

SPAIN AND THE WORLD

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 11.

MAY 1st, 1937.

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Consider the origin of all fortunes, whether arising out of commerce, finance, manufactures, or the land. Everywhere you will find that the wealth of the wealthy springs from the poverty of the poor.

KROPOTKIN.

(Conquest of Bread)

Irun, San Sebastien, Durango to-day Guernica.

Franco, Spanish Patriot and Christian, massacres women and children from the air, while British and French politicians discuss further means of betrayal.

Workers! Show your solidarity with the Basque comrades by imposing your will. Demand active intervention in favour of the Spanish workers fighting for liberty against Italian and German regular Army and Air Force. Now before Bilbao and its heroic people are wiped out.

MAY 1st, 1937: ITS SIGNIFICANCE

It seems appropriate to us that a whole page of this issue should be dedicated to our brave Comrades of Catalonia. For it is they who are defending not only Spanish territory with their armed fists, but they are also defending the noble ideals which prompted the workers of Spain to take up arms against Fascist invasion. They are advancing with the Social Revolution: new enterprises are springing up everywhere, thereby freeing the country from foreign Capital; villages and small towns are being collectivized even where the C.N.T. and F.A.I. have not yet penetrated, such as the village of Peza which boasts of 5,000 inhabitants, or as at Llerena where 500 armed workers confiscated the land from the landowners, and defended themselves against the assault guards with such success that the latter had to leave the village in hurried confusion.

To-day, the workers of this country will be celebrating the 1st May. Are they going to flock in their thousands to Hyde Park and just listen to their M.P.s or labour leaders speak from the coal-cart pulpits, uttering their usual stock phrases of workers' emancipation, and working class Freedom without accompanying them by action. This year perhaps will be added the fact that Mr. Lansbury thinks Hitler a great fellow; that he has had the honour of shaking hands with one murderer and hopes soon to go to Italy and shake hands with the other murderer, and remark what a good, and peaceful fellow he really is.

The workers of this country should resolve that this May 1st, should be the beginning of a thorough and not half-hearted campaign on behalf of our Spanish comrades. Let us take as an inspiration the Chicago Martyrs, and the Spanish Martyrs; the hundreds of thousands of Spaniards, the Durrutis, the Ascascos, who have so generously shed their blood in the name of workers' freedom and emancipation.

Italy and Germany have succumbed under the mailed fist of Fascism. Spain was to have suffered the same fate at the hands of International Fascism. The people resisted. They have checked the advance of fascism; in many parts they have defeated it. They have succeeded where others have failed because from the outset they were masters of their actions. They had not men of the Bevin type to consult for every step they took toward their Freedom. This is the lesson to the British workers. This is the lesson to the thousands of transport workers who are to-day threatening a strike. The successful outcome of their action depends on their own sense of responsibility.

Once they put power into the hands of their leaders their movement is doomed to failure.

Workers! Return to your homes this May Day resolved that your efforts on behalf of the Spanish workers' cause will be intensified, by voice of mouth, through our press and by direct action. That you will resolve to contribute to the best of your ability to the work of human solidarity that is being carried out for the relief of suffering and exposure of the civilian population to the murderous attacks of Franco's war planes and warships.

Finally, that you will not neglect the workers' struggle in your own country. For, by intensifying your activity for your Freedom as well as the Freedom of your fellow workers, you are fighting indirectly for the Spanish workers' cause. A strong, militant working class in this country could have avoided all this bloodshed in Spain. Your submission to the Bevin and Citrines of your Unions has brought about the betrayal of the Spanish workers.

Enough of these bourgeois leaders! The Unions need a rank and file of conscious, militant and convinced workers. Let this be your resolution this May Day, in the most momentous year of International workers' struggle against Capital and Oppression!

BUJARALOEZ

Bujaraloez is a large township of some 2,000 inhabitants. It possessed three churches and seven chapels. None were destroyed. The People's Committee has its headquarters in the former town hall. As at Fraja and countless other communes which we crossed after leaving Lerida, Libertarian Communism has been established and extends in fact over a larger area than that through which we have passed. Money has been abolished and the principles of Federalism have been applied to the entire social and economic life of the people.

New Villages

Before the revolution there were two syndicates, the U.G.T. and the C.N.T. At the time of the Fascist rising, the two organisations, which had concluded a pact of revolutionary alliance as a result of the Congress at Saragossa held by the C.N.T. in May 1936, declared a general strike and began expropriation. The Fascists, in their flight, seized three comrades whose fate is not yet known. The food cards are in red and black, the colours of the C.N.T.-F.A.I. Members of the delegation have been

THE FALL OF MALAGA Government's Criminal Negligence Responsible

Regarding the Fall of Malaga, reports appeared from various sources which did not altogether correspond with the true facts of the case. Some went so far as to actually lay the blame for its fall on the heads of the Anarchists. The Communist and Socialist organs of the World Press even did not hesitate to repeat these lies—lies which can only serve the interests of the Fascists and by no means those of the Anti-Fascist United Front in Spain.

We give below details on the Fall of Malaga which were reported by persons actually engaged in the fight and belonging to the various parties.

As far back as AUGUST last, the representative of the C.N.T., R. PERA, as well as GIRALT, the representative of the Popular Front and the U.G.T., reported that the Fascists were marching in the direction of Algeciras, and that it was imperative to strengthen the defensive forces.

A demand was made for 10,000 rifles, 16 machine guns, 3 cannons of 17.5 and 10.5. In OCTOBER a delegation of the Popular Front waited upon Largo CABALLERO, to present the necessity for strengthening the defence of Malaga and to ask for more arms. Caballero's reply was that not a single rifle, nor a single cartridge could be given for Malaga.

There were no anti-aircraft guns available, although the town was being daily attacked by machine guns from the air and from as low a height as 200 metres. Colonel LUIS ROMERO (a member of the Communist Party since 1931) communicated daily this fact, either by telephone or telegraphically, to the Government. Romero's reports were supported by the F.A.I. of Malaga.

asking in view of the fact that money has been abolished, how correspondence is franked, and how newspapers are received. The members of the People's Committee have replied that a free newspaper service is offered to all the libertarian communes and that in place of the stamp the mark of the two syndicalist organisations, U.G.T. and C.N.T., is affixed. In any case, in the cities where money circulates all organisations use the same method for franking postage.

The Responsibility of the U.G.T. and the C.N.T. in the Communal Life

A committee for exchanges with the outside world is also in operation and has been set up by the syndicalist organisations. Conversations are in progress so as to establish regional statistics and, later, to place the whole on a national basis, including the other libertarian communes.

Education

The School, before the revolution, consisted of four schoolmasters and schoolmistresses. The School now includes seven members for the instruc-

tion of the pupils. They live on the same basis as the rest of the population.

