

SPANISH REVOLUTION

A BULLETIN PUBLISHED BY THE UNITED LIBERTARIAN ORGANIZATIONS

Vol. 1, No. 1



NEW YORK, AUGUST 19, 1936

Price 2 cents

THE ROLE OF THE C.N.T. AND THE F.A.I. IN SPAIN

If there is any event that can bring about a rediscovery of inner strength on the part of organized labor and the libertarian elements of the world, it is the grand struggle against Fascism now being waged in Spain. This struggle can be best supported by comrades living abroad by vigorously combatting the lies of the reactionary press and by keeping the public opinion of the world informed as to the true course of events in Spain. After the unresisting defeat of the labor movement in Germany the effect of the heroic battle of the Spanish workers, peasants and intellectuals against the Fascist bandits is that of a refreshing thunderstorm. It is the first time since Fascism made its appearance in Europe that the entire population of a country gave such a spirited resistance to the imminent danger. That is why the example of those struggles is international in its significance, far transcending in scope the frontiers of one country.

The desperate struggle is the common cause of all movements that do not want to fall under the bloody yoke of Fascism. Yet one must single out the surpassing promptness of action shown by the C.N.T. and the F.A.I. which from the very beginning imparted a momentum to the struggle enabling it to banish the bloody specter of Fascism from the gates of Spain. It was the plan of the plotting militarists to seize all the important places by a strategy of surprise which would render inevitable the fall of Madrid. The most important link of this plot was the crushing of Catalonia, the

(Continued on page 3)

REPORTS FROM SPAIN IN RED BARCELONA

BARCELONA, SPAIN, July 24.—From the Press Service of the C.N.T. and F.A.I.—At the price of bloody battles and sorrowful losses, the Catalonia capitol has reconquered its title of **Red Barcelona**. It was a spontaneous popular uprising which answered the first onslaught of the Fascists. When the first military column directed by insurgent officers appeared in Barcelona, barricades arose almost miraculously. The city, deserted in the early morning hours, suddenly awoke as if by a magic drum call; the people seemed to rise from the pavements. The armories were seized and in a flash almost everybody was armed.

The groups of the C.N.T. and the F.A.I., with the help of various workers' parties and organizations, marched resolutely against the Fascists whose aim was to take possession of the strategic points of the city. The latter employed military experts and war technicians using cannons and machine guns and, though in the minority, they did succeed in dealing death "scientifically." But nothing could check the popular surge. The hatred against Fascism wrought miracles; party differences and political quarrels disappeared before a "popular front," not the one which arose from the elections, but the *popular front spontaneously created in the streets*.

Let the politicians, however, have no illusions; *this revolution is not theirs*, and we must loudly proclaim that the victory belongs to the National Confederation of Labor and to the Iberian Anarchist Federation, whose members constitute the vast majority of those in the present struggle.

After the battle, the anti-Fascist Military Committee of Catalonia was formed. Its composition is as follows:

C.N.T.: Juan Garcia Oliver, Buena-ventura Durutti and Josi Asensi.

U.G.T. (Socialist trade unions): Jose del Barrio, Salvador Gonzalez and A. Lopez.

F.A.I.: Aurelio Fernandez, Dilgo Abad de Santillan.

E. R. de C. (Catalonian left republicans): S. Miratvilles, Artemio Aigaud and J. Pons.

Socialist Party and other "Marxist Unity" factions: José Muste and Pousa.

Union of Rabassaires: José Torrent Rosells.

Coalition of Republican Parties: Fabrega.

The strength of each of the components of this committee can be judged by

the following figures on the composition of the anti Fascist militia:

C.N.T. and F.A.I.	13,000 men
U.G.T.	2,000 men
Marxist Unity Org.	3,000 men
Police and Civil Guards	4,000 men

Mobilization continues and these figures are increasing.

From a Spanish Correspondent

BARCELONA, SPAIN, July, 1936.—Our comrades immediately organized an exodus of children. Ships in the port of Barcelona were used for this purpose. During the course of one of these trips the Facists tried to attack them while in the port. Immediately the comrades from the F. A. I. and the C.N.T. formed solid lines around the children, bared their breasts and dared the Fascists to shoot. All the Fascists were forced to leave.

