



SOCIALIST APPEAL

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Government's Economic Plan:

CAPITALISTS TO REMAIN IN CONTROL

FOR SOCIALIST PLANNING Workers Must Supervise and Control

DURING THE LAST FEW FEW WEEKS, THE LEADERS OF THE ENGINEERING, MINERS, AND OTHER UNIONS, MET TOGETHER TO DISCUSS THE URGENT NEED OF PRIORITY PRODUCTION OF ELECTRIC GENERATORS AND MINING EQUIPMENT. HERE IS A SITUATION WHICH CALLS FOR THE PARTICIPATION, THE CONTROL AND SUPERVISION BY THE WORKERS IN THE FACTORIES.

There have been many complaints about the production of luxury and non-essential goods in the engineering factories because the profits on these goods are higher. But the workers are not consulted and under the present "planning" of the Labour Government, profits continue to come first.

While factories producing household needs were closed during the crisis, Royal Ordnance Factories—under Government ownership!—continued to produce tanks and guns.

CRIPPS INSULTS WORKERS — THEN PRODUCES NO PLAN

Sir Stafford Cripps put forward the "plan" of the Labour Leaders in the debate on the "Economic Survey of 1947" in Parliament on March 12th. He proclaimed:

"The foundations of economic planning would be the full-time planning staff in each Government department concerned with industry or trade.

A joint planning staff would be under a full-time executive head selected for his special qualifications and attainments."

A few bureaucrats determine priorities, which are then left to the individual employers, and bureaucrats in the nationalised industries to work out. This has nothing in common with democratic Socialist planning, as the Labour leaders pretend.

What does Sir Stafford Cripps' plan amount to? A few miserable economy measures, such as a 10% cut in the railway summer services, and fuel restrictions. Such is the long heralded plan! At the same time, the Government has decided to adjust to reach the export target of 140%. Meanwhile, the importation of caviare, fine perfumes, exotic fruits, and other luxuries for the rich continues as usual. This is no plan in the interests of the workers!

Yet the same Cripps had the insolence to assert that the workers were not sufficiently developed to control and run industry. His contempt for the working class is indicated by the attempt to palm off this as a Socialist plan.

Only the participation of the masses can make a plan possible, which will be democratically controlled, and move Britain in the direction of Socialism.

The only solution which the Labour and Trade Union leaders can offer to the crisis of production is a further intensification of labour and speed-up by working harder. This will result in increasing the profits of the capitalist class while leaving the working class relatively worse off than they were before.

The economic factor of the present boom and a shortage of labour—a favourable position for the workers to improve their wages and conditions—disguises the fact that in reality there is no real planning of the resources of Britain at all.

Atlee proposed that plans must be worked out in consultation (Continued on Page 4.)

FOR A COMMUNIST GERMANY

Allied Victors Plan Treaty of Revenge

BY E. GRANT

THE VICTORS ARE MEETING IN MOSCOW TO DETERMINE THE FATE OF GERMANY FOR THE NEXT DECADES. IN THESE DISCUSSIONS THE REAL AIMS OF THE ALLIED RULERS ARE REVEALED. BEHIND THE PHRASES ABOUT PEACE AND DEMOCRACY, EACH ATTEMPTS TO UTILISE GERMANY AS A POINT OF SUPPORT AGAINST THE OTHERS. THE LAST THING THAT CONCERNS THEM IS THE FATE OF THE GERMAN OR EUROPEAN WORKERS, OR A FUTURE OF REAL PEACE AND DEMOCRACY.

Despite the chaos and misery which reigns, Germany at the present time is potentially still one of the Great Powers. Next to Russia the strongest power in Europe. Despite the bombings the greatest part of her industry remains intact. The German workers are highly skilled and trained. In a few years, Germany could be restored as an important productive factor in the economy of the world. She could produce a flood of goods for the benefit of the peoples of Germany, Europe, and even of the entire world. A restoration of industry on these lines could raise the standard of living of the peoples of Europe and the backward territories of the world to higher levels.

But this is not the aim of the "democratic" victors. The standards of the German and European peoples is the last thing with which they are concerned. The re-birth of German industry might well very easily upset the present balance of forces between the Great Powers. Britain and America wish to prop up Germany as a possible base for the future attack against Russia. The Stalinist bureaucrats wish to exploit Germany for their benefit.

All the Powers are forced to abandon the plans of the de-industrialization of Germany put forward at Potsdam, which would have restricted Germany's production of steel to the maximum of 5 million tons and thus reduced the whole of her industrial output to extremely low levels.

But the Anglo-American Imperialists were faced with the dilemma that with German production restricted to such low levels, the only first class industrial power on the Continent of Europe would be the Soviet Union. Moreover, the ruin of Germany would mean the ruin of Western Europe as a whole. German industry and industrial products are necessary for the economy of the other countries within the Western sphere.

It is for these reasons, and not at all any change of heart, that the policy of Britain and America has undergone this change in relation to Germany. Under the phrases of "democratization" proceeds the most sordid calculations of the interests of Western capitalism.