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Malaga Completely Neglected

The Socialist Government of Madrid had completely neglected Malaga. The War Commissar of Malaga took away even the last three cannons from the Federal Column, which cannons had been posted in the district of Estepona, and handed them over to the Marxist battalion MEJICO. Also some machine guns were withdrawn from the Federal Column of Estepona. The Comman-

tion of the pupils. They live on the same basis as the rest of the population.

The Communal Organisation of Work

All workers are arranged into groups; each day the group appoints a new delegate. In the morning each group calls at the Committee to obtain instructions as to the work to be done on that day. Each assembly of the people fixes the work to be done between any two meetings and the Committee divides it between the various groups or teams. In the evening the representative of each group (his power ceases after the day's work) gives an account of the work done and gives the name of the group representative for the next day, who will see to the next day's work. It is easy to see that it is the people who set themselves the task, and that all traces of authority have disappeared.

A Memory of the Sombre Past

Here is a picture of the existence of the rural populations before the revolution, a people who to-day have been reborn into a new existence. A

dant PELAYO was relieved of his command, because he was under suspicion to be in sympathy with the Confederates, i.e., the C.N.T. As a result of this, Estepona fell into the hands of the Fascists three days later, and thereby they moved 25 kilometres nearer to Malaga.

After this defeat of our forces, brought about by the withdrawal of arms, the Government relieved Colonel HERNANDEZ ARTECA of his post and replaced him by Colonel Villalba. The latter came from the Aragon Front, where he had by no means distinguished himself.

Between the fall of Estepona and the fall of Malaga there was an interval of twenty days. During that time, the Government at Valencia was daily adjured to send munitions, in view of the fact that the imminent fall of Malaga became daily more threatening.

The Scouting Service of the Confederates' Column "Juan Arcos," informed the Government that 32,000 Italians and Moroccans, equipped with 150 tanks and a proportionate amount of other war material, were advancing towards Malaga. Colonel CREMEN, too, supported this, and insisted on the demand addressed to the Government for immediate supply of arms.

Only Four Machine Guns

In the meantime, the Fascists continued their advance. Safarrraya was hard pressed by them. On February 5th a Conference was held of all the Anti-Fascist organisations and parties, where the dangerous situation was discussed. It was decided to put up resistance. They only had at their disposal 28,000 cartridges, a very inadequate quantity of hand grenades and 4 machine guns. They hoped for

continued overleaf

few landed proprietors possessed almost all the land and the agricultural equipment available. The peasant, who hired the land necessary for him to live together with his family, gave 50% of the crop instead of money. As he was too poor to own the equipment necessary to carry out the work in the fields as well as the harvest and the threshing of the corn, he was dependent on the owner who possessed all the equipment and thus he was obliged to give a further 10 or 15% of his harvest for the use of the equipment. Add to that the various contributions and taxes with which a capitalist society burdened him, (whatever such a society may have called itself) and we realise that a peasant was deprived of at least two-thirds of his work. As for the agricultural workers, they earned 4 pesetas 50 per day; they had to board and feed themselves on such a sum.

The Squires

A rich owner of land in Bujaraloez owned 14 threshing machines and earned with his son 25 pesetas each from the government in virtue of their work as agriculturalists!

SPAIN and the— WORLD

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THE FALL of MALAGA

(continued)

speedy reinforcements. Two days before the fall of this district, a battery of field guns and one anti-aircraft gun arrived, which, however, it was no longer possible to put in action. For fully five days this battery was lying at Almeria inactive. As to the reason for this inactivity, Colonel Bolivar, who was at the head of the Marxist Battalion at Motril, could give information, after the other Marxist Battalion "Mejico" had likewise suffered defeat. The case with these guns was similar to that which took place in Barcelona, where 11 tanks were stolen by the commander of the Karl Marx Barracks, which tanks did not therefore go to the Front, but which were designed to be used for party political purposes.

On Saturday, February 6th, another Conference took place at Headquarters, where the resistance was prepared. On Sunday, February 7th, the Syndicates of the C.N.T. proposed that resistance should be made at any price and carried out to the utmost. They wanted to gain a week's time, during which they hope to get reinforcements. There were no more cartridges available, and the defence had to be limited merely to the use of hand grenades.

When at 2 p.m. on Sunday a delegate of the Confederates' Column called at the Commander's Headquarters in order to report and to receive new instructions, the headquarters had already been abandoned. The Marxist War Commissar BOLIVAR, too, was no longer there. All had fled, without having notified it beforehand. This flight had as a consequence the death of thousands of women and children. Safarraya had fallen; the routes occupied by the Fascists, who mowed down with machine guns the people who were trying to escape. The Fascists then entered the town. While this entry was going on, the inhabitants still believed that it was our forces.

Militiamen Left Without Instructions

Malaga fell on Monday, February 8th, at noon. Since the Saturday previous to that, the militiamen were left without command and without instructions. The Fascists still expected to meet with resistance and remained half a day without further advance. But nothing happened. It was only at a distance of 70 kilometres that four days later the resistance was organised.

When the War Commissar BOLIVAR had left the town, a general irregular flight ensued towards Almeria. Colonel CREMEN declared before witnesses, who met him on the high road, that he had been betrayed. During the second half of January he had been promised 8,000 rifles and 200 machine guns, also cannons and 26 anti-aircraft guns. Yet none of these arms came to Malaga. CREMEN congratulated the Anarchist Column "JUAN ARCOS" on the desperate resistance it had offered while still in the mountains.

The C.N.T., with the remainder of the comrades who were ready to continue the fight, formed the "MACH-NOW" Battalion. This Battalion was refused rations, although it fought alongside of the Battalion "JUAN ARCOS" up to the very last. They succeeded, however, in carrying away to Almeria 800 rifles and 2 machine guns which the Marxist Column "MOTRIL" had left behind.

This is the story of the Fall of Malaga. It is not the Anarchists who are to be blamed for it, but the criminal negligence of the responsible Government which had refused up to the last moment to supply the necessary weapons for the defence of Malaga.

A. SOUCHY.

Anarchist Ideals from the Root

THE PERNICIOUS SPIRIT OF NATIONALISM

iii. The Anarchist Revival In The Wake of the Revolution of 1848.

The French Revolution perverted into Empire, and over twenty years of international war, intensified for a long time the cult of Authority and the belief in Totalism thinly veiled by the fiction of submitting to majority rule, a broken reed which cannot weather storms. The absolutism of despots and priestly fanatics now spread over parties, partisans and whole peoples; each party wished to rule, each politico-social conception must be universalised, each people was to become a centralized unit eager for supremacy and expansion. Technical progress was enormously accelerated in the early nineteenth century by inventions, short cuts of genuine value undoubtedly, but which are apt to be made use of, monopolised, unharmoniously, by unsocial elements, and in the present case they were appropriated by the profiteers of the factory system and by international finance which the wars had so much helped to make prosperous and which, by promoting technical advancement, had found the lever to lay hands on the resources of the whole globe. For the railroads and steamers, which might have made the nations know each other and fraternise, became so many new fetters to hold them in capitalist bondage. Science held up her head since the 'thirties and 'forties by masterful breaking of new ground and by burying a dead past, culminating in the 'sixties, the age of Darwin, but, with technical advances already pressed into the service of the bourgeoisie, many men of science were also impressed by bourgeois omnipotence, a backsliding of which Professor Huxley was a typical representative.

