

SPAIN AND THE WORLD

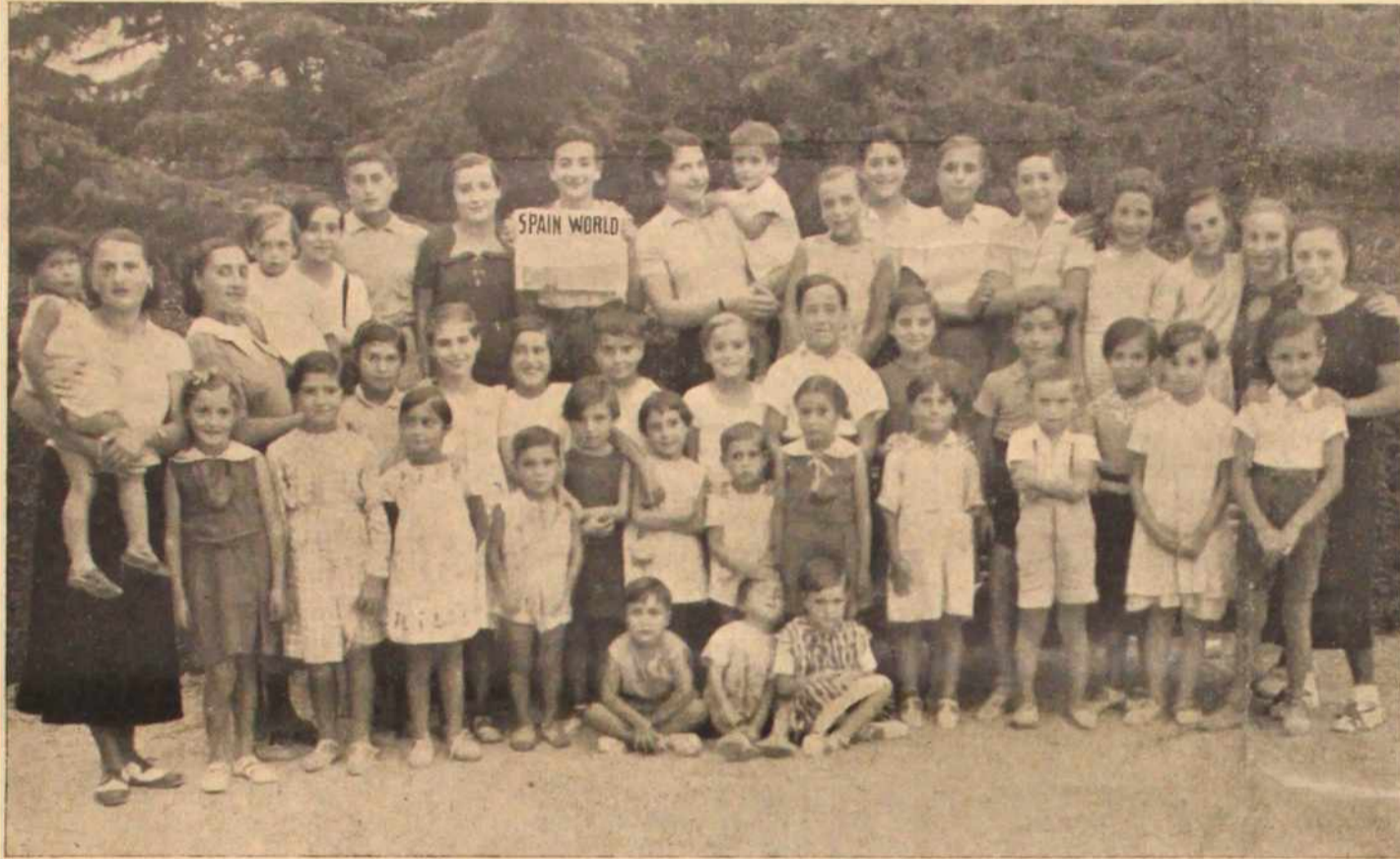
He who obliges me to starve
has not the right to live in
peace.

—MONTESQUIEU

Vol. I. No. 20.

22nd SEPTEMBER, 1937.

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They have been saved from Franco's warplanes.
Twenty of these children depend on your continued solidarity.

The Massacre Of The Civilian Population Of Madrid

From the official data available and from special sources the following is the resumé of aerial attacks and enemy artillery bombardments which Madrid has suffered, besides the approximate number of victims killed as a result of these bombardments. These figures are approximate because no data is available of the sanguinary bombardment of Tetuan and Puente de Vallecas or of the numerous people who did not receive assistance actually in centres where there was medical aid.

Further, the number of projectiles which fell in the suburbs of Madrid, were not reckoned for in the official statistics, because they failed to explode. Neither were projectiles which fell in the so-called war zones, suburbs enclosed by a civilian neighbourhood, included. One can obtain an idea as to the intensity of the bombardment when one considers that in one day alone more than sixty projectiles struck the National Palace which was situated in this war zone.

On the 6th August 1936 all lights were extinguished in Madrid at 10 p.m. for the first time during tests. The following day the black out was retarded by one hour and this precaution was done away with on the 9th.

During this month, the rebel aviation flew overhead often. On the 23rd, an enemy aeroplane discharged its load of bombs on the aerodrome at Getafe. This is repeated on the 27th, besides manifestoes on Cuatio Caminos and Tetuan. The following day a Junker discharged its load near the Ministry of War and the North Station. The balance for August was one dead and four wounded. Gas standards were no longer lighted and only roads which had electric lamp standards were illuminated at night. Thus it was easy to extinguish all street lights in case of danger. All was quiet during September and the first half of October.

The 27th October the enemy bombed the district of Usera and the 30th saw the most cruel bombardment of all.

Towards evening an aeroplane, undoubtedly flying at a great height as its arrival was not noticed, suddenly crossed Madrid discharging 12 bombs, which fell for the most part made victims of the civilians who were lining up outside shops. The victims of the terrible bombardment were 160 killed and 279 wounded. During November, the tri-motors were already flying in squadrons of three and which the good humour of the Madrilians baptized "the three widows" and the heavy artillery shared the work of destroying Madrid.

The first projectiles hit Madrid on the 6th, and the 21 shells fired killed one person and wounded 21.

