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LABOUR LEADERS BACK VANSITTARTISM

SHAMEFUL RESOLUTION PASSED AT CONFERENCE

BY TED GRANT

A SHAMEFUL RESOLUTION WHICH SMACKS OF VANSITTARTISM WAS CARRIED AT THE LAST LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE. A RESOLUTION WHICH VIOLATES ALL THE PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISM TO WHICH THE LABOUR AND TRADE UNION LEADERSHIP HAS PAID LIP-SERVICE IN THE PAST. AS IF TO UNDERLINE THESE COWARDLY AND SHAMEFUL CONCESSIONS TO CHAUVINISM: THE LABOUR PARTY DID NOT ALLOW FRATERNAL DELEGATES FROM SOCIALIST PARTIES OF "ENEMY" COUNTRIES

TO BE REPRESENTED AT THE CONFERENCE. THE RESOLUTION LAYS THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE HITLER REGIME AND ITS CRIMES ONTO THE SHOULDERS OF THE GERMAN PEOPLE.

IT SAYS THAT THE PARTY:

"Recognises that there are Germans who are opposed to the policy of their Government but believes that these Germans are in a very small minority, and . . .

That the Nazi Government would not have remained in power or have been able to conduct a total war but for the support it received from the overwhelming mass of the German people. It declares that no permanent peace will be possible unless Germany is completely disarmed in accordance with the provisions of Article 8 of the Atlantic Charter and the spirit of aggressive nationalism entirely eradicated.

It therefore welcomes any steps that may need to be taken for the re-education of the German people, so that they may play their part in the creation of a democratic, peaceful and secure world."

Speaking in favour, and representing the attitude of the Trade Union and Labour bureaucrats, **Charles Dukes**, general secretary of the Municipal and General Workers' Union, made a vile attack on the German workers. "Between the Weimar Republic and the rise of Hitler to power he had seen the overwhelming majority of German trade unionists go over to Nazism." "Daily Herald", 18/6/43.

Thus the Labour and Trade Union leaders repeat the lies and slanders of the capitalists against the German people. It is an eloquent comment on the position taken at the Labour Conference, that the formerly pro-fascist and pro-Nazi capitalist press such as the "Daily Mail" and the "Sunday Dispatch" enthusiastically hailed this decision of the Labour Party Conference.

The idea which is created, that the German workers must be held responsible for the crimes of the Nazis and for the coming to power of Hitler is a deliberate travesty of history. But if the German workers are to be held responsible for the crimes of their masters, then all the more blame should be attached, not to the British workers but to their "leaders" who at the present time are supporting a government which represents the monopoly capitalists who supported Hitler to the utmost extent. It was the British capitalists who aided, armed and financed Hitler and white-washed his crimes against the Trade Unionists, Communists and Socialists when he destroyed the organisations of the working class in Germany. They regarded all this approvingly as a means of creating a

Continued on page 4.

GENERAL ELECTION NOW WOULD ASSURE LABOUR MAJORITY —SAYS GALLUP POLL

A GALLUP POLL TAKEN BY THE BRITISH INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC OPINION REPORTED IN THE "NEWS CHRONICLE" OF JUNE 26TH, 1943, SHOWS THAT IF A GENERAL ELECTION WERE HELD IN BRITAIN TO-DAY, THE LABOUR PARTY COULD EXPECT TO POLL MORE VOTES THAN THE OTHER TWO MAJOR PARTIES COMBINED.

Asked "HOW WOULD YOU VOTE IN AN ELECTION?" out of every 100 civilian voters:

- 38 would vote Labour
- 25 would vote Conservative
- 9 would vote Liberal
- 3 would vote Communist
- 2 would vote Common Wealth
- 9 would divide among other parties
- 11 would be undecided
- 3 would not vote.

These figures indicate the depth of the changes in the political mood of the masses that has taken place during the course of the war. According to this poll which usually gives a scientific cross section of public opinion, if a General Election were to be held immediately, the Labour Party would have a majority. In the article the "News Chronicle" comments:

"In a House of Commons in which the seats were allocated according to the voting strength of the parties as

elections, where Common Wealth and "left" candidates standing on a vague programme of socialism, have gained substantial support among the electorate.

The figures given above demonstrate without possibility of dispute that the overwhelming majority of the working class and a large section of the middle class are only waiting for a fighting socialist lead. If the Labour Party broke the coalition with Big Business, and launched a campaign on a genuine socialist programme, they could precipitate a landslide in favour of Socialism. Not only those who are in favour of Labour now, but all the undecided elements and even large sections who still support the capitalists through apathy and indifference, could be won to a bold programme of struggle against Fascism and reaction both at home and abroad; a socialist programme which would stand for the banishing of fascism, war, unemployment and poverty from the world once and for all by abolishing their cause, capitalism.

At the last Labour Party Conference

Gallup Poll show what has been clear for a long time—that the majority of the electorate do not support the Conservatives. Yet the Labour and Trade Union leadership, violating the desires of the masses continue to support and prop up the Tories and the capitalist class.

In the past the leaders of the Labour Party have justified their failure to launch a real struggle against capitalism by shifting the responsibility onto the shoulders of the workers, whom they described as apathetic and indifferent to the struggle for social change. But this excuse cannot be used at the present time. It is clearly seen that it is the leaders who are apathetic and indifferent to the struggle for social change. Indeed, they are fighting tooth and nail against it.

Not only are the masses supporting Labour but quite a large number, in sheer desperation at Labour's capitulation, have gone over to the Common Wealth Party. This is already a danger signal for the Labour movement.

CLAYTON CASE Glasshouse MPs Get Off Light

Public opinion has been aroused by the death of rifleman William Clayton and the evidence given in the subsequent trial of the two jailors R.M.S. Culliney and Q.M.S. Salter, has thrown glaring light on the brutal treatment meted out to soldiers in the military detention camps. The statements of witnesses as reported in the press refute all false ideas as to the completely democratic nature of the British Army.



have a majority. In the article the "News Chronicle" comments:

"In a House of Commons in which the seats were allocated according to the voting strength of the parties as shown in the Gallup forecast, a Labour Government would have a clear majority of at least 28 over a combined Conservative-Liberal Opposition, supposing the Liberals decided to sit in opposition to Labour."

