credit for taking the initiative of this movement.

The few small factories in the Madrid section, manned by workers, who, in spite of the great

It was then that Garcia Izquierdo left the Sierra for Madrid. With a group of 60 men among which were waiters, jewelers, teachers of mathematics, engineers and laborers, along with some qualified machinists, he set about organizing new shops and encouraging others already established.

Machinery was lacking. Mate-

red soldiers in the front lines to give help and soon the little shop in calle Goya, which was the cradle of the movement became too small and they moved to a large, modern and comfortable building. Small abandoned factories, ga-

new stimulus, with the full understanding of the great emergency facing them and all loyal Spain, the workers had started production against all odds, without materials or any wages.

In the great confusion caused

gade increases also, their example becomes an inspiration and wherever their fame is known emulation starts. It is a long way from the broken down Chevrolet truck to their present daily record of 300 truckloads. Madrid is being fed chiefly through the agency of this Brigade. It is since the Brigade took the job over that the food shortage became less acute.

The growth of the Brigade, which in a way repeats the feat of the Fifth Regiment which grew into a major size army without changing name until its incorporation in the Spanish Government's Army, is strictly under control and every means are used to

gade is a closed political affair. Frankly organized by Communists, the initiators, Garcia Izquierdo more so than any other, are proud of the fact that elements considered uncontrollable before, have joined, become enthused by the general atmosphere and are proving to be workers equal to any others.

The building the Brigade moved into after they vacated the shop in Calle Goya is no longer a shop. It is now an administrative building, a printing plant, clinic and hospital for the Brigade. Clean, well run, the building is undergoing big changes. On the lower floor showers and bath tubs are being installed. Two libraries have been installed and organized, one for literary works another for technical and scientific books. Artists are busy decorating the walls. The dining room, cheery, light, spotlessly clean has the walls decorated with frescoes. A large mural painting is being prepared in the office of the Commander. The man in charge, an artist of renown but utterly at a loss with himself and with the rest of the world before the war, is directing all the work of decoration. He proudly announced that Stakanovism has entered the field of art. A portrait of Stalin in tempera and about 10 feet by eighteen, well executed, expressive, workmanlike was finished in one hour and half. The rest of the time, says Dehesa de Mena the artist, would have been spent in smoking



Several military clothing factories are run by Stakanovite women.

king cigarettes and talking. A number of young people are working under him and so quite naturally the Brigade has also an art school. The school is taking orders from Barracks, labor organizations, schools, hospitals for decorating their buildings.

On a table is a volume of Capital, bound in calf leather, beautifully tooled, in a style and technique equal to the very best leather work done by old craftsmen. On the work bench other pieces of leather are being tooled, carefully and by a worker who feels affection for his trade and for his product. There is also a school of short hand, a fully equipped printing shop. And all this with materials reclaimed from the destruction of war!

It may seem strange that undertakings of this type should be started at a time of stress like this. But the work of the Stakanov Brigade while supplying all it can to the fight against fascism, is also an institution which, by the force of events, is laying the basis of the reconstruction of Spain.

#### THE MOVEMENT IS STILL GROWING

The number of shops belonging to the Brigade is already large, the activities are many and they range from automobile repairing to body building, foundry and what we may call other undertakings cannot be mentioned now.

The workers are pledged to work eight hours daily but they voluntarily work several hours more. The average is above 10.



Stakanovite workers show real interest in technical perfection.

by the invasion with resultant waves of refugees entering the city, of breakdown of public services due to constant aerial bombardments, with the transfer of the Government seat to Valencia, while they were not even receiving any pay they increased their production to such a point that before long the same number of men working with primitive machinery WERE PRODUCING MORE THAN THE TOLEDO FACTORIES HAD BEEN TURNING OUT. The daily production per man rose to such a point that one man reached a record of 4016 cartridges in one day. 60 men were now producing in Madrid over 80,000 cartridges daily.

#### FROM SMALL BEGINNING TO MASS MOVEMENT

There are now 3,000 men in the Stakanov Brigade, and their number is increasing. As the number increases the activity of the Bri-

keep out possible disruptors, saboteurs and spies.