On the 10th aeroplanes returned and attacked the Anguelles district, destroying the editorial offices of Fernando and Goya station.

On the 14th they bombarded the "Glorietta di Avocha" leaving open in certain parts The Underground station, 50 dead.

The artillery also fired shells on various districts. Total dead in one day were 62, and 102 wounded.

On the 17th Mussolini's and Hitler's machines bombed the Prado Museum and the vicinity, the rest of their shells landed on the San Michele market. The artillery fired 50 shots. 11 dead and 194 wounded.

The following night was the most tragic experienced by Madrid. Numerous aeroplanes bombed the centre of the town, and in many districts one could see the enormous damage done by incendiary bombs. The entrance to the Underground station, the Hotel Savora, the novitiate of the brothers of Charity, the streets of Corredera, Ballesta Valverde, Pez, Caballero de Gracia, etc.

In the cellars of a printing house in Via del Marques de Santa Ana, 150 people were buried alive, the majority were killed.

The tragic balance of the month of November was about 300 dead, and 1,500 wounded.

On December 2nd the airplanes returned—14 dead and 53 wounded. On the 4th a bomb fell on the ex-

president Largo Caballero's former house. Total dead — 13 and 53 wounded and about fifty bombs.

In the same month on the 16th the aviation bombarded the Tetuan de las Victorias, this was done in a most cruel fashion, since fleeing people were pursued and persecuted across the fields by the fire of machine guns.

Cannons fired numerous shells. In the smaller part of the city only 52 were killed and 300 wounded.

The year 1937 began with the firing of 12 shells coinciding with the twelve strokes of the Houses of Parliament's clock.

Tetuan de las Victorias was once again bombarded on the 4th, at the same time as the German attack on Las Rosas—171 wounded and 8 dead.

On the 6th the object was the Paloma College, 4 dead, 17 injured and two persons disappeared. On the 10th the fascist forces passed for the last time in this month.

Bombs fell on part of the British Embassy, and a poor people's institution. 5 dead, 37 wounded.

For the rest of the month the artillery took upon itself to destroy Madrid. On the 23rd, only, 10 shells fell on a Telephone Company's building.

February was relatively peaceful. The air attack on the 18th, at night, caused 18 deaths and 60 wounded. In that night 86 bombs were dropped. Various artillery attacks resulted in 22 deaths and 78 wounded.

In March airplanes attacked on the 6th, 16th, and 20th, keeping away from the centre of the city, since the anti-aircraft was in good working order.

The last bombardment was on the Station del Nino Jesus. The artillery was not very successful—21 dead, PE injured.

In April after 4 days rest, the Artillery augmented its firing. The total of this month was 816 projectiles, 95 dead, 695 wounded.

The most murderous day was the 23rd, there being 20 dead and

COUNTER-REVOLUTION AT WORK

Villages and Collectives Ruthlessly Attacked

(From our Barcelona Correspondent)

MARSA—On the 3rd of June a number of Guards invaded the region, searched the homes of militant workers of the CNT, assaulted the headquarters of the Confederation and destroyed its banner. During the course of conversations with the inhabitants of the town, the Guards recognised the legality of the CNT Collectives, but among them were a number of "uncontrollable" who had to be eliminated. In order to justify their arrest of various comrades, they spread the rumour that the militants of the CNT had drawn up a list of workers whom they were going to kill.

MORA DE EBRO—A large number of Assault Guards came to this town on June 5th, with lorries and tanks, and installed themselves in the headquarters of the PSUC. They immediately arrested 14 comrades of the Executive Committee of the Collective, of the Union and of the Municipal Council. On the 7th, they returned to seize the headquarters of the Collective, converting it into an office for their own use. They launched themselves into a systematic campaign of persecution against the workers, many being arrested at their work. The authorities who were acting in this manner then proceeded to declare the Collective dissolved and non-existent, and restored the land to its former owners, all of whom are hostile to the present regime. The result of this campaign is that more than 300 families were left without means of obtaining a livelihood; in other words, these counter-revolutionists effected the complete economic ruin of the town. Not satisfied with this, they published a manifesto calling upon all those who felt that they had suffered any losses through the May events to declare themselves. Only three persons presented themselves: Juan Pinol, José Campos, and José Montagut. The first was the mayor of the town under the dictatorship, the second, president of the Radical Party, and the third, one of the former political bosses. Because of the accusations of these three individuals, 21 comrades were arrested and taken to Tarragona.

AMPOSTA—On June 5th, the Guards came and arrested all the members of the CNT in the Muni-

53 wounded.

The month of May was inaugurated with 32 shots. The attacking increased; 300 projectiles fell on the 22nd and on the 30th. The result being 994 projectiles, 83 dead, 220 wounded.

The same characteristics were present in June: 1,159 projectiles, 25 dead, 70 injured.

The 7th of July was a record day: 400 failures. The consequence, 18 dead, 10 wounded. The month's total: 621 projectiles, 39 dead, and 144 wounded.

Only data available in August is on the 6th. 279 projectiles, one death and 22 wounded.

The current year's balance of damage done by the Fascist forces are: 5,000 projectiles, 768 dead, and 3,567 wounded.

cipal Buildings as well as members of the Collectives. There was an immediate protest on the part of the town, everybody laying down his work to a man.

GARCIA REUS—The Guards invaded the town asking for the president of the Collective. Comrade Francisco Montserrat introduced himself, and the official in charge of the forces, after asking him several questions, ended by declaring the Collective dissolved and sealing their general warehouse, which had formerly belonged to one José Luisnella, ex-chief of the Civil Guards during the period of Primo de Rivera. Later, all the grain of the Collective was sequestered, together with all the other property of the Collective, the entire thing being put at the disposal of the Municipal Authorities. One farm was excepted. It was returned to its former owner. The following comrades were arrested and taken to Falset: Francisco Montserrat, Domench Bargallo, Solè, Carreres, Angera, Mani, Bartolomi, Pascual and Escoda.

MAS DE TONI — The Guards descended upon the town with a great display of force. Openly threatening the workers of the Collective, they ordered them to surrender their arms. The workers had none.