These figures are but a pale reflection of the mood that has developed throughout the country. The working class is supporting the war because of their fear and hatred of fascism. But they are not blind to the fact that Big Business and the monopolies have been using the situation to make enormous profits at the expense of the workers and of the middle class. More and more a critical attitude towards the capitalists and a yearning for a radical change is developing. This has been borne out by the experience of the by-

both at home and abroad, a socialist programme which would stand for the banishing of fascism, war, unemployment and poverty from the world once and for all by abolishing their cause, capitalism.

At the last Labour Party Conference Attlee said the Labour movement must be motivated by a spirit of daring and audacity. But the exhibition of Attlee could hardly have been described as "daring" or "audacious". Rather he presented a picture of a rabbit diving into a hole. By continuing the electoral truce with the Tories, the Labour leaders have voluntarily surrendered to the capitalists at a time when the rank and file workers have shown clearly that they are sick and tired of capitalist misrule. By this the Labour leaders demonstrate that far from being Socialists, they are not even consistent democrats. According to democracy, the will of the majority must prevail, yet the National Government with its Tory majority has been in existence for more than 8 years without consulting the electorate. The figures of the

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Workers! Why do your leaders cling so perfidiously to the coat-tails of the Tories? What are they waiting for? The capitalists are the only gainers from the coalition. The workers make the sacrifices—the bosses make the profits. The electorate no longer wants the Tory representatives of Big Business. They have lost the confidence of the masses. The Tory capitalist coalition must go!

The labour leaders claim to represent the interests of the workers and to stand for Socialism. Why then do they cling to the capitalist coalition against the wishes of the masses? Workers' International League believes that only the taking of power by the working class can solve the problems of the workers. Only by taking control of the Government, of industry, of the armed forces, will fascism be defeated and the hand of friendship be extended to the German and European workers. Only with the freeing of the colonial slaves, which a workers' Government alone will do will the workers of all lands march towards a new world order.

The next step forward in convincing the workers of the correctness of our programme lies in demonstrating to them that the Labour leadership cannot achieve their aims of a world of peace, of plenty and security. The rank and file of the Labour Party and Trade Unions do not understand this yet. When they do, they will rally to the banner of the Fourth International! The only means of teaching the labour workers that the labour leaders have sold out is to demand the ending of the truce and a fight for Power on a socialist programme.

Mobilise and organise to end the coalition. Demand that your leaders turn socialist words into socialist deeds. Workers' International League will fight side by side with the workers to achieve this. In the course of the struggle we believe that the workers will see that our criticism of the Labour leaders is completely true and that only the Party of the Fourth International can lead the toilers to socialism. At the same time we say, rely only on your own independent forces, your own organisations and strength to achieve your aims. If the Labour leaders have their way, the capitalists will pick their opportunity and launch an election campaign at the time of their choosing on some new Zinoviev forgery, or some new financial swindle as that of 1931. The workers are fed up with the Tories. Now is the time for Labour to appeal to the people to gain a majority. The Labour Leaders do not want power. If they did they would take advantage of this exceptional opportunity.

**Now is the time to end the truce!
For a General election!
Labour must take power and put into force the programme of the "Socialist Appeal"!**



R.S.M. Culliney. Q.M.S. Salter.

According to Army Regulations (Section 37 of the Army Act), an N.C.O. is not allowed to strike a man. Yet a soldier witness stated in evidence: "I saw Clayton on the ground, Salter was bending over him and striking him in the face." And again an aircraftman testified to seeing "R.S.M. Culliney bash Clayton on the side of the face and as Clayton went to fall on the other side, the R.S.M. bashed him on that side." According to the medical evidence, Clayton's death was accelerated by the injuries which he had received.

Although the presiding judge stated in his summing up that to impose a light sentence on Culliney and Salter would have a bad effect on public morale, he nevertheless proceeded to let them down lightly with 18 and 12 months respectively. The obvious implication is that but for the considerations of public morale and the general outcry which would ensue, the judge would have imposed an even lighter sentence.

The jury recommended the War Office to "take immediate steps to prevent a recurrence of the brutal treatment as proved by the evidence in this trial at all military camps at home and abroad." Already in reply to this, Sir James Grigg, Secretary for War, has stated that a military enquiry is to follow the trial. We need not expect however, that any startling reforms of

Continued on back page.

ROOSEVELT'S THREAT TO DRAFT MINERS

The general strike of the miners in America and the strikes during the few past few weeks have focussed the attention of the British workers on events taking place in the United States. The threats of Roosevelt to use the army if necessary in order to ensure the mining of coal, and the "taking over" of the mines by the Government in order to force the miners to work as "Government employees" were dramatic indications of the bitterness and tension which the situation produced, and the lengths to which the United States Government was prepared to go, to break the struggle of the miners.

The American capitalist press launched an hysterical campaign of lies and vilification against the miners in order to whip up a jingo prejudice against them. But the demands of the miners which were distorted and magnified by the capitalist newspapers, were in reality very modest when compared with the tremendous increase in prices and the enormous profits being made by the coalowners. The American miners came into conflict with the laws which the reactionary administration and the American Congress and Senate had

passed. Setting up what was called a War Labour Board, which set a "ceiling" on wages, which were not allowed to rise more than a small fraction, it is their intention to "freeze" wages at their present level. Meanwhile, although prices have been soaring to fantastic heights, no real effort has been made to check them and the reactionary Congress has refused to pass legislation which would attempt to limit prices.

It is in sheer exasperation and despair that the miners were compelled to resort to strike action, when they understand the completely cynical way in which the government and the employers were refusing to rectify their grievances. Whilst sternly demanding that Labour should "patriotically" make "sacrifices" and give up the strike weapon for the duration of the war, the monopolies and trusts in America have been making incredibly increased profits. Even the high profits which the British capitalists are making in the war, pale into insignificance when compared to the figures of that of American Big Business. But appetite comes with eating; and the unbridled appetite of Big Business leads them to viciously allow prices to rise almost unchecked, while the workers are barred from attempting to get wage increases.

