

Guelphs.) This is true enough, and unfortunately the best political machines are close to being either bought, intimidated, or otherwise coerced into withdrawing from this role of safeguarding the population's interests.

Italy's Christian Democracy is now almost totally in the hands of its Friedmanite representatives. Perhaps even more crucially, the Italian Communist Party leadership has been consistently supporting Visentini after they were promised a chance to enter the government in exchange for their cooperation. As a result, the Communist-controlled national trade-union confederation—which groups together about half the national labor force—has begun an unprecedented slide into capitulation in its wage negotiations, going so far as to accept the renegotiation of the cost of living (COL) escalator. The COL in Italy is the symbol of defense of working-class interests against the ravages of the monarchic and Fascist eras.

Spain's Socialists: transition to a coup?

by Katherine Kanter

On Oct. 28, the Socialist Party of Spain (PSOE) swept to victory in the national elections, taking over 200 out of 350 seats in the parliament and virtually annihilating the present governing party, Union de Centro Democrático, which won only 12 seats. Alianza Popular, the Franz-Josef Strauss-financed branch of the CDU in Spain, took a massive 106 votes, tripling its previous score.

This tragic outcome, which threatens to engulf everything achieved by the Carrero Blanco faction of *desarrollistas* (the pro-development faction) in the general collapse which must necessarily follow when the PSOE's zero-growth program is put into effect, can be attributed to two main factors: the vicious agency of anglophiles like Spanish President Calvo Sotelo's top economic adviser, former Finance Minister Fuentes Quintana, who deliberately handed Spanish industry over to hot-money boondoggles, and the role played by Freemasons like Jesús de Polanco and Tomás de Salas, who control the largest-circulation dailies in Spain, *El País* and *Diario 16*, respectively. These two newspapers, in a period of a few short years, poisoned the minds of Spanish youth in particular, to the extent, as *EIR* founder Lyndon H. LaRouche said in an address Oct. 30 in Mainz, West Germany, that "the Spanish population voted for national suicide. Felipe González is the fresh corpse of Salvador Allende [the Socialist Prime Minister of Chile who committed suicide after the 1973 coup by Pinochet]. Unless a miracle can be

worked, within six months there will be a coup d'état on the Pinochet model."

Why is there a coup danger?

The crux of the matter lies, not in certain restive circles in the military, but in the Socialist policy itself. Just as the insane stupidity of the outgoing Calvo Sotelo government precipitated the collapse, so the economic program of the PSOE, identical in all main conceptual and practical features to that of Hitler's Finance Minister Hjalmar Schacht, has been designed by London as phase two of the operation leading to utter dissolution of all economic and political institutions before phase three, the Pinochet-style International Monetary Fund coup. A military coup is sold to nationalist officers in all countries as their duty in the face of impending breakdown of order, but the objective underlying feature is always the reality of economic blowout.

The international financial and economic conjuncture is intensely hostile, not just to Spain, but to every European nation, not to speak of those of the Third World. London-based international finance capital has over the last 18 months carefully set up governments such as those of Mitterrand in France, Palme in Sweden, and Papandreou in Greece, which are to impose fascist austerity in preparation for actual fascism under authoritarian, IMF-controlled regimes. The González government is just the latest addition to the pattern. This was stated quite openly by Brian Crozier, of the London-based Institute for the Study of Conflict, in a leading article in the Nov. 2 London *Times*, dealing with the Spanish elections. Crozier called explicitly for a fascist coup in Spain: "Since Franco died in 1975, inflation and unemployment have soared in Spain. So have terrorism and political crime. . . . The assumption that democracy is going to work in Spain does, I think, remain to be proven. . . ." The title of the article, "Is democracy a good thing?", coming from one of the men who have done the most to organize British terrorism and British-backed coups d'état, the message is clear.

The coup danger could be greatly lessened immediately, however, if the Alianza Popular were not totally in the hands, at the highest level, of the Friedmanites. Alianza Popular ideologues Pedro Schwartz and Jorge Verstrynge have in fact succeeded in giving Spain a program identical in concept, if not in all details, to that of the Malthusians in the PSOE. The ignominy of the situation is precisely that the financial base of Alianza includes all the nation's top industrialists, who will be the first to go under if this policy takes effect. Were these industrialists to stage a revolt against the Alianza's present leadership, their 106 seats in the parliament would be a crucial leverage. The other very wild card is the impact of the nationalist economic measures taken by Mexican President López Portillo Sept. 1, and the growing motion toward an Ibero-American debt bomb, may have on the Spanish situation and its various political parties.