

# GPU TRYING TO 'LIQUIDATE' KILLER OF TROTSKY TO KEEP HIM FROM TALKING

## NEW YORK WORKERS HONOR TROTSKY



## Clenched Fists Bid Farewell To Trotsky

### More Than 1,500 At Memorial Meeting

Denied the opportunity to honor Leon Trotsky with a great funeral demonstration, advanced workers of New York flocked through rain-swept streets to the New York Memorial Meeting of August 28th. For those who came, this last good-bye to Trotsky was as poignant an occasion as the funeral itself would have been.

The Roosevelt administration successfully prevented a repetition of Mexico City's mass procession and workers' guards of honor at the bier of the martyred Bolshevik leader. But it could not prevent Trotsky's closeness to the minds and hearts of the fifteen hundred who crowded the impressively decorated main hall of the Hotel Diplomat, in mid-town New York for the meeting of tribute that Wednesday evening.

One by one outstanding members of the American movement took the platform and addressed the audience, drawing from their pain-filled hearts the words with which they sought to express fitting farewell to so great and so noble a leader.

The same aching sense of inestimable loss which choked the voices of the speakers visibly stirred the audience as well. Many wept as the strains of the Workers Memorial Song filled the hall, and as Trotsky's comrades spoke of him.

Never, despite the absence of his body, was the presence of a man more deeply felt by an assemblage than was Leon Trotsky's presence at that meeting to honor his memory. "All of us feel that he is here in this hall tonight," said Comrade Cannon. "—not only in his great ideas, but also, especially tonight, in our memory of him as a man."

**Hear the Old Man**

This feeling, sharp and alive, was heightened as Trotsky's own words were heard—in the Old Man's last recorded address, made in Mexico in 1938 on the occasion of the Founding Conference of the Fourth International, and the tenth anniversary of the American movement. His firm, patient voice inspired mourning listeners. All strained their ears to catch each word as he explained: "Dear friends, we are not a party as other parties..."

Thus the Old Man himself sounded the keynote of the evening: rededication to the revolutionary tasks ahead.

James P. Cannon, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers

The text of the telegrams sent by the New York memorial meeting to Natalia Trotsky and President Cardenas, and the reply of Cardenas, follow below:

**NATALIA TROTSKY**  
AVENIDA VIENA 19  
COYOACAN, D. F.  
MEXICO

From this gathering to honor his memory, we, comrades and friends of Leon Trotsky, send to you, his devoted companion in triumph as in adversity, our most heartfelt sympathy at his untimely death. Your loss is our loss—humanity's loss. We rededicate ourselves at his grave to the achievement of the great task for which he lived and died.

FARRELL DOBBS, Chairman  
August 29, 1940

**PRESIDENT LAZARO CARDENAS**  
MEXICO, D. F.

The comrades and friends of Leon Trotsky assembled in a memorial mass meeting in honor of his memory express their gratitude and thanks to the Mexican people and their courageous President for the generous hospitality accorded the great persecuted exile during the last years of his life. This honorable deed will forever remain to the credit of your country and to you its President.

FARRELL DOBBS, Chairman  
116 UNIVERSITY PLACE  
NEW YORK CITY  
Sept. 2, 1940

I have received your courteous message of the 29th. I thank you for your thoughts on the hospitality that Mexico sought to extend to Senor Leon Trotsky. Greetings  
PRESIDENT CARDENAS

Party stated, "Ours is not the grief of prostration, the grief that saps the will. It is tempered by rage and hatred and determination. We say farewell like good soldiers of Trotsky's army... with clenched fists!"

(Full text of Cannon's address appears on page 2 of this issue.)

**Antoinette Konikow Speaks**

Though her voice was broken with pain, Dr. Antoinette Konikow, who has devoted 51 of her more than seventy years to service in the vanguard of the labor movement, yet could say, "What a fool Stalin is to think that by this act he has killed Trotsky! To us Trotsky is alive and will never die!"

Farrell Dobbs, S. W. P. National Labor Secretary declared "Trotsky was last in the United States in 1917, yet he clearly understood our problems. He gave us his advice... In fact he gave us a complete program. We mourn him with grim determination to carry on!"

Albert Gates of the Workers Party, a representative of which had been invited to speak, stated: "Trotsky taught us how to fight Stalinism. In fact he taught us all we know. He was the Marxist theoretician of our era."

Farrell Dobbs, who presided, read the message of condolence wired to the Socialist Workers Party and to Natalia Trotsky from Chile, Great Britain, Canada, China and other parts of the globe and from this country. He also read, for the approval of the assemblage, two wires: one to Comrade Natalia, and one to President Cardenas of Mexico—the former of heartfelt condolence and solidarity, the latter of gratitude. Upon unanimous approval, these were sent.

**Hall a Tribute**

The decoration of the meeting hall was a deeply felt tribute in itself: A striking portrait of Leon Trotsky above the speakers' platform surmounted a vast banner upon which his final message was lettered: "Please say to our friends I am sure of the victory of the Fourth International. Go forward!" Three red flags dip at each end of the platform black crepe draped their bases. Long, narrow red banners hung upon the walls, "Fourth International" lettered down them; and between each pair hung a black lettered plaque, in honor of each one of the children and friends of Trotsky who have been murdered

## Goldman Warns GPU Is Now After Its Own Agent To Prevent "Break" At Trial

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 1—The Mexican Communist Party is already conceding the likelihood that Stalinist members were involved in both the assassination of Trotsky and the earlier assassination attempt of May 24.

In a statement issued last night, attempting to answer President Cardenas, denunciation, the Communist Party stated:

"If investigations prove that one or more members or sympathizers intervened in the preparation or execution of the attacks, violating our fundamental principles, they will be expelled from the Party as elements very dangerous to the working class."

(This and other sections of the Mexican C. P. statement were published in the Daily Worker, Sept. 2).

Already the Communist Party has conceded that David Alfaro Siqueiros was involved in the May 24 attack but denies that he has any connections with the C. P.

However, Mike Gold, in the Aug. 31 Daily Worker, says: "Siqueiros, I understand, was not a member of the Communist Party, but he accepted its leadership, the outstanding Mexican intellectual who did so."

David Serrano, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist

## Assassin's Story Falters Under Examination

MEXICO CITY, August 31—With each session of questioning of the assassin of Trotsky, his original "explanation" of the crime is being systematically torn to shreds.