In the last few years the American workers have become more union conscious than at any period in their history. Through the efforts of the C.I.O. which was then led by Lewis, hitherto unorganised workers in the mass production industries, steel, auto, rubber, etc. flocked into the unions. Today the C.I.O., the A.F.L. and the Railroad Brotherhoods together comprise 10,000,000 organised workers in the United States.

Although they were organised in strong unions even prior to the war, the American workers did not have any independent political party, separate and apart from the capitalist parties. Just as in Britain 50 years ago, the unions dragged at the tail of the Liberals, so in the United States the unions supported Roosevelt and the Democrats.

The workers in Britain had to learn by bitter experience the necessity of having a class party of their own to represent their interests, even such a party as the Labour Party. They found it was impossible for them to rely on the Liberals and the Tories, as capitalist parties, who represented the interests of the employers.

Continued on Back page.

LANARK PIT CLOSED

While the Government was debating coal production in the House of Commons and the Coal Owners' representatives were attacking the miners as "saboteurs" and demanding stronger measures against them, the owners of Priory Pit, Blantyre, Lanarkshire, were demonstrating the real attitude of the employers towards the question of coal production.

This pit, which is owned by W. Beard & Co. Ltd., has been idle for more than two weeks. The employers showing utter disregard for the "national emergency," the "coal crisis" or anything other than a lust for profits, have been provoking the workers at the pit for some time.

After a dispute regarding heat money when the workers were finally forced to strike work for a week, they proposed to return on the old conditions whilst the matter was being negotiated.

On June the 19th when the miners presented themselves for work they were told by the management that they could commence work only on entirely new conditions: (1) that brushers would conclude individual contracts; and (2) that black-band strippers would require to make wages on existing ton rates and that no make up wage would be paid.

These new conditions had nothing to do with the original dispute and the ultimatum of the management was an entire change in the conditions and agreements concluded between themselves and the union. It was an attack against the conditions and wages of the miners at the pit. In

view of the seven-days agreement between the union and owners, the management's action was a violation of "Order 1305" and amounted to a lock-out of workers by the employer.

The miners reaffirmed their decision to return on the old conditions but each day they presented themselves for their shift they were turned away.

The Lanarkshire Miners' Council supported the miners and have issued an official statement backing the miners who are considered locked out. The Executive of the Union to the Union Council took a serious view of the management's action and the Procurator-Fiscal was instructed to prefer a charge against the Manager—Mr. A. M. Richie.

When the Union officials approached the Regional Controller of Coal, Lord Traprain, they discovered that he condoned the action of the management and intimated that he was not going to use his powers until the law courts had decided the whole question. The union thereupon immediately decided to demand from the Government that Lord Traprain be immediately dismissed from his post.

Meanwhile, the dispute drags on. The proposal to send a delegation to London to see the Government which was made by the Union Executive, can achieve nothing unless the Union backs the delegation by its industrial strength and strategic powers threatening to withdraw the miners from the surrounding pits unless the saboteurs are removed from their commanding positions in control of the pits and coal production.

U.S. "DEMOCRATIC" ARMY PRACTICE STRIKE-BREAKING



The above photograph was taken at a public strike-breaking exhibition staged at Ft. Snelling, Minnesota, on March 17, which had been advertised as a lesson in routing "foreign agents." The prospective victims of the fixed bayonets were other soldiers who posed as strikers bearing such placards as "We want 20 per cent Raise in Pay, Shorter Hours," "Unfair to Labor. . . Strike," "More Pay, Less Work. . . Strike." Due to the protest of both AFL and CIO union, photographs of these prospective victims became suddenly very scarce. This photograph is reproduced from the American Trotskyist paper the "Militant."

A.E.U. LEADERSHIP ABANDONS WAGE DEMAND FORWARD FOR THE ORIGINAL 11/-

The National Committee meeting of the A.E.U. which opened in Southport on June 21st sounded one of the biggest retreats ever made in the history of the engineering trade. Representing 839,000 members occupying the most vital posts in the war machine, whose contributions alone amount to over five million pounds, this leading body decided to scrap all demands for general wage increases. That was the most outstanding decision of the Committee. Apart from a militant minority it was carried by a majority of delegates varying from right wing bureaucrats to Stalinist renegades.

This year at least every delegate showed his true colours on the committee. Communist Party members vied with each other in denouncing strikes and strikers, as the tools of Hitler, to the applause of the platform. On the other hand militants like Bro. Heppell from the Tyne, the scene of the biggest engineering strike since the war, bluntly told the conference that engineers were losing faith in the arbitration court and that steps were being taken to unify and to weld the opposition for the purpose of taking action. This plain speaking is a true reflection of the keen discontent of engineering workers throughout the country. In itself it attempts to show the way forward, which is the development of a new fighting leadership in the A.E.U. pledged to fight for the interests of the members. The Committee's betrayal will hasten this forward.

TANNER'S PLAN

The "Economist" declared that Tanner's advice to the conference to "reject the demand for general wage increases all round" in favour of a "comprehensive long term policy" proved that he, Tanner, had shown signs of a long sighted realistic outlook beyond the ordinary run of Trade Union leaders. Here again it would be interesting to consult the man on the bench on this policy. It is all very nice for Tanner to exclaim that he is for the consolidation of national bonuses into



T.U. OFFICIAL:

**DON'T STRIKE WE'RE
LOOKING AFTER YOU'**

basic rates in order to forestall the post war attacks of the employers; but speak to any one of the vast army of between two and three million aircraft workers, and ask them what this means. Cripps has already announced that **only 10 per cent** of the present aircraft industry will be required after the war; 90 per cent of the factories will be closed down and the workers unemployed. After reading Cripp's statement the average worker will truthfully reply that Tanner's long term policy is "pie in the sky", and this state of affairs also applies to shipbuilding and all the other war industries.