However the policies of the Stalinist bureaucracy proceed from no higher motives. They wish to

enslave Germany by imposing upon her the huge burdens of reparations of 10,000,000,000 dollars (approximately £250,000,000) at 1938 prices, to be spread over a period of 20 years. This amounts to half the total exports of Germany in a pre-war year. It would place an intolerable burden on the shoulders of the German working class.

Simultaneously with the discussions on reparations goes the discussion on the Constitution which the victors are to impose upon the German masses. Here the Allies regard the problem purely from the point of view of the best method of manoeuvring Germany in the interests of the competing Powers. Thus the Russian bureaucracy favours a centralised Government and administration, while American imperialism wishes to impose a Federal Constitution because she believes she can play off the reactionary and backward states, especially those such as Bavaria which are mainly Catholic, against any danger of social revolution in the other States. The French Imperialists wish to Balkanise Germany, with the Ruhr under the control of the Big Four Powers, though nominally a part of Germany.

Bevin announces that the "nationalisation of key industries" should not be under the central German Government, but puts forward the fantastic scheme that this should be under the Regional States. At the same time the Anglo-American Imperialists object to the demands of the Russians for reparations because they do not wish to strengthen Russia and reparations for themselves, apart from what they have seized, would embarrass and not benefit them. Meanwhile in the mutual recriminations Molotov was forced to admit that the reparations programme in the Soviet zone had included "the incorporation of some German factories into the Soviet system." i.e., that these factories in Germany were being directly used as the property of the Russian state.

In the meantime while the Allies are blustering and threatening each other on the international field, clashing in Europe, Asia and Africa, and denouncing one another's aggressive and war-mongering intentions, they still

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BRITISH SOLDIER ESCORTS JEWISH REFUGEE ON SHIP FOR CYPRUS



Towards the end of last year the 400 ton ship "Four Freedoms" arrived in Haifa with 200 immigrants aboard. They were seeking refuge after the nightmare of fascist oppression in Europe during the war. And when British troops were instructed to transfer them to the ship "Empire Heywood" for internment in Cyprus they resisted desperately. British soldiers were forced to transfer them one at a time. It is the duty of the world working class to prevent tragedies of this nature which are now taking place. The working class must demand that all countries open their gates to these oppressed victims of Nazism. To support their immigration to Palestine against the wishes of the Arabs who are fighting for their own freedom from the shackles of British imperialism would only doom them to further tragedy. They would become a tool of reaction. The Canadian Government has announced that they will allow the immigration of some of these unfortunate people to Canada. Britain and other countries of the world must follow suit. Open the gates of all countries!

Hotel Workers' Militant Stand

Steward Victimised

BY T. REILLY

1,000 Hotel workers of the Savoy Group showed splendid solidarity when they stopped work in defence of a shop steward who was victimised. The spirit of the strikers was excellent, and many non-unionists were enrolled into the union. Workers of all nationalities were involved, including Jamaicans, Africans, Burmese, Indians, French, and so on.

The workers went back after a week of struggle against these hotel owners who must be regarded as among the most reactionary employers in the catering line, and the spearhead of all attacks against the workers in this trade.

Shop Steward Refuses To Blackleg

Fresh from the victory of last October when the hotel workers won the right to organise as trade unionists, the employees of the Savoy Group, comprising the Savoy, Berkeley, Simpson's and Claridges, have discovered that the management ignored the recent agreement by continuing their old policy of intimidation on anti-trade union lines.

The strike started at the Savoy Hotel when Frank Piazza, a shop steward of the Grill Room was sacked for defending trade union principles. In the plate room a stoppage had taken place because the workers resented the replacement of a popular foreman. During the rush hour, dirty plates had accumulated to such an extent that the management tried to manoeuvre the apprentice waiters to wash crockery. Mention was even made of waiters manning the washing machine. This attempt was, of course, to break the dispute in the plate room, and naturally, Frank Piazza was right to intervene and instruct his section to refuse such blackleg work.

Singapore T.U.s Boycott French Goods

Eight Trade Unions in Singapore, at a meeting held on 7th, passed a resolution to organise a boycott of all French ships in respect of loading and unloading them.

All these 8 Unions are either directly or indirectly connected with the loading and unloading of French ships. Among them are the Singapore Dockers' Union, the Singapore Seamen's Union, the Charcoal Workers' Union, the Rice Transport Workers' Union, the Godown Workers' Union, and the Lightermen's Union.

Other resolutions passed were:

- (1) That a letter of protest be sent to the French Consul in Singapore.
- (2) That a telegram be sent to the Viet Nam Government supporting its struggle.
- (3) That a Manifesto be issued to explain the boycott decision.
- (4) The letters be sent to all commercial bodies explaining the boycott decision.

This magnificent solidarity with the struggle for freedom by the Indo-Chinese sets an example to the workers of the West. It is the duty of the working class of all countries to boycott the sending of goods to the imperialists attempting to drown in blood the fight for independence on the part of the colonial peoples.

The next morning Frank Piazza was sacked. Within a very short time, about 90 per cent. of the hotel workers went on strike in his support. Within a few days, the workers of Claridges, Simpson's and Berkeley followed suit.

