

VETERANS
MEMORIAL
MEETING
FEBRUARY 26th
1941
MANHATTAN
CENTER

VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY



ISSUED BY THE VETERANS OF THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE

Vol. III, No. 1

FEBRUARY 1941

VETERANS ARRESTED

A series of arrests in which a number of Vets are involved have swept the country these past few months. Outstanding are the cases of Ben Rubin and Ramen Durem.

Durem, one of the original Lincolns, is president of his local and a member of the state executive of the SCMWA in California.

Recently a legislative committee was set up in California to investigate, a la Coudert, subversive groups. A particular drive was directed against the social workers in an attempt to cut relief. The inquiry in this instance was to be limited to ascertaining information pertinent to the question of costs of relief; but the committee asked all sorts of red-baiting questions which the union members refused to answer.

18 of these social workers, including Durem and Steve Daduk (of the Spanish Loyalist Air Force) were brought up on contempt charges and were sentenced to one year in prison. The I.L.D. and the Workers Alliance, the largest in the country, to which the SCMWA is affiliated, raised bail of \$2000 per person. The case is now on appeal to the next higher court.

In Pennsylvania arrests have taken place in two areas. In Reading, Ben Rubin's conviction was upheld for the third time (32 indictments for him and his friends - 13 specifically against him, and \$20,000 bail) and there are more trials to come. He was charged with perjury and violation of the election laws. Throughout the trial, whenever Rubin mentioned his status as a Veteran of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, the prosecuting attorney interrupted him to insolently imply that Benny had deserted. The fact of the matter is that Rubin is one of the few Internationals who had been cited for bravery by the Spanish Government. The National Office of the Vets has sent verification of this fact to the District Attorney, Marx. We suggest that every vet send his protest to Judge Paul N. Schaeffer as well as to the D. A. Address: Berks County, Reading, Pa.

In the Pittsburgh area, three veterans are on trial on a charge of violating the election laws through "illegal" distribution of leaflets. The men are Ralph Thornton, a Negro, of the Washington Battalion; Ben Findley, machine-gunner; and Harry Steinberg of the original Lincolns.

Sophie Kaplan, formerly the telephone operator at the old Friends' office was sentenced to 15 years for collecting petition signatures during the election campaign. Her case, too, is up on appeal.

Richard D. Browne, who was a prisoner of Franco for seven months, was denied a plea for a retrial by the Supreme Bench of Maryland by a vote of 7 to 4. Browne had been convicted on alleged perjury charge in connection with the collection of names to place the Communist candidates on the ballot in Md.

Vets Act for Peace

The December membership meeting of the N. Y. Post instructed the executive to go all out in support of the American Peace Mobilization. It decided that Veterans of a truly anti-fascist war should co-operate fully with the A.P.M. against America's participation in today's stream-lined follow-up of 1917 and the attempt to fascize America under the slogan of anti-fascism.

With this as the No. 1 job on the Vets' 1941 program, the Executive drew up a plan which not only should but can involve our entire membership:

- 1) In each borough the Executive has selected a Vet who is responsible for the activity of the other Vets in his borough. He sees that he, join their neighborhood A.P.M.
- 2) The Vets are represented and participate in the work of the City Executive of the A.P.M. through Freddy Keller, our out-going Post-Commander.
- 3) Participation of the membership in delegations, such as those to Washington, leaflet distributions and similar activities.
- 4) Independent issuance of leaflets and a projected pamphlet by the Veterans to be distributed by the A.P.M.

This plan has been put into action. The borough responsables are Sol Birnbaum in Brooklyn; Art Munday in Manhattan; Harry Fisher in Queens; Si Podolin for Trade Unions. (What about the Bronx?) The next issue of the Volunteer will carry an article describing the results already achieved.

Freddy Keller has participated in a leading capacity in two delegations to Washington. A number of Veterans will fill seven cars that have already been obtained, with more in the offing, for the mass motorcade to Washington on February 1st. The Post membership has already distributed 2 A.P.M. leaflets and will distribute more. The pamphlet is still in the planning stage but is promised soon.

All Veterans are urged to join their local A.P.M. Volunteer for Peace groups. Communicate with the National Office if you have already done so or if you wish to secure additional information.