No one of course disagrees with the need for the trade union movement to plan in advance for its membership, but it must be realistic planning on the basis of a struggle against the employers and not phrasemongering. Furthermore, insofar as wages are concerned it is absolutely ridiculous to talk about a wages policy for a period of post war

slump when the struggle for more wages is being abandoned at a time of the greatest industrial boom in history. The condition of the engineering workers after the war will be determined by what is gained today and above all by the ability to struggle, not pious speech making. It is not an accident that the oldest of big business journals calls Tanner a far-sighted Trade Union Leader.

The position is really serious. The Employers' Federation know what all this talk of post war consolidation means. They know that when Tanner & Co. abandon the demand for general wage increases now, after the war when millions of engineers are unemployed their power to bargain will be even less. The present leadership of the A.E.U. are utterly incapable of preparing for the future when their policy today is one of retreat.

THE C.P. AND WAGES

At last year's conference, Clokey, a C.P. member from the Glasgow District Committee, was responsible for moving the resolution which called for the 11/- increase for all time workers. This year the same Clokey moved a resolution which called for only 6/- increase for day workers. In his preamble to this resolution not a single argument was advanced as to the reasons why the 11/- was refused, not a single criticism was made of the E.C.'s absolute failure to conduct negotiations; all that we get is a miserable climb-down in face of the flat refusal by the Employers' Federation to grant an increase for time workers. In the usual flowery language of Stalinism, we are in effect, assured that if we reduce our demands from 11/- to 6/- the "post war interests of the members will best be served". The gentlemen from the Employers' Federation must be having a hearty laugh.

Looking at the C.P. position more closely we can see good reason for such a laugh. Clokey jumps to his feet and moves the resolution for the 6/- increase. Immediately a militant moves an amendment for the 11/- (Clokey's demand last year). "Almost choking with rage Clokey and the other C.P. delegates pounce upon the militant and promptly vote down their own demand of last year. How can any engineer treat these people seriously? In all probability next year they will be voting down the demand for 6/-. It all depends on the "party line", and insofar as wages are concerned the Masters' Federation determine that "line" for the C.P.

CORRESPONDENCE

FROM THE MIDDLE EAST

Middle East,
22 May, 1943.

Dear Comrade,

The following is a brief account of recent events in the Greek Army in the Middle East. It is taken from a 5 page duplicated sheet (it is in English, although its author is evidently a Greek) the origin of which I have been unable to discover.

It begins with an account of the "two conflicting ideologies" in the Greek forces—the pro-Fascist element who are doing all they can to sabotage the "struggle for the freedom of our country", and the "democratic, patriotic" element who constitute a great majority. During June 1942 when the rank and file of the first Greek unit then in existence asked to be sent to the front (Egypt), the pro-Fascist clique (consisting mostly of high officers) resigned their positions collectively. The conflict grew sharper: the Greek Government "unfortunately" encouraging the Fascists by keeping and appointing them in high positions and reinstating those who resigned in June. The matter came to a head when the Government, for "no apparent reason" dismissed the "democratic" commander of a battalion of the 2nd Brigade. Again a group of Fascist officers attempted to resign collectively and "the Fascists" he says, "were seen meeting and loading arms". Then spontaneously the soldiers arrested the Fascist officers and brought them all to the Brigade Base. The 1st Brigade followed suit.

This action, the writer says, was unanimously approved by the entire Greek armed forces (the army, air force and navy as well as the mercantile marine), and also by various representatives of the Greek community in Egypt. Discipline during these events was "completely maintained". A deputation was also sent to the General Commanding 9th Army, who received their demands with "sympathy and a promise to refer them to London in his next report" (!). On the 9th March, the following demands were sent to the Greek Government in London through the Greek Legation: (1) democratisation of the Armed Forces, i.e. dismissal of Fascist officers; (2) Reinstatement of 3 recently dismissed "democratic" officers; (3) Trial of Fascists who resigned collectively; (4) Purge of General Staff; (5) Dismissal of the provocateurs General Zigouris and Col. Bourdaras; (6) Clean out of Ministries.

On the 12th March, it will be noted, M. Kanellopoulos, Minister of War, resigned. The writer throughout stresses strongly that this action symbolises the extreme patriotism and desire of the Greek Forces to fight for the freedom of their country; but personally I have heard from another source that there is a good deal of left-wing influence among the Greek soldiers. In any case the whole matter has its significance. (I should have

corruption against the Wafd Government. He printed these in a "Black Book". Here are some of the charges: the Prime Minister (Nahas Pasha) made a private fortune of £100,000 in 6 months. He took a fancy to a building—the occupants were a girls' school. He had them removed in 24 hours and used the building as a private residence! His wife made a fortune by buying part of the rice crop, waiting till the Government fixed a higher price and selling again. Relatives and friends of the family are being given highly paid jobs. Relatives of the family control the export of sugar to Palestine where the retail price is 5 times that in Egypt. Nothing came of it in Parliament of course. British power is the only thing that keeps these corrupt politicians in office. Sorry I haven't more news at the moment.

R.

FROM A POLISH COMMUNIST WORKER

Dear Friend and Comrade,

Please do allow me to express my feelings, through the "Socialist Appeal" on this question of the Comintern.

I am a Polish Worker, and have belonged to the Polish C.P. since my childhood. I do not need to say that we knew of concentration camps, and beating-up methods before the German worker did, as we were always illegal and had reactionary governments, which were supported only by the corrupted state apparatus. The government party itself received at the last counties elections, (Lodz, Warsaw, etc.) slightly more than 10%. I must add that the government in London consists of 'Panovie' or Lords.

The question remains, who are these defenders of "democracy"? As a matter of fact the Polish C.P. was dissolved in pre-war times. This question also needs explanation, but later on. All members of the Central Committee have vanished. Among those, were some very close friends of Lenin's. Now instead, a committee of Polish Patriots has been set up in Moscow with Danda Wasilewska as a leader. Reading their paper which is published in Moscow, the *Wolna Polska*, you can see that their policy is not much different from that of London's.

