BOSTON, Mass., July 3-At 9:15 yesterday morning, Antoinette Konikow, one of the great pioneer builders of American revolutionary socialism, a founder of the Socialist Workers Party and an Honorary Member of its National Committee, died of a heart attack. One of the best-loved champions of the labor movement, the suddenness of her death came as a shock to thousands of workers in Boston and throughout the country. She was almost 77 years old.

Thus close a most valiant career of self-sacrifice and devotion to the cause of world ocialism. **Antoinette Konikow** was born November 19, 1869, in Czarist Russia. Almost six decades of that life-since 1888—were spent in the battle to end capitalism and build a better world. Although ill for some time, Comrade Konikow had been in excellent spir-

its. Never had she felt more confident of the final victory of socialism. In the morning, her daughter, Edith Konikow, had persuaded her to stay in bed while breakfast was prepared. When Edith called upstairs some ten minutes later, the old revolutionary did not answer. The end had come swiftly and painlessly. Neither artificial respiration nor the pulmotor of the emergency squad could revive the heart which had beat so long in the cause of the

Funeral services were held today at 11 a.m. in accordance with wishes of the immediate family.

LAID TO REST

In charge was the Workmen's Circle. Comrade Konikow was one of the founders of this workers' benefit organization. All her life had been spent in the cause of the working class. Now in death, the workers laid her tenderly

The services were simple the plain casket of a worker and the words of close friends and comrades to bid her farewell. The most eloquent tribute came from the Boston workers who loved her. They banked flowers around her casket. Red carnations, the flowtion, and red roses. The floral offering that epitomized the life of Antoinette Konikow was a hammer and sickle with a "4" to represent the Fourth International. That tribute came from the National Committee of the Socialist Workers Party in token of the sentiments of the whole world - wide movement which is now advancing Leon Trotsky's program of revolutionary socialism as the only way

(Continued on Page 2)



ANTOINETTE KONIKOW 1869—1946

### **REVOLUTIONARY LEADERS** SEND SORROWING TRIBUTES

We print below the messages sent by James P. Cannon, Rose Karsner and Natalia Trotsky to the family of Antoinette Konikow.

Farewell Antoinette Konikow. Your unceasing and devoted loyalty to the cause of the working class remains our heritage and an inspiration to our youth. Your death is a great loss to us. Your heroic spirit lives on. Farewell Antoinette.

> James P. Cannon Rose Karsner

I share with you the bitterness of your loss. Coyoacan, Mexico

## **SWP National Committee Expresses Grief Of Party**

The Socialist Workers Party mourns the passing of one of the leaders of the Trotskyist movement.

Antoinette Konikow was one of our living links with the founders of Marxism. Frederick Engels headed the revolutionary socialist movement when Antoinette became a Socialist in 1888. She saw the rise of the Second International and then its decline. She participated in the founding of the pioneer Communist movement in this country and of the Third International. When the Third International died as a revolutionary force she helped found the Fourth International.

She was with Plekhanov, the founder of the Russian Marxist movement. She was with Lenin, the founder of the first workers' state in history. She was among the first to rebel against Stalinism. And she fought side by side with Leon Trotsky in the great historic struggle in defense of the conquests of the October 1917 revolution. For almost sixty years Antoinette Konikow stood in the revolutionary vanguard of the world

working class. This incomparable wealth of experience became part of the revolutionary heritage of

American Trotskyism. As a youth Antoinette Konikow rebelled against the injustice, the vile prejudices, the exploitation and the degradation that belong to capitalism. She set out to build a better world. Taking her place with the revolutionary socialists, she gave her best energies to overthrowing the dying economic system that breeds depressions, unemployment, hunger, war and fascism. No one could swerve her from that path.

She fought against the First World War and she remained a consistent internationalist in the Second World War. Up to the day of her death she was still doing her part with that magnificent selflessness and devotion so characteristic of her. Antoinette lived the full life of a revolutionary.

Many times she told young people who came to her with their problems that there is no better way to live than joining in the great task of ending the nightmare of capitalism and reshaping the world on socialist foundations. Antoinette has left us. but her spirit continues to march in our ranks.

Her example and memory provide the real inspiration for the youth of today. She never faltered in the supreme hope and confidence that this generation will solve the historical tasks of the world working class.

It was the great fighters like Antoinette Konikow and her generation that built the granite foundation of our movement. She lived to see the formation of those detachments that will surmount all obstacles on the path to the Communist future of man. Let it be repeated her confidence and faith in that future never wavered.

As we dip our stainless banner over the grave of Antoinette Koników, we say goodbye to a leader and teacher who hands on to us the torch of revolutionary socialism from the founders of the movement in the last century. We shall carry forward that torch as you would wish it. Antoinette, courageously and with all our energy.

> National Committee of the Socialist Workers Party

Workers Ot The World, Unite.

## Antoinette Konikow Mourned By Comrades THEMILITANT PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

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## New OPA Bill Will Not Halt Run-Away Prices

## **Detroit Unions Urge National** Labor'Holiday'

By Al Adler

DETROIT, July 5. — Over 1,200 officers, committeemen and stewards from the United Automobile Workers and other CIO unions at a meeting here Tuesday night vigorously applauded the program outlined by UAW President Walter Reuther "to re-open all wage contracts if a new and better OPA is not passed by Congress."

This meeting representing the leadership of the workers in the plants, enthusiastically supported every militant proposal pre-

LA SOR HOLIDAY

The meeting called for a national labor holiday demonstration to protest the runaway inflation hitting the basic standard of living of the American workers. It further instructed the local unions to re-organize their flying squadrons "So that the furniture of evicted workers may be put back into their homes as fast as the courts and police put them on the sidewalk."

After many delegates had spoken of the need for immediate action rather than adoption of well-sounding resolutions, chairman Richard T. Leonard, UAW vice-president and head of the Michigan PAC, was forced to promise that a proposed Cadillac Square demonstration and coordinated national demonstrations protesting the slashing of (Continued on Page 6)

### **Jim-Crow Judge** Aids Frame-up In Trial Of 25

Ingram, 25 Negro victims of a 12-cent an hour raise, a guarthe February reign of terror by state troopers in Columbia, Tennessee, will be forced to stand trial in Lawrenceburg, where race-hate is even more rampant than in Columbia itself.

This is the answer of the Jim Crow judge and State's attorney Paul F. Bumpus to requests by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for a change of venue. After cynically denying that race hatred exists in Columbia and refusing to transfer the trial, the court has finally agreed—to a new site which will still further endanger the Negroes who face frame-up charges of "attempt to commit murder."