ADELANTE!
PEACE MOTORCADE TO
WASHINGTON, FEB. 1st

It is significant that in every case leading people of our community, and the people themselves, came forward to defend our men.

(Continued on p. 4)

Conflicts Inside Falange Thieves Fall Out

The quarrels between the various reactionary groups become increasingly violent. The greatest divergence of opinion within Falange is between the Monarchists and Requetes on one side and the Falangists on the other side. There is also a great conflict between the Falangist leaders and the Army men. The reactionary elements who are dissatisfied with the Falangists place their hopes in a restoration of the Monarchy.

There is frequent violence between the Requetes and the militant Falangists, who are on the side of Germany and Italy. On the way back from a funeral in a village near Chantada (Galicia) there was a dispute between Requetes and Falangists. They mutually said they must kill the other band. The Requetes accused the Falangists of being bandits and assassins and of having caused the hunger of the people. On the other hand, the Falangists said the Requetes had not supported the movement sincerely. Thanks to the intervention of the priest, and some others they did not come to blows.

Belchite 1941

The following letter was sent by one of the Internationals in the Belchite concentration camp:

"Belchite, Nov. 30, 1040.
"Dear Friends:

"At last we have proof of the aid that so many times has been promised to us. We have received seven packages, all dated July 29th and all with their contents complete. But of all the addresses only two are here: Rudi Kampf and I. As the others are not here, we have claimed the packages because they would have been lost if we did not do so. We have given them to the friends of the comrades which have left and some to companions who receive no aid from anyone ...

"We do not know, of course, if these are the only packages you have sent us. We suppose that you have sent more but that they have been lost. This being the case, we beg you to reclaim them.

"Hoping to hear from you in the future, I give you my most expressive thanks in the name of all of us.

"Very truly yours,
RAOL ROSNEEF."

Growing Opposition of Catholic Youth to Falangism

Recent information from Asturias has the following to say about the youth who do not wish to join the Falangist organization, and the work of the Catholic Youth in this connection:

"The tendency of the young people is to leave the official Falangist organizations, which means that the Catholic organizations are crowded. The youth prefer these centers as they are not under a military discipline, not are they forced to go to Mass on Sundays. It appears that these organizations are with a certain camouflage, led by some of the directors of the old Accion Popular."

People Take No Part in Pro-War Demonstrations

The attitude of the people toward the entrance of Spain in the war is unanimously opposed. In Gijon (Asturias) Falange arranged a demonstration pro-Gibraltar and it was a complete failure as only 200 people went to it, in spite of all their propaganda. The next day when the people read in the papers about the "enthusiastic and imposing demonstration" they had a good laugh.

The Franco ex-combatants call Franco "Short Legs," making fun of him, as he has legs like a gorilla. Others, not wishing to call him a donkey, openly, call him the donkey's saddle bags... In Orense they call him "the deaf one," as it is customary to say his name three times. They call Franco Spain "tubercular," as he is killing it from hunger. In one of the many queues (Note: Spanish word is Tail'-cola) that exist for even buying a miserable spool of cotton, a woman said in a loud voice, in front of a guard: "How large Spain is - you can't see the tail" ...

(The above items have been taken from "Things of Spain," a summary of news and information about the situation in Spain, printed in Mexico.)

VISIT OUR NEW
Office and Club-Room
66 FIFTH AVENUE
ROOM 7D
Open after February 1, 1941

It's Different with Dukes

The federal Court ordered the deportation on January 4th of five Spanish Loyalists now on Ellis Island. The United Spanish Aid Committee quickly obtained a court writ stopping this order and is trying to secure visas from the Mexican Government.

One international also on Ellis Island, Bustoff, a Greek, was out on bail for three weeks but was shipped back to the Island.

The Spanish Aid Committee is standing the cost of maintenance which is \$1.75 per man per day.

THE VOLUNTEER FOR LIBERTY

ALBERT PRAGO, EDITOR

Organ of the
Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln
Brigade

145 West 41st St., N.Y.C., Lo. 3-6213

"... and that government of the people,
by the people, and for the people, shall
not perish from the earth."

