

## Spanish Section of the Workers' International Relief Founded.

Madrid, May 26, 1931.

The awakening forces of the young Spanish revolution are taking their place in the front of international solidarity. On May 24, there was held in Madrid the foundation conference of the S. O. E. (Secorro Obrero Espanol), the Spanish section of the W. I. R. The Conference was presided over by the well-known revolutionary writer Arderius. There were present 500 delegates from various organisations. The social composition of the Conference showed the keen interest existing in all workers' organisations, revolutionary cultural societies and among all sections of the working population for the idea of proletarian solidarity. In addition to the various trade union and co-operative organisations, representatives of freethinkers' groups, women and youth organisations, literary and educational societies took part in the Conference. The Conference was held at a time which is full of the most important even' in the proletarian fight in Spain.

After the spontaneous rising of the people with which the revolutionary workers in Madrid and the century-long enslaved poor rural population of Andalusia replied to the provocations of the Bishops and generals at the beginning of May, there set in the campaign of bloody terror of the republican-socialist provisional government. The ruins of the burnt down convents and churches were still smoking when the civil-guard and other troops of the counter-revolution commenced a savage slaughter of the workers and peasants in Madrid, Bilbao, Seville and Barcelona.

The working and peasant masses are the only bulwark of the revolution against this fierce attack of the reaction. The approaching gigantic struggles of the industrial districts and of the Andalusian village proletariat and small peasants are the defensive movements of the revolution. The role of the Spanish W. I. R. naturally arises from the stormy development of events.

The delegates to the foundation conference unanimously recognised that the W. I. R., as a proletarian auxiliary and fighting organisation, has to support the development of the revolutionary forces and the **hegemony of the workers and peasants in this development.**

This support must take the form of concrete help in the strikes and struggles of the proletariat in town and country. The fundamental idea in the action of the Spanish W. I. R. must be to connect these fights with those of the international proletariat, to create living bonds of solidarity in order that the Spanish working class shall take its place in the world front of the workers and peasants.

The mobilisation of all sections of the working population in the fight for a **comprehensive system of social insurance**, especially against unemployment, old age and sickness, is a further aim the importance of which the foundation conference specially emphasised.

In accordance with its international character, the Secorro Obrero Espanol decided to appeal especially to the revolutionary workers and peasants of Latin America in order to secure not only their moral support but also practical co-operation on the international solidarity front for the Spanish revolution.