Under these conditions the vigorous and generous outbreak of popular discontent and revolt in a large part of Europe in 1848 was frustrated in its effects almost from the beginning. Instead of doing away with rotten institutions, most individuals and classes just wished to step into the place of the old and establish the largest possible expansion, centralisation and universalization of their credos, programs and parties. Time was wasted on the playgrounds of parliaments, whilst reaction recovered the lost ground by Bonapartist demagoguery and military conspiracies. Democratic and social purposes were mixed up with national unifications and even fratricidal wars between nationalities. Proudhon saw clearly and published memorable warnings throughout all these years. Anselme Bellegarrigue in the Toulouse "Civilisation" was almost the only one who, like Proudhon, fought against governmentalism root and branch. A few others, Déjagve and Coeurderoy stood up as anarchists a little later, after experiencing the bourgeois cruelty and witnessing the incompetence of authoritarian democrats and socialists.

Elisée Reclus expressed similar opinions in these years, whilst Bakunin, who was penetrated by complete libertarian socialism for years, probably since 1842, was absorbed in 1848-49 by vast plans of Slav federation and of breaking up the State units of Russia, Prussia, Austria-Hungary and Turkey, which made him in the social domain particularly eager to foment rebellions of the large peasant populations of Central and Eastern Europe.

DEMOCRATIC FAILURES AND DEFEATS.

The outstanding democratic failures and defeats, from London Chartism to the Bonapartist victory at the presidential election (December), and the open ruin of democracy in France on June 13th, 1849, the defeats in Germany, Austria, Hungary, Italy, the Polish districts, etc.—all this produced at last in not a few a certain insight into the fallacy both of parliamentary methods, which military treason will always defy—as but recently in Spain—and of governmentalism—dumb force which can only hurt, and an administrative frame, void of intellectual contents, which can only entangle human progress at great cost and obstruct progress.

Government was recognised as a permanent intellectual constipation, an incorrigible nuisance by men like Richard Wagner, Carl Vogt, Arnold Ruge, Carl Schury, Alexander Herzen, Lameunais, and others, and many moderates also looked for means to do away with a recognised failure. In France, where, no doubt, many still listened to Jacobin fanatics like Louis Blanc (*Plus de Girondins*, 1851), solutions of the problem were traced in many proposals of decentralisation and of direct legislation by the people, the latter being advocated by Ledru Rollin, Considerant and Rittinghausen, in well remembered publications.

MAY DAY DEMONSTRATION

The London Committee of the C.N.T.-F.A.I., the Freedom Group and the Anarcho-Syndicalist Union (London), will take part in the May Day demonstrations. Comrades and sympathisers are asked to meet on Victoria Embankment at 2.30 sharp.

Speakers at Hyde Park will include: inghausen, in well remembered publications.

Emma Goldman
Captain White
Mr. Metcalfe } just back
Mrs. Adams } from Spain.

The complete extinction of governmentalism was discussed in Bellegarrigue's review, *L'Anarchie Journal de l'Ordre* (Paris, April and May, 1850), and in Proudhon's *Idée générale de la* and in Proudhon's *Idée générale de la* (1851), a book of which a complete English translation was published in the 'twenties by the "Freedom Press" (London).

During the same years American individualist anarchism, rather aridly expanded in the economic writings of Josiah Warren, found a more plastic expression in the lectures and works of Stephen Pearl Andrews, who coined the term "the Sovereignty of the Individual," somewhat drastic words, open to misinterpretation, but the meaning of which was made clear in those years by a widespread literature. For years the best men in the States had seen through the evils of government—monetary greed, chattel slavery, corruption and humbug; men from Garrison and Emerson to Thoreau and Walt Whitman, and many had gathered in free communities, of which Trialville (*Modern Times*) on Long Island, from 1851 to the early 'sixties, was the best known aggregation of anarchists and sympathisers of that time who wished to live undisturbed by authority.

LIBERTARIAN CURRENT RE-KINDLED.

All these, Continental and American experiences, the breakdown of illusions on Chartism and sectarian socialism, recollection of the good old Godwin tradition and the poignant logics of powerful authors like Proudhon and some of the Americans, rekindled a libertarian current in London, and even a man void of receptivity (as he appears to me), Herbert Spencer, in the first edition of *Social Statics* (1850), reached a remarkable degree of anti-Statism. The early volumes of the weekly *Leader*, since March 30th, 1850, teem with articles and discussion on the works of Spencer, Andrews, Proudhon, and on "Modern Times" from 1851 to 1854. Anti-Statism was a live intellectual factor in those years, and left not a few traces in Dickens' works—e.g., in his scathing description of the "Circumlocution Office" in *Little Dorrit*. Indeed, oscillations between Bumbledom and Circumlocution form the essence of governing to this hour, whilst the people continue to lay life and death, war or peace, in the hands of men who, whatever be their origin, immediately become their masters.

FIRST STEP TOWARDS THE INTERNATIONAL.

Popular anti-Statist propaganda in these early 'fifties was weak and poor as a general effort, whilst, as observed already, a few men kept together, men of the Robert Owen and Brouterre O'Brien milieu, who had been in touch with Josiah Warren and other anarchists in America. William Pare, who sympathised with them, had been in close connection with W. Thompson. Ambrose Caston Cuddon may have been the most durable centre of the small group. He was in near touch with two publications, *The Working Man* and *The Cosmopolitan Review* in the early 'sixties, and was the spokesman of the workers who welcomed Bakunin when he arrived in London (January 10th, 1862), took part in the Welcome Committee of French delegates to the London Exhibition, 1862, the very first step towards the foundation of the International (1864), and was still active, aged 83, when B. R. Tucker visited him in 1874.

These hints on unforgotten, but as yet insufficiently explored facts, must suffice to show that socialism had another chance in these post-1848 years to recover that unsectarian completeness, combining solidarity and freedom, which it enjoyed in Godwin's conception. Living forces were not absent, as the disgust over Napoleonic despotism after the coup d'Etat of December 2nd, 1851, in France, the deep discontent with and distrust of the state in England at the time of the Crimean war, and other facts tend to prove.