When Trotsky cried out, "Let him live!" as the assassin was seized by the guards, Trotsky dealt an annihilating blow to the GPU's scheme to cover up its responsibility for the crime. Unquestionably the GPU had assumed that its agent, the assassin, would either escape or would be dead.

The "statement" he carried on his person was written to be found only if he were dead. (The full text of the statement was published in last week's APPEAL.)

To anyone acquainted with the GPU's methods, that statement—following line by line the pattern of the Moscow trials—was sufficient evidence of the GPU's responsibility for the murder. The average reader, however, unacquainted with the GPU's methods, might be puzzled and confused by it—if that was all he had to go by. And the GPU's plans were based on the idea that nothing else would be available to the public except the "statement."

The assassin, Jackson, it was planned, would be dead. He is still alive, however, although it is certain that the central concern of the GPU now is to kill him to prevent him from talking.

But he has already talked. He has attempted to play the role assigned him by the GPU, but he has had to answer the searching questions put to him. And the result has been the complete, worded generalities of the "statement."

1. Jackson sought to picture himself in the statement as a hard-working journalist. "I was content to have found in journalism a means of livelihood since this permitted me to struggle more effectively against the present system of social injustice," said the statement. But under questioning he is unable to name a single job on which he worked as a journalist! Or, for that matter, any other employment. This is natural enough—he cannot name the one employer he has always worked for—the GPU.

**Never a Trotskyist**

2. He pictured himself in the statement as a full-time activist member of the Fourth International: The Trotskyites "convicted me of the justice of their ideology and wholeheartedly I joined their organization. From then on I carried into the revolutionary cause all my energy and 'all my faith,' etc. etc. But under questioning he has admitted that he has never been a member of any section of the Fourth Inter-

national! As for the "energy" he had expended, when asked by the judge what work he had ever done for the Fourth International prior to coming to Mexico, where he claims to have been sent by the Fourth International, the assassin could only admit: "None."

To these contradictions even more significant ones were added last night, when the assassin was examined by the investigating judge.

**Burned His Papers**

3. Jackson had burned all of his personal papers. Last night, through the examining judge, Albert Goldman, Trotsky's attorney, put the question whether these personal papers would have corroborated the story he was telling, and the assassin answered in the affirmative.

Goldman then asked, if that were so, why he had not saved those papers in order to be able to corroborate the story. The assassin would not answer that question, evading it continually.

4. The questioning of the assassin with the reference to his "statement" that a member of the Bureau of the Fourth International had instructed him to go to Mexico to see Trotsky was particularly illuminating. Asked

MEXICO CITY, August 31—Albert Goldman, Trotsky's attorney, issued a warning here today that Stalin's GPU is attempting to murder the assassin of Trotsky in order to prevent further investigation of the GPU's responsibility for the murder of Trotsky.

Goldman told the press and the authorities: "From a source that I consider absolutely trustworthy, I have received information to the effect that a determined attempt will be made by the GPU to kill 'Jackson', the GPU murderer of Trotsky."

"The reason for the GPU's decision is quite clear. So long as the assassin is alive, the possibility remains that he may reveal the workings of the sinister GPU in Mexico, in the United States and in other countries, and thus endanger all of its agents."

"From the circumstances of the murder of the great revolutionist by the GPU agent, it is clear that the GPU expected that the murderer would either escape or meet death at the hands of the guards. Jackson had \$890 in his pocket, thus conclusively indicating that he hoped to escape. The fact that he struck Trotsky on the head with an alpine stock indicates that he had hoped to kill him with one blow and casually walk out of the Trotsky house."

"On the other hand, the letter found in his pocket giving the Stalinist reasons for the murder of Trotsky shows that the GPU was prepared for the death of their agent."

"The GPU does not want any of its agents committing an actual crime to live in a penitentiary. While those agents who are designated for important missions, such as the murder of Trotsky, are generally men who can be trusted to the last not to reveal their identity, there is always the possibility that they will do so, especially if they are jailed for a long period. Hence any agent who is apprehended by the police after committing a murder at the instigation of the GPU and is thus available for questioning, is doomed to die at the hands of his master."

## Cardenas Points At Stalinists As Killers

MEXICO CITY, August 30—A statement was issued last night by President Cardenas, denouncing the murder of Trotsky and pointing the finger of accusation at the Stalinists as those responsible for the murder.

Cardenas' lengthy statement caused a profound sensation. Never in history has the chief executive of a government thus denounced a political party which supports him.

In his lengthy statement, Cardenas began by addressing it directly to the workers of the country, to tell them the standpoint of the government concerning "the latest events which have culminated with the assassination of a political refugee, and the active involvement in the same, of organizations opposed, if not by their program then by their actions, to the postulates (on the right of asylum) that the revolutionary regime (of Mexico) has supported."

Cardenas then continued with a firm reiteration of the government's support of the right of asylum, naming in particular refugees from Italy, Germany and Russia, who have been welcomed to the country.

"Unfortunately," he went on, "there arose a demagogic and irreconcilable agitation, one certainly worthy of condemnation, tending to endanger some of the most distinguished refugees..."

These attacks on the refugees, he declared, "were nothing else than surreptitious moves of certain foreign powers set in motion to fight their

opponents outside their own territories," for the purpose "of satisfying a low passion and to wreak an inglorious vengeance."

The "first hostile moves having failed," said Cardenas, and "the passion and totalitarian hate growing ever greater, they openly went on to the commission of criminal acts."

Then Cardenas went on pointedly to remind the Communist Party of the freedom under which it has hitherto operated.

"The Communist Party, equally with all political groups, has had under our government liberty and respect for its members and for the doctrines, which it has expounded in all tones and various forms, without there being a single act until now which might be said to show that the authorities impede in any manner, not to speak of prohibit, the propaganda of that party. What is more, on many occasions capacious criticism and the enemies of the government have censured the government for what they call the communist tendency of this regime or, at least, an excess of liberty favorable to communist doctrines."

Cardenas then solemnly warned the Stalinists: that, "in the case of the Communists we desire to say concretely that if they have considered it useful to their interests to abandon cooperation with the Mexican workers' organizations for betterment of workers' conditions, and have allied themselves with a foreign power that is responsible for an aggression against the sovereignty of the country, organizing a rmed assaults jointly with Mexican and foreign elements and carrying out murders that dishonor civilization and that cast doubt upon the capacity of the government

## TROTSKY HONORED HIS PLEDGE OF ASYLUM, CARDENAS AFFIRMED

President Cardenas also defended Trotsky against Stalinist slanders while Trotsky was alive.