(Continued on page 2)

C.N.T. I.W.M.A. F.A.I.

People of Catalonia!!

We must continue unrelentlessly the triumphant march of the Spanish worker to the ultimate downfall of the murderous Fascist army. We must come to the assistance of the defenseless and unarmed workers who were unmercifully shot down by the Fascists without the slightest provocation.

It is our unflinching duty to so utterly destroy Fascism that it will never again raise its evil head in Spain.

To this end, the committees of the C.N.T. and the F.A.I. are calling all workers who love freedom to march against Fascism.

Workers! Free Men! Comrades! Keep your contact with the syndicate. Line up with the organization for the downfall of the enemy.

—Regional Committee
of the C.N.T. and the F.A.I.

The Peasants of Pla de Cabra

Inform. Bur. of F.A.I. & C.N.T., Barcelona
Here also an anti-Fascist Committee, with the C.N.T. predominating, took charge of things as soon as the trouble began.

It is well to mention the warm enthusiasm of the peasants for the revolution. The obvious evidence of the success of the revolution is the intensification of the harvesting which resulted from an increased demand for agricultural products required to satisfy the needs of the people. The magnanimity of these rugged peasants is shown in the freedom they gave to the nuns and monks as well as to the bourgeoisie, who, under the circumstances adopted a neutral attitude. The bourgeoisie is in such fear that it offers all its support, economic as well as material, to the military committee which as yet has accepted only agricultural products.

Committee to Aid Fascist Victims

A committee has been formed under the auspices of the F.A.I. and C.N.T. for the purpose of aiding the families of the victims of Fascist aggression. In the name of these victims and their families we appeal to the generosity of the people of Spain and the people all over the world.

Those who wish to help, write to the U.L.O., 45 west 17th Street, New York, N. Y.

Libertarian Youth Organize the People's Univ. of Barcelona

BARCELONA, SPAIN, July 30, 1936.—The libertarian youth of Barcelona has founded a people's university which will serve as a propaganda school for the dissemination of our ideas. At the conference which decided upon its foundation, several comrades took the floor to exchange views on the questions of the location of the university and the methods of education to be used. The latter are to be free from any official interference. The instruction to be given will be strictly rational and revolutionary. Public courses and public lectures will also be given

DURUTTI

PARIS, FRANCE, July 31, 1936.—The entire French press, with the exception of *L'Humanité*, organ of the Communist Party of France, printed the news about the workers columns under the leadership of Durutti which left last week for Saragossa. Durutti, Ascaso and Jover were close companions in the revolutionary struggle and they were known to the Spanish comrades as the "inseparable three."

At the present moment Saragossa may be in the hands of the revolutionary workers guided by the C.N.T. and the F.A.I. and inspired by the heroic comrade Durutti.

Spanish Revolution

A publication dedicated to current labor news from Spain, published by the United Libertarian Organizations, Against Fascism and for Support of Spanish Workers.

45 West 17th Street New York, N. Y.
CHelsea 3-9567

Vol. 1, No. 1. August 12, 1936

REPORTS FROM SPAIN

(Continued from page 1)

The organization of the economy is in the hands of the C.N.T.

The Revolutionary Defense Committee has formed a committee for economic organization which is in contact with the food and transportation unions and with local cooperatives. Goods are delivered by the committee.

Life at Valls

Inform. Bur. of F.A.I. & C.N.T., Barcelona

BARCELONA, SPAIN, July 30, 1936.

—Great enthusiasm prevails here. The fact that there was very little fighting here facilitated the reorganization of work, and the few reforms it undertook, were accepted with indifference. The influence of the C.N.T. is shown by the desire of the people for radical change.

Many arrests and requisitions took place. There was a great shortage of arms, especially in view of the large number of military volunteers. The military committee was composed as follows:

- 2 delegates for the Esquerra.
- 2 delegates for the P.O.U.M. (Workers Party of Marxist Unity).
- 2 delegates for the Socialist Union of Catalonia.
- 1 delegate for the U.G.T.
- 5 delegates for the anarchists.

A people's kitchen, directed by the C.N.T., was installed. The local federation of the C.N.T. now has its headquarters in the Franciscan Convent which was requisitioned by the anti-Fascist Committee.