New members are accepted upon recommendation of their respective Unions or political organizations. Occasionally they are accepted on recommendation of friends already in the Brigade. Their political and social past is closely scrutinized, their physical condition is examined and they are then classified by trades or aptitudes. New members are under an unobtrusive but efficient vigilance. According to work performed and reports made they are encouraged, advanced in grade or responsibility, or dismissed, and when charges warrant it, handed over to the police for further action.

#### A REAL POPULAR FRONT EFFORT

In spite of all those precautions one should not think that the Bri-

#### AN EXAMPLE OF REAL SHOCK TACTICS

A few miles from the city, at the edge of a little town, and using a large cow shed properly repaired, cleaned and ventilated as a beginning for a factory that was to prove too small even before production had quite begun, production of rifle cartridges was started.

In Toledo two small factories employing 60 men, but with excellent automatic machinery were producing 75,000 cartridges a day. After the loss of Toledo, Garcia Izquierdo immediately started the production of the same type of cartridges in Madrid. Machinery was built, since hardly any was in existence before. It was necessarily of hurried manufacture and of a makeshift style. With non automatic machinery the normal daily production per man was of about 800 cartridges. Under the

It was only after February 19th that the Brigade became officially incorporated in the Spanish Army and wages began to be paid. It is only since the Brigade began to receive pay from the government that their food started to come from the quartermasters warehouses. Before then the war zone was not only their material supply base but also their "Intendencia". Not profit, not stripes, not wages were the incentive to work for them, but the will to win and to create a New Spain. That spirit is inspiring now other factories. And that is the best guarantee of victory.

#### C. I. O. BLANKS A. F. L. COUNCIL AT UNION CONVENTIONS, 4-0

Definite steps toward affiliation with the Committee for Industrial Organization were taken by the convention of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific in Portland, Ore.

Harry Bridges, popular leader of the longshoremen, presented the convention with a proposal for a referendum on C. I. O. affiliation. His speech and that of John Brophy, C. I. O. director, were greeted enthusiastically by the delegates.

smashing of union halls—that's what the strikers are going through", David said. "Subsidiaries of the Ford motor company on much of the timber land of northern Michigan and the other companies are borrowing a page from their master. The murder of the striking lumberjacks at Newberry was Fordism carried to its logical conclusions".



Apartment houses for collective farm workers in the Kirov Collective farm.

#### CLUBS, TEAR GAS RULE MONROE, MICH, AFTER ATTACK ON STRIKERS

MONROE, Mich., June 11.—The mayor and city commission of Monroe, scene of one of the bitterest clashes of the steel strike, transmitted to Governor Frank Murphy tonight a formal demand that the state militia be called out.

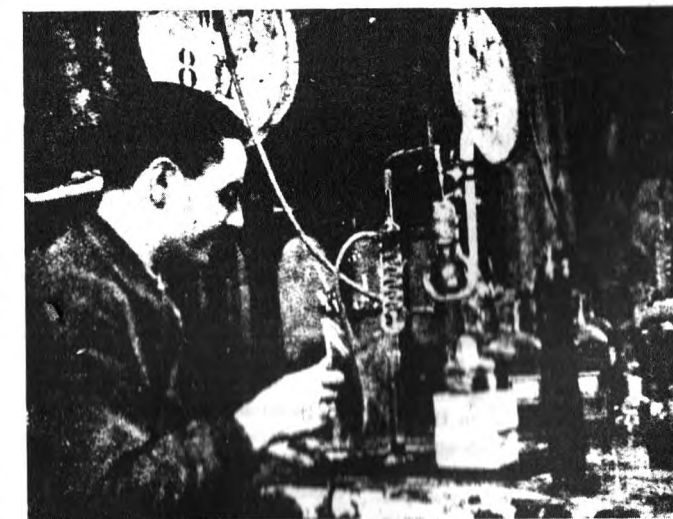
A resolution adopted unanimously declared "local feeling is intense and danger of bloodshed imminent".

It demanded the troops be sent here on or before Sunday.

That is the date set for a mass meeting by the C. I. O. to protest last night's teargassing of strike pickets.

