

On Guard Against Fascism!

THE trial of Greco and Carillo again brings to a sharp focus the activities of the Italian fascists in the United States. The terrible nightmare of horror that the Italian working class and peasantry has suffered since the beginning of fascist rule in Italy is already well known to workers everywhere.

Since November 28th 1922, when the fascist "march on Rome" began, the Italian workers and peasants have experienced five years of the most outrageous and incredible tortures. What was once a powerful flourishing labor movement has been driven underground. The splendid co-operatives have been destroyed. The radical peasants' movement has been terrorized.

The fascisti waded to power through a sea of the people's blood. Halls, meeting places, theatres, build-

By Max Shachtman

ings, and homes of workers were wrecked and burned. Literally thousands of workers were brutally murdered, and neither age nor sex afforded them any respect or better treatment. Thousands, tens of thou-

ing conditions which Italian labor had won through struggle he quickly liquidated, cutting wages and lengthening the working day, eliminating holidays and intensifying the speed-up system.

Now the blood-dripping hands of fascism are extended to the United States. They are attempting to strangle Greco and Carillo for their opposition to Mussolini's blood rule. These two workers are not their first victims. Already now there is a list of fascist murders in the United States.

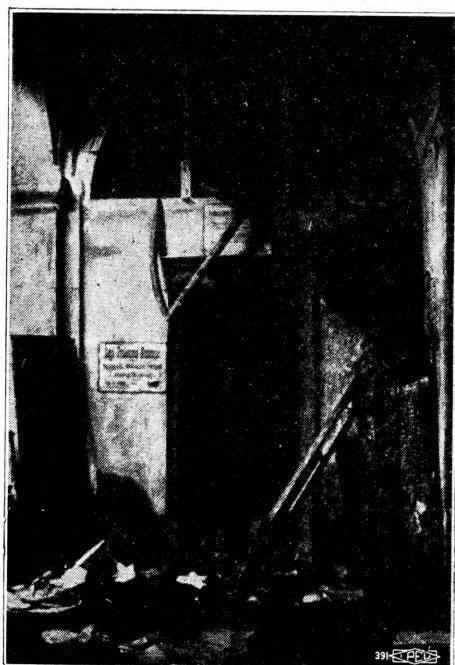
There is Giovanni Foddai who was killed in front of his home in Elizabeth, N. J., May, 1926, by a fascist who shot him down. There is David Zambasi, another anti-fascist who was killed during a discussion by a fascist in Steubenville, Ohio, on August 30, 1926. There is Giuseppe di Maio, an



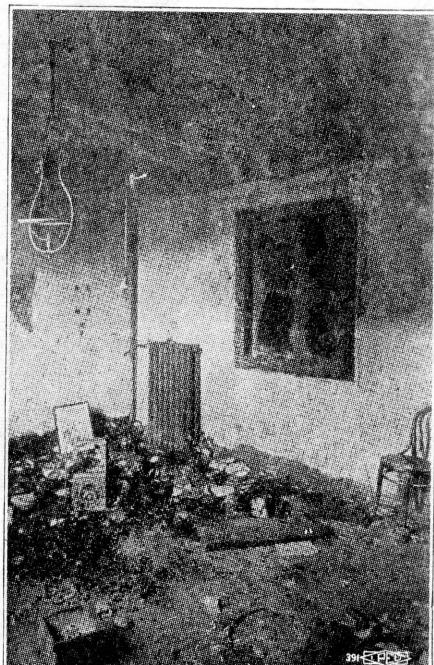
A NEW YORK PROTEST MEETING FOR GRECO AND CARILLO

ands were sent to the semi-mediaeval dungeons. At one time, as late as the year 1925, after a so-called "amnesty", there were close to 11,000 workers in prison who were known of; and many more who had disappeared where no one but the agents of Mussolini could find them. Hundreds of others were sent to a bleak existence in the banishment of prisons on the forbidding islands of the Mediterranean. Not only workers and peasants, but even those elements of the petty-bourgeoisie who dared however weakly to oppose Mussolini were crushed with bestial ferocity.

Mussolini had from the beginning proclaimed a "social peace" of the classes. He "achieved" it by ruthlessly suppressing all labor unions or driving them underground, forcing workers to join the farcical fascist unions, forbidding the publication of the labor press, prohibiting labor meetings, strikes, or any other form of genuine labor activities. The work-



AFTER A FASCIST RAID



WRECKED BY THE FASCISTI

anti-fascist, who was murdered by an agent of Mussolini here; the fascist was later cleared by the kind jury.

Lack of space alone prevents the completion of this long list.

The fascisti, in the United States as in Italy, are an avowed enemy of the labor movement. They proceed with guns, bombs, stiletto, and their lately acquired American weapon, the frame-up. Their loaded cane, the *manganella*, is the symbol of the club with which they hope to cut down the labor movement. Today it is Italian rebels in this country whom they succeed in deporting to Italy with the help of the U. S. Department of labor; whom they murder in the streets; whom they beat, and frame-up in courts. Tomorrow, as the kernel of a larger movement, they can do the same to the entire labor movement of the country.

The bitter lesson of Italy must be learned by every worker. Vigilant and militant opposition now to the curse of fascism is a price the labor movement must swiftly and energetically pay for its future growth, well-being and final victory.

The militant labor movement of Italy, which lives, even though secretly, despite all the bloody persecutions of fascism, has learned this lesson out of its bitter experiences,

the lesson that had been constantly pointed out by the revolutionary elements. The American workers must profit from these experiences. They

act as the brutal and open hangman of the capitalist class the minute the latter feels its domination shaking.

Only an ever-open eye and ever-

ready arms can safeguard the growing labor movement from the implacable enemy of fascism. Its Italian adherents in America are already receiving powerful support. Their finances are assured by those interests they protect. They go about confident of immunity in their hoodlumery and murder expeditions. Their sinister activities reach out in all directions and the blackest reactionary elements of the country furnish them with their

stauncest support. The police, the courts, the officialdom of capitalism, ever vigilant to swoop down upon a working class organization or movement, ready to frame-up its leaders and send them to prison or death,

wink a cunning eye at the assassins' activities of the fascists in this country. They know their friends and their enemies; and the fascists are their brothers under the skin.

Let the labor movement know its friends and enemies equally well, and be on guard against the growing menace of fascism in the United States. The Greco-Carillo case is a solemn reminder of the danger that is now pressing forward.



FASCISTI ATTACKING WORKERS ON THE STREETS OF ROME

must not be lulled by the illusion that fascism is something native to Italy alone. The murderous regimes in Spain, Bulgaria, Jugo-Slavia, Poland, Lithuania and other countries is a proof that fascism is called upon to



PREPARING NEW GRAVES

A Drawing by Fred Ellis in The Daily Worker