Priests Force Peasants to Defend the Churches

Inform. Bur. of F.A.I. & C.N.T., Barcelona

As soon as the priests of Vic and the surrounding territory learned what was taking place in Barcelona, they called on the peasants to help them. Many refused, but they were forced to come to the churches to defend them. When the anti-Fascist militia was apprised of this, they proceeded to capture the churches. In one church they found the priests disguised as peasants. They were able to distinguish between priests and

To the Workers and Peasants of Spain!

To the Working Class the World Over!

A great battle, an epic battle, is raging today in Spain, one which has thrust the laboring masses squarely against all their exploiters. Fascism in Spain is playing its trump card. The military putsch of General Franco, backed up by the Fascist, Robles, and the banker-adventurer, March, was initiated in the army of the recently elected "Popular Front" government. The government realized from the beginning that it could scarcely rely on its officers and generals. It, therefore, called directly upon the working masses. Only then did the real battle begin, the battle of the Social Revolution against Fascism. And the battle continues with our C.N.T. (the Spanish Anarcho-Syndicalist Confederation of Labor) in the front lines. The detachments of our fighters, after having crushed the Fascists in Barcelona, are moving on towards Saragossa to do the same there. In Madrid, Malaga, Cadiz, Seville, Gijon and among the heroic Asturians, the red-and-black flag of the C.N.T. and the F. A. I. (Iberian Anarchist Federation) waves on the barricades, on armored motor cars, on the cannons, the machine guns and the rifles. The masses cannot fail to be victorious, no matter the vicissitudes of the moment, nor the losses we may suffer. The working class everywhere is passionately following the progress of the battle and already is beginning to hear the cry of victory over Spanish Fascism, the first breach in the solid front of world Fascism.

We of the International Workingman's Association, of which the Spanish C.N.T. is the most powerful revolutionary pivot, hope that with the aid of our constituent sections in Europe, Asia and America, the workers and peasants of Spain, after their victory, will be able to carry to fruition their full emancipation and will not permit any miscarriage of the inevitable and triumphant Social Revolution.

Long live the C.N.T.!

Long live the Social Revolution!

Long live Libertarian Communism!

—THE INTERNATIONAL WORKINGMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

What the Spanish Revolutionists Want

The following letter was sent to the Anarchist Union of France by Pierre Albert, one of the French comrades who went to Spain to help fight the Fascists:

Puigcerda, July 27, 1936.

We arrived at Puigcerda yesterday morning and found even greater enthusiasm than we had hoped for.

The people are armed, which is a good sign. They shall not permit anyone to take from them their instruments of emancipation. Of that we can be sure.

The organization is perfect; the syndicalists and members of the F.A.I. make no attempt to dominate the other parties in the Workers Alliance. Despite their indisputable influence they have done what, in my opinion, is right. But what is important is that all the decisions taken by the Revolutionary Committee bear the imprint of Anarcho-syndicalism.

Last night the Revolutionary Committee decreed the following:

1. The destruction of all records of claims to private property.
2. A struggle for proper social hygiene.
3. The abolition of hovels as dwelling places, and the confiscation of all real estate. All claimants will have to register immediately with the Revolutionary Committee.
4. The 36-hour week for all categories of workers.
5. A merciless battle for the complete annihilation of Fascism.

All Fascists attempting to obstruct revolutionary action will be properly dealt with.

I must be very brief because we must leave this morning for Saragossa or perhaps Barcelona in order to join those forces marching against the Fascist insurgents in the center of Spain.

Fraternal greetings to all the comrades,

Pierre Albert.

Economic Life in Villanueva and Geltrú Controlled by Anti-Fascists

Inform. Bur. of F.A.I. & C.N.T., Barcelona

All buildings here were kept intact except those deemed useless by the people. The Catholic Seat has been converted into a popular restaurant, the Traditionalist center into a food cooperative and military headquarters, and the circle of the Regionalist League into headquarters of the C.N.T.

The church and the C.E.D.A. local have been requisitioned by the Libertarian Youth.

The P.O.U.M. has requisitioned the Religious College. In Villanueva and Geltrú that organization had no strength before the revolution. The Monks College has been requisitioned by the U.G.T.