The protest meeting was called by President Homer Martin of the United Automobile Workers. He asked every local union in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana to send delegates.

PONTIAC, Mich. — Down in Pontiac the 15,000 rent strikers are holding firm. "Don't let'em kid you", says Odin Johnson, ex-auto worker and now attorney for the UAW there. "They're not paying rent. Our rent office is swamped with landlords coming in to complain".



Stakanovite chemist at work

#### LUMBERJACKS SEEK AID TO CHOP DOWN FORDISM

DETROIT, Mich.—"The Michigan lumberjacks are getting their share of Fordism!"

"Murder, beatings, and the

laboratories are being built. Everywhere the visitor notices a feeling of pride, the certainty of victory ahead, and sees a new society being born and in a measure already functioning.

## THE CATALAN PEASANT-FARMER AND COLLECTIVISATION

As the Catalan land problem differs somewhat from that of the rest of Spain we have asked a Catalan agrarian expert to contribute the following article.

When the democratic revolution smashed the rebellion of the fascists in Catalonia the peasants received the land and so ended the centuries old struggle of the peasants against those who prevented them from enjoying the fruits of their labour. What solution has there been up to now to this vital problem in Catalonia?

The problems of enormous estates such as existed in Extremadura, Castile and Andalucia did not exist. There was no dividing up of enormous landed properties in Catalonia. Approximately 80% of Catalan agriculture was confined to rented farms of major or minor importance. Most of them consisted of farms of twelve or thirteen acres. Only in the north of the provinces of Lerida and Gerona were there estates of 75, 100 or 125 acres.

The reason for this development is explained by the fact that Catalan agriculture requires an intensive cultivation of the soil, which has necessitated the apportioning of land without modifying the conditions of property, 82% of the total surface of Catalonia is used for agriculture, meadow land, pasture and forest. Of this area 3,522,387 acres are pasture, mountain and wood, 369,413 acres are uncultivable, while 2,768,613 acres are cultivated. Only a third part of the surface is used for cereals. It is interesting to note how the cultivation is divided up.

Of the total surface devoted to agriculture:

|                                  | %     |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| Cereals .....                    | 33.59 |
| Vineyards .....                  | 23.04 |
| Olives .....                     | 19.67 |
| Market Garden produce...         | 2.97  |
| Root vegetables.....             | 5.61  |
| Plants used in industry...       | .17   |
| Kitchen gardens.....             | 1.74  |
| Orchards .....                   | 8.07  |
| Artificial meadows, forage ..... | 5.15  |

There are 200,000 families who work the land in Catalonia. Formerly their conditions were particularly hard and disclosed relics of the feudal system, as for instance, in the "Rabassa morta", a clause by which the land returned to the owner without indemnification when through any type

slogans of the P. O. U. M., which is interested in destroying the union between the workers and peasants, they attempted to carry out forced collectivisation.

The United Socialist Party, the Esquerra, Rabassaires Union, the Estat Catalá and the U. G. T. are firmly opposed to this. By



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The union of the two Internationals makes the diplomats sit up.

of difficulty, like phylloxera for example, the farmer was unable to deliver a certain proportion of the crop. Innumerable farmers were driven from their farms by laws such as this. Frequently as much as half the harvest had to be delivered to the landowner.

The principal abuse was therefore wiped out with the abolition of the absentee landowner. Since July 18th the land has belonged to the man who works it.

Because there existed few great landlords the problem of expropriation had little importance in Catalonia. According to the decree of the Republican Government only those landlords who took direct or indirect part in the fascist rebellion were expropriated. The Popular Front Government has given the land to the peasants. There as far as the peasants were concerned the revolution ended in Catalonia, and now the State helps the peasants by every means in its power to obtain the best results of its labour. To some extremists this did not appear enough, and incited by the

Government decree all forced collectivisation was rigorously forbidden. There is an agreement between the United Socialist Party, the U. G. T., the F. A. I. and C. N. T., formally confirmed on Oct. 21, that the peasant has the right to cultivate the earth in a family regime and that forced collectivisations are inadmissible.