When the Stalinist lynch campaign against Trotsky had been going on for nearly two years, President Cardenas felt it necessary to take the extraordinary step of making a public statement in defense of Trotsky.

That was November 12, 1938. In an interview of that date with the press, President Cardenas stated:

"It is not true that Trotsky is mixing in the politics of our country. This man, since the time he came seeking our country as an asylum and to whom we opened our doors in virtue of a firm declaration which he made not to mix in our poli-

tics, is honorable and knows how to keep his promises.

"In interviews, books, etc., always he has referred only to the situation in his own country, or to themes of world politics; he lives retired in voluntary seclusion, and all that he asks is that Mexico let him work in peace." (LA PRENSA, Mexico City, Nov. 12, 1938)

This strong statement by Cardenas was in answer to a vicious speech by Lombardo Toledano Stalinist "front," on November 8, 1938, in which Toledano had attempted to link Trotsky with various anti-Cardenas reactionary politicians of Mexico. Toledano had recently returned from Europe, bringing with him a slanderous film against Trotsky.

A secret trip to New York

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# TO THE MEMORY OF THE OLD MAN

By JAMES P. CANNON

Comrade Trotsky's entire conscious life, from the time he entered the workers' movement in the provincial Russian town of Nikolaiev at the age of 18, up till the moment of his death in Mexico City 42 years later, was completely dedicated to work and struggle for one central idea. He stood for the emancipation of the workers and all the oppressed people of the world, and the transformation of society from capitalism to socialism by means of a social revolution. In his conception this liberating social revolution requires for success the leadership of a revolutionary political party of the workers' vanguard.

In his entire conscious life Comrade Trotsky never once diverged from that idea. He never doubted it, and never ceased to struggle for its realization. On his death bed, in his last message to us, his disciples—his last testament—he proclaimed his confidence in his life-idea. "Tell our friends I am sure of the victory of the Fourth International—Go Forward!"

The whole world knows about his work and his testament. The cables of the press of the world have carried his last testament and made it known to the world's millions. And in the minds and hearts of all those throughout the world who grieve with us tonight one thought—one question—is uppermost: Will the movement which he created and inspired survive his death? Will his disciples be able to hold their ranks together, will they be able to carry out his testament and realize the emancipation of the oppressed through the victory of the Fourth International?

## "THE PROGRAM MAKES THE PARTY"

Without the slightest hesitation we give an affirmative answer to this question. Those enemies who predict a collapse of Trotsky's movement without Trotsky, and those weak-willed friends who fear it, only show that they do not understand Trotsky, what he was, what he signified and what he left behind. Never has a bereaved family been left such a rich heritage as that which Comrade Trotsky, like a provident father, has left to the family of the Fourth International as trustees for all progressive humanity. A great heritage of ideas he has left to us: ideas which shall chart the struggle toward the great free future of all mankind. The mighty ideas of Trotsky are our program and our banner. They are a clear guide to action in all the complexities of our epoch, and a constant reassurance that we are right and that our victory is inevitable.

Trotsky himself believed that ideas are the greatest power in the world. Their authors may be killed, but ideas, once promulgated, live their own life. If they are correct ideas they make their way through all obstacles. This was the central, dominating concept of Comrade Trotsky's philosophy. He explained it to us many, many times. He once wrote: "It is not the party that makes the program (the idea); it is the program that makes the party." In a personal letter to me, he once wrote: "We work with the most correct and powerful ideas in the world, with inadequate numerical forces and material means. But correct ideas, in the long run, always conquer and make available for themselves the necessary material means and forces."

Trotsky, a disciple of Marx, believed with Marx, that "an idea, when it permeates the mass, becomes a material force." Believing that, Comrade Trotsky never doubted that his work would live after him. Believing that, he could proclaim on

## HE COMPLETED HIS TESTAMENT

### HE COMPLETED HIS TESTAMENT

They killed Trotsky not by one blow; not when this murderer, the agent of Stalin, drove the pick-axe through the back of his skull. That was only the final blow. They killed him by inches. They killed him many times. They killed him seven times when they killed his seven secretaries. They killed him four times when they killed his four children. They killed him when his old co-workers of the Russian revolution were killed.

Yet he stood up to his tasks in spite of all that. Growing old and sick, he staggered through all these moral, emotional and physical blows to complete his testament to humanity while he still had time. He gathered it all together—every thought, every idea, every lesson from his past experience—to lay up a literary treasure for us, a treasure that the moths and the rust cannot eat.

There was a profound difference between Trotsky and other great men of action and transitory political leaders who influenced great masses in their life time. The power of such people, almost all of them, was something personal, something incommunicable to others. Their influence did not survive their deaths. Just recall for a moment the great men of our generation, or the generation just passed. Clemenceau, Hindenburg, Wilson, Theodore Roosevelt, Bryan. They had great masses following them and leaning upon them. But now they are dead and all their influence died with them. Nothing remains but monuments and funeral eulogies. Nothing was distinctive about them but their personalities. They were opportunists, leaders for a day. They left no ideas to guide and inspire men when their bodies became dust, and their personalities became a memory.

Not so with Trotsky. Not so with him. He was different. He was also a great man of action, to be sure. His deeds are incorporated in the greatest revolution in the history of mankind. But, unlike the opportunists and leaders of a day, his deeds were inspired by great ideas and these ideas still live. He not only made a revolution; he wrote its history and explained the basic laws which govern all revolutions. In his History of the Russian Revolution, which he considered his masterpiece, he gave us a guide for the making of new revolutions, or rather, for extending throughout the world the revolution that began in October, 1917.

### HE HIMSELF WAS A DISCIPLE

Trotsky, the great man of ideas, was himself the disciple of a still greater one—Marx. Trotsky did not originate, or claim to originate, the most fundamental ideas which he expounded. He built on the foundations laid by the great masters of the 19th Century—Marx and Engels. In addition, he went through the great school of Lenin and learned from him. Trotsky's genius consisted in his complete assimilation of the ideas bequeathed by Marx, Engels and Lenin. He mastered their method. He developed their ideas in modern conditions, and applied them in masterful fashion in the contemporary struggle of the proletariat.

If you would understand Trotsky, you must know that he was a disciple of Marx, an orthodox Marxist. He fought under the banner of Marxism for 42 years! During the last year of his life he laid everything else aside to fight a great political and theoretical battle in defense of Marxism in the ranks of the Fourth International! His very last article, which was left on his desk in unpolished form, the last article with

## Speech Delivered at Trotsky Memorial Meeting, New York, Aug. 28, 1940

his death bed his confidence in the future victory of the Fourth International which embodies his ideas. Those who doubt it, do not know Trotsky.