Defense attorneys underscored

the fact that the lynch atmosphere in Lawrenceburg exceeds that in Columbia. But Judge Ingram over-ruled a defense motion that the trial remain in Columbia rather than be moved to the even worse lynch atmosphere of Lawrenceburg. The frameup is thus scheduled to proceed. Meanwhile NAACP attorneys will open pleas of abatement in Columbia this week in the case of two Negroes indicted separately on charges of assault with attempt to commit murder in the first degree. As in the case of the 25, the NAACP asks that the indictment be quashed because

Negroes were barred from jury

service. The lily - white grand jury Secretary of War Patterson. which made the indictments denied that there had been any violation of the civil rights of homes and businesses, terrorized the people, arrested over 100 and blood in the jail.

Defying Bilbo's Threats



Here are two of the estimated 5,000 Negroes in Mississippi who were permitted to register and who defied Democratic Senator Bilbo's threats of lynch violence by voting in last week's primaries. Hundreds of thousands of white and Negro workers are still denied the ballot through poll tax and other restrictions.

## Packing Union Seeks Cost-Of-Living Bonus

(Special to The Militant) . @ CHICAGO, July 3—"A bon-

us based on rising living costs" is a main point of the wage program of the CIO United Packinghouse Workers, the union's paper, The Packinghouse Worker, announced on June 28.

This demand will be raised in next month's negotiations with Swift, Armour, Wilson and Cudahy. Other demands include a By order of presiding Judge basic \$1 per hour minimum wage, anteed anuual wage and no wage

> The UPWA Executive Board states that "fewer dollars are actually being taken home, on the average per week, than before the 16 per cent increase went into effect" last February. In addition, "the cost of living has continued to mount." Therefore, the UPWA "will press during negotiations for the inclusion of a clause in the contract providing for a COST OF LIVING BONUS."

Details of the bonus have not living costs.

#### Meat Profits Up **Production Down** CHICAGO, July 5. — In

the first six months of its fiscal year, October 28, 1945 to April 27, 1946, Armour & Co., one of the "Big Four" meat packers, made more profits than during the previous entire year, a statement recently filed by the company reveals. This big jump in profits occurred, according to Lyle Cooper, UPWA-CIO Research Director, while hog slaughter fell off, plants were down during last January's strike, a 16-cent wage increase was paid since January 26, and cattle department operations almost stopped.

yet been worked out. Ralph Helstein, UPWA president (reported in last week's Militant), indicated it will be an adaptaing scale of wages to meet rising

### Truman-Sponsored Measure Designed To Fool Workers

By Art Preis

The new Truman-sponsored OPA bill being debated in Congress is a deception. It will not control prices any more than the previous measure, under which living costs soared during the war more than a hundred per cent.

This measure, like its predecessor, is intended not to halt rising prices but to "regulate" **Black Market** inflation. Unwilling to take re-**Prices On Meat** sponsibility for Congress's openly-inflationary bill which he vetoed. Truman is seeking to re-

**Now Are Legal** 

Promptly, meat began reappear-

ing in butcher shop display cases.

Huge supplies, withheld in stor-

age by the meat packers, started

nogs poured into the stock-yard

But the poor are as meat-

hungry as ever. What has hap-

pened primarily is that the al-

most universal black market

prices have become legal prices

with the ending of the farce

of government "price control."

Under OPA, the meat barons

had been permitted to jump

prices again and again. In ad-

dition the government paid them

meat industry prazenty violated

price ceilings. It black-jacked

the people into paying illegal

prices or going hungry. Now

ing themselves of other neces-

CIO Packinghouse Workers of-

when the monopolists are kicked

skyrocketing prices.

calm."

must now pay directly.

establish a fictitious price control in the disguise of a "good" After imposing a meat OPA bill. famine on the country, the Although the Senate Banking profiteering meat trust last Committee deleted some portions week achieved its aim of of the vetoed bill, the "comproeliminating price ceilings. | mise" measure it proposed last

week is merely a patch-work of

the former feeble "price control" act and the vetoed bill. It is clear that the administrahitting the market. Cattle and tion would like to palm a measure like this off on the workers as "price control." This would then be used as the pretext for demanding a wage freeze—while prices continue upward as they

> did during the war. The present bounding inflation is merely an intensification of the trend which developed throughout the imperialist war

(Continued on Page 6)

#### a subsidy of \$750,000,000 a year. This, of course, was a hidden price rise which the consumers nust now pay directly. Despite OPA's generosity, the Best War Years'

Reduction of corporation profits taxes and rising prices are enabling the corporations to conthere is more meat-but most tinue raking in profits at the people can get it only by depriv- best war-time rate.

During the first three months of this year despite drastic curtailment of war production, corficers pointed out in a statement porate profits after taxes relast week that Truman did not mained "close to that of the best hesitate to seize the packing war years," reported the Departplants when the workers exer- ment of Commerce on July 2.

cised their rights to strike against The government agency relow wages. But they said, when vealed that although profits bethe meat trust withholds meat fore taxes were lower than in for months, the administration 1945, the elimination of the exviews the matter "with complete cess profits tax and easing of other taxes had provided a suf-The people will be assured of ficient offset to keep profits after meat at prices they can pay only taxes at high war-time levels.

Wage increases won by the out and the meat industry is unions are coming from these EXPROPRIATED. The meat in- vast profits. But Big Business, dustry must be taken over and greedy to make more and more. operated under workers' control. is trying to wipe out the wage tion of the principle of the slid- This will eliminate the terrific gains and increase its profits profits which are reflected in through a hidden wage cut-in-

## 2 Top Washington Officials Linked To \$78,000,000 Arms Firm Fraud

By Ruth Benson

Hearings before the Senate Defense Investigating on one contract. May demanded ation settlement! Committee, headed by Senator Mead, last week revealed action and got it from General that one enterprising arms

and no workers, wound up with over \$78,000,000 in government contracts. This profitable deal was engineered, it is alleged, with the assistance of two of the highest-placed men in the whole war program — Representative May of Kentucky, head of the House Military Affairs Committee, and

In October, 1941, Henry M. Garsson borrowed a letterhead dition it actually praised the ment Division of the War De-1,000 Tennessee state troopers partment, offering to produce who had stormed through the shells, through an imaginary Negro community, destroyed Erie Basin Metal Products Co. which he claimed to be a Segal subsidiary. The War Departshot down two Negroes in cold ment promptly sent him a mil-

combine starting during the Erie Basin 'Metal Products, war with no cash, no plants Inc., of Illinois, was then set up chief of the Chicago Ordnance to "absorb" the fictitious firm. Division. A \$3,000,000 contract rolled in, though there was still no factory! of mine," said May, "and have to the vast steals made by Gen-Subsequent contracts, totaling \$44.879.000 were transferred to the Illinois Watch and Case Co., owned by Garsson's partners.