They became particularly vicious with the political delegate, pretending that they intended to shoot him. They forced him to get into a car, telling him that they were taking him to Lèrida, but upon arriving at Vergoz they made him get out. When he finally walked back to Mas de Toni again, he found that the Guards had robbed the town of all its possessions, taking both money and food-stuffs.

CERVERA—The reaction reached extreme limits in this locality of Lèrida. An expedition of Assault and National Guards came to the town on June 11th under the command of Captain Santa Cruz. The first act was to break into the headquarters of the CNT and destroy their radio. The homes of a number of members of the CNT were searched. On the 12th, more Guards arrived under the command of Captain Montorò, who promised to behave properly. But the promise was forgotten soon enough. A child of twelve years was going home from a boy's school with his mother, both of them refugees from Madrid. A Guard, seeing a CNT insignia upon the child's clothing, tore it off violently and grossly insulted both of them while doing it. Then there began a regime of occupation. They sacked the residence of a hospital delegate and stole 40 pairs of pants that had been manufactured in a collectivised workshop for the patients in the hospital.

A cabinet belonging to the local Secretary of the CNT was forced open and 100 pesetas stolen that belonged to the District Council. A constable who belonged to the CNT was ridden out of town and

(continued on page 2, col. 4)

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On Violence

THE Capitalist Press almost invariably attributed to Anarchists the recent bomb explosions in Paris. That was only to be expected. The same was said when Doumer and the King of Yugoslavia were assassinated in France, whilst large sections of the French and Italian Press stated that anarchists had murdered the Rosselli brothers.

The man who was arrested, a certain Luigi Tamburini, had been publicly denounced by the Liberaire & Combat Syndicaliste as long ago as April as an Italian Fascist agent-provocateur. L'Œuvre (16 September) has a headline "There are people who call themselves Anarchists." That phrase sums up the whole situation. No effort is spared to portray the Anarchists as uncontrollable terrorists. The opportunity is then seized by the Police to conduct a violent campaign against our comrades. Thus as a result of the arrest of the so-called "anarchist" Tamburini, the French police have searched the homes of militant comrades of the Union Anarchiste and the F.A.F. and have seized lists of addresses of subscribers to "Terre Libre."

If we are vindicating our comrades at this moment, it is not because we have been reduced to pacifism of the "no resistance" type. We are vindicating men like Bresci, Caserio, Schirru, Sbardelotto and so many other comrades who have resorted to individual violence in the name of an ideal, and for the liberation of men and women hopelessly enslaved under dictatorships.

We wish to draw the distinction between these men and a Gorguloff, or the murderers of the King of Yugoslavia. The latter were each members of a rival body attempting to eliminate their enemy so as to assume power for themselves and rule as ruthlessly as their predecessors.

Similarly the responsible elements in the Paris explosions are emissaries of a totalitarian, nationalistic and ruthless government, which resorts to the lowest tricks to vilify its enemy. And to blow up a building which is empty is surely an act of provocation. Had the workers wished to resort to direct action would it not have been more logical to destroy the sharks who exploit them rather than the building which stood in all its majesty thanks to the workers' skill and craftsmanship?

But the police—always reactionary whether under the Right or the Popular Front—will now resort to a systematic persecution of Anti-fascist refugees in France. Comrades will be handed over to the Fascist powers to be deported to concentration camps and penal islands, whilst the Fascists, the responsible element, will go unmolested.

We ask rhetorically—for we do not expect to receive a satisfactory answer—"Why is it that the Fascist elements in France were not searched or deported by the police when Rosselli was foully murdered? Or why were not the Fascists dealt with when it was discovered that Franco had agents working for him throughout France, intercepting messages giving details of ships' movements, and wilfully destroying aerodromes?"

Mariano VASQUEZ

The Work Of The Aragon Council Defended

Speaking in Valencia

Our purpose here is to state today the action of the CNT in liberated Aragon, where since October 1936 nothing but an intense political propaganda has been carried out. Why, we ask? Precisely because Aragon was non-political. Because in liberated Aragon the air was impregnated with the ideals of the CNT; because in Aragon it had been taken with all seriousness by the peasants the events of July 19th and everything they implied, and as village after village was wrested from the rebels, no time was lost in re-establishing the old regime which died on the 19th July with the rising of the traitor generals. They did not lose any time in trying to reconstruct the old, fallen for ever as the result of endless persecutions, famine and privations endured by the proletariat. They considered it was necessary to reconstruct what was abandoned; but under different principles, having for their aim a higher justice and an all-embracing equity. But for months it has been the practice of certain politi-

cal parties to wage a bitter campaign against the battalions operating on the Aragon fronts. It was continually stated that it was a front where nothing moved; where nothing was ever tried and no advances made. Those who said such things knew very well that they were not telling the truth, but they also knew that we were not in a position to refute publicly their charges, since we could not afford to let the enemy be aware of our lack of armaments. We could not say that on the Aragon fronts there was no war material available in quality and quantity with which to organise properly an effective army.

The old exploiters whom the peasants and workers knew well were ousted and their control of the land and factories taken from them. It is these elements that now are plotting to come back and wrest from the peasants and workers their conquests. These parasitic elements wish to return to the towns and villages and enter the Municipalities, so that from outside

and from within they may continue to dictate the economic life of the community, and it is due to their work that the atmosphere has been so rarefied during these last few months. They plot and counterplot, speculating with everything, even with the smallest defects, which we do not deny have existed, as there is nothing perfect in this world, and as there is nothing perfect in Aragon there have been faults as in all other parts of Spain. Errors and defects have existed in every sector of the country since the 19th July; but nobody has used them for speculation, yet the above mentioned element, changing their opinion in a few hours, worked for and obtained the dissolution of the Aragon Council.

A CHANGE IN TACTICS.

On July 7th this year a meeting took place in Aragon of the Popular Front and the CNT and at this meeting the representatives of all the attending parties, including the Communist Party, declared their solidarity with the activities of the

Council of Aragon, and decided to go to Valencia with the object of bringing before the Government some conclusions regarding the form in which the said Council was to act in the future. This happened on July 9th. But in a short time everything changed in the opinion of these gentlemen.—Why so? If on July 9th the representatives of the Popular Front accepted entirely the action of the Council of Aragon, how is it that 15 days later these same persons asked for and obtained the suppression of that body? If everything was alright on July 9th it should also have been in order a fortnight later. However it was not so, the reason being purely and simply, that what was desired was the destruction of the influence exercised by the CNT and to attain this end it is immaterial to them how much discredit they bring upon the CNT, how much mud they fling at the combatants, the workers and the peasants, who have been risking their lives from the first moments of the struggle, all militants under the banner of the libertarian movement. They forget too soon the temperament of the people from Aragon who after assimilating the libertarian ideals have always marched at the head of the Spanish revolutionary movement.

