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FILE NO.

SOURCE:

DATE:

C. I. Magazine to Be Published in the U. S.

"Reflects Advances Made by the Communist Party of U. S. During Past Year"

Reviewed by
LEONARD MINS

WITH the American publication of Nos. 2 and 3, Vol. 11, the "Communist International," official organ of the Executive Committee of the Comintern, enters upon a new phase in its expansion all over the world. The publishing of the "C. I." in this country marks a decisive step forward in the basic theoretical political education of the revolutionary working class in the United States and reflects the advances made by the Communist Party of the U.S.A. during the past year.

The "Communist International" now appears twice a month in English, Russian, German, French, Chinese and Spanish; it is published in more different languages and at more widely distant points than any other journal in the world, as befits the organ of the international fighting working class.

The editorial in No. 2 reviews the XVII Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, "the congress of victors, the congress of the construction of classless society." The magnificent achievements of the workers of the Soviet Union are graphically summarized in the fact that "on the eve of the first Five-Year Plan the U.S.S.R. occupied fifth place among the countries of the world. On the eve of the second Five-Year Plan, it had advanced to third place in the world and second place in Europe."

Comrade Stalin's analysis in discussing the revolutionary situation throughout the world is a timely admonition to the Communist Parties:

"A revolutionary crisis is maturing and will continue to mature. . . . But the victory of the revolution never comes by itself. It has to be prepared for and won. And only a strong proletarian revolutionary party can prepare for and win victory."

An article on the "Revolutionary battles in Cuba" gives a concise summary of political events in the Yankee semi-colony since the rise of the Grau-Batista government.

"Once More About Work in the Reformist and Fascist Unions," by Comrade Platnitsky of the E.C.O.I., again raises the extremely vital question of the defects of Communist work in the labor unions. Taking concrete examples from the activities of the Swedish, Polish, German and British Communist Parties, Platnitsky points to the Communists' general failure to consolidate their gains made during the

Party of Poland discusses the recent exposure of **agents-provocateur** who had wormed their way into responsible posts within the Polish Party. The methods used by that Party in disclosing and getting rid of these provocateurs within the ranks should be carefully studied by every Party member here in the United States as a vital part of our constant, ever-vigilant efforts to keep the Party ranks free of stool-pigeons and police spies.

Comrade Richter furnishes another valuable article on "Questions Arising in Communist Parties in Going Over to Illegality." He makes the experience of the German Communist Party in its transition from a legal mass party to a party working under difficult underground conditions against Fascist terror available to the brother Communist Parties throughout the world. With the growth of terroristic repression in the United States—see Imperial Valley, the Alabama sharecroppers, and the general tightening of police measures against Communist activity—the Party members must devote considerable study to the problems facing the Party in building the apparatus and in the methods of work necessary for illegal activity.

At 10 cents per issue and \$2 for a year's subscription, the "Communist International" is indispensable for every class-conscious worker. It is imperative that every Party organization, beginning with the factory nucleus, that all Workers' Schools, that every workers' club, make the "Communist International" a part of its regular periodical file for reading and study by its members. No proletarian library is complete without this important current survey of revolutionary problems and the work of the Communist Parties all over the world. Spread the "Communist International," popularize its contents, organize discussion of the outstanding problems raised in each issue—make it part of our revolutionary life here in the United States.

WHAT'S ON

Friday

GERTRUDE HUTCHINSON speaks on "New Morals in a New World" at Prospect Workers Center, 1157 So. Boulevard.
DR. B. LIBER lectures on "American and Soviet Health Work" at Prospect Br. F.S.U., 1071 Bergen St., Brooklyn, at 8:30 p. m.

SUSAN H. WOODRUFF lectures on "My Second Trip Thru Soviet Russia," Illustrated. Auspices Mt. Eden Br. F.S.U.

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EE COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES FILES

FILE NO.