The anti-Fascist Committee edits a bulletin. It controls the telegraphs and telephones.

FRANCISCO ASCASO

Hero of the Revolution

Francisco Ascaso was born in the town of Almudevas in the province of Huesca in the year 1901. At a very early age he became acquainted with the Anarchist movement. During the course of a tumultuous strike in Saragossa, he was arrested and condemned to death. Due to his extreme youth he was pardoned.

In 1923 the reactionary movement in Spain took on added impetus. The soul of this movement in Saragossa was Cardinal Soldevila, who was killed in a political attentat. Ascaso, suspected of having participated in this murder, was arrested; torture awaited him, but he fled the country before the trail.

Primo de Rivera was declared dictator of Spain. A bloody persecution ensued. There was dire need of money to aid the victims and their families. Ascaso was determined to get money, cost what it may. The Spanish government started a relentless search for him and put a price on his head. He again had to flee for his life and this time went to the Argentine. Here he preached his revolutionary doctrine and soon became involved with the Argentine government. For the second time he was condemned to death. He escaped to Europe but this "dangerous" Anarchist was denied sanctuary by all the countries of Europe. Ordered out of France, not even permitted to land in Germany, the whole world talked of the revolutionary activities of this young anarchist. With his friends, Buenaventura Durutti and Jover, he started a splendid revolutionary paper. In Belgium he found a temporary asylum.

The Spanish April revolution enabled him to return to Spain. He threw himself wholeheartedly into the revolution. Durutti and Ascaso took an active part in some of the fiercest battles of this revolution. Ascaso, was both orator and fighter. On the platform one was impressed by his logic, on the battlefield his generalship. With rifle and revolver he stormed the Fascist headquarters and the military camps of Fascist followers. Day and night he fought tirelessly. The strength and morale of the fighting proletariat of Barcelona staggered the enemy under the heroic leadership of Ascaso and Durutti.

On the morning of July 19, with incomparable heroism, they repulsed a terrific attack. In the district of Santa Monica and nearby streets the members of the C.N.T. fought with unbelievable fury. In the neighborhood of Columbus' statue, on the outskirts of the district, and adjoining the waterfront, the Fascists set up a machine gun and directed their fire upon our men, who under the leadership of Francisco Ascaso threatened to capture their position. The Fascists raised the white flag of surrender. When our comrades, with Ascaso in the van, approached to take them, the Fascists trained their machine guns on them. Riddled by innumerable bullets, Ascaso died fighting.

The death of the comrades who fell in this battle against the Spanish Fascists filled our hearts with sadness, but the loss of Ascaso is irreparable.

We shall avenge him, yes we will avenge him.

THE ROLE OF THE C.N.T. AND THE F.A.I. IN SPAIN

(Continued from page 1)

fortress of the revolutionary labor movement of Spain, so as to cut off the Capitol from all the larger cities. Catalonia is the center of Spanish industry and also the most highly developed province in respect to culture and material resources.

The fall of Barcelona, the largest city of Spain, would have rendered impossible any prolonged resistance to the Fascists. That is why General Goded flew in haste from Majorca to Barcelona in order to lead the revolt in person.

But the vigilance of the C.N.T. and the unexampled bravery of its members frustrated those plans at the very beginning. In a few days the so-called "rebels" were utterly defeated. The victory of the workers in Barcelona led to the quick suppression of Fascist revolts in Tarragona, Lerida and Matara and the liberation of the entire Catalonian province from the Fascist hangmen. The workers militia in Barcelona soon comprised 18,000 men, of whom 13,000 belonged to the C.N.T. and F.A.I.; 2000 to the Socialist trade union U.G.T. and 3000 to the parties of the People's front. Apart from that Barcelona also equipped an army of 8000 men, all of whom belonged to the C.N.T. and who, under the command of comrades Durutti and Oliver, set out for Saragossa in order to wrest the city from the bands of the Fascists.

There are so many fables circulated by the foreign press about the aims of the C.N.T. and the F.A.I. that it is necessary to give our readers a clear picture of those two organizations. We,

of course, cannot go right now into the history of the long and glorious struggles kept up by those organizations, or of the persecutions to which they were subject. That would fill up volumes. For the present we will only dwell upon the ideological significance of this movement and keep in close view the working out of this ideology in the tactics of these organizations.