Intellectually, Proudhon was in fullest efficiency; Pi y Margall brought all these libertarian considerations before the advanced public of Spain in *La Reacción y la Revolución* (1854), and laid the foundations of conscious libertarian thought in that country; Pisacane composed his famous Italian *Saggi storici-politici-militari*, published, although he was killed in open rebellion in Italy in 1857, in the following years, 1858 and 1860, which proposed federalist socialism as expressed by that simplest and clearest formula, "*Liberta ed Associazione*" (freedom and association)—the same basis upon which Bakunin began to work in Italy from 1864 onward. Pisacane's and Bakunin's near friend and comrade, Fanelli, in 1868-69, transmitted these ideas to the militant workers of Spain, many of whom were already penetrated by the ideas of Pi y Margall and of Proudhon.

Proudhon himself produced his finest works *On Justice in Revolution* and *Church* (1858) and *On the Federative Principle and the Necessity to Reconstruct the Party of Revolution* (1863), in addition to much other work in these years. Thus free, federalist, associative or mutualist forms of socialism were before the people in works of lasting worth by brilliant authors, in the 1850-1863 period, which was immediately followed

by Bakunin's renewed activities in 1863, by libertarian activities in Belgium, etc. I omit insistence upon the vehement anarchist authors of those years, Ernest Coeurderoy (*Yours d'Exil*) and Joseph Dejacque (the New York periodical *Le Libertaire*), as circumstances reduced the spread of their publications.

PERNICIOUS SPIRIT OF NATIONALISM.

What has prevented this ferment of free spirit from advancing in countries like England and France? Above all, I believe, the pernicious infiltration of nationalism, which in the later 'fifties was equally favoured in France by Napoleon III and the bourgeois republican patriots, in Italy by Mazzini and Garibaldi, by Cavour and Victor Emanuel, in Germany by the democratic and liberal patriots of 1848, and soon by Bismarck, elsewhere by the Poles and other Slavs, the Scandinavians, etc. This national patriotism welded together the peoples and the governments, the revolutionary patriots and the military reactionaries. Proudhon stood firm as a rock against this tendency from 1858 to 1863, and after him Bakunin, however fascinated by nationalism he was from 1846 to 1863, opposed the fatal current with might. Very few followed them. Proudhon was stoned, and even the International of 1864 became anxious;—not so much to unite the proletarians to break their chains, as to incite the Western Powers to make war on Russia, which had become Marx' pet project in the 'sixties. Proudhon had worked in vain, the chasm between war and revolution had vanished—all were ready to rush into fighting in the name of Garibaldi or Mazzini, Napoleon III or Bismarck. This led to the series of wars from 1859 to 1871, soon to permanent Balkan wars or unrest, to the scramble for colonies, to occupation or conquest from Morocco and Tunis to Libya, Egypt and most parts of the Turkish Empire—finally, inevitably, to the Great War of 1914-1918 and to the present dark situation.

WAR WARNINGS UNHEEDED.

Once more, as during the French Revolution and the First Empire, authoritarian socialism had been no protection against this—at all times in that period up to 1815, when Buonarroti offered his help to the Emperor Napoleon, in the 1859-71 period, when all socialists

were French, Italian, German patriots, and from 1914 to 1918, when all this happened over again—and to-morrow, when it may happen over again, kin has sided with kin, all the authoritarians have held together, as their differences are at the bottom only a question de boutique, rivalry as to who will get on the top and dominate and fleece the people. The libertarian warners, Godwin, Proudhon and Bakunin, Tolstol and Malatesta, and many others are unheeded.

In England, which in the 'fifties and 'sixties was least touched by the war clouds and wars, things might have been different if the advanced movements had consisted of men of real intellectual and moral value. But that was scarcely the case. Idealism became extinct, figuratively, with Robert Owen, and older and younger trade union leaders remained, eager to force their way into Parliament by an extension of the franchise or some other combination. The most ambitious of these were in search of a shiny ideology, and here Mazzini's *Dio e Popolo* (God and the People) were the right mark for them. Mazzini had the glory of a revolutionist, but was on the safe side in social matters, being the most noted anti-socialist. He passed as independent in religion, but had a very respectable God (Dio) of his own making. He may have passed as unscrupulous in politics, but he had a wonderful ethical code of his own. In short, he was a Saint and his followers might pass as little Saints and get into Parliament or office. A few years later the same men were dazzled (or made believe that they were) by the dash and presumption and, no doubt, the acumen and learning of Marx, and left him a free hand in the International, quite content, for some time, to shine in his reflected glory. Their great care was always not to appear as socialists before the trade unionists, their employers, and the public, their future electorate. In this milieu, then, in the 'sixties and 'seventies, socialism was only the concern of a few rugged old men, known as "old Chartists, O'Briennites, Owenites," etc., the brothers Murray, Townsend, Dan Chatterton and others. The direct anarchist tradition may have died with Cuddon, soon after 1874, for Lothrop Withington, who, a few years later, first came over from New England, found him no longer alive, as far as I know, and in the 'eighties he was quite forgotten or never referred to in London.

Whose fault was it then? Not that of the idea, but that of the fatal saturation of most socialists with authority, which makes them unable ever to achieve true and attractive social realisations and welds them together with that past which their real believers desire and hope to overcome.

Next we shall consider the renewed libertarian developments in England as represented by men like Joseph Lane William Morris, Peter Kropotkin, and their comrades.

March 24th, 1937.

X.X.X.

OUR ORPHANS' FUND

Havelock Ellis Appeals for Support

I do not know any country where the children, and I include those of all classes, are nicer and of better disposition than in Spain. This is not an opinion in which I am alone. It is shared by many who have lived much in Spain and mixed with the people. So that in doing what we can to help the children of Spain, under the tragic circumstances of today, we may feel a satisfaction that is more than merely philanthropic.

According to a story which a foreigner is said to have told in the presence of several Spaniards, Adam once revisited the earth. He found England, France, Germany all very strange and bewildering. But when he reached Spain he heaved a sigh of relief. With a smile he remarked: "Here at all events things have changed very little since my time." The Spaniards were not amused. But at last one broke the awkward silence: "Yes, and he was right; Spain is still a Paradise."

That story sadly dates from years back. But if today anything is left in Spain to stand for Paradise it will be the Children.

Havelock Ellis.

At last we are able to announce that we have adopted, on your behalf, 10 little Spanish Orphans. This means a great responsibility for us, but we are confident that our Comrades who read these lines will take their share of the responsibility.

To those who have not yet sent their donation, we appeal to them to do so at the earliest possible occasion.

To those Comrades who have already generously contributed to the Fund, we ask you to continue sending us all you can spare. To keep 10 orphans until the end of the year we shall need at least £150. As yet we have not £40. Make a special effort now without further delay! Make it possible for us to announce that through your efforts and small sacrifices, we will be able to adopt 20 children!

Fill up the form now and post to "SPAIN and the WORLD," 207, Goswell Road, London, E.C.1, to which address all moneys, clothes and foodstuffs should be sent.