SOURCE: DAILY WORKER (New York) National Edition

Aug 15, 1935

NAME:

No, Norman Thomas, Comintern Has Not Changed Its Revolutionary Stand on War

By A. B. Magil

ARTICLE I

Following Marx, Engels, Lenin, Communists Analyze Each War Issue from Point of View of the Interests of Toilers of Whole World

Norman Thomas is worried. The Seventh World Congress of the Communist International has left him gasping for air. And being a man who seems to do a lot of thinking out loud, he spread his confusion over the last two issues of the Socialist Call, organ of the "Militants" in the Socialist Party.

It may seem surprising for a man with Norman Thomas' record—especially since the last meeting of the National Executive Committee of the S. P.—to say that "the present Communist Party line is one of extreme opportunism" (Socialist Call, Aug. 10). But no more surprising than to find the New Leader, organ of the reactionary "Old Guard," criticizing the Communist International from—believe it or not—the "left."

The Peril of Fascism

Because the confusion of Norman Thomas (who, incidentally, echoes many of the absurdities and distortions of the capitalist press) regarding the discussion at the Comintern Congress represents not his perplexity alone, but in all probability the confusion of a considerable portion of the Socialist Party membership, it is important to take up the issues which he raises in an effort to clarify them.

The Seventh Congress of the Communist International meets in one of the most critical periods in the world's history. The triumph of fascism in Germany and the rapid growth of fascist tendencies in all capitalist countries, together with the imminent danger of a new imperialist war, have placed before the masses of the world the question of immediate determined struggle against the advancing force of war and fascism. At the same time the successful building of Socialism in the Soviet Union and the increasing influence of the Communist Parties in the capitalist countries are raising the perspective of the permanent way out for the masses of the people everywhere.

The Comintern Congress is therefore faced with the necessity of developing in the most concrete form those policies and tactics that will lead both to the prevention of war and fascism and to the triumph of the proletarian revolution.

The Situation Today

These policies and tactics are determined not only by the changed objective conditions since the Sixth World Congress: the economic crisis, the triumph of fascism in Germany and Austria, the enormous growth of the fascist and war danger in all capitalist countries, the great strengthening of the Socialist forces of the Soviet Union and the emerging of Soviet China, but also by the altered relations within the labor movement itself.

In the past seven years millions of toilers have been drawn into struggle against the capitalist offensive. Within the trade union movement to the class

crisis has developed in the parties away, while in all Socialist Parties of the Second International. In a few cases, as in Japan and France, the extreme right wing has split a sharp differentiation is taking place, not only between the membership and the top leadership, but within the leadership itself. The appeals of the Communist International and the individual Communist Parties for the united front have crystallized the sentiment for united action among the members of the Socialist Parties, have led to partial and local united fronts in practically all countries and in France to a united front on a national scale on all issues immediately confronting the masses.

The People's Front in France

The altered relations within the labor movement have entered a new stage with the emergence in France of the anti-Fascist People's Front, a phenomenon of world-historic significance, pointing the path in all countries to the successful struggle against fascism and war.

It is against this background, in a world in which fascism and anti-fascism, war and anti-war are fighting desperately for mastery, that the Seventh Congress of the Communist International meets. Already the discussion at the congress shows that the Comintern has stood the test. The boldness of its decisions, the sureness with which it has grasped in all their complexity and diversity the tasks facing the masses of the world reveal once more that this is in truth the International of Lenin and Stalin, heir to the deathless traditions of Marx and Engels, a fighting, revolutionary International capable of combining the utmost flexibility of tactics with iron devotion to principle.

Communists and War

On the question of war Norman Thomas seems to think that the Communist International has gone over to the chauvinist position of the Socialist leaders in 1914. He is echoed by the Trotskyite and Lovestoneite renegades from Communism, who accompany their slanders with the big bass drum of "theoretical" pretense.