The "Confederacion Nacional del Trabajo" (C.N.T.) was founded in 1910 and within a short period came to embrace about 700,000 organized workers in all parts of the country. The organization, however, was only new in name, but not in its tendencies and methods. The history of the Spanish labor movement is shot through with long periods of reaction during which the movement could lead only an underground existence. After each such period the movement was organized anew. The name changed, but the aims remained the same.

The first labor movement of Spain arose in Catalonia in the year of 1840 where in Barcelona trade unions were organized by Munts, a weaver. The Spanish government tried to suppress this movement, having sent for that purpose to Barcelona General Zapatero, one of the darkest reactionaries of most sordid memory. In June, 1855 a great general strike broke out in Catalonia which developed into a full rebellion. The workers wrote upon their flags: Asociacion o Muerte (Solidarity or death). The rebellion was bloodily suppressed, but the movement continued its underground existence, having finally extorted from the government the right of free association.

This first labor movement was influenced by the ideas of Pi y Margal, the leader of the Spanish federalists and a disciple of Proudhon. Pi y Margal was one of the most important savants of the country, a great and all embracing mind whose works exercised the greatest influence upon the development of the libertarian ideas of the country. His political ideas had much in common with those of Thomas Paine, Jefferson and other representatives of the English-American liberalism of the first period. He wanted to reduce the power of the state to a minimum and to gradually supersede it by a socialistic administration of the economy.

After the founding of the first International, the principles of which found their way into Spain, thousands of workers joined the new movement, having enthusiastically adopted the anarcho-syndicalist ideas of Bakunin to whom the majority of Spanish workers remain loyal to the present day.

The C.N.T. has grown out of those traditions and forms the continuation of the former movements. In contrast to the anarchists of many other countries, the anarchists of Spain based their activity from the very beginning upon the economic organizations of the workers. A "pure and simple" trade-unionism never existed in Spain. The aim of the C.N.T. is two-fold. Under capitalism, the organization seeks to raise the material and cultural level of the working class by means of direct action and education of the masses. The proper aim of the C.N.T. is the establishment of a new society based upon libertarian socialism. It is against any form of "State capitalism"

and aims at a society of free communes united into a federation based on the common interests of economic and spiritual life. The C.N.T. is against any form of dictatorship, seeing in it only an institution for the suppression of the cultural life and the natural development of society.

The C.N.T. is not just an association of industrial workers like the trade unions of the other countries. It united within its ranks the syndicates of peasants, agricultural workers, white collar workers and intellectuals. If we see today the peasants rising in arms and fighting side by side with the workers against Fascism, this is a brilliant result of the great educational work done by the C.N.T. and its predecessors. The men and women of the C.N.T. understood that a social transformation without the help of the peasantry and the intellectual workers is an impossibility.

The same principles of federalism and free agreement represented in the ideology of the C.N.T. also underlie the practical work of the organization. It knows no trade-union bureaucracy and it furthers the self-reliance of the syndicates and its members. In the smaller syndicates which cannot get along without paid officials, the latter are only elected for one year and draw the same remuneration as the workers of the respective trades. Thus there are no material contrasts between the officials and the workers. Even the general secretary of the C.N.T. is subject to the same rule. This is an old tradition that has never changed since the First International.

This leads to a high development of personal initiative of every individual member. Upon comparison of the technical organization of the C.N.T. with those of the trade-unions of other countries the first may appear to be somewhat primitive in character. But as against that the movement of the C.N.T. created a spirit and brought up an active element of fighters the equal of which cannot be found elsewhere. Spain is the classical country of solidarity action. The narrow craft spirit which extends to one's trade only, which is so frequently found in other countries, is unknown in Spain. One does not find it even in the Socialist trade-unions (the U.G.T.). One hears less about class consciousness in Spain, but the workers are firmly bound to each other by links of solidarity and the living spirit is of more value than a lifeless organization technic. In Germany this technic was developed to its utmost, but when Hitler came, millions of workers did not raise as much as a finger to avert this catastrophe. And therein lies the difference between both types of organizations.