The slogans, and articles of pure chauvinistic and nationalistic content, embrace and call upon all Polish "patriots" from the N.D. (which are the Nazis of Poland), to the Catholic and Jewish churches, for a "strong and independent" Poland. We Polish class conscious workers know that this Union of Patriots is playing the game for Allied imperialism and Russian diplomacy; the latter wishing to bring to a quick settlement on the Polish-Russian frontier dispute. We draw the attention of the Polish working

BREAK THE

COALITION

LABOUR TO POWER

on the following
Programme.

1. Immediate despatch of arms and material to the Soviet Union under the control of the Trade Unions and factory committees.
2. Nationalisation of the land, mines, banks, transport and all big industry without compensation.
3. Confiscation of all war profits—all company books to be open for trade union inspection.
4. Workers' control of production to end chaos and mismanagement in industry to be exercised through workers committees.
5. Equal distribution of food, clothes, and other consumers commodities under the control of committees of workers elected from the distributive trades, factories, housewives committees and small shop-keepers.
6. Sliding scale of wages to meet the increased cost of living with a guaranteed minimum.
7. Repeal of the Essential Works Order and all other anti-working class and strike-breaking laws.
8. Clear out the reactionary pro-fascist officer caste in the Army and Home Guard. Election of officers by the soldiers. Trade union wages for all workers in the armed forces.
9. Establishment of military schools by the Trade Unions at the expense of the state for the training of worker officers.
10. Arming of the workers under control of committees of workers elected in factories, unions and in the streets against the danger of invasion or Petainism.
11. Freedom for Ireland, India and the Colonies.
12. A Socialist appeal to the workers of Germany and Europe on the basis of this programme in Britain to join the Socialist struggle against Hitler for the Socialist United States of Europe.

Stalin had reduced to a mere instrument of his foreign policy.

EQUALITY OF SACRIFICE

The terrible situation confronting

BY GEORGE HANSEN

SACRIFICE

The terrible situation confronting the working class of how to obtain enough food to maintain anything like a decent standard of living, is one of the major problems of the present day. The inadequacy of their rations is demonstrated by the appalling spectacle witnessed throughout the country, of thousands of women searching and queuing up for food.

This situation prevails when millions of workers are working long hours on arduous work and who need more nourishing food than in peace time. The result of an inquiry carried out by Welsh grocers in the Merthyr district shows that "Miners' rations are not adequate for the heavy work they have to do." Daily Herald, 23.3.43.

Miners constitute only a section of the workers engaged in heavy work. Similar enquiries conducted in other jobs would show the same result.

The main burden of obtaining food for the workers falls on the shoulders of the women of the working class. Yet before obtaining even their meagre rations, they have to rack their brains on how to use their "points" to the best advantage, and after this comes the search for more.

When this situation is compared with that of the wealthier classes, the hypocrisy of the so-called equality of sacrifice is fully demonstrated. That the wealthier class does not have to worry about ration books, points, or queuing was seen in the case of Sir John Leigh, Tory M.P. for Clapham. Staying at a hotel in Lytham St Anne's with some friends on holiday, Sir John was asked by a Food Inspector for his ration book. His reply was that he would not know a ration book if he saw one. This is a typical example of the position of the whole of the wealthier classes in the present critical situation for the workers. While Sir John and his class can gallivant about without worrying about ration books, the workers have to exist on rations so meagre that a week's ration of meat or cheese could easily be eaten in one meal.

More and more potatoes are being introduced as a staple diet. Use potatoes instead of bread, is the essence of their propaganda. More acreage is being given over to growing this crop, although more than enough is grown already to supply the population on their existing consumption. Any illusion held by the workers that this cutting down of food imports is only a wartime measure is dispelled by the statement of Sir Kingsley Wood in the House of Commons on February 2nd, that rationing will continue after the war. At the present time wheat, meat and tinned foods are being supplied to Britain under Lend Lease. After the war this will cease, and in order to compete with her capitalist rivals, British imperialism will be forced to cut her imports. Britain will not be able to import food to the value of £418,000,000 as she did in 1938. The answer of the capitalists at home is—grow more potatoes.

This has an ominous sound for the workers in Britain who have no desire to be fed in the same way as the popu-

BY GEORGE HANSEN

lation of Ireland were years ago. Yet this is their only prospect under capitalism.

The feeding facilities of the workers, when contrasted to that of the wealthier classes, shatters any illusion as to "equality". The "limit" of 5/- per meal fixed for wartime conditions, is one of the most hypocritical laws yet passed. Outside Matchett's restaurant Piccadilly, London, the following notice is displayed:

Dinner	5/-
House Charge	4/-
Music and Dancing	2/6

11/6

By means of this procedure West End diners are still able to get the meals which they enjoyed in peace time. Their choice of meals consists of:

Choice of hors d'oeuvres, lobster cocktail or liver pate.

Choice of roast chicken, braised tongue, hot or cold lobster.

Choice of chocolate cream sponge (synthetic cream), stewed fruit and cream, jam and cream flan, trifle.

"Daily Herald", 29.1.43.

What labour it takes in order that these people can be provided with such meals is seen by the fact that "a West End hotel employs no fewer than 34 chefs and cooks, of whom more than half are highly skilled, to provide only 1,500 meals a day."

"Reynolds", 28.2.43.

Yet for a huge factory in the South of England, with its 20,000 workers, there are only 11 cooks of all kinds, only a couple of whom are classed as "skilled", for the canteen!

The cooks in workers' canteens and restaurants are hopelessly overworked and cannot cook the food (such as it is) in a decent way, with the result that it can only be described as "mush". Lord Woolton stated that he would "like to see a higher standard of cooking in these canteens". The remedy, which of course, he omits to state, is to draft more cooks for the works canteens from the West End hotels and to train more people as cooks.

The workers are not only overworked but they are underfed in a manner detrimental to their health. This situation must be altered. The position where the workers are undernourished while a small clique can stuff their bellies, cannot be tolerated. The working class must be assured of their fair share of the food which is available.

Never was there more need for the measures advocated in Point 5, of the "Socialist Appeal" Programme: Control must be taken away from the capitalists and under the supervision of the working class. Distribution of food must be controlled by Housewives Committees, delegates from the distributive trade unions; from the Co-ops, and delegates from the small shop-keepers. The canteens must come under the control of the workers.