"Apparently," writes Thomas in the Socialist Call of Aug. 3, "the Communists have gone over wholeheartedly to the position that there may be good wars between nations. This was precisely the position of the majority of Socialists in 1914, a position which the Communists have bitterly decried."

The Communists have ALWAYS held with Marx, Engels and Lenin that there may be "good wars" between nations. Such just and progressive wars are wars for na-

tion, in 1917, wars for the defense of the Soviet Union.

World War an Imperialist War
The imperialist war of 1914-18, however, did not fall into any of these four types of progressive war, but was, on the contrary, as Lenin pointed out, a war "waged among the slave-holders for the strengthening and consolidation of slavery." Here it was not a question of which side fired the first shot, but of the aims of the two imperialist groups, which were equally predatory.

The Socialist leaders, therefore, who as early as 1907, at the Stuttgart Congress of the Second International, had solemnly pledged to utilize the crisis created by the expected war to work for the overthrow of capitalism, betrayed Socialism when they voted war-funds, declared class truce and actively supported their own bourgeoisie.

The confusion of Norman Thomas and the slanders of the renegades from Communism center around a statement by Wilhelm Pieck in his report for the Executive Committee of the Communist International at the opening of the congress. Pieck declared:

"Should German fascism attempt to conquer the small European states, their war against fascism will be a righteous war which we will support."

Lenin on the World War

Does this mean that the Communist International has degenerated into social-chauvinism as the Trotskyites and Lovestoneites howl? By no means. On the contrary, Pieck here applies concretely the teachings of Marx, Engels and Lenin regarding progressive wars. Even in the last war, in which two clearly defined imperialist groups came to grips, Lenin, who always thought concretely, instead of by abstract formula, saw intertwined certain elements of progressive national war. While denouncing the Socialist leaders who distorted the teachings of Marx and Engels by defending one or the other group of the imperialist pirates, he declared:

"The German imperialists shamelessly violated Belgian neutrality; this has always and everywhere been the practice of warring nations which, in the case of necessity, trample upon all treaties and obligations. Suppose all nations interested in maintaining international treaties declared war against Germany, demanding the liberation and indemnification of Belgium. IN THIS CASE THE SYMPATHY OF THE SOCIALISTS WOULD NATURALLY BE ON THE SIDE

the war of Serbia against Austria was also a progressive war for national liberation.

Cannot Isolate Wars

But, pointed out Lenin in both these instances, it is impossible to isolate these two progressive wars from the general reactionary imperialist war. Belgium and Serbia are both pawns of the big imperialist powers. He therefore came to the conclusion that to justify the war on the ground of the defense of Belgium and Serbia is nothing but the vilest deception of the people.

Is there any reason for supposing that today a war of Nazi Germany against some small European country can be isolated?

To answer this question let us ask ourselves concretely what form such a war would take. The war moves of Nazi Germany are directed primarily, as even capitalist observers admit, against the Soviet Union. Today no other country is being aggressively threatened by the Nazis. Should German fascism, therefore, attack some small country, let us say, Latvia and Lithuania or Czechoslovakia, which either border on or are close to the Soviet Union, it would only be the first step toward war against the Workers' Republic.

The possibility of such a war is very real, and undoubtedly it was this possibility, and not the situation of Belgium and Serbia in the last war, which Comrade Pieck had in mind. In such a war the Latvian or Lithuanian or Czechoslovak Communists will be fighting both to defend the national independence of their country and to defend the Soviet Union.

Revolutionary Position the Same

No, Norman Thomas, the Communists have not abandoned their revolutionary positions. The slogan in all wars fought for imperialist predatory ends remains the slogan of Lenin and the Bolsheviks: transform the imperialist war into civil war for the overthrow of capitalism. The Communist International, speaking through Wilhelm Pieck, the comrade-in-arms of Liebknecht, Luxemburg and Thaelmann, shows that it is a living, revolutionary International, not by repeating generalized slogans, but by developing those concrete tactics that facilitate the struggle against war and, should it break out, the transformation of imperialist war into civil war for the destruction of capitalism.