### THE WHOLE TROTSKY IS PRESERVED

Trotsky himself believed that his greatest significance, his greatest value, consisted not in his physical life, not in his epic deeds which overshadow those of all heroic figures in history in their sweep and their grandeur—but in what he would leave behind him after the assassins had done their work. He knew that his doom was sealed, and he worked against time in order to leave everything possible to us, and through us to mankind. Throughout the eleven years of his last exile he chained himself to his desk like a galley slave, and labored, as none of us knows how to labor; with such energy, such persistence and self-discipline, as only men of genius can labor. He worked against time, to pour out through his pen the whole rich content of his mighty brain and preserve it in permanent, written form for us, and for those who will come after us.

The whole Trotsky, like the whole Marx, is preserved in his books, his articles and his letters. His voluminous correspondence, which contains some of his brightest thoughts and his most intimate personal feelings and sentiments, must now be collected and published. When that is done, when his letters are published alongside his books, his pamphlets and his articles, we, and all those who join us in the liberation struggle of humanity, will still have our Old Man to help us.

He knew that the super-Borgia in the Kremlin, Cain-Stalin, who has destroyed the whole generation of the October revolution, had marked him for assassination and that he would succeed sooner or later. That is why he worked so urgently. That is why he hastened to write out everything that was in his mind and get it down on paper in permanent form where nobody could destroy it.

Just the other night I talked at the dinner table with one of the Old Man's faithful secretaries—a young comrade who had served him a long time and knew his personal life, as he lived it in his last years of exile, most intimately. I urged him to write his reminiscences without delay. I said: "We must all write everything we know about Trotsky. Everyone must record his recollections and his impressions. We must not forget that we moved in the orbit of the greatest figure of our time. Millions of people, generations yet to come, will be hungry for every scrap of information, every word, every impression that throws light on him, his ideas, his aims and his personal life."

He answered: "I can write only about his personal qualities as I observed them; his methods of work, his humanness, his generosity. But I can't write anything new about his ideas. They are already written. Everything he had to say, everything he had in his brain, is down on paper. He seemed to be determined to scoop down to the bottom of his mind, and take out everything and give it to the world in his writings. Very often I remember casual conversation on some subject would come up at the dinner table; an informal discussion would take place, and the Old Man would express some opinions new and fresh. Almost invariably the contributions of the dinner table conversation would find expression a little later in a book, an article or a letter."

which he occupied himself, was a defense of Marxism against contemporary revisionists and skeptics. The power of Trotsky, first of all and above all, was the power of Marxism.

Do you want a concrete illustration of the power of Marxist ideas?—Just consider this: When Marx died in 1883, Trotsky was but four years old. Lenin was only fourteen. Neither could have known Marx, or anything about him. Yet both became great historical figures because of Marx, because Marx had circulated ideas in the world before they were born. Those ideas were living their own life. They shaped the lives of Lenin and Trotsky. Marx's ideas were with them and guided their every step when they made the greatest revolution in history.

So will the ideas of Trotsky, which are a development of the ideas of Marx, influence us, his disciples who survive him today. They will shape the lives of far greater disciples who are yet to come, who do not yet know Trotsky's name. Some who are destined to be the greatest Trotskyists are playing in the school yards today. They will be nourished on Trotsky's ideas as he and Lenin were nourished on the ideas of Marx and Engels.

### HIS IDEAS WERE ENOUGH

Indeed, our movement in the United States took shape and grew up on his ideas without his physical presence, without even any communication in the first period. Trotsky was exiled and isolated in Alma Ata when we began our struggle for Trotskyism in this country in 1928. We had no contact with him, and for a long time did not know whether he was dead or alive. We didn't even have a collection of his writings. All we had was one single current document—his "Criticism of the Draft Program of the Comintern." That was enough. By the light of that single document we saw our way, began our struggle with supreme confidence, went through the split without faltering, built the framework of a national organization and established our weekly Trotskyist press. Our movement was built firmly from the very beginning and has remained firm because it was built on Trotsky's ideas. It was nearly a year before we were able to establish direct communication with the Old Man.

So with the sections of the Fourth International throughout the world. Only a very few individual comrades have ever met Trotsky face to face. Yet everywhere they knew him. In China, and across the broad oceans to Chile, Argentina, Brazil. In Australia, in practically every country of Europe. In the United States, Canada, Indo-China, South Africa. They never saw him, but the ideas of Trotsky welded them all together in one uniform and firm world movement. So it will continue after his physical death. There is no room for doubt.

### HIS PLACE IN HISTORY

Trotsky's place in history is already established. He will stand forever on a historical eminence beside the other three great giants of the proletariat: Marx, Engels and Lenin. It is possible, indeed it is quite probable, that in the historic memory of mankind, his name will evoke the warmest affection, the most heartfelt gratitude of all. Because he fought so long, against such a world of enemies, so honestly, so heroically, and with such selfless devotion!

Future generations of free humanity will look back with insatiable interest on this mad epoch of reaction and bloody violence and social change—this epoch of the death agony of

one social system and the birth pangs of another. When they see through the historian's lens how the oppressed masses of the people everywhere were groping, blinded and confused, they will mention with unbounded love the name of the genius who gave us light, the great heart that gave us courage.

Of all the great men of our time, of all the public figures to whom the masses turned for guidance in these troubled, terrible times, Trotsky alone explained things to us, he alone gave us light in the darkness. His brain alone unravelled the mysteries and complexities of our epoch. The great brain of Trotsky was what was feared by all his enemies. They couldn't cope with it. They couldn't answer it. In the incredibly horrible method by which they destroyed him there was hidden a deep symbol. *They struck at his brain!* But the richest products of that brain are still alive. They had already escaped and can never be recaptured and destroyed.