...treat these people seriously? In all probability next year they will be voting down the demand for 6/-. It all depends on the "party line", and insofar as wages are concerned the Masters' Federation determine that "line" for the C.P.

Clokey of course attempted to cover himself, by including in his resolution, the demand for the restoration of the 1931 cuts. But since this demand is advanced on the same basis as the 11/- demand of last year, it is obvious that if ever a struggle developed around such a demand the C.P. would quickly abandon it in order not to embarrass the "United Effort". At the same time every A.E.U. member should support the demand for the restoration of the 1931 cuts as well as for the 6/-. Even if these demands, inadequate as they are, are pressed home, the false position of the C.P. will emerge in an even sharper form. The burning test of sincerity is not the formulation of demands but the ability to fight for them. In this test the Stalinists and the Tanners stand completely exposed.

PRODUCTION

In between clashes on the Committee we had the usual pudding talks about "more production". Tanner devoted most of his time explaining the burning need for a greater output of munitions. But here again all we have is speech-making, because as every worker knows, what to a large extent determines production is conditions in the factories. The employers are not interested in production as such, but only in profits. That is why, while coining fabulous profits, they are not prepared to allow the engineers better conditions and wages, though this would obviously be the best incentive to an increase in production. While making empty speeches on increased production in chorus with the bosses, it is noticeable that Tanner did not mention this obvious fact. Every engineer, however, is aware of the incompetence and mismanagement which exists in nearly every factory. If it is production that the union leaders and the employers claim is the most vital need of the moment, then there is a simple solution to the problem. Let Tanner fight for workers' control through the Shop Stewards' Committees in the factories, and production would shoot up while the conditions of the workers would be safeguarded and even improved.

By frustrating the legitimate and modest demands of the workers and by thus acting as agents of the employers, by refusing to go forward for wage increases, the union leaders in effect sabotage production.

Tanner and the C.P. have treacherously dropped the wage demands! The original demands must go forward as a minimum! For the original demand of a flat rate increase of 11/-, a lieu rate of 33½ per cent for time workers and the restoration of pre-1931 conditions!

In order to achieve this the struggle will have to be launched in the branches and in the workshops to organise a new Left wing leadership. Bro. Heppell struck the right note in his reference to a growing Left Wing in the A.E.U. But this will not achieve anything unless it becomes organised around a clear fighting platform.

...sire of the Greek Forces to fight for the freedom of their country; but personally I have heard from another source that there is a good deal of left-wing influence among the Greek soldiers. In any case the whole matter has its significance. (I should have added that those dismissed were replaced merely by a set of nonentities.) Recently an ex-minister brought up in the Egyptian Parliament charges of

Union of Patriots is playing the game for Allied imperialism and Russian diplomacy; the latter wishing to bring to a quick settlement on the Polish-Russian frontier dispute. We draw the attention of the Polish working class, that our class interests have been sold out by the Comintern, which

Continued next Column.

BAKERY VANMEN STRIKE

BY ANN KEEN

Newcastle—

On Friday, 18th June, 41 out of the 45 van men employed by Hunter's, the biggest bakery in the Northern District, decided to strike work on Monday 21st June. The 4 men who refused to accept the majority decision and preferred to black-leg, were all non-union men, the 40 strikers being organised in the T.G.W.U. The strike only lasted 2 days, after which on the advice of their union official, the men agreed to go back to await arbitration.

The serious discontent about their conditions was finally brought to a head by the decision to remove a worker from his rounds who had been with the firm for many years, and place him as a "spare" man involving the loss of over £3 in his pay packet each week. At the same time a "spare" man, that is a more recently employed worker, was put on the deliveries.

At the beginning of the war it was decided by the management to pay 7/6d. a week less to men employed since the outbreak of war. But, it now appeared that the management was attempting to break down the conditions of the earlier employed workers under the plea "there's a war on" and "rubber and petrol are scarce, etc.". In this way the vans have been cut from 50 to 45 and more and more work is piled up to the van men each day. The men agreed to do some of the loading but immediately upon doing so, it was proposed that they do the full load. The workers felt things couldn't go on this way. Already their day was long and hard enough, starting work at 7.15 in the morning and knocking off at 6.30 at night. During this time they are permitted an hour for dinner, but actually they can never get more than half an hour because of lack of time. On top of this it was proposed that 10 of the men should be taken off the road and become "spares", the work of these men to be divided amongst the remaining van men.

The vans are fitted out with a clock system which enables the management to know exactly how long the van has remained at each store. A continual check is kept on the men's movements and they are constantly being put on the "mat" after being reported to the managing Director. The repeated demand from the management is that the men should fit in more calls on their rounds. Their clocks are gone through

and the men are told to knock ten minutes off this call and 5 minutes off another, in the end possibly finding an hour in all. The workers know by practice that it is impossible to work this way. They get held up in all kinds of ways. Sometimes having to wait on storekeepers to pay over money etc.

Although the 2 day strike was directly brought about by the change over of a "spare" man on to the road, actually one of the big grievances is an existing agreement signed by their union official. The agreement set out that whilst the deliveries increased, the percentage of commission decreased.

In spite of the fact that the men were grumbling and entirely dissatisfied with the Agreement, which had been signed by their union official, Mr. Roberts, some 4 months ago, the workers still believed that he would put up a militant fight for their legitimate rights, thus showing once again what strong allegiance the workers bear to their leaders. They felt that without Mr. Roberts, their case would be much worse in so far as they were acting without the consent of their trade union.

The men decided to go back to work and await the decision which they believe will be impartial and which will decide in their favour. The strike has been a failure! During the two days of strike the boss was able to maintain a skeleton service with the use of the 4 blacklegs and some of the staff as well as hired transport. The strikers fell down on their task of publicising their struggle and demanding support from the drivers who were being used as scabs. Failure to do this, and also to win the support of the other workers in the bakery, so weakened their moral position that they relied on their union official who had already shown his true colours 4 months ago, and also on the rotten machinery of the arbitration tribunals.