Savoy Management Provokes Workers

Contrary to the present agreement between the hotel owners and the Trade Unions, the Savoy group has gone out of its way to hold down the workers in Victorian fashion. The Savoy Hotel management has so far refused to recognise the housing committee of the shop stewards. A shop steward's request for permission to put up a notice board has met with a blank refusal. All types of petty restrictions and pin pricking methods are adopted to silence the workers and discourage the growth of trade unionism.

In Simpson's, for instance, the workers had been promised payment of 10/5 for working Christmas day and Boxing day. Having agreed to this, the proprietors tried to palm off 7/6 instead, which the employees rightly refused to accept—even to this day. The manager, according to one picket, said he is too busy to discuss this question.

This firm can easily afford to meet the workers' demands. The end of the financial year shows that they made the high profit of £404,231, which is an increase of £8,559 over last year. The ordinary shareholder gets a 12% dividend.

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FRENCH C.P.

Ministers Vote for Indo-Chinese War

The Stalinist weekly "WORLD NEWS AND VIEWS" publishes a table showing the "strength of communism" in terms of members, M.P.'s, and Cabinet Ministers belonging to the Communist Parties throughout the world. Those who believe that ministers in a capitalist parliament constitutes a strength for communism, might look at the behaviour of the French C.P. Ministers over the question of Indo-China.

A Cabinet crisis threatened because they refused to vote confidence in the Government's Indo-China policy. True, they bear as much responsibility as anyone for this policy, since they have formed part of the various Governments since France began this colonial war in 1941. When the French Trotskyists organised meetings and demonstrations to protest against the massacre of Indo-Chinese workers and peasants by French imperialism, and the police violently broke them up, the "Communist" Party remained dead silent. But at last they spoke. "L'Humanite," French Stalinist paper, wrote: "The

interests of France demand that peace be signed in Indo-China. Otherwise the nation must be told that millions of francs and thousands of young Frenchmen are needed for a terrible colonial war which must be continued without the slightest chance of obtaining any advantage."

Presumably it is only by virtue of the fact that the Indo-Chinese violently resisted, that made these "communists" oppose the war. France's "national interests" are their sole concern. Of communist solidarity with oppressed peoples, there is not a trace.

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Ex-Daily Worker Editor Confesses Stalin's Guilt in Trotsky Murder

Budenz Discloses Details of 1940 Murder Preparations Implicates leaders of Communist Party in G.P.U. Conspiracy

BY JOHN G. WRIGHT

Sinister and secret details connected with the assassination of Leon Trotsky by Stalin's killer in Mexico, August 1940, have been disclosed by Louis F. Budenz, former Managing Editor of the American

As an eyewitness and direct participant, Budenz, who served the Kremlin loyally for ten years, now supplies conclusive evidence that top operators of Stalin's secret police worked for years on American soil to prepare for the murder of Trotsky.

American Stalinists, including Budenz himself, helped pave the way for the assassin "Frank Jacobson" to worm his way into Trotsky's home. Involved in the preparation for this crime were the then highest placed leaders of American Stalinism, in particular, Earl Browder and Jack Stachel.

Began In 1936

Budenz's confession places the beginning of these preparations in

December 1936. This is a significant date. It was on the eve of the Second Moscow Trial which was staged in January 1937, Trotsky was at that time aboard a Norwegian oil tanker en route to Mexico. The GPU was busy before he had even set his foot on land.

To penetrate the Trotskyist organization and to establish connections for the killer, the GPU required specific information. Since the American Trotskyists were at the time members of the Socialist Party, additional information about left wing Socialists was likewise required.

Because of his previous, even if brief, contacts with Trotskyists,

Budenz, who was then labour editor of the "Daily Worker", was selected for the task of "cooperating" with the secret GPU network.

In his disclosures Budenz confirms the charge repeatedly made by Trotsky in his lifetime that at least one representative of the GPU sits within the Central Committee of every national Stalinist section and exercises unbounded authority. The selection of Budenz was approved by this semi-public, semi-private figure.

Budenz's meeting with the GPU chieftain in charge of "Anti-Trotskyist" activities, "friend Richards" by name, was arranged

Stalinist "Daily Worker" and member of the National Committee of the American Communist (Stalinist) Party.

These revelations are made by Budenz in his book "This Is My Story" which will be shortly released to the public by Whittlesey House.

Assisted G.P.U.

Budenz conferred with "Richards" and accepted the assignment, which included collecting all sorts of information concerning the Trotskyists. Always a bitter enemy of Trotskyism, Budenz does not hide even today that he was eager to assist the GPU in every possible way. He supported and defended, as he still does, all the monstrous false charges con-

cocted by the Kremlin, above all, those presented in the Moscow frame-ups.

Budenz was kept busy for months working for the GPU. The agents in charge were shifted—"Richards" for instance, replaced "Richards"—But Budenz's work continued unabated. He was shown photographs for purposes of identification. He checked on addresses and individuals. He was consulted on the selection of spies to penetrate the Trotskyist ranks.

Throughout this period he was at the beck and call of the GPU, dropping all other assignments to gather the required information. By his own admission he con-

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