NEW AGE, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1957

U.S. IS THROWING AWAY ITS MONEY IN SPAIN Franco Weaker than Ever

By LANCE SAMSON

KEEP your eye on Spain. For after 18 years of Franco dictatorship the signs of change are now multiplying —and so are the difficulties facing the regime. Opposition to the fascists' rule, or protest against one or other major aspect of it, is widespread. It now embraces not only the workers and peasants-among the poorest in Europe-but increasing numbers of intellectuals and members of other classes.

The ruling circles themselves -army, church, big business and landowners-are manoeuvering in readiness for the death or retirement of the 65-year-old "Caudil-10."

The Falange, the only legal party, is striving hard to assume a "new look"-to put itself forward as the defender of the people's welfare.

As part of this bid, more weight is being given to the Sindicatosthe government-controlled trade unions-whose national delegate, Jose Solis, is the new secretarygeneral of the Falange.

At the same time Communists and others are working inside the Sindicatos, to change them from worker-employer bodies into real workers' unions.

CATHOLIC STRENGTH

But the Falange's change, ostensibly to meet growing economic demands from the people, is in words only. In fact, Franco's cabinet reshuffle earlier this year produced a government if anything farther to the right than its predecessor.



Franco.

Christian Democratic party. The danger to the church of being inseparably involved in the Franco regime is being more and more widely recognised by the hierarchy.

ARMY SHIFTING

In the army-which was Franco's first stepping-stone to power the shifting situation is also visible.

General Munoz Grande, the commander-in-chief, who led the Spanish Blue Division which fought with the Nazis against the Soviet Union, has on a number of recent public occasions called for cheers for Spain and for the army -but not for Franco.

TRADE WITH EAST

using many different ways to protest against the regime-strikes, sitdown strikes like that last month in engineering factories in the Bilbao region, boycotts, all form of peaceful struggle for a better standard of living and for democracy.

COMMUNIST PARTY

In all these movements the Spanish Communist Party is taking part, working for the maximum unity against Franco.

In this situation, the party's call last year for "national reconcilia-tion"—for letting bygones be bygones and uniting all the forces and parties which want the Franco regime ousted-is continuing to gain adherents.

In its declaration last February the party said: "Any step forward toward improving living conditions, toward a policy of peace, national independence and the re storation of liberties will be great-ly welcomed and supported by the majority of the nation . . .

Already the Republican and So-

ZHUKOV COMMENTS ON

HIS REMOVAL

Rejects Comparison With 1946 Exclusion

THE full text of the speech which Pravda reports Marshal Zhukov

of the Soviet Communist Party, has now reached New Age.

the fact that Zhukov is reported to have admitted his errors.

as having made before his removal from the Central Committee

The daily press has not released the details of this speech beyond

After stating that the central political position on the eve of

cialist parties, meeting in Paris, have come to an agreement.

So far they have excluded the Communist Party, but their very coming together shows a change in Socialist Party policy, previously opposed to working with anyone.

RELATIONS WITH NATO

There are strong moves from Washington and Bonn to get Franco admitted to NATO. So far the opposition of some of the NATO member states, particularly Norway, has prevented it.

For Franco, admission to NATO is largely a matter of prestige. Already he is in the United Nations. NATO would crown his achievement of respectability.

But for the Washington war-planners, getting Spain into NATO is less vital. Already the U.S. has numerous air and naval bases in the country.

Dollars are also going into Franco's treasury for improving the Spanish Army.

But it looks as though, once again, the U.S. rulers are throwing away their money. All the signs in Spain are for a change-and neither Franco, his monopoly backers nor the U.S. State Department can prevent it.

Syria Signs Pact For Soviet Aid LONDON.

HE American attempt to intimidate Syria into not accepting aid from the Soviet

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Union has so far ended in complete failure. The Syrian Government and

the Soviet Government recently signed an agreement providing for Soviet loans to Syria for an unspecified sum repayable at $2\frac{1}{2}$ % over twelve years.

The projects listed in the agreement which will be tackled with Soviet technicians and advisers include railways, dams, power stations, bridges, roads and fertiliser factories, and-of extreme importance for Syriaa complete geological survey.