LINCOLN

FIRESIDE CHAT

In answer to the war-inciting fireside chat of Roosevelt, the V.A.L.B. is preparing to enter energetically the campaign of the A.P.M. See the article on A.P.M. in this issue.

FRANCO LOAN

Write your protest to the State Department on the current proposals to send food ships to Franca. Such food will never be used to aid the Spanish people but will be used to still further oppress and terrorize them. This appeasement will only bolster Franco's weakening regime.

Let's hear from the Vets all over the country. We want your criticisms, articles, news. Select a reporter in every post who will communicate regularly with the Volunteer. Deadline, for the future, will be the 20th of each month. This issue would have been a sight better if articles had been contributed.



Lift on the French Riviera

Resettling Internationals in Mexico

Miss Mildred Rackley, representing the Technical Resettlement Committee and the United American Spanish Aid Committee has introduced a far reaching plan of resettlement of the I.B.'ers to the Mexican Government. The following outline features some of the outstanding points of the plan:

1. That the Mexican Government grant land suitable for irrigation, dry farming, and pasture.
2. That the settlement units be primarily agricultural and cattle-raising in character, with small auxiliary units (such as carpentry shop, light and power plant, garage, kitchen, bakery, etc.) and educational and medical centers " o serve the settlement and entire surrounding community.
3. That the Committees in the U. S. secure: a) funds for the maintenance of the refugees for G months at \$10 a month each; b) necessary supplies and equipment from tile U. S., in addition to that which must be acquired in Mexico.
4. That persons needed in Mexican industry because of their special training and capacities he integrated therein.

Miss Rackley further submitted a complete plan along the above lines for a group of 180 refugees. A summary of the costs involved showed a total of only \$23,520.00 including maintenance for 6 months.

(How long is Prieto going to sit on the millions in Spanish gold that belongs to the Spanish people?

VETERANS OF THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE. STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS. FOR THE PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1940.

RECEIPTS		DISBURSEMENTS	
Operating Receipts:		Operating Disbursements:	
Membership Dues	\$670.43	Rehabilitation	6,538.16
Auxiliary	535.44	Administrative Exps.	4,918.64
Total Membership	\$1,205.87	International Vol.	396.97
Donations	5,556.86	American Rescue Ship	536.96
Meetings & Affairs	6,348.50	"Volunteers for Liberty"	44.76
Summer Camps	1,398.71	"We Are Many"	39.14
Thaelman Records	341.50	Meetings & Affairs	3,309.87
Rescue Ship	563.26	Peace Del.-Washington	40.00
Brigade Pins	94.35	Auxiliary Expense	193.28
International Vol.	501.83	Emblems and Pins	230.52
Disabled Appeal	201.00	Chicago Convention	117.72
Lincoln Pennies	81.39	Washington Expense	26.10
"We Are Many"	39.60	Refund of Donation	5.09
Miscellaneous	80.23		
Washington Expense-		Total Op. Disb.	\$16,396.31
Dies Committee	66.80		
Total Op. Receipts	\$16,479.89	Non-Operating Disbursements:	
Non-Operating Receipts:		Bail Repayments	\$1,913.00
Bail Releases	\$3,507.00	Loans Payable-Repaid	608.00
Rehabilitation-		Loans Receivable-Given	390.00
Overdrawal	385.70		
Refund-Telephone		Total Non-Op. disb.	\$4911.00
Deposit	250.00	Total Disbursements	21,307.31
Loans Receivable		Excess of Receipts over	
Repaid	511.00	Disbursements	478.28
Loans Payable-Received	148.00		\$21,781.59
Bond Release	500.00		
Total Non-Operating Receipts	\$5,301.70		
Total Receipts	\$21,781.59		

Calling American Rescue Ship

The following extracts of letters from comrades in the French Concentration camps may serve to explain why the utmost haste is needed to send over the first AMERICAN RESCUE SHIP:

From Camp Vernet, a Norwegian vet writes -

"I'm in a hell of a fix, the clothes is in rags, falling off my body literally, and its freezing and snowing believe it or not, I don't even have any covering or blankets at night, just some straw to lay on.