The C.N.T. never went into any alliances with political parties. In time of danger it was always ready to fight alongside of other organizations. But it adheres to its specific attitude and does not give up any of its independence. But it does attempt, and this with especial success during the last period, to come nearer to the workers belonging to the Socialist trade unions. The success of that policy is especially striking in cases where the workers of the Socialist trade unions opposed their political leadership, as was the case with the miners of Asturias. The C.N.T. undertook many a successful action together with the workers of the U.G.T. At the last congress of the C.N.T., taking place in Saragossa in the month of May, the delegates warmly supported the idea of forming an alliance with the U.G.T. for the pur-

pose of common defense and attack. The present close cooperation of both organizations in the struggle against Fascism will render their relations even friendlier than now.

The C.N.T. has been a tremendous factor in the spiritual and social history of Spain. It could not be suppressed in spite of the dreadful persecutions heaped upon it for a number of years. In the shaping of the coming social order of Spain, the C.N.T. will surely play a great and impressive role, its influence extending far beyond the organization proper. The communist deputy Jesus Hernandez, the editor of the communist paper, "Mundo Obrero" made the following declaration a few days ago: "It is absolutely false that the present workers' movement has for its object the establishment of a proletarian dictatorship after the revolution has come to an end. It cannot be said that we have a social motive for our participation in the war. We communists are the first to repudiate this supposition. We are motivated exclusively by a desire to defend the democratic republic established on April 14, 1931, and revived last February 16th."

This declaration may puzzle the communists of other countries. But Hernandez knows that the Spanish masses are not enthused about the dictatorship idea and that the communist movement forms only a small minority, split, in addition, into three factions. We know also that the Communist party is not strong enough to be much of an obstacle to the aims of the C.N.T.

As to the "Anarchist Federation of the Iberian Peninsula" (F.A.I.), there is no difference in principle between it and the

(Continued on page 4)

C.N.T. I.W.M.A. F.A.I.

Workers of Barcelona! !

The workers of Barcelona have besieged the Fascists.

The siege was made possible only with the assistance of the revolutionary forces of the C.N.T. and the F.A.I. As a result of their help in supplying weapons, we were able to strike a decisive blow against international Fascism. But the fight is not over. In Saragossa, in Seville and other places on the peninsula, there are still hordes of Fascists. We are all acquainted with the bloody methods of Fascism. Let this be a lesson. What happened in Italy and Germany shall never happen in Spain.

The "Confederacion Nacional del Trabajo" and the Federacion Anarchista Iberica are with the workers. Comrades! Workers! All lovers of freedom! Pick up your guns and fight for the complete destruction of Fascism.

Workers! Stick to your posts. Organize military groups. Don't surrender your guns and ammunition. Don't lose your contacts with the syndicates. Your life and your freedom lie in your hands.

The life of the C.N.T., the life of the F.A.I.!

The life of a free people!

—The Regional Committee of the C.N.T. and the F.A.I.

C.N.T. I.W.M.A. F.A.I.

WOMEN!

The hour of freedom has arrived. Women! the blood of your sons, your brothers, your husbands, has stained the streets of Barcelona. Our men have fought and are still fighting like lions as faithful and brave soldiers for the cause of freedom.

Women! Don't lag. Assert yourselves. Do your share to defeat the insidiousness of Fascism. Many women have offered their life's blood for the revolution, but it has not been sufficient. You must broaden your field of activity. The fierceness and horror of Fascism impels you to greater courage for the immediate defeat of the reactionaries.

Only with complete destruction of these forces will there be a lasting peace; you have felt the iron hand of Catholicism which gave birth to a Torquemada, which held Spain under a tyrant's yoke for hundreds of years.

Women! It is up to you to see that your sons are not offered up as sacrifices for Fascism.

All together to fight Fascism, in a mighty effort to unmercifully destroy the reactionaries.

Long live the friends of the revolution!

—The Regional Committee of the C.N.T. and the F.A.I.

Victory In Valencia

VALENCIA, SPAIN (FP)—(By airplane to Paris)—For a week the tension in Valencia was so great that nobody slept or went home. The workers camped in the streets.