It was the announcement that Syria intended to enter into such agreement that provoked the "Syrian crisis" earlier this year. The Americans said that they would never allow Syria to conclude such an agreement,

Late Czech President's Years of Struggle

THE people of Czechoslavakia are mourning the death last week of the President of their Republic, Antonin Zapotocky.

After completing his apprenticeship as a stone cutter and sculptor in 1902, he went to Prague, where he threw himself into the work of the Social Democratic Youth Organisation, taking part in the struggles of the times for better rights for the workers, universal suffrage, and independence for his country.

During the First World War he was gaoled for his peace activities in the Austro-Hungarian Army. After the war he was imprisoned again for his role in the General Strike called in 1920.

When he was released frim prison in 1922 he became secretary of the newly-formed Communist Party.

After the Munich betrayal placed Czechoslovakia under the Nazi yoke in 1938, Zapotocky joined the underground movement.

In 1939 he was captured by the Gestapo, and spent the next six ears in a Nazi Concentration Camp.

Significant in the new government is the growing influence of Opus Dei, a Roman Catholic secular, semi-secret society.

At least five members of the cabinet are either members or close supporters of Opus Dei, including Interior Minister General Vega.

Protests against arrests, particularly arrests of students have in recent months come from university figures and other people who for years had supported the regime by their silence.

In the church, some bishops and right wing politicians are today working for the formation of a

Nyasaland Wants Self-Government

The Nyasaland African Congress is going ahead for self-government now. The British people struggled for hundreds of years for their freedom. Great meetings and demonstrations were held all over England and petitions demanding the vote were put before Parliament. The Government started to be against the leaders of the struggle, breaking up the meetings, sending soldiers against the demonstrations and arresting the leaders.

What happened in England will happen to us, but that will not make us afraid. The British Government is always forcing things in the territories, but we Africans apply our policy of non-violence

In business circles opposition to the monopoly groups is increasing. Some merchants have begun to try to contact the People's Democracies with a view to trade, and many in this class are beginning to see that the only chance for their own survival is the end of the regime.

New ideas have entered Spain, too, with the return of over 2,000 Spaniards who had lived in exile in the Soviet Union since the civil war.

On the economic front inflation is raging with increasing momentum. Since 1955 the value of money has continually fallen, and bad harvests have increased the difficulties.

One of the main factors, of course, is the huge military budget which Franco is keeping up and the growing taxation, largely indirect, to pay for it.

Spain's balance of trade is getting more and more lopsided, with exports covering about half the imports.

C.O.L. UP

The cost of living in the past year has risen by over 35 per cent. But average wages are still only between £3 and £4 a week and even former Finance Minister Arburua has warned that unless they are increased there will be another spring like 1951-the year of the great strike.

The great transport boycotts in Barcelona and Madrid against fare increases earlier this year have shown how the people feel and what they are capable of doing.

The Spanish people are now

to him, reports Pravda, Zhukov declared:

"In proposing the exaction of penalties some comrades mentioned that I had already once been excluded from the central committee when Stalin was alive in 1946, and that I had not understood the need to correct those mistakes for which I had been eliminated.

"At that time comrades, I could not admit and did not admit as correct my elimination from the central committee and the charges brought against me.

"NOW IT IS DIFFERENT"

"Now it is a different matter. I recognise my mistakes.

"I have become deeply conscious of them in the course of the plenary meeting, and I pledge my word to the central committee that I shall eliminate my shortcomings."

Meanwhile Pravda has printed an article by Marshal Koniev, one of the Soviet Union's leading military men, criticising the "political and military mistakes" of Marshal Zhukov.

ZHUKOV'S GREAT SERVICE

No one denied Zhkov's great patriotic services, Koniev wrote. But he should have remembered that "in his own record there are not a few blunders and mistakes." Just before the war, Koniev went

on, Zhukov was chief of staff "and therefore had no small share of responsibility for the state of un-readiness of the Soviet armed forces to rebuff fascist aggression.

"There is no doubt, Koniev continued, "that Stalin's incorrect assessment of the military and

ommittee meeting was a big lesson the war was the basic reason of the major miscalculations in preparing the country and its armed forces to deal with aggression.

LONDON.

"But one cannot explain the failures of the initial period of the war only by that.

"Serious responsibility for the fact that our armies in the frontier districts were caught unawares by the sudden attack of the fascist armies also rests on the chief of the general staff Marshal Zhukov, who had available in his hands irrefutable evidence of the real threat of against the USSR."