### TROTSKY AND THE RUSSIAN PEOPLE

We do not minimize the blow that has been dealt to us, to our movement and to the world. It is the worst calamity. We have lost something of immeasurable value that can never be regained. We have lost the inspiration of his physical presence, his wise counsel. All that is lost forever. The Russian people have suffered the most terrible blow of all. But by the very fact that the Stalinist Camarilla had to kill Trotsky after eleven years, that they had to reach out from Moscow, exert all their energies and plans to destroy the life of Trotsky—that is the greatest testimony that Trotsky still lived in the



Cannon Addressing the Memorial Meeting

## WE TRIED IN VAIN TO SAVE HIM

If you reproach yourself or us because this murder machine finally reached Trotsky and struck him down, you must remember that it is very hard to protect anyone from assassins. The assassin who stalks his victim night and day very often breaks through the greatest protections. Even Russian Czars and other rulers, surrounded by all the police powers of great states, could not always escape assassination by small bands of determined terrorists equipped with the most meagre resources. This was the case more than once in Russia in the pre-revolutionary days. And here, in the case of Trotsky, you had all that in reverse. All the resources were on the side of the assassins. A great state apparatus, converted into a murder machine, against one man and a few devoted disciples. So, if they finally broke through we have only to ask ourselves, did we do all we could to prevent it or postpone it? Yes, we did our best. In all conscience, we must say we did our best.

In the last weeks after the assault of May 24th, we once again put on the agenda of our leading committee the question of the protection of Comrade Trotsky. Every comrade agreed that this is our most important task, most important for the masses of the whole world and for the future generations, that above all we do everything in our power to protect the life of our genius, our comrade, who helped and guided us so well. A delegation of party leaders made a visit to Mexico. It turned out to be our last visit. There, on that occasion, in consultation with him, we agreed upon a new campaign to strengthen the guard. We collected money in this country to fortify the house at the cost of thousands of dollars; all our members and sympathizers responded with great sacrifices and generosity.

And still the murder-machine broke through. But those who helped even in the smallest degree, either financially or with their physical efforts, like our brave young comrades of the guard, will never be sorry for what they did to protect and help the Old Man.

### WHEN THE TERRIBLE NEWS CAME

At the hour Comrade Trotsky was finally struck down, I was returning by train from a special journey to Minneapolis. I had gone there for the purpose of arranging for new and especially qualified comrades to go down and strengthen the guard in Cozoacan. On the way home I sat in the railroad train with a feeling of satisfaction that the task of the trip had been accomplished, reinforcements of the guard had been provided for.

Then, as the train passed through Pennsylvania, about four o'clock in the morning, they brought the early papers with the news that the assassin had broken through the defenses and driven a pick-axe into the brain of Comrade Trotsky. That was the beginning of a terrible day, the saddest day of our lives, when we waited, hour by hour, while the Old Man fought his last fight and struggled vainly with death. But even then, in that hour of terrible grief when we received the fatal message over the long-distance telephone: "The Old Man is dead"—even then we didn't permit ourselves to stop for weeping. We plunged immediately into the work to defend his memory and carry out his testament. And we worked harder

hearts of the Russian people. They didn't believe the lies. They waited and hoped for his return. His words are still there. His memory is alive in their hearts.

Just a few days before the death of Comrade Trotsky the editors of the Russian Bulletin received a letter from Riga. It had been mailed before the incorporation of Latvia into the Soviet Union. It stated in simple words that Trotsky's Open Letter to the Workers of the USSR had reached them, and had lifted up their hearts with courage and shown them the way. The letter stated that the message of Trotsky had been memorized, word by word, and would be passed along by word of mouth no matter what might happen. We verily believe that the words of Trotsky will live longer in the Soviet Union than the bloody regime of Stalin. In the coming great day of liberation the message of Trotsky will be the banner of the Russian people.

### WHY STALIN KILLED TROTSKY

The whole world knows who killed Comrade Trotsky. The world knows that on his death bed he accused Stalin and his GPU of the murder. The assassin's statement, prepared in advance of the crime, is the final proof, if more proof is needed, that the murder was a GPU job. It is a mere reiteration of the lies of the Moscow Trials; a stupid police-minded attempt, at this late day, to rehabilitate the frame-ups which have been discredited in the eyes of the whole world. The motives for the assassination arose from the world reaction, the fear of revolution, and the traitors' sentiments of hatred and revenge. The English historian, Macaulay, remarked that apostates in all ages have manifested an exceptional malignity toward those whom they have betrayed. Stalin and his traitor gang were consumed by a mad hatred of the man who reminded them of their yesterday. Trotsky, the symbol of the great revolution, reminded them constantly of the cause they had deserted and betrayed, and they hated him for that. They hated him for all the great and good human qualities which he personified and to which they were completely alien. They were determined, at all cost, to do away with him.

Now I come to a part that is very painful, a thought which, I am sure, is in the minds of all of us. The moment we read of the success of the attack I am sure everyone among us asked: Couldn't we have saved him a while longer? If we had tried harder, if we had done more for him—couldn't we have saved him? Dear Comrades, let us not reproach ourselves. Comrade Trotsky was doomed and sentenced to death years ago. The betrayers of the revolution knew that the revolution lived in him, the tradition, the hope. All the resources of a powerful state, set in motion by the hatred and revenge of Stalin, were directed to the assassination of a single man, without resources and with only a handful of close followers. All of his co-workers were killed; seven of his faithful secretaries; his four children. Yet, in spite of the fact that they marked him for death after his exile from Russia, we saved him for eleven years! Those were the most fruitful years of his whole life. Those were the years when he sat down in full maturity to devote himself to the task of summing up and casting in permanent literary form the results of his experiences and his thoughts.

Their dull police minds cannot know that Trotsky left the best of himself behind. Even in death he frustrated them. Because the things they wanted most of all to kill—the memory and the hope of revolution—that Trotsky left behind him.

than ever before, because for the first time we realized with full consciousness that we have to do it all now. We can't lean on the Old Man any more. What is done now, we must do. That is the spirit in which we have got to work from now on.

The capitalist masters of the world instinctively understood the meaning of the name of Trotsky. The friend of the oppressed, the maker of revolutions, was the incarnation of all that they hated and feared! Even in death they revile him. Their newspapers splash their filth over his name. He was the world's exile in the time of reaction. No door was open to him anywhere except that of the Republic of Mexico. The fact that Trotsky was barred from all capitalist countries is in itself the clearest refutation of all the slanders of the Stalinists, of all their foul accusations that he betrayed the revolution, that he had turned against the workers. They never convinced the capitalist world of that. Not for a moment.

### THEY FEAR HIS DEAD BODY

The capitalists—all kinds—fear and hate even his dead body! The doors of our great democracy are open to many political refugees, of course. All sorts of reactionaries; democratic scoundrels who betrayed and deserted their people; monarchists and even fascists—they have all been welcomed in New York harbor. But not even the dead body of the friend of the oppressed could find asylum here! We shall not forget that! We shall nourish that grievance close to our hearts and in good time we shall take our revenge.