Why did the Government of Catalonia take this position? The Catalan peasant must work all his life for a property and in the end possesses the coveted earth, and does not wish in any way to lose it. This wish is easy to understand. Those who took part in the struggle against the fascist rebellion and who are now faithful to the Republic are to be respected. At present agriculture must be developed for the benefit of the country and so that the front may be supplied with food. It is unfortunately not possible to supply it with sufficient machinery because the factories have to make war materials. Complete collectivisation would therefore not be easy.

In the PLAN OF VICTORY the PSU and the UGT proposed the following to the Government as an agricultural policy:

"A just policy in the countryside. A guarantee for the peasants to cultivate the land individually or collectively as they wish. The level of production to be raised by means of credits and directed to the necessities of the war. The transactions to be regulated by co-operatives and the organisation of outside markets on a basis of agreements between the Governments of the Generality and the Republic."

A large number of the peasants agree with this policy, as is seen by their organisation. More than 100,000 families are in the Union of Rabassaires, the Catalan peasant party, whose principles are in accordance with the PSUC and the UGT. Another 60,000 peasants are organised in the Federation of Land Workers (UGT).

The experiments in collectivisation realised up to now, and chiefly those made in the July days of 1936 confirm the policy exposed above. Up to now the Government has registered 66 collectives. This figure does not represent the total, but are based on the replies received. A part of these represent land taken from fascists to be cultivated by peasants in common. This initiative of the peasants must be protected. On the other hand some collectivisations have shown themselves incapable of lasting and were treated as premature attempts.

A great step forward was taken when all farmers were required by law to belong to one or other of the syndicates and so come directly under the Ministry of Agriculture in the Government. These agricultural syndicates grant credits authorised by the Government, arrange transactions, and deal with insurance against bad harvests etc.

To sum up in a single sentence: The Republic of the Popular Front has opened the road for the land workers to a fine and promising future.

## THE BANKERS ATTACK THE POPULAR FRONT

The following time table may help comrades to understand the causes of the Blum's Government resignation.

Ever since the Popular Government has been in office it has

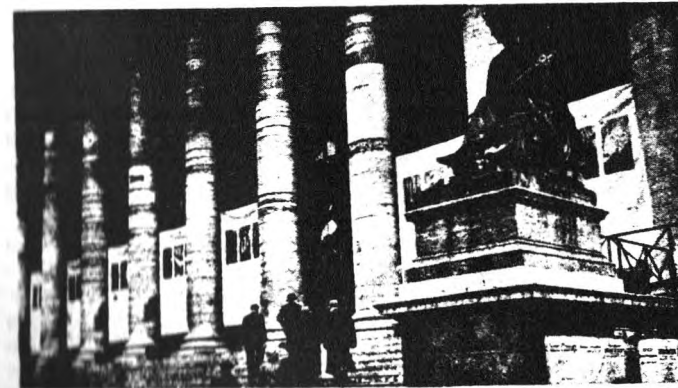
the first of a series of exiting debates on the finance plan. The financial Commission of the Chamber of Deputies listened to Léon Blum's outline and finally proposed an amendment limiting the

Government, which thereupon obtained a vote of 346 against 247.

### THE CAPITALIST LINE UP THEIR FORCES

The same day (June 16) Comrades Thorez and Duclos of the Communist Party had an interview with Blum. As the latter stated that his financial plan would mean fresh burden on the working class such as increase of railway fares, tobacco and postage, the Communist Party delegates as well as the C. P. Deputies expressed their disapproval but declared they would not break Popular Front.