Tomorrow's article: The question of democracy, fascism and the united front—continuation of the reply to Norman Thomas.

WHAT'S ON

Philadelphia, Pa.

Angelo H.

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New York Times

NOV 24 1938

STALINISTS PURGE SUBSIDIARY PARTY

Principal Leaders of Young
Communist League Are Ousted
on Grave Charges

GROUP CONTROL IS SET UP

Woman Credited With Exposing
'Wreckers' and Shielders
of 'Double-Dealers'

By HAROLD DENNY

Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

MOSCOW, Nov. 23.—The summary removal of the five principal executives of the Young Communist League, ranging down from Alexander V. Kosaryeff, the leader, was announced today following recent severe criticism of allegedly scandalous and anti-Soviet conditions in the league's leadership.

In their place the league's central committee chose a new secretariat of four members and a governing bureau of seven, which includes these four new secretaries.

This drastic shakeup, which, it is clearly indicated, will be followed by a renewed combing of the Young Communist organization for inimical and unworthy elements, was taken at the instance of the "Stalinist Central Committee of the Communist party." The Communist party is the parent organization of the Young Communist League, which is a training school and proving ground for future party members and the Soviet regime's most important organ for molding the coming generation.

Their Arrest Rumored

The fact that Mr. Kosaryeff and his removed associates were re-

ferred to in today's resolution as "comrades" caused a belief at first that they had not been arrested. Tonight however it was strongly rumored that they had been although this rumor, like most similar ones here, cannot be verified.

Those removed, besides Mr. Kosaryeff, are S. Y. Bogacheff, V. F. Pikina, P. A. Vershkoff and I. N. Belosludsyeff. They are accused of bureaucratic indifference to the welfare of the best young Communists, of having protected elements who were "morally corrupt, inveterate drunkards, aliens to the Communist party and Young Communist League," and of having shielded "doubledealers."

What further action may or may not be taken cannot be told, but there is an ominous note in a Komsomolskaya Pravda editorial today charging that Mr. Kosaryeff and others for years shielded and connived with enemies working beside them and accusing them of ignoring indications of enemy work in Osoavkhim, civilian air defense corps, whose former chief was General Robert P. Eideman, one of the eight generals shot as traitors in June, 1937.

Then, speaking of enemies still lurking in the Young Communist organization, Komsomolskaya Pravda says:

"To expose and destroy enemies—that is the principal task without which it is impossible to count on straight living and further consolidating Young Communist ranks around the Bolshevik party—Comrade Stalin. He who forgets the party, the Soviet people and the Young Communist League."

Woman Caused Inquiry

The investigation that resulted in the shake-up appear to have been inspired by the persistence of a woman functionary in the Young Communist central committee—O. P. Mishakova, who is among those designated for the new secretariat. Incidentally, the new Young Communist leaders are little known to the general public.

Miss Mishakova, who is said to have exposed public enemies who had penetrated into the Young Communist organization, was expelled for her pains on the accusations of enemies whom she had exposed. Mr. Vershkoff is alleged to

have been concerned in her expulsion.

Miss Mishakova protested to several Young Communist leaders, however, and when they turned deaf ears she appeared before the party's central committee. M. F. Skiryatoff, chairman of the party's central control committee, was assigned to investigate.

New York Herald-Tribune

NOV 24 1938

Ousted From Komsomol Post



Herald Tribune photo—Acme
Alexander Kosarev

Russian Youth League's Chief Ousted by Girl

Kosarev and 4 Others Lose Komsomol Posts as Olga Mishakova Takes Fight on Them to Party Heads

By Joseph Barnes

From the Herald Tribune Bureau
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MOSCOW, Nov. 23.—The new broom promised to the Komsomol (Young Communist League) three days ago swept clean today with the formal removal of Alexander V. Kosarev, and four others from the leadership of Soviet youth. N. A. Mikhailov, editor of the "Komsomol Pravda," which made the first public attack on Kosarev on Sunday,

succeeds him as first secretary of the 5,000,000 organized Young Communists.