To "SPAIN and the WORLD". No. _____
SPANISH ORPHANS' FUND
Please find enclosed P.O. value.....for the
CHEQUE "SPAIN and the WORLD" fund in aid of the Spanish
orphans under our care. I shall do my best to send a
regular contribution of.....every week
month
Name
Address

CATALONIA, BANNER-BEARER OF THE REVOLUTION

Not only has Catalonia Achieved a New Social Order; Valuable Help has been sent to Madrid; Armed Forces, Ammunition and Foodstuffs to the Aragon Front; Thousands of Refugees from Madrid, Malaga, San Sebastian etc., Cared for; Help Demanded and Promised for the Heroic Basques. Catalonia Answers her Left Press Critics, by Examples of Abnegation and Sacrifice.

The Creation of a New Industry "MARATHON MOTORS"

Those who have travelled in Spain, must have certainly noticed the excellent cars which are on the roads. But all these cars, even the cheaper ones, and all the lorries, bear foreign names. Though apparently cars made in Spain, such as Buick, Oldsmobile, Cadillac, Hispano Suiza, Ford, etc., it was only a blind. Hispano Suiza, Ford and General Motors had only established factories for the assembling of cars; and all material arrived from abroad in parts—thus in July last, the automobile industry in Spain consisted only of factories for assembling and repair.

It might have been considered unreasonable to try and modify the state of things, to try and create a National Motor Industry in Spain whilst the civil war was being waged; and yet the workers of the old General Motors, in the enthusiasm and under the pressure of urgent necessities, have dared to undertake such a task; and whilst on the Ramblas and at the Paseo de Gracia elegant foreign cars are to be seen today, plastered with initials of parties and workers' organisations, far from the centre of the city the engineers and workers of the "Collectivised Marathon of Iberia," a new name given to the American enterprise, are putting into operation the new industry which will henceforth feed the Spanish motor market.

The Revolution has freed Spanish Industry

"What we have done"—stated Comrade Herresos, (Propaganda Delegate of the factory),—"has always been thought impossible by the previous bosses of Spanish Industry. And in fact, it was impossible for them, as foreign competition made the creation of a National Industry out of the question. Imports were practically free from tariffs, and one could not dream of establishing a system of tariffs, which would have injured powerful interests. The collectivity

of workers and technicians of the General Motors is about to create a national industry, and on foundations which assure it a certain future."

On July 19th, the directors of General Motors closed the factory and left. But on the 25th when calm had once more been established in Barcelona the workers and technicians returned.

"We felt even more in our right in occupying the factory, as in their hurry to leave, the directors had omitted to settle up debts amounting to 85,000 pesetas." All the workers were ready to begin work, save a few foreign technicians who had been receiving high salaries, but whose presence was far from being indispensable. The factory began its work under a collectivised regime, managed by a liaison committee composed of five representatives from each of the syndicated organisations (C.N.T. and U.G.T.), among which complete unanimity exists. Salaries were fixed. Manual workers received 127 pesetas a week and technicians 750 a month (whereas before they received 1,800).

But it was impossible to continue this work indefinitely. From England, America and Germany the supply of parts for assembling ceased. Thus, once the stocks had been exhausted there would be no more assembly of new cars, and work would have been limited to single repairs and renovation. The committee, however, had foreseen these complications, and it was then that the project of a National Motor Concern was envisaged.

The technical problems that arose were complex. The creation of a National Motor necessitated the manufacture of every part from the engine to the chassis. It was out of the question to construct a large factory for this purpose, owing to the heavy costs for machinery. Further, such a scheme would have taken too long to put into operation. It was there-

fore decided to distribute various parts amongst the already existing workshops and factories. The central factory limits itself to supplying the various supplies with all the technical advice needed; drawings, sizes, technical data concerning the properties of the metal, etc.; checking the quality of the work turned out, and attending to the assembling of the parts.

Organisation of Production

Sixty-nine workshops, the greater part collectivised, and some under workers' control, are working in this new industry at the moment.

As soon as one part has been checked and passed, work is begun on the manufacture of the quantity needed for 1,000 lorries, which is an order to be delivered by the end of June. The assembly will not be carried out at Barcelona where the installation is insufficient and demands, besides, too great a human effort. Two factories will be constructed at Pueblo Nuevo, where work will be executed on the travelling belt system, under modern conditions and guided by the principle of maximum result with the least effort.

The output at the beginning of April will be 20 lorries a day; the amount which was produced under the capitalist system; but the workers hope shortly to be able to double the production and thus be in a position to meet the demands of the country.

The value of the creation of a National lorry is great. Firstly, it has created work for tens of thousands of men; secondly, it is making use of the great mineral wealth of the country, and finally, it has made Catalonia independent of the whims of the Foreign capitalists who, by the key positions they held in that industry, could, without a moment's notice, paralyse the transport system of a whole country.

(Notes taken from an article by Yves Levy)



C.N.T.-F.A.I. Building in Barcelona, former offices of the Arch-Capitalist Cambò.

CATALONIA'S ART TREASURES

The Work of Salvage: Only 5 Per Cent Lost

SYSTEMATIC COLLECTIONS ORGANISED

One can say that the work of salvage of the archives, libraries and works of art, and the first reactions of July 19th took place simultaneously. Groups of volunteers, or isolated enthusiastic amateurs heroically strove in a self sacrificing manner to save the art treasures accumulated in museums, Churches and private houses, from the flames and the destructive flail of war.

All this valuable work was soon coordinated by the expert staff of the Museums, Libraries and Archives; notices were affixed on prominent monuments with requests to preserve that which the Revolution had made the property of the people. Lists of art treasures and monuments to be

preserved were communicated to the various Committees which had been formed throughout Catalonia. Their answer was to send all salvaged treasures to the "Commission of Artistic Treasure." Thus begun the first collecting together of jewels, paintings, sculptures, books and documents. Commissariats of Archaeological Museums, or Art Museums, of Libraries and Archives were formed, delegates were named, and to the departmental delegates and civilians working for the preservation of art treasures were issued identification cards, which allowed them to travel freely in Catalonia, listing and photographing and where necessary appealing for help from the Committees and militia.

By a special decree of the Generalitat all private collections in Barcelona were stored in the Art Museum of Catalonia. This was carried out with perfect order and the necessary inventory made in ten days, commencing on July 20th.

It was in this manner, little by little that the work of enthusiastic anonymous citizens was spread. The sight of destruction created a passionate desire for conservation. Everything which was beautiful, exotic, or delicate was considered as an art object and for that reason worthy of the people's museum.

Once calm reigned it was possible to inspect the burnt buildings. Thus was it possible to salvage in part, the artistic treasures of the Churches of "La Mercè," "Pi," "Sant Cugat," "Santa Agna" and others. The municipal brigades barricaded all the windows and doors to prevent the entry of unknown people and profiteers.

Owing to limited space we cannot go into great detail as to the work carried out by the art experts in the great cathedral of Barcelona (which remained unscathed), or in the Churches of "Sant Just," "Sant Felip," "Sant Sever" and the famous convent of "Peviclkles," where the paintings of Ferrer Bassa were kept.