"The shrapnel left in my body gives me hell in this cold too, if I have to stand it much longer, I'll croak if I don't get out of here. Oh please help and help quickly, cable funds, and send them in French francs only, no dollars, too much red tape. I would write to the Friends of the Lincoln Brigade but I don't have the address. Please notify them for me. Would some of our mutual comrades perhaps be willing to chip in and help? It's a matter of life and death for me. I would appreciate any donation of clothing too as long as it would be warm, even if it's old, ask the friends or the Labor Defense. My best regards to all the boys, tell them to write me and help to prevent me becoming demoralized. SALUD."

Signed John G. Nelson.

The following letter was written during the Nazi invasion, before the completion of the betrayal of the French people:

"I am using this means to tell you some details of life in Camp Gurs now. More than a thousand have been practically forced to go out to the Compagnies de Travailleurs.

"We are beginning to hear news of those who left: military regime, water to wash themselves and their clothes once a week, some dying under artillery and aviation fire, for they were working on the front lines, threatened with courts martial if they refuse the work.

For all these reasons those who are still in the camp have decided to resist, even when dragged by force. Those who said they did not want to work in any way had their heads shaven and were taken to the "hipodromo" (punishment section). The third of April, an historical day in this camp. A strong resistance by the Yugoslavians and Italians. They refused to accept orders from the mobile guards. They used "casse-tetes" (black-jacks) vigorously; fellows were dragged on the ground by two, three or four mobile guards. More than 200 are still in the punishment section of the camp. Ban on going out of the barracks; the army has been called in and has not behaved badly.

"Everyone nevertheless left the barracks and like an indomitable wave went to the barbed wire fence to the cry of "Long live the French army; French soldiers, French workers - long live the freedom of the workers!" and ending by singing in chorus the Marseillaise. The soldiers wavered, surprised. Some were disarmed. The jammed arms were taken over by the mobile guards. We only returned to the barracks after Kosta Naggi (leader of the Yugoslavians) responded to insistent appeals. He gave the order, and as always his order was carried out. Tableau.

"Now with the aggravation of the international situation, all the Spaniards are out of the camp. They say that we will be sent to Africa. We have been living, cruelly punished, in the Punishment section, going two or even three days without bread or water. After that, new questionings. The same punishment was applied to those who refused to work when they were surrounded by barbed wire. We are forced to return to the barracks after every meal. The canteen has been closed down definitely. We expect to be taken away at any moment now.

"More help from you brothers! Money is needed for our evacuation!"

THE NEW VOLUNTEER

This issue of the Volunteer comes out under a new editorial staff. Its success depends on your active participation in its work. More than that-its success or failure is a thermometer of the activities of the Lincoln Veterans.

Often, criticism is justifiably directed against the Post and national leadership for failure to adopt measures for successfully activating our membership and to initiate and follow through important campaigns in our name. We know that such constructive criticism is sympathetically accepted by these executives. But we are interested in knowing how the inactive section of the membership will receive a vitriolic blast against their general indifference and laxity in helping to build our organization and to bring our program to the American people.

There was a poor showing of the N. Y. Post's membership at the December post meeting at which Mother Bloor spoke; there was a similar attendance at the January meeting at which the review of 1940's activities and the prospectus of 1941's were reported on and discussed, anti nominations of officers and a new executive board were made. Were the other N. Y. vets so terribly "busy" that they could not attend these two important meetings?

The 1940 Souvenir journal has been severely criticized. But how many of you were willing to function on the committee? Unfortunately, that was a one man job. And that holds true for so many committees, both defunct and living, that we consider it a collective crime against the organization.

It has been said by a leading political figure known to and respected by all of us that ours is potentially one of the most powerful anti-war outfits in the country. General agreement with this opinion is as far as the Veterans have gone to realize this potentiality. General agreement is just lovely - but how about general action?

PEOPLE'S CONVENTION

The International Brigade Association of English Veterans participated in the historic People's Convention in England. All in all the British Veterans have become very well known and their influence felt through their participation in every kind of peace activity.

They are known not only for what they did in Spain but for what they are doing now to help the English people.

Internationals in other lands

The Pan-American Coordinating Committee of Spanish Aid Organizations informs us of significant events in Uruguay, where the local Spanish Aid Committee is particularly active.