In May, 1942, another company, Batavia Metal Products, 07 to the May firm for lumber and are getting fat rebates on was formed, which "bought" at | which was never delivered. Garsa tripled valuation the U.S. Wind son kept on getting contracts. and Engine Co. also belonging the Negro victims of the Febru- from the Segal Safe and Lock Co. and three associates as officers power Commission on Febru- chases, worked out by Wall ary assault, despite wholesale of Brooklyn. Garsson wrote to of all the companies, pulled in ary 28, 1945, after a call from Street and administered by its evidence to the contrary. In ad- the Chemical Warfare Procure- salaries totaling over \$2,000,000 Garsson, who wanted the "ceil- own agents in "dollar a year" added to the firm, an Army Col- from 793 to 1,000 workers. Pat- be hidden any longer. So the onel who as Chemical Procureed some \$44,000,000 in contracts for the outfit.

A year later Garsson complained to Representative May that was handed an overpayment of Street racket.

Campbell, who "jumped on" Gen. Thomas S. Hammond, profits of Kaiser and Higgins in

been very kind to me."

Cumberland Lumber Company

to Garsson's partners. Garsson put the screws on the War Man- ancing of government war purduring the war. Another man was | ing" for his Batavia plant raised | posts, reeks with fraud. It can't terson agreed. The WMC was Senate Investigating Committee ment Division official had okay- not to be "let off the hook," is turning the spotlight on one until it complied, admitted one smelly deal perpetrated by relawitness, Col. Brennan.

he was not being allowed to bid | \$1,010,000 in a contract termin-

The Garsson case, is just peanuts, though, compared to the shipbuilding, also made without any investment of their own "These fellows are good friends | funds. And it can't be compared eral Motors, Standard Oil, Gen-May himself got control of the eral Electric, U. S. Steel and the rest of the powerful monopolists late in 1943. The Garsson com- who coined billions in profits. bine advanced a total of \$48,634.- got government-built plants free. their excess profits taxes.

Then why the fuss over the Secretary of War Patterson Garsson case? The whole fintively small-time crooks, who As a final gift, the combine dared to muscle in on the Wall

# Antoinette Konikow -- Trotskyist "Our Dead Comrade Pioneer, Mourned By Comrades Spirits Of Our Time"

(Continued from Page 1)

under capitalism.

flag on my grave."

#### "ALWAYS A REBEL"

This indomitable spirit, characteristic of Antoinette, pervaded the funeral. All the speakers cited her life as the only kind ing of Antoinette alive — her her indomitable fighting will, her unrelenting struggle against the capitalist exploiters, the way she kept the goal of a socialist society before her for so many years when all the doubters and the weak ones dropped by the wayside—it was a sharp pain to remember that all this is gone now-all this, and her voice, and her hands and the way her eyes

I spoke on behalf of the staff of The Militant to which Antoinette had been a contributor since Party presided at the services. the founding of the paper. It He read telegrams from all over was not easy to speak at An- the country, grieving Comrade toinette's funeral. I would rath- Konikow's death. The roster of er have sat with those Boston the party's branches in great citcomrades who mourned her as les from coast to coast showed

one closer than a mother. of a great warming bonfire in itical vanguard of the American the night. Antoinette was like working class. All the senders that. She was one of those who of these tributes pledged to car-

to escape atomic destruction | wind of the capitalist | night.

She was one of those who At a banquet in New York brought us the heritage of the City on October 30, 1943, com- first founding fathers of scienmemorating the Fifteenth An- tific socialism. Frederick Engels niversary of the founding of the headed the movement when she American Trotskyist movement, joined in 1888. She was a mem-Antoinette Konikow declared: "I ber of the group organized by have always been a rebel and Plekhanov who brought scienhave led a life of struggle, But tific socialism into Czarist Rusthas been a thrilling life. I sia. She saw the rise of the probably will not see the time Second International and saw it when you will win. When you broken by betrayal. She joined do, please come and lay the red with Lenin and Trotsky, the founders of the first workers' state in history and helped in the birth of the Third International. When Stalinism ate into its vitals, as opportunism had eaten into the vitals of the Second International, she joined really worth while. And think- Leon Trotsky in the great historic struggle that led to the boundless vitality, her courage, founding of the Fourth Interna-

Standing beside her casket. I knew that the real fire that had inspired Antoinette Konikow was not dead. The flame dies down and turns to ashes. But sparks are already in the wind. They touch waiting tinder and the blaze starts up afresh in a hundred places.

#### PLEDGE TO CARRY ON

Sidney Crabbe of the Boston Branch of the Socialist Workers how deeply Antoinette is en-A picture came into my mind shrined in the hearts of the pol-



Joseph Hansen speaking for the staff of "The Militant" at the funeral of Antoinette Konikow.

she had devoted her life.

Comrade Crabbe introduced as her fine personality, her warm again." the next speaker, Dr. Louis Sil- understanding of people and her attracted us from the cold and ry on the great cause to which ver, an old personal friend of

Workmen's Circle. Comrade Konikow was not Jewish herself, but in the early days of the la- LAST FAREWELL bor movement the program of warmest reception among the immigrants from Eastern Europe delivered part of his remarks in

E. R. Frank represented the National Committee of the Sosaid. "Her entire conscious life hear again: from the age of 19 when she first ment in 1888, right up to the socialism, the emancipation of Trotsky, you will conquer. mankind from the horrors and fears and terrors of capitalism and the creation of a new society of brotherhood, of comradeship, of freedom, of peace and plenty for all."

Comrade Crabbe then read a message from the American Committee for the Relief of European Workers, which Antoinette helped found and of which she was Chairman. The letter, sent by Rose Karsner on behalf of the Committee, declared that "Our best memorial to Antoinette is to redouble our efforts. She herself expressed this unflagging spirit and determination time and

Rose Karsner quoted the last response to their needs whenever letter sent by Antoinette to the they brought their problems to Committee. Comrade Crabbe brought the services to a close

> "I know that we now have an enthusiastic fighting group," said

"To these young comrades and friends, I appeal now to concentrate their well-proved en-Saul Friedman spoke in be- ergy, their splendid abilities on described Antoinette's role in ings of our co-workers in Europe ready proficient in English and you, my young comrades and

man, she learned Jewish in ord- the obligations which old and ill er to carry out her work for the comrades like myself are not in condition to fulfill."