It is now revealed that a girl, Olga Mishakova, was the chief agent in Kosarev's downfall. She was expelled from the Komsomol Central Committee and received "severe punishment" after she had struggled vainly to persuade Kosarev to take action against "the enemies of the people" in the Chuvash Republic. She continued her struggle, carrying her case to the Communist party's Central Committee. Yesterday that body sent Matvei Shkiryatov, a former tailor who joined the party in 1906 and has been its chief troubleshooter in recent years, to report its findings to the Komsomol. The findings vindicated Miss Mishakova completely and revealed serious shortcomings in the Komsomol leadership.

Kosarev and his assistants now are denounced as "politically bankrupt and demoralized people." Besides having tried to demobilize active Komsomols by assurances that their house was now in order, Kosarev organized "orgies" with persons whose enemy activity now has been unmasked, it is charged. He is still called "Comrade," but today, at least, he is unemployed.

Another Komsomol named Burkov, editor of the Komsomol newspaper at Ryazan, near Moscow, had his hands full of trouble today. A week ago the Communist party's Central Committee issued a powerful decree calling for more and better political propaganda through the newspapers. Three days later, Comrade Burkov devoted the political propaganda section of his newspaper to an exposition of the laws of King Hammurabi of Babylonia, issued 2,000 years before Christ. With Bolshevik irony, the newspaper "Pravda" suggested today to him "propaganda on a more contemporary theme."

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JUN 5 1938

Washington Herald

Stalin's 'Civil War Plan' For World Revolution Told

"Pretended" Moves for
Democracy and
Peace Traced

The following article is
reprinted from the London
Times:

The comintern, described in its official organ as the "general staff of world revolution," has been very busy of late and there have been frequent signs that it is changing roles, not for the first time, with the Moscow foreign office and being raised at M. Stalin's behest from a state of subsidiary importance.

Formed on March 4, 1919, it filled its first few years, Zinovieff acting as its nurse, with loud challenges to every land in the confident determination to bring about a quick series of revolutions and establish a universal Soviet regime. Adolescence culminated in the fierce program of 1928, concluding with the words: "Let the dominating classes tremble!"

Last Open Challenge

This program, drawn up by Bukharin and published in several languages, was the last "open" challenge to all the countries of the world at a single bout. The new Soviet diplomacy forced the comintern into a relatively furtive existence of masked activity, which led in 1934 to the crowning shame of having to condone, approve, and explain the entry of Soviet Russia into the League of Nations.

During this slide Stalin had secured for himself personally the command of all things in Moscow, and since then the comintern has had no openly proclaimed "president" but merely a staff of secretaries and a "presidium," through whom Stalin, the tacitly recognized president, dictates comintern strategy and tactics in conformity with the requirements of his commissariat of foreign affairs.

Envisioned Citadel

His guiding principle was that the five-year-plan system should turn the Soviet Union into a citadel, protected by the invincible red army, from which the general staff of world revolution would create and control "fronts" for civil war in "bourgeois countries."

The present "adult" stage dates from entry into the league and from the seventh world congress of the comintern which assembled in Moscow a few months later (July-August, 1935).

This congress had accepted instructions to mask the activities of the comintern, to discard the word "war" from the program in favor of the word "peace," to inscribe the devices "fight for peace" and the "united front" on the Communist banner as the watchwords of the comintern.

The word "socialism" was also adopted for use in public henceforth in preference to the words "communist" and "revolutionary."



JOSEF STALIN
Camouflages Campaign

"socialists" under the banner of the "united popular front."

Most Friendly Nation

France is regarded in Moscow as the most friendly nation. This friendship makes her the more vulnerable; the closer the friendship the better the opportunity for disintegrative attack. The "new orientation" of the comintern is devised for attacking friends and partners while marching, together ostensibly in unity against Fascism, the common enemy.