URUGUAY

The Chamber of Deputies in November sent a message to Franco asking that he grant clemency to those political prisoners condemned to death. They followed up this action by sending a petition to the Government asking: 1-that it intercede at Vichy to prevent the Petain Government from sending any more Spanish refugees back to Franco. 2-that it should reach an agreement with other Latin American countries to obtain ways and means of transporting Spanish refugees to Mexico and other countries that may afford them a haven. 3-that it should admit a contingent of refugees and internationals into Uruguay.

President Alfredo Baldomir approved the latter point and Uruguay will now accept about 500 Spanish families. The rest is up to the American Rescue Ship Mission.

As has the Mexican Government, the Uruguayan Government has extended diplomatic protection to Spaniards in unoccupied France. In effect, the Mexican flag now flies over every concentration camp in unoccupied France so that those Spanish refugees are considered Mexican citizens. (The Soviet Union has carried out a similar action so that some Spaniards and Internationals are



Spain's Heroes in France

considered as Soviet citizens.) With Uruguay following suit, it temporarily ties the hands of the Vichy government in any attempt to hand them over to Franco.

FROM PRESTE'S ARMY TO SPAIN!

A letter was received from a vet in Uruguay who asks for news of six missing internationals, four of whom were officers in Luis Carlos Prestes' army. They are: Dinarco Reis, David Capistrano, Joaquin Silveira, and Hermenegildo Assis Brasil - all four, Brazilians; and two Argentine friends - Modesto Pachon and Domingos Rey. The six were members of the 152nd Compagnie de Travailleurs and were last heard of in July when they were in the north of France.

(Continued on p. 4)

WEST COAST SPEAKS UP

Since it has been some time that the National Office has informed all the veterans of the activities of the Los Angeles Post we are printing in some detail the following letter received from the post's Secretary-Treasurer, H. B. MegQuier.

This is in the nature of a report of a very successful pre-convention meeting of this Veterans' post, at which many weaknesses in our past work were pointed out, and very definite steps taken to remedy them. The Veterans, on the whole, have come to the realization that if the Veterans' post here is to become a service organization for veterans, one and all must render service to the organization.

In the course of the meeting, we launched certain projects we felt were essential to revitalize our post. (1) A full and complete program was mapped out to assist in every way possible the Rescue Ship Mission, launched here; (2) Greater efforts to be made to broaden out the Tax Plan here and elsewhere in the State; also three other projects were launched to raise funds for the Veterans' Post. The following resolutions were passed for presentation at the National Convention, viz.: (1) In the past, it has been pointed out that the main weakness of outlying posts' activity can be laid to lack of information from National office. We urge much closer contact, through correspondence. (2) We urge much closer contact between the Resident Committee and the National Committee

members. Full and complete reports of Resident Committee meetings should be regularly mailed to National Committee members. (3) We concur and give out wholehearted support to the stand taken by our National Committee in connection with Hemingway's book, For Whom the Belts Toll. (4) We concur and wholeheartedly support the position taken by our National Committee with regard to rendering all aid and assistance to the Spanish refugees in France. (5) We urge that the prisoners' committee once functioning out of New York, be re-instituted, and that our National Convention re-institute a drive to obtain relief of our three hundred comrades still in Franco prisons. (6) We urge that regular monthly news-letters be mimeographed by our National Committee for the use of outlying posts in producing monthly bulletins. (Henry Eaton Post now publishes a regular monthly bulletin for the entire State.) (7) We urge that the National Convention seriously take up the Voluntary Tax question for the information of other posts in financial straits. (Henry Eaton Post realized well over \$200.00 in the past year.)

For the following year, we have mapped out an active campaign to coordinate our post with such general organizations as the Peace Mobilization, and urge that the National Convention take similar action. Los Angeles not able to finance delegate this year, but here's hoping best of success.

Salad.

Henry B. MegQuier, Sec'y-Treasurer.

Our Unionists Must Learn From Spain

U.S.A.-Sidney Hillman, "Representative" of Labor.

England-Ernest Bevin, "Representative" of Labor.

Would you believe it? . . . there are people who dare to make a comparison of the activities of such labor fakers as the above, with those of the trade union leaders in the Popular Front Government of Spain during the fascist intervention.