The great and powerful democracy of Roosevelt and Hull wouldn't let us bring his body here for the funeral. But he is here just the same. All of us feel that he is here in this hall tonight—not only in his great ideas, but also, especially tonight, in our memory of him as a man. We have a right to be proud that the best man of our time belonged to us, the greatest brain and strongest and most loyal heart. The class society we live in exalts the rascals, cheats, self-seekers, liars and oppressors of the people. You can hardly name an intellectual representative of the decaying class society, of high or low degree, who is not a miserable hypocrite and contemptible coward, concerned first of all with his own inconsequential personal affairs and saving his own worthless skin. What a wretched tribe they are. There is no honesty, no inspiration, nothing in the whole of them. They have not a single man that can strike a spark in the heart of youth. Our Old Man was made of better stuff. Our Old Man was made of entirely different stuff. He towered above these pygmies in his moral grandeur.

### CITIZEN OF THE COMMUNIST FUTURE

Comrade Trotsky not only struggled for a new social order based on human solidarity as a future goal; he lived every day of his life according to its higher and nobler standards. They wouldn't let him be a citizen of any country. But, in truth, he was much more than that. He was already, in his mind and in his conduct, a citizen of the Communist future of humanity. That memory of him as a man, as a comrade, is more precious than gold and rubies. We can hardly understand a man of that type living among us. We are all caught in the steel net of the class society, with its inequalities, its

(Continued on page 8)

# Capitalist Press Muddies Trotsky In Death, As It Fought Him In Life

By GEORGE STERN

In life Leon Trotsky was always a feared and fearful figure to the capitalist press of the world. In death he is still the hated symbol of the workers' revolution. Upon his still and silenced figure the newspapers continue their vituperative assaults.

They know that while Trotsky is dead, Trotskyism is still the specter that haunts their halls of power. They tried to splatter his name while he lived. They still have the job of muddying his memory now that he is dead.

From their obituary biographies emerges a fantastic caricature of a man with a "checked career," as the saying goes, an adventurer, a fallen Napoleon, a would-be Genghis Khan, a wandering Jew on the face of a planet he defied. From the limited bounds of their vision they could not, after all, be expected to perceive the figure of Trotsky, the revolutionary titan.

The venom of their final curses over his dead body revealed only their instinctive sense of Trotsky as an enemy, a powerful and fearful enemy of the social order they themselves defend.

Where more serious biographical attempts were made, as in the New York Times, a combination of Stalinist and bourgeois distortions were arbitrarily grafted upon a slim framework of the actual physical facts of his life. The Times, intent upon reducing this gigantic historical figure to the puny dimensions of the men it better understands, resurrected the charge that Trotsky was "jealous of Lenin's power and discontented with the fact that he did not have an equal share in controlling Russia's destinies."

Also out of its grab bag of handy lies, the Times pulled the assertion that in 1926 Trotsky "capitulated unconditionally (to Stalin) and publicly repudiated his action."

The New York Daily News saw Trotsky as "the greatest, sleeviest plotter of the Russian revolution, a devious thinker who outwitted everyone save Stalin after the Revolution."

## THE DELIBERATE LINE OF THEIR EDITORIALS

Editorial comment on the murder of Trotsky varied on two themes—first, Trotsky was a victim of a system he himself helped to create; second, Trotsky's life work flowered in Hitler, Stalin, and Mussolini.

The American workers are to be persuaded, you see, that the murderous regime of Stalin is the natural outgrowth—and not the debased and twisted degeneration—of the workers' revolution which Lenin and Trotsky led to victory. The world revolution for which they fought, our master newspapers tell us, is now actually being realized . . . by Hitler and Mussolini.

On the first of these two themes, both the New York Times and the New York Herald Tribune, played. The Tribune (Aug. 23) said that Trotsky "trampled ruthlessly over millions . . . and was trampled as ruthlessly himself . . . meeting an end only too characteristic of the age which he had done so much to produce."

Said the Times (Aug. 23): "The long arm of Stalin's OGPU . . . finally completed the job with a blow into Trotsky's skull. Brutal! Of course it was; but it was no more brutal than the Stalin tyranny as a whole, no more ruthless than the Russian revolution which this consummate frebrand in exile had himself set alight and kept aflame a generation ago . . . The victims of his cold cruelty, and of Lenin's, can be numbered in the millions; the wastes of Siberia are bleached with their bones. It was not enough for him that Russia should be drenched in blood and suffering; the whole world had to wade through a sea of violence so that the

# TO THE MEMORY OF THE OLD MAN

(Continued from page 2)

contradictions, its conventionalities, its false values, its lies. The class society poisons and corrupts everything. We are all dwarfed and twisted and blinded by it. We can hardly visualize what human relations will be, we can hardly comprehend what the personality of man will be, in a free society.

Comrade Trotsky gave us an anticipatory picture. In him, in his personality as a man, as a human being, we caught a glimpse of the Communist man that is to be. This memory of him as a man, as a comrade, is our greatest assurance that the spirit of man, striving for human solidarity, is unconquerable. In our terrible epoch many things will pass away. Capitalism and all its heroes will pass away. Stalin and Hitler and Roosevelt and Churchill, and all the lies and injustices and hypocrisy they signify, will pass away in blood and fire. But the spirit of the Communist man which Comrade Trotsky represented will not pass away.

Destiny has made us, men of common clay, the most immediate disciples of Comrade Trotsky. We now become his heirs, and we are charged with the mission to carry out his

## The Lesser Known Trotsky



A rare photo of Trotsky at a recent picnic. The unsuspecting lad in front of him is his grandson, Seva.

self, who fought to make it and then fought to extend it because he understood that socialism could triumph only as a world order. This brought him into irreconcilable struggle against Stalinism as well as against the whole of the capitalist world.

Of the disorders of this capitalist world, Hitler and Mussolini are only two additional and especially virulent manifestations. They represent the hypodermic injection of Fascism with which capitalism is trying to prolong its last hours. In the revolution that will again raise Trotsky's banner aloft, Hitler and Mussolini will be among the first to fall.

Trotsky's life as a man of ac-

tion, as a revolutionist, was indeed a life filled with violence—but it was violence employed against those who make violence the very basis of their whole system of society, employed against the capitalist rulers of the world who govern by gun and club and bomb. Our masters and their journalistic acolytes glorify the violence that bolsters their own way of life. They shudder—and rightly—at the violence which challenges that way of life. Of that challenge Trotsky was a mighty symbol. That is why they hated him so while he lived. That is why they still fear and hate him even now that he is dead.