The civic authorities had refused to open the arsenals and arm the people's militia, as Madrid had ordered. At the end of the town, across the river, three regiments of soldiers were confined to barracks. They gave no sign of sympathy. But their officers were known to be adherents of the Fascist rebellion. Any moment it was feared that the troops might march in, occupy the town, and set up a white terror. The workers covered the city with barricades in anticipation of a fierce struggle. They were going to receive the military with cobblestones and kitchen knives and with their bare hands if need be.

The colonel commanding the regiment of engineers called his men in the square of the barracks. "We will occupy Valencia this morning," he said. "Tomorrow we march on Madrid."

He had not the words out of his mouth before he fell forward . . . dead. A sergeant named Jose Fabra had killed him. A moment later all the officers of the regiment were dead. Then the engineers marched out into town and joined the people. Arms were distributed.

The civilian governor, a new one, had given the rebellious troops three hours to surrender or be blown up. Inside the city Fascist elements began to fire from the roofs of the houses. Storm parties, chiefly composed of women, began a systematic cleanup campaign of the Fascist nests. Human bodies came tumbling into the streets. Cordons of armed workers barred off the fashionable quarters of the city.

Two mornings later shops opened hesitatingly. I wanted to go out and watch the battle for the citadel held by the rebels. Its guns fired point-blank into the city, setting many houses on fire. From the roofs Fascists threw down lumps of stone and slabs of lead and fired pistols. You had to rush and dash from porch to porch to make any headway. Then a militiaman came running into town shouting: "The rebels are surrendering. The white flag is up!"

I ran with thousands towards the citadel. In a corner of the drill ground lay the bodies of Fascist officers, executed by the lancers before their surrender. A peasant had got hold of a trombone and was playing the Internationale, while everybody uncovered. Just at that moment the artillerists arrived from their neighboring barracks, where they too had killed their officers. People embraced each other. A glorious, wild dance was started. The parade ground rocked with the stamp of the heavily-shod feet of the cavalry. Men, women, children danced in huge rings-around-the-rosie, in pairs, singly, shouting, dancing, singing. One man held a big globe in his hand, taken from the officers' library, and he was hugging the whole world.

In the evening there were fireworks. The syndicates published a manifesto, saying: "Valencia is free of Fascism. Tomorrow work resumes after 11 days of general strike. After this the people of Valencia will have to organize their own lives in freedom."

TO THE WORKERS OF ALL COUNTRIES

The Defense Committee of the C.N.T. and F.A.I. appeals to all workers and anti-fascists. Especially do they appeal to all conscientious writers and reporters.

"It is not we who are the foes of order, but the militarists and fascists. The heroic work of the F.A.I. and C.N.T. in combination with other workers crushed the fascist uprising in Catalonia. But Fascism has still not been vanquished. Thousands of our comrades have surrounded Saragossa. We are putting up a terrific struggle to save our comrades here and in the rest of Spain. Our fight must be successful. Freedom must win over slavery.

"The hunger-driven workers of Spain are not looters and rapists. Even the bourgeois reporters, in all but the most unscrupulous of Capitalist papers have expressed admiration for the orderliness and respect for foreigners that the workers of Catalonia are showing. The unscrupulous are spreading their lies about the Spanish Revolutionists. Particularly are they venting their spleen against the revolutionary workers of Barcelona.

"We appeal to you, friends of freedom. Do not believe the manufactured stories about murders, robberies and disorders in Catalonia. Remember that our fight is your fight. If we fall, Fascism will triumph in many other countries. Our victory will be the victory of the international fight for freedom against international Fascism. Our victory will be the victory of human progress. Workers and anti-fascists of the world—help us! We are the vanguard of the international workers' movement in our fight against the enemies of everything that is human. Do not allow lies to be spread about the heroic fighters for Spanish and world freedom. We need your sympathy and help. We are sure that at this moment of battle you will not forsake us.

NATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF LABOR. IBERIAN ANARCHIST FEDERATION."

Friends of the Spanish Revolution are urged to take this appeal to heart. Our Spanish comrades need not only your sympathy but financial aid as well. Funds can be addressed directly to us. Receipts will be sent to you immediately and the monies will be shipped abroad at once. Now, if ever, you must make every effort. Is there any sacrifice you can make which will be comparable to the sacrifices our Spanish comrades are making in their life and death struggle with the forces of barbarism!