When the war was over he returned to his country, where he was elected President of the Central Council of Trade Unions.

In February, 1948, he became Government of the National Front, Deputy Prime Minister in the and in June of that year was made Prime Minister.

Five years later he became President when Klement Gottwald died.

Zapotocky was a writer of note, and many of his experiences during an attack by Fascist Germany the eventful years of his life are recorded in his novels.

PLAN FOR AFRO-ASIAN **CONFERENCE NEXT MONTH**

LONDON

The following is the text of the appeal issued recently by the committee which met recently in Cairo to prepare for the holding of a new Afro-Asian Conference in Cairo in December:

KEEN realisation that we Africans and Asians have common problems and common urges led the Governments of 29 countries of our continents to meet in Bandung $2\frac{1}{2}$ years ago.

"At that historic meeting, we witnessed an unprecedented unanimity of approach among our leaders. The Bandung spirit has virtually become the charter of our solidarity and a factor of prime significance for world peace.

"To gather public support for the Bandung principles, and to propagate the spirit that animated them, a number of solidarity committees have already been established in different countries.

'These committees have striven to revive among the Asians and Africans the old contacts and to forge and vitalise new ones in all fields. Thus a secure popular foundation for our solidarity is being laid.

"Keeping in view the present world situation and the problems facing us, we felt the urgency of convening a conference of the African and Asian peoples at Cairo from Decemebr 26 until January 1.

TVL ANC "REBELS" FORM COMMIT TEMPORARY

branches which have signed a peti- the petition) but that the financial tion calling for the requisitioning of statement submitted to conference a special conference within 21 days makes it plain that these monies are -see story page one have formed not "missing" but the item merely reflects an excess of expenditure themselves into a "Requisition Committee' and have issued a press over revenue for the year. At the statement.

THEY SAY THAT THE COM-MITTEE IS A TEMPORARY BODY, AND STRESS THAT IT keeping term has given rise to HAS NO CONNECTION WITH suspicions and charges of missing THE AFRICANIST GROUP.

"We do not believe in such stunts as foreign ideologies," says the statement. Asking branches to petition for a conference is within the rights of members and branches defined by the constitution.

"We are not fighting against any of our allies in Congress, neither are we fighting against the policy or the leadership. We see this as a deliberate attempt by those who issued the statement (in the World) to try and conceal facts and divert the people from the actual issues which have caused dissatisfaction by leading them on a wild goose chase of "Africanist."

THE PETITION

- The petition submits: 1. The conference was not fully representative.
- The Northern, Eastern and Western Transvaal were not notified.
- 3. We are not satisfied with the financial statement submitted at conference.
- We submit the conference was 4. not procedural.
- The elections at this conference were in violation of clause 6 of the constitution.
- 6. The speaker was biased. It is pointed out that much of the

JOHANESBURG. dissatisfaction centres round so-Some of the Transvaal ANC called missing monies (point 3 of conferenc no satisfactory explanation was given delegates who queried this item and a usual bookfunds.

> 5 of the petition) is silent on the minority effort at this stage. method of election of provincial committees and the method adopted at last month's conference, or returning the whole committee en bloc, is therefore constitutionally sound. There are previous precedents for the return of a committee en bloc.

Complaints about non-representation of certain branches arose from the absence of some branches which were, however, invited. Some received invitations late, it was subsequently found, and others were unable, for financial reasons, to send delegates. A number of branches from the Easetrn and Western Transvaal were present. Some areas where there is strong support for Congress do not as yet have proworking committees.

As for the complaints about the conference procedure (points 4 of the Madzunya group and the us.' pre-occupation, to the exclusion of other important items, with in-

ternal branch wrangles and disputes.

MINORITY

According to the "World", 17 branches have signed the petition. Not all these have been received. Furthermore it is evident that in a number of cases the branches as a whole have not been called together to discuss the petition but individual officials have taken it upon themselves to sign for their branches.

There are 78 branches in the Transvaal and 43 working commit-Clause 6 of the constitution (item | tees so the petition is very much a

> Among the branches reported to have signed the petition are Standerton, Krugersdorp, Nataalspruit, Pretoria (Lady Selborne, Atteridge-ville), Zeerust, Saulspoort, Evaton. Mofolo and Mofolo North, Meadowlands, Sophiatown, Western Native Township, Pimville and a few others.