EVENTS OF DECEMBER, 1933.

Everyone will remember the heroic gesture of the Aragon peasants and also of the town workers on the 8th December 1933, when they rose against the constitution of a Government in which were included members of the C.E.D.A. Many will remember that among those peasants who took part in the rising, somewhat romantic, somewhat quixotic if you like — after all we are only Spaniards — there were many wealthy peasants; but they were inspired by an ideal and they came out into the street to fight for something which they knew would place them on an equal footing with the poor peasants. They did it because of their convictions, a thing very natural in the temperament of the noble people from Aragon. I well remember that 8th of December, and must call attention to it, for the benefit of those gentlemen who now brand us as "bandits." On December 11 I was in Barcelona when two comrades called on me. They had been in Mas de las Matas, one of the centres of revolt, where they had declared libertarian communism, in accordance with the standards of the movement, and the first thing they had done was to burn the archives in the public square together with all the bank notes they could lay hands on. That was done by the "bandits." And those comrades seeing themselves isolated, surrounded by the police and civil guards, had no other alternative but to flee and arrived in Barcelona after crossing over the mountains on foot and without a peseta in their pockets.* Those "bandits" — thus they are now called — had made a bonfire with notes worth thousands of pesetas. This is the character and ways of Aragon militants, at whom all sorts of insults are now levelled. And this is the problem which we are going to consider to-day, a position which the press of a certain party pretends to justify by inciting the public to encourage repression and by thousands of distorted statements, by means of their leaders have been able to climb to power in Aragon against the Government dispositions.

*It must be remembered that the Communists charge Joaquin Ascaso, President of the Council of Aragon, of having embezzled jewellery, whilst a search of the homes of militants of the CNT apparently resulted in hundreds of thousands of pesetas being found! — Eds.)



The inhabitants anxiously await the arrival of our comrades in their village.

ATTACKS ON COLLECTIVES AND VILLAGES

(continued from page 1)

threatened with death. Later, more forces came to the town, and a machine gun was set up in the main entrance of the Town Hall.

The leader of these forces of occupation then demanded a supply of petrol. And when they could not comply with his demand, since there was none in the town, he became infuriated and ordered his rabble into action. The CNT banner was burned; portraits of Durruti were torn up and furniture, clothes, etc., thrown into the street. Convincing "antifascist" arguments for peace and unity. Before leaving, the "Forces of law and order" searched the house of the Councillor of Supplies, carrying off 4,000 pesetas. This was the property of the Town Council which they held by authorisation of the Bank in order to facilitate the daily transactions.

TORTOSA AND ITS SURROUNDING DISTRICT—A regime of terror was implanted in this region after the May events, forcing many comrades to seek safety elsewhere.

A month after the May Days, the body of comrade Augustin Bla of the Peasants Union, CNT, was found in the outskirts of Tortosa, riddled with bullets. This was un-

doubtedly the work of the uncontrollable who are supposed to impose "order." Comrade Porres of the Building Workers Union had to hide from the military authorities in order to save his life. The Union could not hold a meeting with the presence of the Delegate of Public Order, under penalty of being dissolved as a clandestine meeting. But it happened that when the lordly Delegate was asked to be present at a meeting scheduled for 10 o'clock in the evening, he showed up at 12, that is, after the tired workers had already gone off to their homes. The CNT representatives on the Town Council were not recognised, and, therefore, all the CNT workers employed by the Council were discharged, condemning them to actual starvation. In the small village of Cena, several dozen Guards are on permanent duty, as though they were in conquered territory.

The union was suppressed, and the Collective dissolved, the militant workers being persecuted as though they were the fascists.

RONANA DEL VALLES — An expedition of Assault Guards reached the town on June 24th and made immediately for the headquarters of the CNT at a time when it was empty. They compelled a woman who had the keys

to hand them over, and after opening the door, they stole everything they could find in the building. And possession of all the contents of the Collective warehouses, including 10,000 kilos of wheat, 1,500 liters of wine, 30 sacks of almonds, 342 heads of livestock, sheep and goats, 4 cows, 4 calves, 2 lorries, a touring car and 5,080 pesetas.

It would be difficult to prove to those peasants that such theft had anything to do with "antifascist order."

PUIGCERDA—This locality constitutes in itself a dreadful tragedy of repression, being the most famous and most prominent case of all. On June 10th, six workers were assassinated in cold blood while working in a saw mill, under the pretext that they had attacked the guards with bombs while the latter were entering the factory. However, it is a curious coincidence that no tone of the guards was injured, and no trace of any bomb could be found. After this crime, a ferocious campaign of insults and calumniation was launched against the workers.

Seventy workers were arrested by the Guards. This is enough to indicate the limits to which the counter-revolution will resort in its heedless struggle for dictatorial power.

(Further details in the next issue)

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This article which was published in "Cultura y Accion" on July 20th, a short time before the dissolution of the Council of Aragon, gives a clear idea of the work achieved under difficult conditions and during a revolutionary period. It is an interesting point, that though the comrades on the Aragon front have been accused of inactivity, the Aragon Front is the only front which remains intact since July 19th, 1936. And this has been achieved by the uncontrollables (the "tribes" as the Communist Party calls them) ill-armed, without the support of heavy artillery and aeroplanes. — Editors.

Anybody ought to be better qualified than I to speak of the Aragon Council, because I have been a member of the said Council at one time; but since I have no personal interests in it, I can speak of the region in relation to the Revolution.

Although we are at war, Spain has been wasting much gun powder in salvos for some months.

"Is the Aragon Council the heritage of the CNT? The Aragon Council is the cause of the evils, large and small, that are taking place or can possibly take place in Aragon.

The agricultural Collectives are the work of the confederal Organisation? The agricultural Collectives have not solved the peasant problems completely.