The efforts of Hillman, Bevin, et al to hamstring the labor movement, their complete obeisance to Capital, their traitorous attempts to lure the American people into the present imperialist conflict - these are well known to the Lincoln Veterans. But, perhaps, it would be convenient at this time to recall the lessons of the trade union movement in Spain in order to be better able to tear through the tissue of lies constructed by the reactionaries and their spokesmen.

Sweeping advances were made by the trade unions of Spain during the course of the war. They became one of the most powerful forces in the country.

An eight-hour day was introduced, along with payments for overtime, and a two-week holiday with pay.

Other innovations were maternity leave and benefits, prohibition of female and juvenile labor in certain dangerous industries, greatly improved sanitary conditions, medical treatment, factory inspection. All these provisions applied to town and country alike.

The Government assisted the trade unions in their task of reorganizing industry with the help of committees in the factory and job which the workers set up all over Republican Spain. These committees took over and ran all the enterprises abandoned by their fascist owners.

The genuinely republican owners were not dispossessed of their property although their managerial rights were subject to approval and their profits were limited.

As the war developed the workers' rights were increased. In 1938 a law was passed regularizing ownership in industry. The workers' committees were recognized by law, and universally established. War industries were nationalized. Their management was appointed by the Government and worked in cooperation with the workers' committees.

The greater part of remaining large enterprises were run by the trade unions with technical advisers appointed by the Government. Private enterprise in smaller establishments was not only allowed but even encouraged with the limitations mentioned above. Wages were fixed by agreement between the Government and the trade unions. In practice the trade unions very seldom had any dispute over wages.

Under such conditions the role of trade unions and other workers' organizations became increasingly important. At the beginning of 1938 practical unity was almost achieved between the U.G.T. and the C.N.T. Workers' Committees in all the enterprises were elected jointly by all the workers whether belonging to the U.G.T. or the C.N.T. At the places employing over 50 workers they elected 5 officials, a general secretary, an organizing secretary, one of propaganda, one of production and supply, and a labor secretary.

The job of the secretary of production and supply is obvious. The labor secretary had to safeguard the general working conditions and supply of labor. These factory branches formed regional units and finally national bodies on an industrial basis. All the workers in one factory belonged as a rule to the same union. Such was the organization of the U.G.T. That of the C.N.T. was similar.

The membership of trade unions increased very rapidly. From some 500,000 the U.G.T. jumped up to approximately 2,000,000 and the C.N.T. from 600,000 to 1,500,000. The workers of town and country became almost 100 per cent organized. Their attitude to work changed considerably. As they were working for their own benefit under their own control the productivity of labor increased. The workers enthusiastically responded to the appeal of the Government for greater war production.

They formed shock brigades, worked voluntarily on their free days, and made special efforts for units of the army which they patronized. The best fighters of the People's Army came from the working class.

One of the most significant features of the trade union movement in Spain was its participation in the government. T. U. Leaders helped formulate the democratic decrees of the Government, especially the famous "Thirteen Points" which stated the aims of the Government to the entire world.

The achievement of the Spanish workers and peasants and their People's Front Government in the midst of a war against foreign and domestic fascism, the abolition of feudalism and beginning of voluntary collectivization of agriculture, control of industry by the workers and the Government, and all the great social and cultural improvements will never be forgotten. They will inspire the workers of all lands and serve them as a shining example - notwithstanding the vicious lies and calumnies of the international labor misleaders.

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S. I. M.

Some of the vets have already run successful Rescue Ship parties; Lester Gittelson, Ed Lending, Maynard, Bob S., Joe Gordon, Ruby Kaufman, Freddie Keller, Johnny Perrone want to know when the rest of you will wake up . . . Lending has already held two affairs, at one of which he raised \$80, and is planning a third! And while the vets are running parties, Fajans wishes to remind you that our budget for this year is \$9000 - and that ain't hay.

The Jack Bjoze's have a girl - eight pounds; Freddie Keller will be handing out cigars in a very few weeks . . . Unpaid ad: Leroy Walkoff is looking for a wife . . . Harry Hakam - is in love with a little girl that his wife knows very well! Her name is Valerie . . . Sylvia and Rabbit are joining hands this February . . . The Cady's are racing the Cooke's . . . It looks like a photo finish . . . Jack Shulman was quietly married a few months ago . . . The Bill Mayers have twins . . . Congrats to a little girl for a big job . . . Hy Stone's wife is pebbling.