At the grave, comrades and revolutionary socialism found its friends assembled to bid Antoinette a last farewell. Comrade who were terribly oppressed in Frank called for a minute of sithe sweat shops of America. In lence. With fists clenched, the memory of Antoinette's work in crowd gave the last Communist Trotskyist movement.

years ago, commemorating the cialist Workers Party. In mov- founding of the Fourth Intering terms he told what Antoin- national in 1938, express exactly ette meant to the Trotskyist how we felt at the flower-strewn movement. She was "one of the grave as we recalled that in- almost unbelievable, unreal on rarest spirits of our time," he spiring voice we would never the background of this society

entered the working class move- banner unsoiled. Many times it today which exalts the self-seekwas dragged into the mud. We ers, the scoundrels, the schemhour of her death, was devoted lifted it up and lovingly cleansed ers, the liars and tyrants and to the revolutionary struggle, it to give it to you. Under the oppressors. Look at the people was dedicated to the cause of red banner of Mark, Lenin and who are pointed to as examples,

#### YOU WILL CONQUER'

think of us, who will not be with crites, worthless careerists whose you at that glorious time, and main aim is to feather their own say: 'Comrades, sleep in peace. nests and save their own skins.

The work has been done!'"

Antoinette Konikow was of a

#### First Trotskyist **Meeting In Boston**

Antoinette Konikow was chairman of a historic meeting in Boston which the Stalinists tried to break up with physical violence. It was the first Trotskyist meeting in that area, February 15, 1929. James P. Cannon, the principal speaker, had as his subject, "The Truth About Trotsky and The Platform of the Russian Opposition."

Anticipating the moves of the Stalinists, a defense squad of husky workers were on hand to uphold free speech, "A gang of Stalinist hoodlums was also there," writes Comrade Cannon in The History of American Trotskyism, "bent on breaking up the meeting, but evidently they became convinced that they would get their own heads broken if they tried it. The Boston meeting was a success.'

Within a short time eight or ten comrades, inspired by the militant spirit of Antoinette Konikow and her comrades, organized the group that was to develop into the present Boston Branch of the Socialist Workers Party.

## (The following is the memorial address delivered at the funeral

of Comrade Antoinette Konikow by E. R. Frank, editor of "Fourth International," who spoke on behalf of the National Committee of the Socialist Workers Party.)

Comrade Antoinette Konikow was one of the rarest spirits of our time. Her entire conscious life, from the age of 19 when she first entered the working class movement in 1888, right up to the hour of her death, was devoted to the revolutionary struggle; was dedicated to the cause of socialism, the emancipation of mankind from the those days, Comrade Friedman salute to this heroine of the horrors and fears and terrors of capitalism and the crea-

ship, of freedom, of peace and plenty for all.

The life and deeds of Comrade Antoinette Konikow seem - this brutal and harsh and "We place in your hands a cynical class society we live in who are honored and praised, and for whom statues and monuments are built! Why, nine "And when that great moment times out of ten these arrives, pause for a moment and people are nothing but hypo-

Antoinette Konikow was of a determined not by thought of her personal ambition or career, to cherish and to emulate. but of serving best in the great its evil and terrible plagues—of

#### NEVER WAVERED

And in this holy crusade - the greatest and the noblest that there is in this world — she remained faithful and true throughout her life. Others fell by the wayside. Others grew tired, or lost faith or heart, or became terrified of the difficulties and dangers, or succumbed to the pressure or the blandishments or the fleshpots of the never lost courage or strength.

truth, for justice, for the soli- revolutionary struggle to which

rotskyist movement.

Antoinette's words of eight tion of a new society of spirit is indestructible—and that the fight will go on despite everything, until it achieves its purposes, until victory is won. until this terrible plague of capitalism, with its tyranny, barbarism, with its famines and wars, is wiped off the face of the earth.

I still can see in my mind's eye Comrade Konikow at our last Convention, in November 1944, the 11th Convention of the American Trotskyist movement. how, despite her advanced years. she stood up, youthful and selfconfident in spirit and told us how she had been battling for years, and how she was going to continue to battle until her dy-

#### INSPIRES ALL

What a picture, what an inspiration for all of us, for the different mold. She was made of young men and the young women different clay. Her whole life she who are first mapping out their life's courses, what an example

Many things will pass away crusade to cleanse this earth of and the names of many men and women high in bourgeois soexploitation of man by man, of ciety, today famous and acclaimhuman degradation and want, ed, will be forgotten and, in a of the scourge of capitalist wars, few years, be unknown. But Comrade Konikow will not only be remembered, but future generations who will study this present age of ours in wonderment as well as sorrow, will come to know of Antoinette Konikow as one of the truest and most loval and devoted of the original band of pioneers who blazed the trail for the socialist society.

And now I must in the name of the National Committee of the Socialist Workers Party of Stalinist bureaucracy or the which she was an honorary capitalist powers-that-be, but not member, give the last word of Antoinette Konikow. She never farewell to this wonderful comfaltered. She never wavered. She rade, this great, indestructible revolutionary spirit. Of course. The great revolutionary faith grief is in all our hearts. But it with which, as a young girl of is not the grief of prostration, of 19, she first plunged into the helplessness. No, let us say farestruggle in Czarist Russia, she well to Antoinette as she would retained to the last. And through | want it. Let us say farewell it all she retained her woman- standing upright, with our eyes liness, her poise and her beauty. dry and our fists clenched with She provided us with constant resolution. And with the pledge living reassurance that the spirit on our lips that we will, regardof mankind, in its striving for less of everything, carry on the darity of humanity—that that she devoted her life.

## A Trotskyist To The End

— By John G. Wright –

Antoinette Konikow was a revolutionary socialist to the last day of her life. A striking incident the night before she died indicates her

One of her friends in the medical profession. a leading Boston psychiatrist, visited her. Antoinette has long been famous in the medical world. But the conversation quickly turned to questions far more important than shop talk. Antoinette raised the question of dialectical materialism. The doctor responded with an attack on the dialect method claiming that it has not been borne out by latest developments in

Antoinette did not spend much time on the defensive. Almost 60 years as a Marxist had taught her the extraordinary importance of the dialectic method, and all her experiences in the medical field as well as study in other sciences had only confirmed what she had learned from the great Marxist teachers: She opened up with a counter-attack that quickly won her the upper hand. And then to pursue her advantage she persuaded her foe in dialectics to continue the subject the following night.

Antoinette wanted to pass on to the younger generation the lessons and truths gleaned in a long lifetime of hard experience. Three years ago, she retired from active practice, intending to devote the remainder of her life entirely to recording the most important things she had learned.

She assembled the great mass of notes she had jotted down from time to time and began putting them in order. First on the agenda was her memoirs. After writing about her childhood and youth in Czarist Russia and Germany as a background, she took up her political recollections. These begin with her impressions of George Plekhanov, the founder of Russian Marxm and teacher of Lenin.

#### Still Learning—At 76!

To facilitate her work she decided last winter to learn touch typing—at the age of 76! Her letters to the Political Committee changed all at once from the long-familiar, difficult-to-decipher handwriting to neatly typed communica-

But she did not succeed in finishing her memoirs. The considerable body of material she leaves will have to be assorted and woven together by someone else.