That night the Chamber of Deputies voted a general resolution containing these provisions; the Government should maintain the franc at the parity fixed by the law of the 1st of October 1936 and it should avoid governmental control of the rate of exchange. It should have power to take all ne-



The Paris House whence attacks on Popular Front are launched.

been periodically confronted by financial crisis engineered by the 800 families and the Bank of France. These crises have had for object a damaging of the Government's credit, the diminishing of its income, the creation of general financial difficulties through the export of capital, etc. In order to combat this, the Blum's Government had to demand from the Chamber of deputies and the French senate full powers to introduce new financial measures. On June the 18th there was

Government's powers to the present session or at the latest until July 23. This was accepted by Prime Minister Blum with the result that the of the finance Commission declared itself in favor of granting powers to the Government by majority of 22 to 16. The two most important speeches were those of Monsieur Auriol (Socialist Party Minister of Finance) and of Léon Blum. Monsieur Auriol said that the present financial attack followed the same lines and came from the same quarters as those of 1924, 1926 and 1935. He declared that recently over 60,000 millions of francs had gone abroad and he demanded powers to defeat this attempt to panic people and to put an end to tax frauds. The Prime Minister declared that the capitalist object was to break up the Popular Front and to recover on the economic and financial field what it had lost on the political. He said that capital was created by the workers and had no right to strike against them. The debate went on all night until the entry of the Communist Deputies at 4.50 a. m. who demanded a suspension of the debate. The House was adjourned and at 6.15 the Communist Party announced that it would support the



Léon Blum.



Jacques Duclos, leading Communist, deputy in France.

necessary measures to secure public finances and to protect savings and public credit, without proceeding to obligatory conversions of national loans.

The following practical measures were then decided upon: the steepening of taxes on incomes above 60,000 franc's broadening of tax basis, and increased railway fares, wireless less dues, gas and electricity prices. Amongst other

things the Government proposed that it would introduce legislation to control speculation in banks and to repress tax frauds.

On June 19 the French rejected Blum's proposals and by majority ordered its own financial Commis-



The Chamber of Deputies.

sion to draw up a plan which was finally accepted by the Senate with a vote of 198 against 82.

A detailed analysis of the Senate's proposals is not possible here because of the technicality, nevertheless as Blum declared they were aimed at a complete paralysation of the Popular Front Government. On the 21st Blum announced the resignation of its Government in the Chamber of Deputies.

Monsieur Chautemps was then invited to found a new Government and eventually succeeded giving eleven ministers to radicals and nine to Socialists.

### WHY DID THE SENATE BRING DOWN THE GOVERNMENT?

The connection between this event and the meeting of the two Workers International is so close in point of time that the Senate's opposition is quite clearly the capitalist counter-attack to the movement towards proletarian solidarity. At the same time we must point out that as result of Blum resignation the French Government no longer has a majority of ministers controlled by the Second International.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

June 18.—The Belgian Workers Party (Second International) bluntly rejects meeting with Belgian Communist Party on Spanish issue, and orders socialists to withdraw from all existent co-ordination committees.

June 19.—In the possession of a French arms dealer belonging to De La Roque's Fascist Party, arrested for arms smuggling, were found documents showing that a deal was planned involving twentytwo tanks, twenty chaser planes, 12,000 machine guns, 20,000 submachine guns and 200,000 rifles.

June 22.—Soviet aviators achieved non-stop flight from Moscow-Vancouver by the North Pole.

June 21.—De Brouckere announces his forthcoming resignation from the direction of the Second International.

June 23.—Barcelona police continue arrests of introllables and Trotskyites, detaining "tipos" who



Incontrollables keep step with government forces.

recently tried to assault various departments of the Military School.

June 24.—Spanish Socialist Party and Communist Party make fresh appeal to Second and Third Internationals for immediate help, the same day the Second International and the I. F. T. U., declare Non-Intervention must be brought to an end.

June 26.—The Catalan Government resigns. New Government is expected to be formed on Monday.

June 26.—The Spanish Government replies to Eden's note of the 16th, in effect rejecting Four Power Pact's demands unless accompanied by guarantees on sa-

fety of Spanish ships ports and cities from attack by German and Italian warships, and assurances that fascist fleets will not continue to help Franco.

June 21.—British and French Government announce they will continue Control without Germany and Italy.

June 27.—The South Wales Miners Federation in Congress at Cardiff demands a change of policy towards Spain, in line with that recently outlined by the Socialist and Trade Union Internationals. The Congress called on the U. T. C. for an all union conference to mobilise all elements for this work.