Our motorcade to Washington starts on February 1st . . . All vets with cars and all vets who intend to go please notify Irv Goff at once . . . Affable Liam O'Flaherty was cornered at our Xmas Dance by a group that talked him deaf; it would bowl over Harry Hansen (literary critic of the World Telegram) and other literary critics to have heard Liam say that Andre Marty is a far better writer than Ernest Hemingway . . .

"Who Betrays France" by Marty is good evidence of that.

Aaron Harris is still mumbling to himself . . . rehearsing the one line he had, and miscued, in the 1939 Lake Ellis Camp show

. . . The West Coast Vets have started a Glee Club; Gad save us from the flamencos.

Jerry Cooke is a strange sight wandering around with the lower part of his classic countenance hidden from view by a huge muffler and the upturned collar of his o'coat; Ice simply can't get over the Souvenir Journal's picture of him . . . Does anyone know the name and address of the blonde that Nat Gross escorted to the Xmas Dance? And what happened to his World's Pair stripteaser? . . . Steve Levine and his wife are still up in the wilderness having a riotous time hunting rabbits and such.

Our speakers are having their troubles . . . One of our spell-binders was no end flabbergasted recently when at the end of a meeting an old geezer asked him, "Excuse me young man! Aren't you kind of young to have fought in the Spanish American War?"

Flash! Last Minute News. We've got a new Headquarters. And it's a honey. We'll be established there within a few weeks. 66 Fifth Avenue, Suite 7D. Wanted: one AI House Committee.



The Picture Tells The Story

"The Mannerheim Line"
Soviet Film-at Miami Theatre.
New York.

Scenes of the Red Army in action that made U. S. Army officers sit up and take notes:

1) An infantry attack - with men deploying in three feet of loosely packed snow. And one showing thousands of men crossing a lake of ice under enemy fire.

2) An indomitable body of zapadores creeping up to a tank barrier of huge boulders; in the midst of a hail of bullets the engineers plant several boxes of captured Finnish mines and crawl back to their lines. Then watch the boulders hit the ceiling.

3) The animated map outlining the Finnish fortifications. The potential cross-fire was enough to stop any army corps, of the ordinary kind. Barbed wire was so placed that it would serve to channelize the attackers in open spots where they would be caught by a terrific cross-fire. Later on in the film you'll see the interior of one of the captured forts; it garrisoned 100 men; its four feet thick concrete walls were smashed by Soviet artillery fire. Positions like these could only be taken by highly trained troops fully aware of their personal responsibility.

4) Huge tanks demolishing a forest of trees as though they were so many match sticks.

5) The coordinated movement of air fleets, navy, artillery, tanks, and infantry. The scenes showing the men moving up to the front may seem to the casual observer merely as dry incidental material depicting masses of men aimlessly wandering around. To the trained eye, those masses of men were obviously going about their job very systematically, methodically, without any fanfare or fuss. It was this careful, methodical build up that explained the successes of the troops at the front.

6) Four-barreled anti-aircraft machine guns at the front lines. The Lincoln veterans will certainly appreciate that scene.

7) Views of captured artillery bearing the labels of such "Finnish" manufacturers as Vickers-Armstrong, and some Berlin firms. And a captured town with a big Esso sign at a crossroads. Yes, yes - poor, little Finland was fighting all by itself.

8) The victory parade of the returning soldiers in Leningrad - it was so completely unlike the "victory" parade of Franco in Madrid.

These are 8 of 80 reasons why you should see this great film that completely explodes the myths of a weak and inefficient Red Army and gives the lie to the correspondents' fairy tales of the Finnish Campaign. Make every effort to see it.

From Other Lands (Continued from P. 3)

NEW ZEALAND

The Labor government is busy arresting many workers who are fighting against the fascization of New Zealand. Among those recently arrested was Ronald Hurd, who was a member of the I. B. Once more Social Democracy comes to the fore in repressing the workers and the genuine fighters against fascism.