If the Aragon Front has not

WHAT WAS THE COUNCIL OF ARAGON?

Its Dissolution The Work Of The Counter-Revolution

By E. VINUALES

achieved any great advances — neither has it learned to retreat — it is because the majority of its troops were confederals (members of the CNT)."

But it seems that now the sharpshooters have begun to direct their fire at a single target: the Aragon Council. And, as an Aragonese, I have the duty of not keeping silent regarding certain matters that are disturbing the Aragonese, who have been living through twelve months of war in our own region, and have been following the developments of this fruitful year.

It is a good idea, however, to remember that the first months of the fascist uprising, the central Government knew less of what was going on in Aragon than any place else. It had no organism in our region to attend to and set up relations with it, to allay the uneasiness of the people to assume the direction of all that torrent of popular energies.

Nobody thought of the Aragon-

ese then. Nobody to organise their ways of living, to direct their economy, to guide their development. During this period, Aragon was at the mercy of opposing factions, who regarded it as a colony ready to be robbed of its wheat, its oil, its artistic treasure, and, on top of that, to treat its citizens as mere minors.

It was then, when Aragon was faced with its own problems, complicated by outside forces, that the CNT issued its warning — only the CNT — that these developments that were taking place in the name of antifascism must stop.

It created the Aragon Council with the immediate mission of stopping this exploitation of this province and winning the respect that we deserved. Then, assured of their regional integrity, it proceeded to the laborious task of regulating the economy; to provide norms of living together and mutual relations in Aragon; to give the Aragonese a legal base that would reside in their Municipal

Councils as well as in the Regional Council. All this was being done in spite of those who wanted to plunder Aragon and were continually intriguing in order to undermine the prestige of the Aragon Council.

But if this was not much, there is still more to add. The Central Government can depend upon the resources and the men of Aragon for the prosecution of the war, which would demand a tremendous strain to replace. The Central Government can today count, as a matter of fact, upon an Organisation that is putting all its strength at the disposal of the Government.

Is this aid a catastrophe? Let those speak who know nothing of the energies and the trouble it has cost us to reach this position! The drone always scorned the fruit of the bee.

Finally, there is the Aragon rear. If humiliation, sacrifice and enthusiasm are needed to win the war,

compare the life silent and continuous labor, the life sacrifice and privation of the Aragonese, with the light ease and the atmosphere of frivolity that adorns other regions. Compare the elegance and the vagrancy — even with the work card — that reigns in the cities and towns of Catalonia and the Levante with the austere life and the overwhelming desire of the Aragon peasant who sows from sun-up to sundown and does the work of those who are at the front.

And if after this, they still insist on "the thirteen," they might say openly that it is a question of bringing elegance, frivolity, carelessness and vagrancy into Aragon in order to substitute for the war, the serious concern in the cause and the faith in our triumph. These people conceal their interest in winning the war as well as in the anti-fascist cause so well.

Nevertheless I want to believe that all this trouble has the following base: The Popular Front — or some of its parties — is attacking the Aragon Council because it can never pardon the CNT for having created it. Such is, in short, our guilt; and there are those who are anti-CNT far more than they are antifascist.

UNDER a collective regime even the exterior appearance of Graus has been changed by the population. In the face of such tangible proofs of this change, one is surprised. Is it really possible that in the space of twelve months such a fortunate transformation could have taken place, an event which for the inhabitants of this town constituted not even a distant dream. This is the only question which springs spontaneously to the mind of the impartial observer.

A wide and clean street. The shops, official buildings give vent to the new era of collectivisation in their signs. The business people work in common with the co-operative societies. Barbers, carpenters, those in charge of transport, the shoemakers are all united in the strong economic link of common interests, work and real brotherhood. The "bosses" have been eliminated, and their influence on the destiny of the people reduced to zero, as well as professional rivalry and envy which under an individualistic regime are the salt of bitterness—for example the tailors who couldn't see each other—the same thing happened between the barbers and practitioners; between school teachers and doctors, to say nothing of the competition between business people of all classes. All this poison has been cut out by the practices of collective law. Everyone fraternizes in his work. At meetings one notices the representatives of different co-operatives upholding equal points of view without hesitation nor jealousy of any kind. The same thing happens with the shepherds, smithies, doctors, etc. They all work and live well and happily, and all have their wishes equally fulfilled.

Iron works, grocers' shops, hotels, workshops, windmills, all belong to the collectivity.

All expressions, material, moral and economic of the town are united in the collectivity.

The work is divided. Each corporation in the assembly is assigned a spokesman, although there is very little talking, since each one knows his obligations and doesn't try to avoid them.

Men over sixty are exempt from work. To begin with, these old men were diffident in the face of youth's audacity, which on the whole represented collectivist rules and its aims. They were afraid they would have too much work to do for their advanced years. However, they hadn't to worry. Old people didn't work. This represents one of the first rules of collectivisation. They've worked enough during their life under the despotism of chiefs where the product of their work was completely absorbed.

Youth, Mothers & Children

One must really have eyes to see, and ears to hear. The surprising progress of

Revolutionary Economy

Collectivisation in Graus

the Collectivity may be appreciated with ease.

When a collectivist wishes to marry, he is given a week's holiday and his current earnings, a house is procured for him as well as furniture through the co-operative, the latter increasing in value with time without any effort. All the services of the Collectivity are at his disposal for all his needs. From the time man is born, to the time of his death, the Collectivity protects him, safeguards his rights and duties, which he, himself, confirms democratically in the Assembly. In such a way there are no discrepancies between the representatives of the corporations in the various branches of productions. The collectivist has everything within arm's reach, bread, work and means of perfecting himself and overcoming difficulties. The children are the subjects of intense cures. They are not allowed to work until fourteen years of age. The painful story of the exploiting of children by their own family, which was due to the poor conditions in which they were born—all this is no more. Mothers, especially those expecting children, are the object of great attention, more so at the pre-natal period.

The young girls work in all establishments and workshops where clothes and things are made for the fighters.

Graus is made up of self-sacrificing and industrious people, ready for the call of the syren, denoting hours of work and rest, well-deserved.