June 27.—In a discourse on his so-called Four Years Plan addressed to 80,000 Assault troops at Wurzburg, Hitler said bluntly "Germany needs to import iron ore. For this reason we desire a Nationalist Government in Spain, in order that we may acquire Spanish iron ore". This statement and the general tone of fierce hostility to England, was much commented on by conservative newspaper in London.

June 28.—It is understood in well informed political circles that De Brouckere's And Adler's resignation from the Second International was due to Labour Party and Belgian Socialist condemnation of the unity proposals between the two Internationals.

June 28.—The Executive Committee of the Second International refuses to accept the resignation of De Brouckere, president; Adler, secretary and Rousdrofk, who have been severely criticised by the British Labor Party and the Belgian Socialist Party for agreeing to meet the 3d International.

The Executive Committee said that their resignation would compromise the success of actions be taken.

June 28.—The Danish Government has prohibited the building of two ships intended for war use which the Spanish rebels had

commissioned from a Danish ship-builder. Franco loses his deposit.

June 28.—Pierre Cot, French Minister of air has sent the following telegram to the Soviet Government:

"I beg you to give my warm



Louis De Brouckere.

congratulations to the aviatory Chekaloff, Baidukoff and Belia-koff for their admirable Moscow-Vancouver flight, which has demonstrated the high quality of the material employed and the masterly skill of the crew which has carried out the flight." No doubt other Governments, less friendly to the Soviet Union have noticed the "high quality of the material and masterly skill".

June 28. At half past nine at night was published a list of new ministers of the Catalan Government. It is as follows:

Primer minister, Luis Companys (President of the Catalan Republic).

Commerce and Treasury, Juan Taradellas, Esquerria (Catalan Left).

Home office and Dept. of State, Antonio Maria Sbert, Esquerria.

Culture, Pi i Suner, Esquerria (Mayor of Barcelona).

Health, Vidal, C. N. T.

Public Services, Garcia Oliver, C. N. T. (Formerly Minister in the Largo Caballero Govt.)

Economy, Jose Izglea, C. N. T.

Supplies, Miguel Serra Paniel, United Socialist Party (Affiliated 3d International).

Justice, Rafael Vidiella, United Socialist Party.

Labour and Public Works, Juan Comorera, United Socialist Party (of which he is the leader).

Agriculture, Jose Calvet, Rabassaires Union.

Minister without portfolio, Pedro Bosh Gimpera, Independent.

It is noteworthy that the C. N. T. is thus co-operating in a government similar to the Valencia Govt., also that the United Socialist Party members, are now entering as such, whereas before they were called U. G. T. members. The Economic posts are distributed, one to the Esquerria, one to the Rabassaires (Share-croppers), which accept the United Socialist Party policy for the land, and one to the C. N. T. Note also that the Ministry of War has been abolished, this Department coming under the Valencia Government.



Frederick Adler.

## Munitions for the «New Artillery»

Propaganda in the enemy's ranks is being intensified daily thanks to good work on the part of comrades. The number of workers in the fascists army who have already passed over to our lines is already to be numbered in thousands.

The victory of Guadalajara was the occasion of a mass influx into our ranks of Italian workers and this experience has already borne its fruits. The knowledge of their work acquired by the Garibaldi Battalion has been of service to the comrades of other brigades.

The possibilities of work among the enemy are greater today than ever, not only we have made serious breaches in the fascist "propaganda front" but also because considerable demoralization exists on their side. The fact that the heroic forces of Bilbao were not able any longer to maintain their resistance to the Italian and German hordes with their massed tanks and aeroplanes and their overwhelming mechanical force as well as to the hardships caused by the blockade, does not alter the fact that we are at present preparing a victorious offensive. It is clear that in such conditions our chances of persuading enemy soldiers to pass over to our ranks are very much greater.

## SERIOUS THOUGHT MUST BE GIVEN TO THIS WORK

It is not sufficient merely to provide oneself with a loudspeaker, however modern and make any sort of noise, nor to rain leaflets on the enemy's heads. It is necessary to know to whom one is speaking. Effort must be made to know what language they speak, whether they are workers or peasants, national characteristics and conditions, both political and social. It is necessary to observe their habits and how their day is employed, and every detail which may indicate the state of morale among them. Above all it is necessary not to shout insults at the enemy, even under provocation.