HELP NOW!

HELP NOW!

The Role of the C.N.T. And The F.A.I. In Spain

(Continued from page 3)

C.N.T. Both organizations work close together. The F.A.I. is an organization which aims to uphold the anarchist traditions in the Spanish labor movement. It consists of a great number of young active comrades who are always ready to place themselves in the forefront of the social struggle. Every member of the F.A.I. is a member of the C.N.T. and belongs to its most active fighters. Both publish a great deal of literature and run large publishing houses. Apart from the daily papers—"Solidaridad Obrera" in Barcelona and "C.N.T." in Madrid—those two organizations publish about 35 weeklies and five monthlies. This alone shows the strength of the movement and the extent of its influence upon workers and peasants. Added to which there are a number of autonomous unions who stand outside of the C.N.T., but who are greatly influenced by the former, even sending delegates to its conventions.

The proletariat of the world which follows now with so tense an interest the

gigantic struggle of the Spanish revolutionists against Fascism must come to realize that the Spanish events cannot be judged from a purely party point of view. The movement of every country possesses its own definite character, rooted in its traditions and the historical development. The labor movement is not a church, recognizing only one doctrine of grace. All the talk about a "united front" or "people's front" is not worth a straw if we don't learn to respect the opinions of others and not to judge them from the narrow point of view of one's party doctrine.

The terrific struggles now going on in Spain are a sign of the times. Now the question is of repulsing an enemy who threatens the very basis of culture and threatens to hurl humanity back into barbarism.

Germany, Italy and Austria are bloody warnings and let us see to it that the lessons of the heroic example of Spain should not be lost.

Cable to "Nation" Confirms Our Reports

In a cable to THE NATION from Barcelona, dated August 10, Maxwell S. Stewart, associate editor of THE NATION, gives a first-hand account of the events there which fully confirms our reports. The following is an extract from Mr. Stewart's report:

"Cars and trucks filled with armed men and plastered over with the insignia of the powerful trade unions—the *Confederación Nacional de Trabajadores*—drive noisily through the streets at high speed, their red flags flying proudly. Barricades manned by armed workers may still be found. Nearly all luxurious hotels have been taken over by the trade unions and at least one is housing families of the volunteers attacking Saragossa.

"That the workers are the actual masters of Catalonia today can scarcely be disputed. Although the civil government remains in the hands of the moderate left Republicans, the actual power is exercised by the Anti-Fascist Military Committee, composed of representatives of the leading political parties and trade unions. The Anarcho-Syndicalists of the C.N.T. and F.A.I. (*Federación Anarquista Ibérica*) control five of the fifteen members of the committee. The socialist trade union and Marxist parties have five, leaving only five in the hands of the moderate left groups. Even this fails to present a fair picture of the distribution of power. The C.N.T., with tens of thousands of armed workers, gained tremendously in prestige and strength as a result of the suppression of the military uprising of July 19, when workers went barehanded into the streets and literally snatched weapons from the hands of fascists. It can confiscate cars and hotels, and commandeer supplies from private business houses without challenge from the bourgeois parties. For the moment at least, none would dare try to disarm its members."

Great Britain Recognizes C.N.T.

The English consulate at Barcelona has sent a list of all its citizens residing in Spain so that the necessary measures might be taken for their security or eventual return. To whom has the English consulate sent these lists? To the official authority which is, in Barcelona, the Catalanian government? On the contrary, the lists were officially sent . . . to a Committee of the C.N.T.

It is the C.N.T. which plays the predominant role in Catalonia and is the one tremendous force to be reckoned with there. This is so in spite of the attempts of "radical" newspapers to ignore the existence of the C.N.T. and the F.A.I. On the other hand, the capitalist newspapers find it necessary to report the activities of the anarchists. But they, of course, do so in a vicious, shameless manner calling the armed workers of the C.N.T. and F.A.I. who are heroically fighting against fascism, "gunmen" (At times "revolutionaries" join in the same attack, e.g. Ilya Ehrenburg's recent article in 'New Masses' entitled 'Enemies of Spain'.)