We think it useful, however, to attempt to compare the balance of art treasures salvaged with the number destroyed. The figures provided are interesting, more so when the columns of our Press are filled with letters from people like the Duke of Alca who put themselves out to prove that the "Reds" are vandals and irresponsible scourges on this earth, unfit to appreciate the beauty of art.

continued overleaf

REVOLUTIONARY ECONOMY

Collectivisation Progresses

VALLFOGONA DE BALAGUER (Lerida)

In the village of Vallfogona de Balaguer, all the efforts made by the libertarian comrades are directed towards the attainment of the greatest possible understanding, of the real problem of the land worker in the revolution: the collectivisation of the land.

The collectivity in this village was constituted in the middle of November, collectivising 300 jornales of land belonging to the bourgeoisie. It is made up of 53 peasant families, who have felt their responsibility, and have sided with the revolution. They possess the machinery for the cultivation of the land they are working. Besides this, they have a co-operative for the collectivity, in which they possess all kinds of food. Should any kind of food be lacking, the collectivity pays in coin (metalico) so that the families may provide themselves with necessities. There can be no doubt that the collectivity is making great progress towards its complete independence and emancipation.

PALAFRUGELL

The collectivisation of land workers was carried out in a most spontaneous manner, the peasants voluntarily giving up to the collectivity land which used to belong to them. They live happily together, while waiting for the results of the new harvest.

These comrade land workers, affiliated to the C.N.T. practise mutual aid to perfection, and have assigned themselves a very small weekly sum of money to acquire those few necessities of life which they cannot

obtain by the produce of the land or through the interchange of products.

VILLANUEVA Y GELTRU

There are about 250 peasants in this locality, their syndicate being divided into four sections: partners, day-labourers, tenants, and small proprietors.

They have created an agricultural collectivity, having machinery at its disposal: four tractors, a threshing machine, and four reaping machines; besides this, they possess fifteen animals for ploughing, with a corresponding number of ploughs. Forty-four estates which originally belonged to fascist owners, have been requisitioned for the collectivity. We should note here that some small proprietors have given up their lands to the collectivity. There are no fixed working hours, and they have in mind interesting projects on the way to being carried into practice, one of which is to create a farm so as to intensify chicken farming and cattle breeding.

PINA DE EBRO

Under the banner of Comunismo Libertario, Pina is making rapid progress in social, hygienic and cultural matters.

The work of harvesting and sowing being at an end, the workers have set about the task of constructive work, such as laundries, roads, fountains and the preservation of cart tracks and roads. This year the grain harvest (wheat), despite the circumstances, has been greater than during the previous year. The maize harvest, and the vegetables and fruits have not been as good, due to the fact that part of the territory is in rebel territory.

Help Must Be Given To The Basques

We must give thought to the Basques.

The circumstances of the War have placed these brothers in the front ranks of the struggle for liberty, and it is the duty of all anti-Fascists to find a way of helping this noble Basque race which the Fascist hordes wish to subjugate to an imperialist tyranny.

We anarchists are not people who have received the kindest treatment from the Basque authorities. Setting aside the misunderstandings which time will clear up, their attitude towards our comrades has been one of extreme dogmatism. Nevertheless it is our duty, for the very reason that we think as we do, to show the Basques our typical generosity, for not in vain do we at this moment defend the same cause. Catalonia, which has a racial sentiment similar to that of the Basques, must show in these days of anxiety for our Basque comrades, that its solidarity is not only a rhetorical sentiment, but something more practical and substantial.

We must see to it, then, that men and arms should leave here to go to defend the Basque territory, which is in danger. Let that which has been done for Madrid, be done with ever-increasing interest for the Basque provinces, if necessary. As far as the C.N.T. is concerned, we make a vow that we shall help the Basques with the greatest enthusiasm, with all our efforts, for we know the importance of their cause in the struggle undertaken.

Meanwhile, Comrades, forward! That you may be the example for future days! That Mola and Franco bite the dust of our heroic land to-day, as did yesterday Zumalacarrégi, Cabrera and other Carlist leaders!

(Solidaridad Obrera, Barcelona.)

HELP FOR MADRID

Gifts Of Foodstuffs From Catalonia

Throughout Catalonia and elsewhere the work of helping the Spanish capital continues.

The large towns and the smallest villages have replied with spontaneous enthusiasm to the appeal of the Committee. Every day one can find in the Catalan Press long lists of the despatch of all sorts of supplies destined for the heroic population of Madrid.

We reveal today:—

The inhabitants of the town of Cambril have sent 73 cases of fish, product of a day's fishing, of an approximate value of 19,000 pesetas, and on March 24th a 3-ton wagon load of various foodstuffs.

The free youth of Cuevas de Almanzora sent two fowls, ten and a half dozen eggs, three bottles of cognac, a hectolitre of aniseed-cordial, 25 kilos of sausages, 12 kilos of pork.

Sallent has just sent to Madrid, 4,000 kilos of potatoes, 1,800 kilos of flour, 2,570 kilos of rice, 537 kilos of pork, 300 kilos of haricot beans, 350 kilos of sugar, 1,500 tins of condensed milk, 100 kilos of chocolate, 200 kilos of assorted preserves, 200 kilos of oranges, and 100 kilos of artichokes.

Lecina de Cinca, a village of less than 600 inhabitants, in the province of Huesca, has sent 40,000 kilos of corn, 80 sheep, 600 kilos of ham, 200 kilos of salt pork, 4 kilos of preserved meats and 60 kilos of preserves.

Alcolea de Cinca: 68 quarters of pork, 19 cases of preserves, 13 sheep, 440 kilos of haricot beans.

Osso de Cinca: 137 quarters of pork, 23 cases of preserves.

Decimada de Cinca: Four wagon loads of flour, 80 sheep, 150 dozen eggs.

Belveo de Cinca: 90 sheep.

Ontinera: 60 sheep.

Albalate de Cinca: 50 sheep.
Alcolea de Cinca: 3,288 kilos of potatoes, 334 kilos of haricot beans, 680 eggs, 20 kilos of pork.

CATALONIA'S ART TREASURES

—continued

FINAL BALANCE SHEET (DECEMBER, 1936)

Most people undoubtedly believe that the destruction of art treasures attains fantastic proportions and that Catalonia has sacrificed at the altar of the Revolution a high percentage of objects of artistic value which the centuries had bequeathed her.

This was the impression of those very people who began the work of making statistics of salvaged treasures. But in the end they noted with satisfaction that, though large numbers and pieces of great value have been lost, it is much less than would at first have seemed possible. In addition, however, one must take into account the fact that through the Revolution many hidden and unknown masterpieces have been discovered.

The following schematic statistics clearly show that the conservation of the medieval art inheritance of Catalonia has been, despite the apparent immensity of destruction, practically complete.