The content and text of the leaflet should be the work, not only of the Propaganda Commission

and the Political Commissar but of the whole of the comrades. Each one should make his contribution, however small it may be. We must remember that along a front hundreds of miles long there are before us many fascist soldiers whose constant thought is how to escape. If our words are sensitive enough to touch their most intimate thoughts, if through

this work. The most persuasive words have no effect if they are heard imperfectly, the most carefully written argument loses weight if the leaflet is poorly produced. We must not be content, in this modern war, with primitive equipment.

In the technical field we already possess a certain number of loudspeakers, but it is necessary



The knowledge of their work acquired by the Garibaldi Battalion has been of service to the comrades of other brigades.

our words they recognise us as class brothers, our propaganda may give just that impulse which will make them decide to escape. The immediate danger of flight will seem less than that of remaining with an army which is heading for defeat.

## CARE IN THE EXECUTION OF PROPAGANDA WORK

It is necessary also to take care of the technical aspects of

to bring all our means to perfection. The same thing applies to written propaganda. Soldiers have already passed over to us carrying one of our leaflets hidden beneath his clothes, sometimes indeed, wrapped around a religious emblem slung from the neck. Every possible means such as strong wind etc. must be utilised to distribute these leaflets to the enemy.

But the most important is that the work be properly organised

and persistently carried out. POLITICAL COMMISSARS MUST UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS ONE OF THEIR MOST ESSENTIAL DUTIES.

## THE MORAL EFFECTS OF THIS WORK

The better we do this during the preparatory period the more easy and effective the offensive will become. And victory will be correspondingly quicker and greater.

In many military unities commanders, commissars and men alike have opened subscriptions for the purchase of loudspeakers and other technical apparatus. General Miaja for instance, has given 5,000 pesetas. Funds are being collected by trade unions, political parties and popular organizations throughout Loyal Spain. We do not doubt that the comrades of our International Brigades will also help.

Comrades are invited to write in concerning their experiences in this work, not only in the preparation and delivery of propaganda but on technical matters also, for publication in the VOLUNTEER.

To the job then comrades. This "New Artillery" is one of the best pieces of armament in the People's Army.

## THE SOVIET UNION LOOKS TOWARDS BIGGER AND BETTER CHICKEN DINNERS

The poultry industry, an important branch of livestock economy will almost quadruple its number of breeding hens by 1942, according to figures obtained at the central office of the poultry department of the RSFSR. About 13,800,000 breeders on the nearly 23,000 poultry collective farms will help supply Soviet tables with chickens and eggs.

The plan calls for an increase of 47.5 million hatching eggs, raising the total number of eggs for hatching purposes to 80,000,000 by 1942.

Further more, the 345 incubator stations with incubators having a total capacity of 16 million eggs will be more than doubled by the end of the Third Five-Year Plan.

# TELEGRAM SENT TO THE UNITED STATES BY THE AMERICAN COMRADES

The Abraham Lincoln, George Washington and Patrick Henry Battalions, the John Brown artillery battery and the American transport and mechanical squadrons to the people of the United States.  
Independence day 1937.

We, Americans in Spain fighting for the preservation of world democracy, are proud to celebrate today the national festival of our American ideals on Spanish soil.

It was necessary for us to come here because governments have not done their duty to a great people, to whom American civilization owes much. The bounden duty of all governments, above all those animated by democratic ideals, was to grant to the Spanish Government its rights and thereby to have struck a decisive blow for Democracy. We, Americans in the International Brigades, know we have struck that blow. Many of our comrades have fallen. Many lie silent on these battlefields of Spain. We know that had all the democratic governments of the world done their duty, our comrades need not have died. Yet in their hearts, as in the heart of every true American, the rich blood of liberty flowed, giving life to their being. For this they came here.