Like all other employees, the bakery owners are only too eager to take the opportunity offered by the war, to drive down the standards of the workers. Only the militant activity of the workers can provide a means of defending their hard won conditions. Unless backed up by a determined stand by the workers, the arbitration tribunal will offer the same as it has to the engineers and the railworkers.

United States of Europe.

Stalin had reduced to a mere instrument of his foreign policy.

A "strong independent" capitalist Poland means nothing to us. We had "independence" in 1918 and the working class paid for with blood. The Polish worker and peasants have no ambition for a "strong" Poland with persecuted National minorities. This is going to be the last fight, if we have to give our blood. No more starvation and landless peasants! For the workers control of industry! and land to the peasants without compensation to the landlords! The peasant has the right to his soil which is full of his sweat and his blood. In their hearts shall remain the risings of 1923, Cracow, and many others.

The conclusion must be, the 3rd International is dead! Long Live the Fourth! For a Strong Socialist Poland. Long live the banner of freedom of Lenin, Leibknecht.

Proletarians of all lands unite!

S.

I.L.P.—W.I.L. DEBATE

At the debate on June 17th, with Walter Padley of the I.L.P., Ted Grant of the "Socialist Appeal" demonstrated the differences between the Centrism of the I.L.P. and Bolshevism. After Comrade Grant had opened up and dealt with fundamental principles in his first contribution, Walter Padley evaded a discussion of the basic questions which mark the differences between the I.L.P. and W.I.L., and reduced the discussion to one on entirely secondary issues.

In view of this fact a further debate is necessary in which fundamental issues are fully thrashed out

L.K.

ALL TRADE UNIONISTS PLEASE NOTE.

MEETING

HOLBORN HALL (Gray's Inn Road)

SUNDAY, 11TH JULY, 6.30 p.m. sharp.

Report from the Clyde Workers' Committee — by a Delegate Discussion on the Wage issue.

Issued by the London Committee for Co-ordination of Militant Trade Union Activity.

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EDITORIAL

BOMBING THE EUROPEAN WORKERS

Modern war is total war. Men, women and children are all inextricably drawn into the meshes of the military machine. With the development of air power, the front line trench is everywhere. The great imperialist countries are putting not only their armies but, perhaps more important, their industrial machines against one another. Bombing is as much a part of modern war as bayonets and machine guns are necessary for the equipment of the army. The capitalists of every nation do not allow considerations of the sufferings of the soldiers to affect their policy. No more and no less do they allow the sufferings of "civilian" men and women to interfere in the slightest degree with their plans.

The capitalist press in Britain has been describing in ecstatic terms the bombing of Europe by the R.A.F.; not only Germany and Italy, but the occupied countries. In these raids it is precisely the ordinary workers and their families in the industrial towns who suffer the results of the devastation in killed and injured, and have to endure all the horrors that they bring in their train.

The British and American capitalists have attempted to lay the responsibility for air raids onto the shoulders of the Axis. It is certainly true that when they possessed aerial superiority the Axis bombed in the same brutal manner the people of Warsaw, Rotterdam, Belgrade, Moscow, London, Coventry. And before that laid waste the cities of Spain, bombed the defenceless cities of China, and the villages of the Abyssinian tribesman. But these fascist gangsters already had a precedent set for them by "democratic" capitalist Britain. Bombing on a coldly calculated ruthless scale as a means of inducing terror among the tribesmen had been carried on on the North West Frontier of India, years before the air raid massacres of Spain and Abyssinia. The villages of the Mohomadan tribesmen were flattened out long before the barbarian fascist regime used this method. Imperialism whatever form it takes, is only too eager to seize any means of punishing enslaved peoples or to use any method against their rivals, no matter how barbarous and terrible, if they can gain an advantage from it.

For the purpose of deciding which clique of monopoly capitalists that of Germany, Italy, Japan, or that of Anglo-American imperialism is to dominate the globe, world capitalism has reduced Europe and large tracts of Asia to devastation and famine. The accumulated wealth of centuries is being reduced to piles of rubble.

MUSSOLINI'S REGIME ROCKS ALLIES PREPARING TO CRUSH ITALIAN WORKERS

By ROSE CARSON

The Allied victory in North Africa and the threat of invasion has brought Italy onto the forefront of both the political and military arena. The urgency of the situation has given rise to a spate of rumours which are highly coloured and mutually contradictory, yet they manage to gain credence. This is undoubtedly due to the veil of secrecy that covers Italy.

On Sunday, June the 13th, the Pope addressed 26,000 workers in the Belvedere Court of the Vatican Palace. The Catholic Church is openly defending the Fascist regime and clearly recognises that the only alternative before the Italian people is Fascism or Revolution.

"These false prophets," he said, "lead one to believe that salvation must come from revolution. Your salvation does not lie in revolution. Workers should beware of false prophets and not allow themselves to be attracted by false theories and visions of future well-being spread by false experts in social prosperity, who calling themselves friends of the people prevent mutual understanding between capital and labour, between employers and workers, making for social concord, progress and common usefulness."

It is not accidental that the Catholic Church chooses the present moment to demonstrate its solidarity with fascism and its opposition and fear of revolution. If no other proof were available the Pope's pronouncement is an authentic indication of the crisis taking place in Italy.

CONDITIONS IN ITALY

After twenty years of fascist rule the Italian people face a crisis even more intense and unbearable than that of 1920. Not a single problem has been solved, everything points to a thorough going and decisive disintegration of Italian society under fascist rule. A deep fissure is showing itself within the ranks of the fascist bureaucracy. The constant reshuffling of the "party Tops" including the rumours of differences between Mussolini and the new party secretary Scorza indicates instability, fear, and even rot within the fascist party, as well as a loosening of its hold on the country. Early in

1942 a leading fascist newspaper printed the following:

"The capitalist classes have succeeded in buying up the men who were entrusted with the creation of the fascist party. We must get rid of these old men, if necessary, fight a new revolution around the Duce."

C. M. Franzero.

"Daily Telegraph," 30.4.43.

This open denunciation indicates not only a schism within the party itself, it reveals a cleavage between a section of the capitalists and the party proper.