## Trotsky Honored Pledge Cardenas Affirmed

(Continued from Page 1)

rectly quoted, were never denied by the Mexican Stalinists.

In compliance with this order to create the necessary atmosphere, Toledano had made this particularly vicious speech.

But Cardenas' strong statement in defense of Trotsky against these Stalinist slanders sloughed the Stalinist murder campaign—for the moment.

The aftermath of Cardenas' statement was to make the Stalinists more desperate and reckless than ever. Laborde and Campa expelled from the Communist Party the secondary leadership (Guerra, Ramirez, etc.) who had failed to carry out successfully the campaign against

Trotsky. Then, in February, 1933, Laborde and Campa were themselves expelled for being "pro-Trotsky" i. e., for having failed to murder him. A new and more desperate leadership came in and the concentration of GPU agents in Mexico began in earnest.

Cardenas' public declaration defending Trotsky did not, therefore, save Trotsky from the GPU murder machine. But Cardenas' statement of November 19, 1933 did wreck irremediably a keystone in the Stalinist alibi—the charge that Trotsky had plotted against Cardenas—a charge incessantly made in the Stalinist-Toledano press and now repeated by the GPU assassin.

## Cardenas Points At Stalinists As Killers

(Continued from Page 1)

and people of Mexico to maintain a state of security and tranquility for the inhabitants, these elements have committed the crime of treason to the country, have prostituted their doctrines of proletarian progress, have wounded their country, committed a crime that history will censure as dishonorable for those who inspired it and as abominable for those who consummated it and cooperated in making it effective."

Cardenas concluded:

"The Executive Power that I represent condemns unreservedly acts so shameful and declares that it will hunt down the direct responsibility that they have had in the assassination of citizen Leon Trotsky, whom Mexico gave protection on its soil without any other purpose than to comply with its principle of granting asylum to all political refugees." By hunting down the direct responsibility for the murder of Trotsky, Cardenas finished, the government will "make patent

before the entire world, the sovereign right of the Mexican nation."

Cardenas' distinction between those who carried out the crime and those who cooperated in making it effective is interpreted as directed at Lombardo Toledano and his associates, who by their incessant attacks on Trotsky sought to prepare the "necessary atmosphere" in which the Stalinists might more boldly carry out the murder of Trotsky.

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## Assassin's Story Falters Under Examination

(Continued from Page 1)

whether he was a member of the Fourth International, he said no. Asked whether he knew that the Bureau was the highest body of the International, he said yes. Asked whether he knew that not even members of the organization knew who the members of the Bureau were, he also said yes. Asked who introduced him to the member of the Bureau, he said, some Greek members of the organization. Did they introduce the Bureau member by name? No. They simply introduced him as a member of the Bureau!

**Changes His Story**

5. In his "statement" Jackson had said that the Bureau member had "supplied me with all the means, expenses of the trip, papers, etc." Under police questioning, however, Jackson said he got \$2000 from the Bureau member—and \$5,000 from his (Jackson's) mother for the trip to America.

**Why 8 Months Wait?**

6. In answer to a question what was the nationality of the Bureau member, he answered that he was Rumanian or someone from the Balkan states. Asked whether he received a letter of introduction, Jackson said no. How, then, did he expect to see Trotsky without a letter of introduction? He said that was not his problem but that of the people who had sent him. What did he expect to do at Trotsky's? To act as a translator or secretary. If that was his function did he not think that it was very peculiar that he should be sent without a letter of introduction? No. Testimony then brought out that he arrived in Mexico in October, 1939, and did not get to see Trotsky until May 28, 1940—eight months later!

7. What did he do all those months? Nothing except wait for an opportunity to see Trotsky. Why did he wait so long? Well, that was the instruction—to wait; and he further testified that during all this time he pretended to be in business, insisting that too was part of his instructions. He was then asked whether he had

met some of the secretaries of Trotsky. Yes. Did he ever ask them whether it was the custom for secretaries to wait in Mexico for eight months or so before introducing themselves to Trotsky? No, he had never asked them.

**What Is True?**

8. The last question at last night's session was then put as follows: "You claim that you met someone in Paris, whose name you do not know. You also claim that he told you to go to Mexico to see Trotsky and that he gave you the expenses for the trip. You also claim that he furnished you with all the papers and that he advised you not to be too insistent in your efforts to see Trotsky, but to wait until it would appear that a visit to Trotsky was most natural and casual. You also claim that you were instructed to tell everybody you were in business. Now I ask you, if this alleged member of the Fourth International were an agent of the GPU and if you also were an agent of the GPU, would he not give you exactly the instructions that you claim he gave you?"

When the assassin denied this, he was asked: "In other words, if you were to substitute the GPU for this alleged member of the Bureau of the Fourth International and for your mother, who you claim gave you \$5,000, would not your story be the exact truth?"

Whereupon the assassin went into a long harangue against Goldman. Throughout this session, unlike previous ones where he had sat meekly and answered questions, the assassin abused Goldman. Trotsky's attorney was getting under his skin.

That last question particularly struck home. So far as broad details of his leaving Europe and coming here are concerned, the assassin is undoubtedly telling the story as it actually happened—except to leave out the agency of the GPU and substituting for it his mother and the "Bureau member."

## CLENCHED FISTS BID FAREWELL TO TROTSKY

(Continued from Page 1)

by Stalin. Those mentioned included Trotsky's daughters Nina, 1928 and Zinaida, 1933; his sons Sergei, 1937, and Leon Sedov, 1938; and his friends and secretaries: Blumkin, 1929, Moulin, 1937; Ignace Reiss, 1937; Erwin Wolf, 1938; August Klement, 1938, and Sheldon Harte, 1940.

As comrade Cannon ended his speech, the audience rose to its feet spontaneously, the "International" resounded through the building and thus the meeting ended, as Comrade Cannon had proposed in his conclusion:

"Let us say farewell to him in a manner worthy of his disciples, like good soldiers of Trotsky's army. Not crouching in weakness and despair, but standing upright with dry eyes and clenched fists. With the song of struggle and victory on our lips. With the song of confidence in Trotsky's Fourth International, the International Party that shall be the human race!"

(Reports of other memorial meetings appear on page 4 of this issue.)

## Assassin Was In May 24 Attempt Says Mexican Government Paper

MEXICO CITY, August 28—El Nacional, Mexico City daily and organ of the government, today states categorically that a high official of the Mexico City police identifies the assassin of Trotsky, Jackson, as one of the participants in the May 24 attempt on Trotsky, for which David Serrano, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party is awaiting trial, and David Alfaro Siqueiros, another Stalinist, is a fugitive from justice.