Interior art objects (sculpture, paintings, jewellery, tapestries, embroidery work, etc. . .) were distributed in the following proportions:—

Museums possessed 50%. All was preserved. Cathedrals possessed 30%. All preserved. Private collections possessed 5%. All preserved. Parish and Rural Churches possessed 15%. One third was destroyed.

These figures, which show a loss of 5% of Catalonia's treasures known up to the 19th July, 1936, can be verified by the copious lists issued by the Generalitat and published in magazine form.

These figures also show to what extent the campaign of defamation adopted by the Yellow Press of the world, was false and underhand. The people of Catalonia have once more shown that in the heart of the Revolution, when all attention is turned towards the destruction of International Fascism, they do not lose their aesthetic sense of beauty and artistry.

To the sceptical, to those who have even accused Catalonia of having sold its art treasures to Moscow in exchange for arms and ammunition, the amazing exhibition of Medieval Catalan art held at the Musée Du Jeu de Paume in Paris, should prove their claims as empty as their ideas and ideals.

The Catalan people, nay the whole Spanish people, proudly admire the work of their race through the centuries. The unjustified and unbiassed calumnies of the reactionary Press reflects only the lack of thought of their readers.

The Catalan Committee of Marseilles has sent by the cargo boat, "Ciudad de Reus," several cases of clothing and groceries.

The Committee of Defence of the Spanish Anti-fascist Revolution has sent the following:

1st March: 3,350 kilos of potatoes and 45 kilos of sugar.

5th March: 600 kilos of potatoes, 500 kilos of dwarf peas, 500 kilos of haricot beans, 1,000 kilos of sugar.

9th March: 1,500 kilos of sugar, 50 cases of condensed milk.

12th March: 750 kilos of potatoes, 1,500 kilos of sugar, 1,500 kilos of dwarf peas and 20 cases of condensed milk.

15th March: 3,100 kilos of potatoes, one sack of haricot beans.

19th March: 2,700 kilos of potatoes, 400 kilos of cod fish, 50 kilos of haricot beans, 50 kilos peas.

21st March: 500 kilos of cod fish, 1,000 kilos of dwarf peas, 1,000 kilos of sugar, 20 boxes of condensed milk.

23rd March: 500 kilos of potatoes, 200 kilos of cod fish, 1,000 kilos of sugar, 500 kilos of haricot beans, 500 kilos of dwarf peas, 10 cases of condensed milk.

We have given this long detailed list not as an indication of quantity, but to show how all the people of Catalonia feel and wish to contribute to the best of their ability, to the support of Madrid.

The traditional "isolation" of Catalonia from the rest of Spain, which has been the subject of so many of W.N.E.'s articles in the *Daily Herald*, has since July 19th, been proved to be non-existent.

The people of Catalonia, to the man, are "behind" Madrid.

ITALIANS OPPOSE MUSSOLINI'S PLEA

Throughout Italy the common people are opposing, sometimes secretly, sometimes openly, the Duce's invasion of Spain. From Liguria comes the news that Italian sailors brought there to embark on the steamship "Atalanta" for "an unknown destination" (in Italy and Germany everyone now realises that these words mean "Spain") at first firmly refused to sail. They were finally forced to do so by the carabinieri. In Genoa two sailors of the "Genarchia" refused to continue with the ship to Majorca, saying they did not want to run the risks of war. Other examples could be given to show the feelings of the sailors on the subject of the Italian invasion of Spain.

From Turin we learn that of the 3rd regiment of the famous Bersaglieri only fifty men enrolled for Spain. One of these refused to leave when it dawned upon him that they were bound for Spain.

In Naples, in the Brand barracks a Captain of artillery was ordered by his colonel to get ready to leave for Spain. He protested that he had made no application for this service, and that he was willing to fight and die in the defence of his country, but not to go to Spain. Twenty-four hours later his rank of captain was taken from him.

WITH FRANCO'S ARMY

Diary Of An Italian Fascist Volunteer

DAILY EXECUTIONS : ANTAGONISM BETWEEN CARLISTS AND MONARCHISTS

"Mundo Obrero" publishes the contents of the diary found on the body of an Italian commander killed on the Guadalajara front. This document is significant of the state of mind which exists among the Italian Fascist troops.

The diary, whose cover bears the title "Agenda 1937" begins on January 1st with this note:

"I am going to Naples to embark for Spain as a volunteer."

But once arrived at Naples the deception begins. In fact, the Commander belongs to the militia and, as all officers in the militia who have not reached this position through military study, as is the case with professional soldiers, but through terrorism on the working class, he despises all army officers. And indignation urges him to write in his diary: "I am obliged to take orders from a colonel of the royal army! Me, blackshirt since 1920!" The fact is that intervention in Spain, is war, and the General Staff does not allow officers of the militia to take command away from them.

The Commander writes on January 3rd: "I have presented myself this morning at the O.M.S. base (Oltre Mare Spagna—Overseas Spain). I was thrust into the army. If I had known that, I would not have turned up." The following day he adds: "The militia officers are not given any special consideration by those of the Royal army. It is always the same business!"

But once aboard, he soon forgets his rancour and recalls to mind the "romantic" period of the "squadristo," or the "punitive expeditions" carried out by the Fascists in the villages, murdering the militant workers and suppressing with terrorism working class organisations. He writes: "Shrouded in silence, the 'pirates of the ideal' leave behind their country for the most wonderful and most sacred ideal." That man certainly found the right word to describe himself and his co-nationals: "pirates." But their "adventure" has nothing in common with any ideal. This entry is dated 7th January. The same day he adds: "The commander of the Naples division transmits to us the congratulations of the Prince. The 'Calabria' without flag or name, slowly disappears from our land." The following day he states that "We are being escorted by the 'Montecuccoli' which is following us and protecting us like a father." The 9th January: "Every day on our guard owing to the boats which continually meet us and demand to know our identity. The 'Montecuccoli, answers for us. Boredom and nostalgia. . ."

At last he arrives in Seville. He has a poor opinion of the military valour of Franco's soldiers, as on January 6th, he had already entered the following remarks in his diary: "From the rumours that are going about the way the war in Spain is being conducted, there certainly is cause for laughter. At mid-day on Saturday hostilities cease until the following Monday. All ask for permits. When it rains the Spaniards carry umbrellas. . ."

The Commander's irony disappeared before tragic conditions. It just happened to be on a Sunday, that the Republican troops showed on the Guadalajara that they had a different system of warfare to that of the Franco camp.

£90 DEFICIT!

COMRADES! Send your Donations to our "SOLIDARITY FUND" now, so that we may continue our work on behalf of our Spanish Comrades.

SUPPORT

SPAIN and the WORLD by sending your subscription.
13 issues 2/6 (U.S.A. 60c.)
26 " 4/6 (" 1.00\$).