The Communist party of Poland is described as "one of the best sections of the comintern, though obliged to work deep underground." From available materials it appears, however, that Moscow considers the present moment inopportune for turning Poland into "another Spain," as this would give Germany and the Soviet Union a common frontier and risk a major war with Russia as a principal.

Outside Europe

There is more variation in the program and methods applied to countries outside Europe. The Arabs are being urged by comintern agitators toward the formation of a "Pan-Arabian front" to fight for a "united Arabistan" and the abolition of "artificial frontiers" by means of which Britain and France have "torn the country into bits."

The comintern reports explain

Moscow Holds France
As Most Vulnerable
Of Nations

unambiguously that the end here, as in Europe, is to cause and maintain disorders, thereby undermining existing authority.

In China the united front has been firmly laid, it is claimed ostensibly, to combat Japanese aggression. Comintern is gaining strength in the Far East and is sure of ultimatum victory, with civil war in Japan as well as in China.

They admit there are great difficulties in working with Japan itself, but they are rallying elements of discontent and are willing to make a united front with any existing or potential organization, no matter what its hue, if only it may serve to attract the masses and undermine order.

An Example

The most striking example of the Comintern's flexibility in this matter was given last May, when Moscow published an appeal to the Roman Catholic Church to join with the Comintern and make a united front to fight for religious liberty in Germany, promising in the name of Stalin himself that a Soviet regime would guarantee every Catholic the right to "breathe freely and fight freely for his convictions."

When Stalin felt the U. S. S. R. as a "Communist citadel" was made strong enough by the five-year-plan system, he reverted with fresh determination to the earlier Bolshevik mission of conducting the "world class war" and found men like Marshal Tukhachevsky, Generals Kork, Yakir and Uborevich in his path.

The warning given by the shooting of Zinovieff, Kameneff, Pyatakoff and others was unheeded by the army leaders, and Stalin began his drastic purge of the red army, openly called in Moscow the "backbone of the comintern."

He has since been striving to imbue it with the old Communist spirit. His "citadel" has thereby been weakened almost to the point of debility, but the risk had to be taken if he would cleanse it of elements alien to his world mission.

The purge was extended to embrace a large variety of undesirables inside and outside the party at home and the sections of the party abroad, dubbed and damned with the convenient label of Trotskyist.

The congress passed a resolution that the chief immediate task of the comintern was to agitate for a "united popular front" in all countries.

It was explained that this "new tactical orientation" merely meant new methods of fighting; that agitation for "the mass struggle against war must now be linked with reliance on State help from the Soviet Union and its mighty red army;" that operations in the different countries would henceforth be directed through the communists of those countries; that leaders outside the Soviet Union who did not carry out the new tactics would be removed; and that if war broke out anywhere the device "fight for peace" would be the most effective weapon for "turning war into civil war against the bouregoisie," the object for which the comintern sections must strive. Stalin and 18 others were "elected" to compose the presidium of the executive committee of the comintern and Dimitroff confirmed as its secretary-general.

Begin on Democrats

This insidious plan was now put into universal practice by the non-Russian leaders sent home with instructions from Moscow. Though "Fascism" was held up as the arch-enemy, the chief subversive activity was prescribed for the "democratic" countries, hope being given up for the time being in Germany, Japan and Italy.

France, Spain and Austria were expected to yield the best early fruit. Paris had already been made the European center of the Comintern, the capital from which revolutionary matter could be launched without ostensibly compromising Moscow. A "united front" had already been formally established in France. Now, with Paris as its point d'appui, the Comintern engineered the outbreak of civil war in Spain.

No secret was made of this achievement in Russia. Spaniards were brought to Moscow in great numbers, trained in the art of civil war, then sent back as leaders to put their training into practice with the aid of non-Communist