Those with genuine grievances and complaints have every right to call for explanations and have their grievances redressed, a leading Congressman commented, "but they are playing with pitch and must beware of staining their hands."

HOSTILITY

In some cases long-standing branch disputes with the provincial perly constituted branches and committee seem to have given rise to hostility towards the province.

"Congress must emerge stronger, not weaker and disunited by warand 6) it is pointed out that the ring factions" this Congressman conference was rowdy and diffi- said. "Long battles against the cult to control, but this was due common enemy of all Africans, the largely to the disruptive activities Nationalist Government, lie before

For almost a decade 35,000

Indians at Clairwood have been

threatened with expropriation. Al-

though the Natal Administration has

so far ruled against the City Coun-

cils request to turn Clairwood into

an industrial area, the Council has

threatened to fulfill its callous plan

by submitting proposals to the

Forty thousand Indians who

have pioneered the development

of Mayville and adjacent districts

have been told that the area will

At Merebank the Indian people

have been waging a struggle for the

last fifteen years against expulsion

from their homes. At Duffs Road

250 acres of Indian owned land were

unnecessarily expropriated by the

authorities. The land was ostensibly

taken for the purpose of building

an African housing scheme, but the

Council has more than sufficient

land available for the houses-over

BEACH TAKEN AWAY

away and given to the European, a

been taken over by Europeans.

The Indian beach is to be taken

be for European occupation.

Group Areas Board.

2,000 acres.

REEF RESIDENTS FACE BITTER RENT STRUGGLE

Furniture Seized, Auctioned

JOHANNESBURG.

WHILE Johannesburg's court case against the higher rents has been adjourned till later in the month, unrest is growing among residents in the Reef's municipal townships.

In Benoni mass arrests, prosecutions and ejections for non-payment of the higher rents are the order of the day.

In Boksburg household goods and furniture of families in arrears with their rent are being sold by public auction.

Kitchen tables and chairs, bedsteads and wardrobes are being removed from the houses and hostel rooms and will be put up for sale in Boksburg on November 30.

Notices to this effect appear at public places in the location. The names of owners goods to be auctioned are listed. If not claimed before that date the Location Superintendent, by virtue of Section 33(3) of the Boksburg location Regulation, threatens to sell them to the highest bidder.

HIGH RENTS

Stirtonville (Boksburg) rents vary according to the monthly income of the family. In one section known as "Jerusalem" there are people who pay as much as £8 per month for a four-roomed house.

Some people who used to pay £2 15s. for a four-roomed house are | are residents who are in arrears in now required to pay £4 5s. per month. On October 19. Stirtonville residents will decide whether to form repay it plus the new rental of the an Anti-rent committee to test the two-roomed house.

validity of the high rents in court. Benoni townships residents are unanimous "We won't pay the rent next month" they say.

At a recent report back meeting of the Benoni Joint Advisory Board the residents decided to act in protest.

Should there be more arrests, they said, all will voluntarily offer themselves to be locked up at the Police Station.

BACKING THEM IS THE LOCAL M.P. MR. LEO LOVELL. **"TO ARREST PEOPLE WHO ARE** IN ARREARS WITH THEIR CURRENT MONTH'S RENT IS **APPLYING THE REMEDIES OF** THE LAW TOO RAPIDLY AND HARSHLY," HE SAID.

MUNICIPAL WORKERS

In Benoni the worst affected by the rent increases are municipal employees who earn a meagre £1 9s. per week but are expected to pay £3 10s. 6d. rent.

In Randfontein on the West Rand several residents will be shifted from four-roomed to two-roomed houses at Mohalkeng Township.

Those who fall in this category rent. On man Reuben Letwaba owes £43 4s. 6d. and will be expected to



DURBAN.

OVER twenty thousand Indians in Natal are unemployed and the great majority of the Indian people struggle not only against poverty and the lack of essential facilities, but live from day to day with the terrifying thought of losing their homes.

DELIVERY SCHEDULAS for 1957 ARNOLD'S XMAS HAMPERS **THURSDAY 5th DECEMBER FRIDAY 22nd NOVEMBER** Moroka. Jeppe, Doornfontein, City Deep, Eastern Native Township, Ferreirastown, Ophirton, Fordsburg, So-

FRIDAY 6th DECEMBER Germiston Location.

phiatown.