Statistic & Organisation

One may, perhaps, deduce from these simple facts that such an idyllic regime cannot last long and that it will remain at this stage. No, one cannot deny this critical reaction. This regime of life, conviviality and disciplined economy is not based on an empiric organisation, but on an organisation perfectly balanced and adjusted to a realization of technical order.

I have spent several hours studying the make up of the office where the life and multiple aspects of the Collectivity are discussed and arranged.

All branches of territorial economics are studied in their initial state, in their development and possible developments, not in a superficial manner but from a statistical point of view. When the general secretary showed me the statistical and control department to give me a precise idea of works progress and the production figures of the town, I was completely astonished.

Everything is systematically organised. Each branch of production has its check on the American system with exact data of its development, of its daily, hourly and yearly possibilities. In such a way no count is lost and everything reaches the highest point of real and secure coordination. If it had been possible to successfully carry out the same rigour in the systemization all the gigantic works of reconstruction in the same way as it has been done in Graus, Collectivization would everywhere be an accomplished fact.



Rural Houses Constructed In Graus

In the vicinity of the town first class piggeries have been constructed containing about 2,000 animals of all ages.

In Aragon as well as in other parts of Spain the pig is one of the basic elements of family economics. Pig-killing is an institution of some standing. In winter each inhabitant of Graus is given a pig. Feeding of the animals is conducted on very scientific lines with all the treatment and care which livestock needs. I asked the comrades who are in charge of the pig and cattle raising, on what they based their work, they told me that after various tests and experiments they had decided on a system used in Chicago.

In other districts outside the city other breeding establishments have been set up as well as chicken farms with various laboratories for research. The main centre occupies the site of an ancient camp and garden. The most varied kind of fowl are to be found in this establishment. About 10,000 of these animals will be breeding by next Autumn.

All systems are completely new. The head of this establishment has invented a very modern incubator with enormous yielding powers. Thousands of baby chickens jump about in specially heated rooms, as well as many ducklings and geese. Hundreds of hens are accurately classified. From all parts of Aragon workers make a pilgrimage to this unique school of reconstruction in the new Spain.

A School Of Arts & Crafts— a Museum

The inhabitants of Graus have shown particular aptitude in the creative arts. The magnificent schools bearing the name of Joaquin Costa are exceedingly popular as well as a library containing indices to the most modern works of human thought in its various phases. The Collectivity also has a printing house.

More than sixty youths of the district attend the Arts and Crafts school and get practice in the various trades and crafts. In this same building is to be found an historical museum as well as sculptures in wood and marble, some being of considerable artistic value.

Graus is also in charge of a refugee children's colony. They are fortunate enough to reside in a magnificent palace in the midst of a beautiful garden. Great interest is shown in the war raging in Madrid, Lower Aragon and other points near the fascist lines.

The people of the Aragon countryside are always up-to-date in their war news. Their communications are perfectly installed, and every possible advantage is taken of territorial zones rich in carbon and pyrite. Its industries work on normal economic basis and are exploited to their fullest extent.

The profits made on the cattle are industrialized; on collective lines the whole life of the town has been transformed and they fully intend to change the life of all the towns in this territory. Graus has made its revolution.

The gigantic change effected in this town of Aragon is positively amazing. If the whole of Spain were Graus, then the war and the revolution would have already triumphed permanently.

(Translation from "Frente Libertario" of Madrid)



CURRENT EVENTS

NYON—FRANCE—U.S.A.

If foreign affairs were not so tragic in their implications they would be really funny!

Month after month, we were assured, by our foreign minister, that there was no evidence of "substantial intervention on the side of Franco" by foreign powers!

Month after month we have paid enormous subventions to the non-intervention officers. Month after month our papers have thrown a screen of mystery and bluff about the proceedings of the Non-intervention committee. Then, suddenly the bluff is thrown aside with brutal cynicism: Hitler announces, with unparalleled effrontery, his policy of intervention to the bitter end. He will never "permit" the Valencia Government to triumph! "England is inexperienced in dealing with the menace of socialism," etc., etc. At the same moment the other gangster of Europe, Mussolini, openly lands his 2,000 dead Italian soldiers, dead, on the road to Santander, and we are told that thousands of Italian wounded are arriving at Italian ports.

At the same moment another act in this dreary and legubrious farce is played out at Nyón! Piracy is to be put down. Piracy is, in fact, at an end! We are still unaware of the identity of the pirates, but the presence of the French and British warships in the Mediterranean has been sufficient to put an end to their activities. There are only two conclusions to be drawn from this result; either, England and France could have prevented this piracy by sea, and the equally dastardly brigandage by land, by showing a determined resistance to Mussolini and Hitler from the beginning, in which case they only refrained from doing so because they were privy to the intentions of the gangster powers, and were willing to allow them to pull their chestnuts out of the fire, or they refrained from weakness. Further alternative is depressing to any true lover of liberty, since either guarantees the ultimate triumph of Fascist morality.

This attitude of supine terror before International Fascism has an even more heartbreaking expression in the pronouncements of the Trade Union Conference leaders. Here the one organisation on whom the workers of Spain might have relied for support has again contented itself by calling on our Capitalist Government to grant the rights of a government to Spain. They have made no move, such as organised labour alone could make, to see that such rights be granted to the Spanish Government. They have made no gesture of solidarity with their Spanish comrades, in spite of many fine words of sympathy. Why? Because, we are told, the situation is dangerous! International war might be provoked! As if International war were not already in existence! War by international Capitalism on the workers of any country claiming to assert their rights as human-beings! The organised workers of this country will realise, too late, that their cowardly caution will save them nothing, and that the moment they dare to carry their demands for a human standard of living to any serious length, they, too, will find themselves victims of Fascist aggression.

Undoubtedly, however, the Citrines and the Bevins, realise that danger and are willing to barter their adherents human liberty for a mess of very thin pottage to retain their positions and illusory advantages at the cost of betraying

international solidarity of the workers.

CONSTITUTIONAL democracy seems to be supplying its vicissitudes, too, and if any more proof were needed that Government, no matter how elected, no matter how "popular" a front it represents, does not govern, but that they merely formalise the needs of the Capitalist dictators, the fall of the franc should be conclusive evidence. Blum was sacrificed because he could not satisfy the real rulers of France and "keep face" with his party. His successor has been no more fortunate, the franc continues to fall. French Capitalists are determined to show the "Government" who are the real rulers, and that, if even trivial concessions are to be made to the organised labour which put the "Front Populaire" government into office, that they will destroy any such feeble attempts to fulfil obligations by deliberately forcing the finance and industry of the country into hopeless disorder.