SANTO DOMINGO

The conditions of the refugees grow rapidly worse. Spanish refugees have been refused any hospital privileges; our committee is partially meeting the situation through setting up its own infirmary.

Efforts are being continued to bring all refugees out of the Trujillo-dominated country. Within a few weeks several families will be transported to Cuba.

CUBA

The Aid Committees have been particularly active, politically as well as financially. A campaign is under way to secure visas for

100 Internationals. Three have already been obtained for two volunteers who are now in England and one who is in Palestine.

CANADA

The vets' organization here is illegal. Vets are making personal visits to those who are in camps and prisons. Felix reminds us not to forget our brothers in France; he suggests that we write letters to the following six: Fred Schofs, Paul Richter - Camp Vernet; Priato Vaninnin - Camp Vernet; Helmuth Luft, St. Cyprian; Gedalie Clehmec - Camp Vernet; Otto Flatter - Camp Vernet. All are of different nationalities: American, German, Italian, Czechoslovakian, Polish, Rumanian -- respectively.

Veterans Arrested

(Continued from p. 1)

In Rubin's case among those who testified with his character were a state legislator and an alderman.

Veterans of the A.L.B. are seldom attacked as such but instead are slandered on other counts to an attempt to weaken the esteem the American people hold for them.

Keep an alert eye on the press for further developments of the mentioned cases and for any new situations that may arise. Be sure to come to the aid of such men through telegrams, resolutions, etc.

A La Retaguardia

Querido amigo,

Feliz ano nuevo. And how's every little thing?

I dropped in the Vets' Office one Monday to see what was up. Ruthie was plugging away at her accounts and 4 or 5 of the boys were plugging the fascistas at Belchite. Having had my taste of Belchite, I stayed only long enough to chisel two ducats for our Xmas dance and failed to get a pass for "The Mannerheim Line."

On Tuesday I happened to be passing by 41st St. so I hopped up to the office to see if I could get a pass for "Meet the People." Ruthie was banging away at an adding machine figuring our gains and 4 or 5 of the boys were banging away at the fascistas at Quinto. I said I thought that they'd moved muy pronto since yesterday - from Belchite to Quinto. But they clarified me by Pointing out that the perspective from the 6th floor was much better so they could cover several weeks of action in a few hours of talk. I saw the logic in that but I scrambled because I couldn't get the pass. Ostia!

On Wednesday I met the boys at the Post Meeting. Nat Gross was trying to clean out the pockets of 100 guys to make up for the 500 who didn't come to the meeting. I managed to dodge him with some smart repartee and joined a group of 5 or 6 (there was one more than the original group). They were discussing the seashore at Valencia compared with Castellon de la Plana. 'Twas a rare insight I got of the guerra, that night, and I also enjoyed Mother Bloor's speech.

Thursday I was looking for a job and Friday I wasn't in the neighborhood. So it wasn't until Saturday that I could Let down to our national office. After 3 days I sorta missed the place and besides I wanted to see if I could get a pass for "Mannerheim Line." Ruthie was taking dictation from Irv who had written 63 letters to people who lived right in the city (I can't understand why he or some of the boys don't go to see those people instead of wasting our money on stationery and stamps.) 4 or 5 of the boys were talking about the new dive bomber technique. I asked them what became of the Spanish guerra and they told me off pronto; they'd finished that on Thursday and it would be re-discussed the following Monday.

While we were discussing the possibilities of going to China, Irv (that's our new exec. secy.) interrupts us. He says that 6 guys, are needed to distribute some APM leaflets at several strategic points in the city. Well we let him have it (we got real democracy in our organization.) Two guys point out that they're busy all week and they ain't taking assignments on Saturday nite. The rest of us were sore because, we said, the APM oughta be distributing its own leaflets - and besides why don't you (meaning Irv) get some of the other guys who don't come around to do some work.

Seeing that he's licked Irv asks us to leave the office 'cause he's got an important conference with the exec. Can you beat that? We could see through that maneuver anti we tell him so. He gets mad and to prevent any intestinal strife we scrambled.

I'm gonna take all this up at our next meeting, Wednesday, February 5th. Don't forget to support us.

Salud,

Your fellow veteran and amigo.

A. Goldbricker.

P. S.-Where can I get a pass for the "Mannerheim Line"?