Her main objective in this work was to leave the younger generation with a true impression of more than a half century of revolutionary socialism. She had seen what damage opportunism can do. With her own eves she saw the Second International brought to ruin and betrayal. In the light of this experience she understood to the full the need for battling Stalinism tooth and nail, for the Stalinist regime not only spreads the same poison of opportunism as the Second International, but wields totalitarian state power with utter ruthlesness.

Consequently she devoted a great deal of her last days to analyzing the revolutionary period of the Communist International in order to show what the Bolsheviks under Lenin and Trotsky really set out to do. The task of her generaction, she felt, was to hand on the program of revolutionary socialism as Marx, Engels, Lenin and Trotsky had shaped it. Her study of the First Four Congresses of the Communist International resulted in an outline for class use and much additional unpublished material.

She wanted especially to write down her impressions of the Bolshevik generation that led the October 1917 revolution. Many of them she knew personally. They were the men cruelly slandered by Stalin as fascist "dogs gone mad." She knew them to be victims of Stalin, framedup in the Moscow trials organized by the Kremlin dictator.

In 1940 she visited Leon Trotsky and his wife Natalia at Coyoacan. There the friendship with the great revolutionary couple, already many years old, was still more firmly cemented. The assassination of Trotsky by a GPU agent was a terrible personal blow to Antoinette.

Despite her age, Antoinette followed the press very closely. She intervened actively in political events, following The Militant and Fourth International and sending in her criticisms and

Recently she pointed out the necessity for the European Trotskyist movement to start up a half of the District Committee the important burdensome job paper in the Russian language. She mentioned of the Workmen's Circle. He of relieving the physical sufferthe hundreds of thousands of Russian-speaking refugees now in various countries. The founding that organization. Al- and other countries. I turn to paper, she thought, should be popularly written, and even if her own Russian wasn't "clas- French besides Russian and Ger- friends, to take upon yourselves sical" she was willing to become a contributor.

Antoinette spent her last days in the kind of surroundings she loved most, a cottage on the shores of Morse Pond, a beautiful lake at Wellesley, Massachusetts. The green surroundings reminded her of the Black Forest country of Germany where she one lived. She particularly admired a great pine tree standing between the porch and the lake. Some time ago a bolt of lightning ripped through the branches of this tree. After every storm Antoinette came out to see how it had weathered the ordeal. But it always stood, sturdy and strong, ruggedly beautiful despite the scars of time, wind and

#### **Busy With Party Tasks**

It was here that Antoinette Konikow died busy with party tasks up to the very end.

Antoinette was not only a great teacher and leader of the Trotskyist movement. She was an integral part of the Boston branch of the Socialist Workers Party. The members counted her as their closest friend and advisor. Most of them she had nurtured as budding revolutionary socialist politicians of the working class, and she took great personal interest in the development of each one. Her classes in speaking, in the principles of Marxism, and in the history of the movement gave most of the Boston comrades their first insight into Trotskyism.

No one saw through sham and pretense quicker than Antoinette. No one had more contempt for the traitors, the liars and the tyrants who occupy the high places. No one was more revolted than she over the medals showered by Stalin on his sycophants. But that did not prevent her from seeing the value of genuine leaders and of appreciation well earned. In fact she probably understood the pricelessness of these things all the more because she was a real iconoclast. One of the most moving incidents in her political life was her reaction to an autographed photograph and letter from Leon Trotsky on her Fiftieth Anniversary in the Marxist movement. In response to the tribute paid her by those present on the occasion, she

#### Trotsky's Warm Tribute

"The comrades have received me with warmth and friendship. It gives me tremendous happiness. The kind words written by Comrade Trotsky on his picture presented to me remind me of the greatest honor—the honor that was! -given to comrades in Russia, the Order of Lenin pinned upon their breasts. I feel as if a grave economic crisis, the chief foreign-born audiences in all the Comrade Trotsky has planed the Order of victims of which were the major cities, As a demonstration Trotsky on my breast! Not that I am a hero- foreign-born workers from East- of her international solidarity worshipper-for I have helped to pull down too ern Europe. Upon arriving in with the workers everywhere, many heroes from their pedestals. But in the Boston, Mass., young Antoinette even those dragooned into the last ten years of darkness, of despair, the words immediately threw herself into armies of the "enemy," she spoke of Leon Trotsky have been like a bell for a ship the unemployed movement. To in German. in distress, leading it to safe harbor.'

her. He told what countless by reading this letter, which vivfriends she had in Boston. In idly conveyed the fighting spirit the history of the city she had of the great pioneer Communist played a great role in bringing and Trotskyist. the ideas of socialism from Europe to America. Even her political foes, he pointed out, could the letter in part, "which has the not help admiring her character. inspiration to continue the en-Her devotion to the cause of ergetic struggle started by us emancipating the working class older comrades; a young group made one feel ashamed for do- with more knowledge, more asing so little. Her unshakable surance, historically nearer the will in battling tirelessly for her goal than their predecessors. ideals throughout the years was something worth emulating. ACCOMPLISHED LINGUIST

Antoinette. Dr. Silver described

## 58 Years A Fighter For The Oppressed

Antoinette Konikow was born November 19, 1869 in @ Orenburg, Russia (now Chklov). Her early childhood was spent in Germany, her youth in Czarist Russia. Her interest in the labor movement began at the age of

seventeen. When she went abroad to Switzerland to study.

she joined the Russian So—
the work she learned Jewish.
cialist movement in 1888, be—
Later she was one of those coming a member of the first instrumental in founding the Marxist organization in Rus- first mutual benefit association,



The parents of the future revolutionary socialist were members of the Lutheran Church. That is why the six year old girl wore a cross around her neck when she had her picture taken. Years later Antoinette Federica was to explain repeatedly how the various church hierarchies support the reactionary capitalist system.

sia, the "Emancipation of Labor Group" founded by Plekhanov.

In 1893 she emigrated to participate most effectively in

the Jewish Workmen's Circle.

#### DE LEONIST LEADER

Throughout this period she vas a member of the Socialist Labor Party, then headed by De Leon. She was active as lecturer, served on the Massachusetts State Committee and held other leading posts.

In 1897, upon expulsion from the SLP because of her opposition to bureaucratic methods and practices of the leadership, she immediately joined the Debs wing of the Socialist movement, which presently fused with other groups to found the United Socialist Party, later known as the Socialist Party.

the extreme left wing of the movement, serving on the Massachusetts State Committee, and as member of the National Women's Committee. The split in the Second Inter-

In this period she remained in

national precipitated by the first imperialist world war found ner on the side of the irreconcilable opponents of war, fighting the treacherous policy of "national unity" and socialpatriotism.