"Jackson is the same man who led the assault on the house of Trotsky on the 24th of May, which was carried out by Alfaro Siqueiros and his associates, and he also tortured and assassinated Sheldon Harte, Trotsky's secretary," a high officer of the metropolitan stated yesterday afternoon, reports El Nacional. "Alfaro Siqueiros took his orders from Jackson, as did other individuals with whom he met in one of the apartments of the Ermita building, in Tacubaya, where Siqueiros and Gomez Lorenzo (another Stalinist) lived and where Jackson asked Sylvia Ageloff to address her mail."

# WORKERS' FORUM

Write to us—tell us what's going on in your part of the labor movement—what are the workers thinking about?—tell us what the bosses are up to—and the G-men and the local cops—and the Stalinists—send us that story the capitalist press didn't print and that story they buried or distorted—our pages are open to you. Letters must carry name and address, but indicate if you do not want your name printed.

## White Guards Drink Toasts To Celebrate Trotsky's Death

Editor: As the Kremlin gang rejoices over their success in murdering Trotsky, they are joined in the toast by the White Guard officers whom Trotsky drove out of Soviet territory.

The Akron Beacon Journal of August 23 reports a group of White Russian officers, here attending the national encampment of the Army and Navy Union, drinking a toast to celebrate Trotsky's death.

One of these White Guards, a Captain V. V. Koodroff, vice commander of Garrison 257 of the Army and Navy Union, an executive at the Vought-Sikorsky airplane plant at Stratford, Connecticut, and of course, a pious Christian, said: "From the standpoint of Christianity, of course, we should not approve murder in any form. But from the point of view of giving peace to a civilized world Trotsky's death was inevitable. . . . Talk about Hitler—Hitler is not one-tenth as dangerous as this man."

Another, Captain Alexis A. Stoopnoff of the Czarist army, said: "The United States should breathe a great sigh of relief now that Trotsky is gone."

Yes, these White Guards are grateful to Stalin for murdering Trotsky. They understand that with Trotsky's death, the possibility of capitalist restoration in the Soviet Union is immeasurably facilitated. These are the class forces whom Stalin has aided with his murder machine.

## Author of "Studs Lonigan" On Trotsky's Death

Editor: I know of no words strong enough to be employed in condemning the murder of Leon Trotsky. And I am convinced that he was murdered by an agent of the GPU.

For Leon Trotsky, I felt both admiration and affection. I was not a follower of his in the strict and literal meaning of this term. But I was influenced by him. The Old Man educated some of the members of my generation: I was one of those whom he educated. Were it not for his writings, I would be a different person than I am and I would think differently than I do. The loss of Leon Trotsky at this particular moment is tragic. In this black and bitter period of reaction, Trotsky was needed, and needed not merely as a symbol, but even more so as a leader. Now, those points on which one disagreed with him fade in importance. One sees his greatness, the inspiration which was gained from his very life, from his indomitable fight, and from his brilliant writings.

Leon Trotsky was a great revolutionary, a great writer, a great man, a great spirit. Edmund Wilson, the literary critic, once remarked that since his exile from Soviet Russia, Leon Trotsky has served as "the Marxist conscience of the world." The pickaxe blow of Stalin's hired assassin struck down "the Marxist conscience of the world." With grief, I say farewell to the Old Man. He is dead in the flesh. The spirit that animated his work will not die.  
Aug. 28, 1940  
JAMES T. FARRELL

## Our Australian Comrades Fight Despite Government Ban

We have just received word that the Sydney headquarters of the Communist League of Australia, section of the Fourth International, were raided by the police on Saturday, June 24. The Federal government had declared the League illegal the day before. Raids have also been carried out at the homes of the secretary of the League, G. Baracchi, and other leaders. Up to the present, no leading militant of the Australian organization has been apprehended.

The government's action took place after agents had been sent down to take notes at a public meeting of the league in Sydney on the previous Sunday. The meeting was held as usual in the Sydney Domain in defiance of an order prohibiting radical meetings.

More than 2,500 workers gathered in spite of the ban to listen to Comrades Baracchi, Kavanaugh, Royston and Jock Little, according to the Australian papers. The speakers are quoted as saying:

"We favor Trotsky who is persecuted by Stalin but nevertheless we are for the defense of the Soviet as a workers' country."

"The French capitalists have preferred to throw in their lot with Hitler rather than have the workers establish communism in France."

In spite of the ban, our Australian comrades continue recruitment, in particular from the ranks of the Stalinists, and are carrying on activity in the name of the Fourth International, naturally adapting methods appropriate to the situation.

Our warmest greetings of solidarity to the Australian Fourth Internationalists under attack. Together with the advanced workers of every country, we say to them, "More power to you!"

Editor: A foul blow has been struck the Fourth International! But the movement is not reeling under the impact. Comrades and sympathizers have set their teeth to carry on with greater determination the struggle with labor's enemies and misleaders. We will carry on the struggle with the realization that each of us must be a little more strong, a little more sacrificing, a little more understanding now that the revolutionary genius, Leon Trotsky, is no more.

How symbolic is it that a hiring of Cain Stalin should with Judas-like methods destroy the true leader of revolutionary socialism. In his fear of this great Bolshevik, Stalin has committed an act which exposes the entire mechanism of bureaucratic tyranny. But his cowardly blow will not save him, for the Fourth International will live on and will struggle on. The priceless heritage of Leon Trotsky's lucid writing will serve as a beacon for revolutionary thinkers leading them to the Fourth International, and leading the Fourth International to inevitable victory. Socialism will conquer with the stainless banner of Trotskyism! St. Cloud, Minn.

PHILLIP CLARK

Russian Revolution Still Lives, Despite Stalin's Crimes  
Editor: Allow me to express my indignation and that of Simon Simons against the foul deed perpetrated against the world revolutionary movement by the murder of Leon Trotsky.

It seems that this deed of Stalin foulness was designed to put an end to whatever decency there remained as a vestige of the Herculean spirit of the Russian Revolution, just as the Stalin-Hitler pact marked the coup de grace.  
Providence, R. I.  
HARRY DERMER  
SIMON SIMONS

(We appreciate the depth of feeling of our correspondents, but cannot accept the thesis that Stalin has administered a COUP DE GRACE to the Russian Revolution. He has not succeeded—and will not; the economic foundations established by the October Revolution still stand and, on that foundation, the Russian people will yet destroy Stalinism before it destroys the Russian Revolution.—EDITORS.)