However, rather than admit their hopeless incapacity, the Socialist democratic Government of France are allowing themselves to be pushed further and further to the right, and are endeavouring by futile compromises and unworthy repressions to hold on to their shreds of power. It is this same cowardly attitude of compromise that has been the fatal prelude to the triumph of Fascism elsewhere.

Across the Atlantic the same story is being repeated in another setting. Organised labour, after fawning on Roosevelt for the past three years, has discovered that even that demi-god is no more capable than any ordinary man of curbing the power of Capitalism. Labour has pinned its hopes to the New Deal legislation, only to find that a little legal jigerry-pokery could soon invalidate every high-sounding concession to the workers. Now that John L. Lewis has discovered that the President is neither able nor even willing to really implement his fine promises to labour when they organise to demand better conditions and recognition of the rights of collective bargaining, he, too, begins to emerge in his true colours as a "leader" and to talk of opposition to Roosevelt at election time.

Labour has made huge strides in industrial organisations through the C.I.O. during the past two years. One fears that they now intend to throw away all their hard won advantages by taking up political methods. It will be a first-rate tragedy if labour forgets that their method is economic and trusts all her gains to political action. S.V.E.

ORPHANS FUND IXth LIST

(23rd August—19th September).
Previously acknowledged £245/1/7.

- No. 141. Chicago III: per West Side and Kensington Group, part proceeds picnic £3/4/0.
142. London: A.R. 4/-.
143. London: Dick and Barbara 10/-.
144. San Francisco: P. Walter 4/-.
145. Dover: M. McKenzie 5/-.
146. London: l'Animale 5/-.
147. Rochester N.Y.: per Gruppo Libertario £4/0/0.
148. London: Manuel (collecting box) 4/6.
149. London: E. Man 2/-.
150. Palestine: "Workers from Palestine" £2/5/0.
151. Stroud: Bisley and District Wheelers (per D. Eccles) £1/14/0
152. Washington: G. Telsch 2/-.
153. London J. E. Dobson 5/-.
154. London: A.R. (collecting box) 16/-.
155. London: Manuel (collecting box) 3/6.
156. London: l'Animale 1/-.
157. Belfast: H. Compton 2/6.
158. London: G. A. Leach 2/-.
159. U.S.A., Wash: (per M. Kisliuk) Dr. Smiler \$1, Silver \$1, G. Danenburg \$1, S. Zigmund \$1, M. Kisliuk \$1 — £1/0/0.
160. Detroit, Mich.: International Libertarian Committee against Fascism in Spain (per E. Vivas) — £10/14/5.
161. Detroit, Mich.: Young girls of the "Spanish Libertarian Anti-fascist Committee" (see above) £26/7/1.
162. London: per Miss Sidonie Goossens £2/0/0.
163. London: per V.R. 6/5.
164. London: l'Animale 1/-.
165. Queensland, Australia: (per Julio Arana) collected among Spanish comrades £12/5/6.

A New Interpretation Of Democracy

A comrade has sent us the following letter which we publish without comment:

"Together with other comrades I went to a meeting held under the auspices of the Dependents and Wounded Aid Committee at Friend's House on Friday, September 3rd. I began selling SPAIN & THE WORLD outside before the meeting started and another comrade collected funds for the Orphans Fund. Once the meeting had started I decided to go inside with the intention of listening to the speakers. I had gone no further than the entrance hall, however, when I was stopped by an individual who demanded to know my business there, and forthwith ordered me out.

I asked him to explain the reason for his action. He answered that he, as Chief Steward of the meeting considered that my presence there was liable to lead to a breach of the peace, as our people in Spain were shooting his comrades in the back, and that if I did not go, he would have me removed by the police. This individual, whose name I understand is Mitchell, is an active Communist Party member.

But this was not all. He also attempted to prevent another comrade from collecting for the Orphans Fund, even taking the pains of rushing down the front steps when he saw anyone putting money in his collecting box, and trying to prevent them doing so by saying that our comrade was a Trotskyist etc.; he also threatened our comrade with physical violence, and threatened to call the police.

All this is just another example of the Communist Party's interpretation of "Democracy." We note the demoralizing results of their ideology, when such persons can stoop to such low depths by trying to prevent aid reaching those most in need of it, i.e., the children whose parents have been annihilated by Franco.

W.F."

To Make Known The Truth

WITH the ever increasing number of lies appearing in the world communist press concerning the true revolutionaries in Spain, our task of making known the facts and the truth through our press becomes every day more essential.

Intelligent people want to know the truth and judging by the numerous letters we receive have lost all faith in the Communists because of their scurrilous and unfounded attacks on the POUM, CNT-FAI and certain sections of the UGT. It is our duty therefore to give these people an opportunity to know what is happening. We have no paid publicity and few shops will stock our newspaper. The publicity and distribution must therefore depend on our comrades' activity.

FIRSTLY, we need new comrades who will be prepared to sell the newspaper at meetings and in the streets. The newspaper will be in greater demand once people become acquainted with it. As it is, one comrade alone sells regularly anything between 300 and 500 copies in London, whilst another has sold as many as 250 of each issue. And the demand for "Spain and the World" is not limited to London alone. From Johannesburg a comrade writes:

"Further to my letter of the 23 inst., I shall be pleased if you would in future send me 100 copies of your paper. I have had numerous enquiries for this paper, but as all other copies were sold out, I have been unable to supply it."

SECONDLY, we need Comrades who will dispose of copies, selling them to friends or posting them to people who might be interested.

THIRDLY, many of our readers do not realize the importance of

sending us their subscription, or of inducing others to become subscribers. The regular publication of "Spain and the World" largely depends on a long subscription list.

Fortunately some comrades do realize this and have been active in collecting subscriptions for us.