On this July 4th we declare that we have sought not only to do our share to redress the omission of governments, but to defeat the purposes of those tyrants, alien to the Spanish race, who would enslave a free people. As La Fayette, citizen of France, urged by impulses which all American democrats will honor today, sailed from his own land and offered himself to the glorious founder of American Independence, Washington, so we have offered ourselves to the Spanish Government. Like La Fayette and his splendid company, we have been accepted with gratitude by the Spanish People. As La Fayette was given officer's rank by Washington so also our Commanders derive their authority from the President of the Spanish Republic. As La Fayette pursued

no private ends neither do we. As he sought only to aid the American People in their struggle against a foreign despotism so do we. And when the Spanish People have driven out the fascist invader we shall return to the land we love.

Fellow Americans, the first Battle of American Liberty was struck at Bunker Hill. It was a decisive battle. We of the Lincoln Battalion are proud that we have taken part in the glorious defense of Madrid, a defense that has thrilled all lovers of liberty throughout the world. We are proud because we know that the battles in which we have taken a part were decisive, that we have therefore sealed the most sacred of human bonds between the American and Spanish People. Upon a hill of the Jarama Front, among the vineyards and olive fields of Spain, many of our comrades will lie after we have gone from here. Upon this Fourth of July we mourn them, proudly, finding courage in their brave example. People of the United States to your feet in honor of our dead! of your dead at the gates of Madrid!

And remembering them, the Americans in Spain ask you to be on guard against the forces of fascism at present plotting against American Standards in our homeland. We read with joy of the great sweep of trade union organization among the workers of America. We greet the tremendous movement of progressive thought and action developing in the States. Let no reactionaries destroy our nation's hope of progress towards a better and juster society. Let us unite in our efforts to preserve democracy in Spain, in America and throughout the world.

Long live American and Spanish democracy!  
Long live American and Spanish Independence!  
Long live the Abraham Lincoln Battalion!  
Long live the Peoples Front in all lands!

## WHAT IS BEHIND THE GERMAN INTERVENTION? SOME REVEALING FIGURES

| Spain produces annually: | The German Government needs annually for armament (imports): |           |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
|                          | Tons.                                                        | Tons.     |
| Zinc .....               | 129.000                                                      | 127.000   |
| Manganese .....          | 80.000                                                       | 225.000   |
| Copper .....             | 381.000                                                      | 325.000   |
| Sulphate of iron .....   | 1.600.000                                                    | 987.000   |
| Iron mineral .....       | 300.000                                                      | 8.264.000 |

If to these figures we add the zinc of Vigo, the potash of Catalonia, the mercury of Almadén, Hitler's true motives are clear.

## A FEW IMPORTANT THINGS ABOUT THE MAIL

We have given instruction as to how to use the mails both for the purpose of improving the service and also to keep our mail from becoming a source of information for the enemy.

We must insist on two chief points of extreme importance:

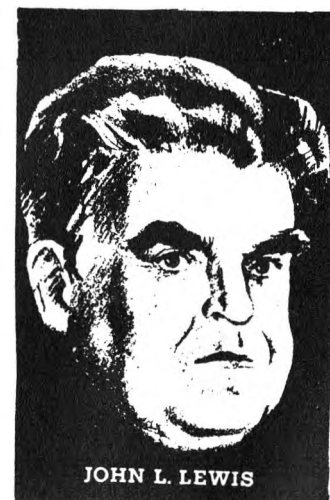
1. Have your correspondents address your mail according to instructions given you by the mail service.
2. Several comrades insist, in spite of several warnings to send informations of military character, while others have the irresponsible tendency to describe in detail how they arrived in Spain.

If the comrades would give a little thought to the effect that such correspondence might have they would write about other things.

## AUTO LABOR GOING AHEAD FULL STEAM

DETROIT.—Labor in auto is just getting started in its forward march. It's going ahead full steam on a half dozen different fronts.

"General strike in Lansing. A mass protest demonstration of 75,000 marching workers in Flint. Rent strike of 15,000 still going strong in Pontiac. A mass protest demonstration at Henry Ford's front door in Dearborn. A mass movement against high rents launched in Detroit. National conference to present new demands to the huge General Motors Corporation at the expiration of the present agreement on Aug. 11th. Two great plants of the Ternstedt division of General Motors shut down with a sit-down strike of 13,000 workers, mostly women. A half dozen strikes in



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