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323,000 REFUGEES

From Madrid have come 90,000 men, women and children; from Malaga 54,000; from Almeria 28,000; from Extremadura and Castille 20,000, and from Irun and San Sebastian 20,000.

Catalonia is caring for 323,000 refugees, besides feeding her own population; she is also sending foodstuffs, arms and men to the Madrid and Aragon fronts. Catalonia is the focus of the Revolution.

Tributes To A Heroic City

GESTURES FROM CATALONIA

At the moment all the railway workers of Catalonia, ever conscious of the necessity of the accomplishment of their duty; who know how to react as one man in present day circumstances, are arranging the organisation of a convoy of foodstuffs which will be sent to Madrid as worthy homage to the heroic fortitude of that capital. In this work not only will they make their personal contribution, but will also put at the disposal of the people their source of livelihood, the railway, so that it may be utilised in a disinterested manner for the dispatch of foodstuffs to that heroic city. The railway workers welcome this opportunity, to receive at the consignment depot of the "Railway commission pro convoy of foodstuffs for Madrid" all parcels of foodstuffs. These, in conjunction with those we acquire ourselves, will make up that magnificent convoy, which will be yet another of the numerous tributes which Catalonia has paid to that heroic city, the pride of all true anti-fascists.

The railway workers, as all citizens, have contributed to all subscriptions and collections on behalf of Madrid. In spite of this, desirous of surpassing themselves in this sacrifice, they have organised this new remittance of goods, by their own initiative and in a business-like way, which they are putting into practice. . .

(Extract from a statement issued by the *Commission Ferroviaria Pro Convoy de Viveres a Madrid*.)

MASS MEETING ON BEHALF OF MADRID

Organized by the Syndicate for Industry, Health and Social Assistance and Hygiene, a mass meeting will be held to-day, Sunday, at 10 a.m., in the Gran Price Hall.

(Notice in *Solidaridad Obrera*.)

LARGE SOCIAL IN AID OF MADRID

Organized by Libertarian Youth of Las Cortes, in company with the S.U.E.P., to be held in the Foc Nou Cinema, Avenida de la Generalitat at 10 a.m.

(Notice in *Solidaridad Obrera*.)

100,000 TONS OF FOODSTUFFS FOR MADRID

Publicity has never been one of our habits. We have always shown our intense solidarity without making much noise and much fuss. In this very spirit to-day we announce that, without blowing our trumpet, the local Federation of the Sindicatos Unicos of Barcelona, has organized the dispatch of about 100,000 tons of foodstuffs for Madrid, which will be sent by train and on lorries.

We invite all the workers of Catalonia to second the worthy gesture of their comrades of Barcelona. Help for Madrid is not a matter of an hour or of a week's duration; it must be continuous.

(*Journal de Barcelona*, 11th March, 1937.)

Pamphlets On Anarchism

- KROPOTKIN—Anarchist Communism, 3d.
" Wage System, 1d.
" Place of Anarchism in Socialistic Evolution, 2d.
" Revolutionary Government, 2d.
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BARRETT—Objections to Anarchism, 2d.
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Postage ½d. each pamphlet.

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Condition of the troops eight days after leaving Italy

On the 15th January, the diarist took command of his battalion which was, actually, already in full rout, according to his entry: "I have taken command of my battalion. I spoke to the men to the officers and under-officers. . . We shall see. . . It is no joking matter being here. Repatriation and imprisonment in the fortresses are the order of the day." Such are the conditions prevailing amongst the troops a week after leaving Naples!

Two days later, the commander describes the reception awaiting the troops in the rearguard: "Enter into the town accompanied by the pealing of bells. The town is full of gaiety; Italian flags are everywhere to be seen. It is pouring with rain. At one o'clock, a banquet. Where? In the hospital! It is unbelievable! Sixty covers; a variety of speeches, toasts to Italy, to the Duce and Fascism. All eat and drink and no one thinks of the war. . ."

The 18th January, he depicts with the deepest contempt the servile way in which the Spanish fascists fete the Italian invaders; "they line up for the privilege of drinking to their health" for—he writes—"in Spain the more one drinks to the health of someone, the more does one honour him. And, furthermore, the state of being quite drunk is the highest degree of praise that one can bestow on a person who has the opportunity of seeing someone get drunk in your honour." But he adds further interesting remarks with regard to the attitude of the different reactionary tendencies in the Franco camp:

"The antagonism which exists between the traditionalists and the Carlists on one side and the Monarchists and Phalangists is so clear cut that I am convinced that at the end of the war they will fight amongst themselves still in the name of Spain."

Daily Executions

On the 24th January, he remarked: "As long as we eat and drink all goes well. When one poor devil is shot per day, things go even better! Amongst my officers, there are a few who do not get on very well. There are besides, some very young and inexperienced ones and they do not hide their contempt for the people who associate with us." That they should despise those people, who, to maintain their privileges, have betrayed their country, and appealed for foreign aid, is comprehensible. But with what nonchalance does the diarist describe the daily executions, just like a pastime to be indulged in after eating and drinking! The reasons for these executions is explained in an entry on the 26th January, which not only reveals the barbarity of the rebels, but also the hatred which inflames them against the foreign invaders. One reads: "Yesterday the first incident since our arrival here occurred at Fregenal de la Sierra. A group of young idiots were crying: Down with Italy! Long live France and Russia! Two of our volunteers wanted to shoot them on the spot. But our better instincts prompted us. They were arrested and I was called. I ordered them to be handed over to the lieutenant of the civil guard, Silveira, my good friend, who would decide their fate. Some were perhaps shot. It was simple and expedient. We personally would have given them a purge and then a good beating (passage au tabac)." The thirst for murder of the Spanish fascists seems excessive even to the blackshirts of 1920.

ORPHANS FUND

1st List (22nd March—26th April).
Stroud: Anon, £1; Plymouth: Libertarian Group, 5/6; London, W.I: D.A., 5/-; London, W.I: L.B., 5/-; London, S.E.25: J. Dobson, 5/-; London, N.W.8: R. S. Carr, 5/-; Berks: Bolton King, £1; Bristol: J. Richfield, 10/-; Scotland: S. Marletta, 12/-; Belfast: Harry Compton, 2/6; Barnet: T. Bard, 10/-; Southampton: A.M.B., £1; London: Trustees of the Horton S.O.S., £13 15s. 10d.; London: W., 10d.; London: Dr. Havelock Ellis, 10/-; Stroud: P. Parsons, 1/6; E. Archer, 10/-; Lilian Wolfe, £1; T.H.K., 4/-; London, W.I: C.R., £1; London, W.C.1: A Friend, £10; London, N.W.: Leach, 1/-; Glasgow: Glasgow Engineering Union, 10/-; Wrexham: D. E. George, 5/-; Pitts-burgh, U.S.A.: F. Menaicci (7 dollars), £1 8s. 7d.; London, W.I: C.R., 5/-; l'Animale, 1/-.

Total: £35 9s. 11d.