Only this week we received the following from Comrade E. Vivas of the "International Libertarian Committee against Fascism in Spain":

"Am thinking of some way to carry on an initiative to obtain 100 subscribers for the paper, paid in advance, for which I expect the help of the comrades here ... If you care you can make a comment in regard to this idea, so that the comrades of other cities might undertake something of the kind, and also that the comrades in Detroit take a serious interest in our initiative."

We do not expect all comrades to obtain 100 subscribers, but if each small group would try and interest new readers the sum total of their efforts should double our radius of activity.

At the moment we have reached the stage where the comrades who have been active from the beginning on behalf of "Spain and the World" can do little more than they are already doing. It is now for those comrades who have, until now, only bought their copy of each issue and with it ceased their activity, to help us to increase "Spain and the World's" public. We are now relying on their wholehearted support and co-operation, and are confident that they will immediately answer this appeal. THE EDITORS
[Subscription forms and specimen copies of the newspaper may be obtained on request.]

AN EXAMPLE TO BE FOLLOWED

Detroit, August 19, 1937.

Dear Comrades of "Spain and the World,"

In the July edition of "Spain and the World," we read of the intelligent action of Dick and Barbara in giving their savings for the orphans of Spain. Spurred by this act of Solidarity, we decided to make a collection for the orphans. The amount we collected was \$131.76 (£26/7/1), which we are enclosing with this letter.

This winter we plan to give entertainments of our own as a means of securing money so that "Spain and the World" may increase the number of children it is taking care of. We are, at the present time, rehearsing a play which we hope to give in the month of October. The program will be given by the youth element only.

We all feel that "Spain and the World" is doing a great work by taking the full responsibility for the care of the 20 orphans. These children deserve the help that we, by sacrificing ourselves, can give, for their parents were, surely, Spanish martyrs to the cause of liberty and freedom.

We hope that more colonies will be established in the near future and that, by this method, the tradition of Ferrer will carry on!

Salud!

(Signed) Frances Gonzalez & Amelia Lauzara.

This letter is a composite one, written by persons listed below who are the young girls from the Spanish Libertarian Anti-Fascist Committee who made the collection for the children of the Durruti-Ascaso Colony which "Spain and the World" is supporting:

- Virginia Fernandez (Age 16)
Mary Edo (14)
Josephine Fernandez (13)
Amelia Lauzara (19)
Frances Gonzalez (17)
Prosperidad Begué (17)
Anita Gonzalez (12)
Consuelo Gonzalez (15).

166. Providence, R.I.: Lucia Cimini 4/-.
167. Detroit, Mich.: I. Refrattari, part proceeds picnic £8/10/0.
168. Plymouth: (per Miss L. Avery) R. Edmunds 2/-. T. Edmunds 3/-. Staff of Goodbods 5/-. Total 10/-.
169. Stroud: (per T.H.K.) P. Parsons 2/6, L. G. Wolfe 10/-. T.H.K. 7/6, Total £1.
170. London: A.R. (Collecting Box) £3

TOTAL: £325/9/6.

SOLIDARITY FUND VIIIth List.

Australia: Mrs. A. Westbrook £1;
Bristol: C. Lewis 2/-.; Detroit: per E. Vivas 4/1; McKeesport: (per I. Rosetti) F. Sgattoni \$1, M. Perez \$1, - 8/-; Total £1/14/1.
Previously acknowledged £108/2/3.

OUR BALANCE SHEET

INCOME:

SUBSCRIPTIONS: London: S.G. 2/6, H.G. 2/6, E. Borsdorf 2/6, B. Pecker 2/6, G. Crier 2/6, P. Jones 2/6, T. Hartley 2/6, M. Beard 2/6, C. Clark 2/6, J. Castaldini 2/6, W. Walton 2/6, C. Lambert 2/6, S. Waters 2/6, D.E.9 2/6; Jersville, Mo.: Francesconi 4/-; San Francisco: P. Waters 4/-; Kent: H. Stutely 2/6; Hants: D. Westley 4/6, London: G. A. Leach 2/6; Belfast: H. Compton 2/6; U.S.A.: J. Rudolph 4/-; U.S.A.: Dr. N. Smiler 4/-; Los Angeles: R. Garcia 4/-; Detroit, Mich: (per E. Vivas) J. Radding 4/-; F. Crudo 4/-; C. Gonzalez 4/-; J. Zavala 2/6; A. Emeterio 2/6, P. Ruiz 2/6, C. Edo 2/6; F. Dipre 2/6, T. Mastromatter 2/6, J. Vasquez 2/6, J. Rodriguez 2/6; London: Miss M. Binner 2/6; London: E. Braby 2/6; Washington: S. Furch 4/- — £5/8/0.

SALES: London: W. Farrer £4/0/8; Stroud: T. H. Keell £2/10/0; Bristol: C. Lewis 3/-; Plymouth: T. Edmunds 7/6; Glasgow: F. Leech £2; London: A.R. £1/4/6; London: F. C. Davies 1/-; London: T. P. White 2/-; Southend: M. Kavanagh. 15/-; Nent: S. Mainwaring 4/-; London: E. Man £1/12/8; London: B. Bloom 10/-; London: H. Cooks 5/-; U.S.A.: San Francisco: A Comrade 5/3; Detroit: J. Solmi 9/3; New York: W. Starrett 4/-; Detroit: per E. Vivas 12/5. — £15/6/5.

SOLIDARITY FUND. Lists VI, VII, VIII, £24/10/0.

TOTAL INCOME: £45/4/5.

EXPENDITURE:

Printing No. 17	13 10 0
Wrappers	10 0
Postages pkts.	2 15 4
Cutting blocks	2 0
Printing No. 18	13 14 6
Wrappers	12 0
Postage pkts.	2 5 11
Block	17 6
Reproduction fee	10 6
Printing No. 19	13 10 0
Wrappers	13 0
Postage pkts.	2 6 0
Stencils, stationery, etc. ...	12 11

Deficit from No. 16 51 19 8

INCOME 97 11 5

149 11 1

45 4 5

Deficit £104 6 8

DEFICIT £104/6/8

It is our sincere wish that all matters relating to the finances of "Spain and the World" should be accurately stated, and Comrades will assist us by pointing out misprints and informing us if their contributions, subscriptions or moneys for sold copies are not acknowledged in these columns within a reasonable time after remittance. —Editors.

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