#### OPPOSED WORLD WAR I

tered the war in 1917, she made a national tour, speaking in op-America. This was the year of position to the war before

When the United States en-

porting Lenin and Trotsky.

At the age of 12. Within

five years this strikingly beautiful girl was to become interested in the cause of labor and two years later join the first organized Marxist group in Russia. In those days, Frederick Engels, the closest collaborator of Karl Marx, headed the international revolutionary socialist

1917 Revolution she rallied to a decade later in 1938. the banner of Bolshevism, sup-

founders of the Communist remained devoted and loyal to In the period of the October movement in this country. She the day she died—July 2, 1946.

participated in the underground conventions - among them the one held in Worcester, Mass., at the height of the Palmer raids against the Reds. PIONEER COMMUNIST

In the pioneer Communist movement she held many important posts on the Massachusetts District Committee, the Working Committee on Russian Relief, etc.

When the Trade Union Educational League (TUEL) was formed for revolutionary activity in the organized labor movement, she took part on its leadng body in Boston.

Within the American Communist Party she found herself once again, as so often in the past, in opposition to the policies of the official leadership. Her visit to the Soviet Union in 1926 strengthened her growing alarm at the menace of Stalin-

Upon her return to this country, she began to show her opposition more and more openly. In the autumn of 1928, this pioneer fighter against Stalinism was among the first expelled as a Trotskyist by the CP leadership (then headed by Love-

#### stone). JOINS TROTSKYISTS

She joined the other leading Trotskyists on October 27, 1928, in raising the banner of the Communist League of America (Left Opposition)—the original Trotskyist organization in the United States; and in the founding of the Fourth International

The last 18 years of her life were thus spent under the ban-Antoinette was one of the ner of Trotskyism, to which she



A graduate of Tufts College in 1902 at the age of 33. Although she had a family on her hands and was participating actively in the Socialist movement, she studied medicine in addition, Dr. Antoinette F. Konikow rapidly became famous as one of the founders of the movement for planned families through birth control. But throughout her life the field of medicine remained of secondary interest, including those phases most closely linked with social problems. Her primary life objective was a political oneto end capitalism and build a socialist society.

# Workers Everywhere Voice Tributes To Heroic Life Of Comrade Konikow

The following messages were sent to the family of Antoinette Konikow by branches of the Socialist Workers Party.

#### Akron

The Akron Branch mourns the loss of a great socialist fighter, Antoinette. Her life will remain inspiring example to us.

#### Allentown

We all deeply grieve the passing of Comrade Antoinette Konikow. Her youthful enthusiasm and faith in the workers and our movement have inspired us. She will be sorely missed.

#### Bayonne

We are terribly shocked at the news of Comrade Antoinette's death. We have suffered an irreparable loss. She represented for us the personal embodiment of all our revolutionary ideals.

#### **Buffalo**

We are with you at this sad moment. Comrade Antoinette's devotion will always inspire us.

#### Chicago

We mourn with you in our common loss.

#### Cleveland

The memory of Antoinette Konikow will inspire world Trotsky-

#### **Connecticut**

We have heard the sad news of Antoinette Konikow's death. Courage, loyalty and devotion is our heritage.

#### Detroit

The Detroit branch of the Socialist Workers Party, shocked and grieved by the death of Antoinette Konikow, at its meeting tonight stood in silent tribute to the memory of this sterling revolutionist who devoted a long, full life in the service of the working class. The Detroit branch extends the sincere expression of sorrow felt by each and every member.

The Flint comrades join with you in this hour of your bereavement. Comrade Antoinette Konikow will always be a towering inspiration to our movement. Her long and devoted service to the struggle for world wide socialism will never be forgotten.

#### Los Angeles

The oldest and most steadfast among us has passed away. Her life will be an inspiration to the revolutionary youth the world over. Her name will be high on our honor roll as we achieve the victory she fought for.

#### **Mid-West School**

From the memorial meeting held this evening at the Midwest School and Camp in honor of our beloved comrade Antoinette. all the comrades and friends present send you their deepest sympathy. Although our movement has lost one of its most cherished and devoted leaders, her many decades of work for the advancement of socialism survive as an active force in the life of our party.

Comrade Antoinette embodied the great unbroken tradition of unstinted service by Marxists to the cause of labor's emancipation. She enriched it by her activities, her achievements and above classes; the boss class and the working class. all by the power of her personal example. Her steadfastness, optimism and courage over a long lifetime remains a source of strength to us all.

#### Milwaukee

We deeply mourn the passing of Comrade Antoinette Konikow. The working class has lost a militant, persevering fighter for the husband gives her a chance to send out

#### Newark

The Newark comrades extend our deepest condolences on the death of our respected comrade Antoinette Konikow. By her lifelong devotion to the cause of the workers, her intransigent adherence to Trotskyism, her deep loyalty to our party, she personified the model revolutionist as she so often urged the younger comrades to do. We pledge that we shall follow firmly in her footsteps in the struggle for socialist victory.

#### New York

The New York Local of the Socialist Workers Party sends you deepest condolences on your great loss. Antoinette's valiant life and struggle will be a source of unending inspiration. Her memory will remain forever among revolutionists.

#### Philadelphia

With deep sorrow we pause to mourn and pay honor to our departed comrade. Her life has been an inspiration to the cause which she so ably served. We shall carry on the more determinedly because of her great example.

#### Pittsburgh

Antoinette Konikow was in our thoughts when we received the news. We will keep her strength and fighting spirit in our memory until we win our world.

#### San Francisco

The San Francisco and Oakland branches wish to convey their deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Comrade Antoinette. We shall always honor her for decades of devoted service to the revolutionary movement which to our knowledge few people have equalled.

#### Seattle

The Seattle branch of the Socialist Workers Party wishes work out as it should have been because workers I think that if women would lead a healthy and der Hitler. to express to you its deep sorrow at the death of Comrade Antoin- of other countries did not follow their example, normal life, their faces would look different. ette Konikow, devoted fighter to the cause of the revolutionary Also in Russia the workers were unable to stop They would acquire the rosy cheeks that we had more knowledge, the experience of 50 years of and branded the trials as frame-ups."



The photograph sent to Antoinette Konikow by Leon Trotsky on the fiftieth anniversary of her entry into the revolutionary movement. The inscription reads:

"We are proud, my dear Antoinette, to have you in our ranks. You are a beautiful example of energy and devotion for our youth. I embrace you with the wish: Long Live Antoinette Konikow! Yours fraternally, Leon Trotsky, Oct. 28, 1938,

liberation of the working class. Comrade Konikow's memory will be cherished by the party and will inspire the party in its forward march.