SATURDAY 23rd NOVEMBER

Albertsville, Western Native Township, Newclare, Coronationville, Vrededorp.

MONDAY 25th NOVEMBER Noordgezig, Langlaagte Stables, Orlando Shelters.

TUESDAY 26th NOVEMBER Orlando East, Protea, Kliptown.

WEDNESDAY 27th NOVEMBER Pimville, Meadowlands.

THURSDAY 28th NOVEMBER BENONI—Indian Section, Cape Section, Southville, Location.

FRIDAY 29th NOVEMBER Boksburg.

SATURDAY 30th NOVEMBER Grasmere, V.D. Bijl Park, Vereeniging, Evaton, Orlando West.

MONDAY 2nd DECEMBER Orlando West.

TUESDAY 3rd DECEMBER Mofolo, Dube Village, Orlando West.

WEDNESDAY 4th DECEMBER

Brakpan, State Mines, Edenvale, Brakpan Mines.

SATURDAY 7th DECEMBER

White City Jabavu.

MONDAY 9th DECEMBER Site and Service.

TUESDAY, 10th DECEMBER SPRINGS—Bakerton. Payneville, Vogels, Daveyton, Modderbee, Geduld Mines.

WEDNESDAY 11th and **THURSDAY 12th DECEMBER** Wattville.

FRIDAY 13th DECEMBER SPRINGS-Kwa Thema.

SATURDAY 14th DECEMBER Alexandria.

TUESDAY 17th DECEMBER Natalspruit.

WEDNESDAY 18th DECEMBER Roodepoort, Krugersdorp, Randfontein, Westonaria.

SATURDAY 21st DECEMBER PRETORIA—Cape Reserve. Asiatic Bazaar, Walmansthad, Atteridgeville and Vlakfontein, Eersterus, Lady Selborne, Claremont.

Heidelberg, Nigel, Lenz-Customers in these areas will be advised later of their delivery dates.

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These are some of the shocking facts revealed by the reports to the annual provincial conference of the Natal Indian Congress, meeting this week-end.

> of them have lived in these areas for over 40 years.

The City Council plans to deprive the Indian market gardeners of their livelihood by decentralising the Indian market into various units in different districts. This will mean economic ruin for most of the gardeners.

WORKERS IN LEAD

The report on Labour emphasises emphasises that the workers are the backbone of any national liberatory movement and that every campaign waged by the Congresses the workers have always been in the vanguard of the battle.

Congressmen are criticised for failing to realise the significance of the £1 a day campaign and are told that it is imperative for the Congresses to organise and agitate jointly with its fraternal organisations for the implementation of this demand.

The report says that the Congress must play a more vigorous role in the industrial sphere and that contact with the workers must be maintained and strengthened.



"Events are moving fast. Workers in a number of industries are taking spontaneous action in defence of their rights. In the coming year with the ever-present threat of a depression, workers problems will become more acute.

"The Natal Indian Congress must embark on a vigorous propaganda campaign to educate the workers. It must consolidate and play the most active possible, together with the most militant and organised sections of the working people who are united in the S.A. Congress of Trade Unions, the African National Congress and the S.A. Congress of Democrats, so that the workers can win higher wages, better working conditions and freedom.'

DURBAN RACING

The following are High Treason's selections for the racing at Clairwood on Saturday: First Race: 1. Fireworks; 2. Schiltz; 3. Syros.

Second Race: 1. Any Day; 2. Koumiss; 3. Cold.

Third Race: 1. Falcon; 2. Synopsis; 3. Phoenix Band.

Fourth Race: 1. Class Royale; 2. Gay Hour; 3. Etiquette.

Fifth Race: 1. Life Line (Nap); 2.

Baby Troth; 3. Challenger. Sixth Race: 1. Kilcairn Fire; 2. Annes Catt; 3. Remarkable.

Seventh Race: 1. Chukker; 2. Honey Down; 3. Brown Gown.

Eighth Race: 1. Confidentially; 2. Gay Lucifer; 3. Touch Up,

Ninth Race: 1. Refined (Nap); 2, Il Bacio; 3. Line.

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