#### Toledo

It is with a deep sense of loss that we hear of the passing of Mother Konikow. Please extend our sympathy to all members minds of the many comrades privileged to know her.

APPEAL FOR HELP!

Communists exided to Siberia I Communists starving on fifteen deliers a month! Communists freezing for want of clothing and shoes! Veterans of the October Revolution condemned to die the long Siberian Death!

No. The Roylists have not returned to power. No world the opposition is growing. These brave Ruscias on his murderous throne. Then what has sain Contrades, who would rather die than submit to factional terrorism, must be kept alive!

Whether you agree with them or not - would you treat them thus? If you feel that it is not yet time for these men to die, it is your duty to keep them alive. Secretary, Dr. ANTOINETTE F. KONIKOW Organizer, L. SCHLOSBERG Treaurer, EVA WEINER Fin. Secy, CELIA COPPERSTEIN

Comrade Yoffe killed himself because he felt help-less to keep up the fight against the rule of Stalin. We trust tush to the support of our persecuted comrades to save them from such a fate. Already thruout the

#### WHAT IS WRONG WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY?

strength and glory of the Communist movement.

These what is wrong? So deeply wrong that it is bound to become dangerous to the movement. What is the reason that so many communists find it impossible to work for communism within the pasity. The great store growing larger and deeper in the communist movement is its form of organization carried over from the time of the Russian revolution; namely, the centralized democracy NOW without democracy, the entral discipline NOW without previous discussion, the power acquired by a faction of the Communist Party of Soviet Russia to demand obedience not only in Soviet Russia, but all over the world. HOW DID THE PRESENT LEADERSHIP

SUCH POWER?

First, because the Workers of the World look upon them as the direct followers of Lenin, because upon them as the direct followers of Lenin, because upon them as the direct followers of Lenin, because upon their heads reate yet the halo of the October revolution. All achieyements of Soviet Russia for the last ten years are considered to be their work. In fact, the workers identified them, just as they do themselves, with the Russian revolution and against evolution and against soviet Russia. History made the Russian Communist Soviet Russia. History made the Russian Communist Soviet Russia. History made the Russian Communist Soviet Russia. Soviet Russia, but in reality they represent only a faction in the R. C. P. which knows how to control its own Party and the Comintern. In the first year of the Soviet government all comruses of the executive committee had their say however

The front page of a printed bulletin-one of the first Trotskyist documents published in this country. It was issued by Antoinette Konikow upon her expulsion from the American Communist Party in 1928. This "Bulletin" suspended publication after its first issue, because almost simultaneously came the issuance of "The Militant" and the formation of the original Trotskyist organization, the Communist League of America (Left Opposition), in which she participated and which she helped found.

#### Twin Cities

Our hearts mourn with you over the loss of our dear comrade Antoinette. Her example of selfless devotion to the revolutionary movement will be a constant inspiration to "3.

#### Youngstown

The news of Comrade Antoinette's death was a great shock to the Youngstown branch. Our grief is allayed in part by the memory of her unswerving confidence throughout the darkest of the family. Though Comrade Konikow is no longer with us | years and the inspiring example she gave to all of us. We bow our her unconquerable spirit lives in our party and in the hearts and heads in sorrow. Her memory will be with us through all the

### RELIEF COMMITTEE PAYS HONOR TO ITS CHAIRMA

Message sent by Rose Karsner in behalf of the American Committee for European Workers Relief:

Antoinette Konikow, our Chairman, was one of the inspirers of our Committee. International Solidarity was part of her very life's breath. For nearly 60 years she had devoted her best energies in the inter-

ests of the world brotherhood of the working class. Her departure leaves a great gap. The news of her death shocked us profoundly. Our Antoinette can never be really replaced. But it would have been her wish that we do not succumb to mourning. She was a fighter. Only a few days ago she wrote us about the importance of the Committee's work in sending relief to the European workers.

Our best memorial to Antoinette is to redouble our efforts. She herself expressed this unflagging spirit and determination time and again. She herself made this clear in words none of us could improve upon in the letter she sent us on June 8. And so on behalf of the Committee let me quote this letter:

Comrades and Friends: After participating fifty-eight years in the revolutionary movement, and having reached my seventyseventh year, I am physically not able to do active work in our organization.

This realization of my disability, however, does not depress me, for I know that we now have an enthusiastic fighting group which has the inspiration to continue the energetic struggle started by us older comrades; a young group with more knowledge, more assurance, historically nearer the goal than their predecessors.

To these young comrades and friends, I appeal now to concentrate their well-proved energy, their splendid abilities on the important burdensome job of pelieving the physical sufferings of our co-workers in Europe and other countries.

I turn to you, my young comrades and friends. to take upon yourselves the obligations which old and ill comrades like myself are not in condition to ful-

We have the picture of the comrades in other countries suffering from malnutrition, cold, exhaustion, mercilessly persecuted by political enemies. Still, they have not given up the struggle. They have lifted our banner high to carry on the work under most unbelievable hardships.

Our response to their heroic strength and selfsacrifice must be -- HELP!

Food and clothing to our heroic brothers and sisters in other countries is our immediate and most responsible task! ANTOINETTE KONIKOW

## What Antoinette Konikow Taught The Workers

#### The Class Struggle

"The troubles of this world," wrote Antoinette Konikow in the July 29, 1944 Militant, "we So- avoid the mistakes made in Russia." cialists have always assured the workers, are not due to any conflict between the sexes-to a man's world or a woman's world. Poverty, disease, corruption, war, unemployment are due to economic causes; to the division of humanity into two sessing class and the dispossessed. Women of the which gives them wealth, leisure and security...

"Housework is a stigma of poverty or near poverty. The poorer the family, the bigger the task of the wife and mother, since better wages the laundry, to buy labor-saving devices, to indulge occasionally in a restaurant meal. No wonder that Hitler, who tried his best to keep women backward, proclaimed that church, kitchen and children are the women's sphere!"

Comrade Konikow then pointed out the value of women going into industry: "Work in the factory opens the woman's eyes. She knows now that her boss makes big profits out of her labor. She learns the lessons of the class struggle—and learns them in a shorter time than did her husband and other men workers. Women had to go through this same industrial schooling by which men learned, in order to understand the present system of living . .

'Capitalism created the working class, which is historically bound to overthrow capitalism... In the Second World War, capitalism has brought forth an army of women wage earners, who previously had been far away from the battlefield of labor. Now women work side by side with men, women have joined the industrial army, women are due to become fighting members of the working class."

#### Leisure And Machines

How small machines like refrigerators, toasters, vacuum cleaners, automatic dishwashers, etc., lighten housework, was used by Antoinette Konikow to explain to "Mrs. Smith, my neighbor" how the vast machinery of the industrial system could give the workers more leisure and rest if they only possessed them.

"Mrs. Smith was quite amazed," continued Comrade Konikow in the June 8, 1940 Militant. The comparison of machines in the factory and at home had evidently never occurred to her. Then she sadly shook her head. 'It sounds right, but machinery belongs to the bosses and they would never permit workers to use it that way.'

"'Well,' was my answer, 'the workers in Russia succeeded in getting all the factories and mines and transportation in their hands. True it did not

them. But the revolution in Russia proved it can be done and the experience of the workers there unhealthy life under capitalism. It is not an imwill teach the workers of the whole world how to portant issue but it is just as well to understand

#### Socialism And Housewives

In a "Letter to Housewives," Antoinette Konikow wrote in the March 30, 1940, Militant: "After Women, like men, belong to both classes, the pos- attaining workers' power the first task to relieve women's life would be the creation of nurseries, rich class are generally satisfied with this world kindergartens and playgrounds in a sufficient number—here in the United States their number is deplorably small. The next would be the organization of cooperative lunch rooms to relieve mothers of their kitchen drudgery. Even then mothers would still have plenty of work left: taking care of smaller meals, keeping the house in order, taking care of clothing, entertaining or supervising the children out of school and nurseries. nursing children with minor illnesses. Yes, even under socialism the mother will have her 6-8 hour day of work."

#### Motherhood Without Fear

"Mothers! The sugar-coated gifts hide the bitter pill of the boss system," wrote Comrade Konikow in the May 11, 1940, Militant. "Under capitalism there can be no improvement of conditions for women, mothers of families. Only in a Socialist society will mothers achieve that security which will permit them to raise children without fear for their future. But no one will give you that as a gift. You will have to struggle and fight for Socialism, you together with the workers, men and women, black and white, old and young-in this country and in others-for their cause is yours and only through the victory of the workers will mothers solve their problems. Only when mankind raises itself from slavery and exploitation and enjoys a free and full life will women choose motherhood happily, confidently and proudly. Rearing and preparing the young for a life in a socialist society, for useful labor, for boundless achievements in science, industry and art—that will indeed make of motherhood an interesting. important and honored profession."

#### Health And Beauty

Antoinette's championship of working class women included even things that might seem trivial. In an instructive letter on cosmetics quoted by Grace Carlson in the June 9, 1945, Militant, Comrade Konikow said:

"The working woman uses cosmetics, not only for her own satisfaction—to have a nice appearance or to attract possible romance-but she has to look well and attractive to keep her job.

a bureaucracy from grabbing power away from in our youth and the bright eyes and the red lips. | the leadership of the greatest living genius of the "To me cosmetics are an expression of our revolution, Leon Trotsky." that changes in women's work affect even the most minute forms of their life. This doesn't mean that I condemn cosmetics. I think that we shall have to use them for quite a while yet!"

#### Planning The Family

. Antoinette tirelessly explained that none of the burning problems of working men and women could really be solved except through the building of socialism. But she never hesitated to advocate measures—no matter how unpopular that could alleviate, even if only partially, the plight of the poor and the downtrodden.

Among the unpopular measures she championed was birth control. She was among the first to pointed to German detectives and the sheriff fight in this country for its legalization. She sitting in the crowd. Often I felt like weakening never accepted birth control as a panacea, and always exposed those who did, just as she scathingly exposed the fraudulent claims and practices of it may again help you. The magic word was licensed and unlicensed medical quacks. Her Liebknecht." primary concern was to mitigate the double drudgery of women who not only have to care for families but are also burdened with work in in-

At every oportunity she lectured on birth control before working class audiences of women, spreading knowledge about it, utilizing her training as a physician to popularize it, explaining just what could be done and what couldn't. She wrote a popular pamphlet on birth control. To help dispel the widespread ignorance among the medical profession on this subject, she published a scientific book on contraceptive methods.

It must be remembered that she did all this despite constant police surveillance as a "dangerous radical," despite the reactionary atmosphere of Boston, ridden for years by the notorious 'Watch and Ward Society," and despite the opposition of the intolerant Catholic hierarchy and

#### Youth And The Future

Addressing herself to the youth at a mass meeting held in New York, October 28, 1938, to celebrate the founding of the Fourth International and the Tenth Anniversary of American Trotskyism. Antoinette Konikow said:

important in human history. You have great trials were not frameups. Duranty accepts the monsters to fight, Fascism, Stalinism. It was easier to work under the Russian Czar than under Stalin, easier under the German Kaiser than un-

#### On Imperialist War

When the capitalist world stood at the brink of the Second World War, Comrade Konikow warned the workers who opposed the slaughter that they must steel themselves against persecua tion. In her speech October 28, 1938 bn the fiftie eth anniversary of her work in the movement, she recalled her dramatic experiences in the First World War:

"I was sent on tour by the German-language federation of the Socialist Party to speak in German at anti-war meetings. This was no easy task at the height of the war frenzy. Many times comrades would approach me, pale and trembling. begging that I speak on another subject. They -but there was one magic word that gave me strength to do my duty. I tell it to you comrades—

(Liebknecht stood up all alone in the Reichstag in 1914 to battle in the name of the working class against the war and German imperialism. - Boxtorial Note.)

#### Moscow Frame-up Trials

In the fight against Stalinism, Antoinette Konikow took a vigorous part. As late as 1943 she was still on the public rostrum exposing the role of the Kremlin in The Moscow Frame-up Trials. Thus The Militant for August 28, 1943, reports that as "the leading speaker" at a Boston meeting she "contrasted . . . the real Trotsky with the slanderous and lying picture of him presented in the Davies film, 'Mission to Moscow,' which she had just seen."

Again in the August 19, 1944, Militant she reviewed Duranty's book "USSR—The Story of Soviet Russia." Duranty "does not pillory Stalin for his proven guilty as Trotsky's murderer," she wrote, "but tries to discredit the victim of the Kremlin Borgia. The 'spiteful twilight' Duranty refers to was the years when Trotsky performed his greatest work—creating the Fourth International to sweep the monstrous obstacle of Stalinism from the path of the oncoming revolution."

"In his chapter on the Moscow Trials," con-"No sermons or admonitions, for you do not tinued Comrade Konikow, "Duranty reveals the need them! I am proud of you. I want to tell you main purpose of his book: to whitewash the Kremthat I envy you, your youth and vigor. I would lin. No one could prove, says he, that any of the like to be 50 years younger to work with you, for accused confessed under duress. Therefore, he your task in the coming years will be the most concludes that the confessions were true and the verdict of the Moscow Trials, although he doesn't dare to repeat openly the faked charges against Trotsky. For he is aware of the findings of the Dewey Commission on the Moscow Trials which "But you have better weapons than we had, completely exonerated Trotsky on all charges