The almost daily purges of the party gives evidence of the corruption of the fascist administration. On June 6th, an official journal quoted by the "Daily Telegraph" gave a list of the names and crimes of the party members. Mario Folk, chief of the department at the Foreign Office Exchange, suddenly changed his way of life frequenting luxurious establishments and gambling houses, gave clear proof that he was receiving illicit gains. Jullaini Giovannia, industrialist illicitly dealt in iron and revealed himself a traitor to the fascist cause. There were many more in this vein.

On May 27th, the "Daily Telegraph" reported:

"Italy is also racked by Labour strife. The gravity of the situation can be judged by the fact that the Italian government has been forced to issue publicly a decree ordering strikers to return to work. Hitherto the existence of any strikes has been kept secret. The decree makes it clear that the fascist legislation is failing to function."

So thoroughgoing is the failure that it manifests itself in every state department, the government is incapable of carrying out its ordinary normal functions.

The assessment and collection of taxes is chaotic, only 30 per cent of the total expenditure is covered by taxation returns. The big bourgeoisie openly evaded taxation by increasing their nominal capital. So widespread was this practise that a decree was promulgated ordering a 20 per cent tax on all capital increases. The budget deficiency is made up by issuing treasury bonds, while the national

debt has reached an astronomical figure. Italy is completely bankrupt, and can only continue on its present basis by pushing the standard of living of the workers and peasants lower and yet lower.

However, despite the treasury's financial insolvency, and the reports of most companies, excepting the great armament firms, of difficulties in production, as well as a general decline in output, profits remain normal. Dividends of 15 to 20 per cent are regularly paid.

In the rationing system the corruption of the administration is even more apparent. High fascist officials take a prominent part in Black Market activities. Carlo Scorzo, secretary of the Fascist Party sent orders to 97 Federal Fascist Secretaries in the provinces calling for "extinction of black markets by June 30th". This order was accompanied by the threat of dismissal, should the order not be carried out.

The entire rationing system has become a farce. The food shortage with the consequent diversion of essential commodities into black market channels leaves a totally insufficient amount for general consumption. The government solves this problem by giving the masses ration books, and then raising the prices of rationed goods to such levels that the masses cannot afford to buy them. For food alone, prices have risen more than 50 per cent during the war, and with regard to other essentials, clothes, footwear, etc., it is even higher.

Conscripted for the army and industry, underfed and ill-clad, suffering intense aerial bombardment, and threatened with invasion, the plight of the Italian workers and peasants is indeed terrible. Faced with such conditions the masses are demonstrating their indifference to the war. **Erzio Maria Gria**, official fascist spokesman, recognises this in his Rome broadcast:

"Despite the fascist work of persuasion, the masses preferred hard facts to the documentary and photographic evidence which we produce. Until the tragedy of Grosseto, there may have been some amongst us who have found it somewhat difficult to understand why we are fighting."

As the war intensifies, the crisis and contradictions in Italy must inevitably accumulate, with the result that the burdens borne by the Italian people will become more intolerable. Already the growing "discontent and disquiet" is shaking Mussolini and his hierarchy of fascist gangsters. Carlo Scorza made the following statement on May 21st:

"Italy has followed a too-elastic and tolerant and good-natured policy towards all internal questions for long enough, and the time has now come for a firmer line."

Finding his regime faced with disintegration, Mussolini's solution is terror and more terror.

ITALY'S PROSPECTS The truth is, Italy a poverty-stricken mainly agricultural country offers no threat to British finance capital. With its backward economy and low productivity, Italy is no rival for the industrial supremacy of Anglo-American imperialism. With Germany the case is quite different. Germany's industrial output has far outstripped Britain, and threatens its position on the world market. This is the basis for Churchill's different attitude towards Italy.

But once the workers begin to rouse themselves for action no amount of terror can hold them in check. Mussolini and Italian fascism are doomed. The British ruling class whilst conducting the war against the Italian capitalists who have threatened their Empire, regard with foreboding the possibility of revolution in Italy.

They have never regarded Italian capitalism as a serious threat to their colonies and their world markets.

While Anglo-American Imperialism wishes to crush Germany completely, they believe they can make some arrangement with the Italian capitalists and are trying to buy them away from the Axis. Italy at best can only remain a satellite of the stronger Imperialism of Germany. With the defeats which Germany has suffered in the past period, and her eventual defeat virtually certain, they have been endeavouring to win over Italy to their side. Behind the scenes peace negotiations between the Anglo-American

Continued on page 4.

LETTER OF AN INDIAN

For the purpose of attacking which the capitalists that of Germany, Italy, Japan, or that of Anglo-American imperialism is to dominate the globe, world capitalism has reduced Europe and large tracts of Asia to devastation and famine. The accumulated wealth of centuries is being reduced to piles of rubble.

Here is expressed the complete bankruptcy of capitalism. The very technical marvels which should be a boon and blessing to mankind have become transformed into a horror worse than a plague. The conquest of the air which has abolished space and should be a means of knitting the world economy; instead, arouses fear and forboding as new and even more monstrous "improvements" in the destructive power of air bombardment are being developed.

But the senseless bloodshed and barbarism will bring its own retribution. The German workers did not greet with joy the cruelties and cold blooded blitzes on this and other countries. The campaign in Britain against sentimentality on the question of bombing the "Huñs" shows that in Britain too there is no great enthusiasm among the workers for the orgy of destruction.

At the moment workers in the Axis countries and Britain see no way out. But those who sow the wind must reap the whirlwind.

They will demand that the technical resources of the world which were used to their fullest extent to inflict suffering and misery in war, should be used for the benefit of mankind in peace.

The development of technology and the labour of the peoples has made it technically possible for the world to become a place of fruitfulness and abundance. Capitalism has turned this very possibility into a curse and the source of the evil growth of war and fascism. The international working class will realise the necessity of controlling the productive forces which out of control threaten the very basis of civilisation itself. In place of the present destruction and fratricidal strife they will develop the fraternal co-operation of the peoples for the benefit of all in the socialist united states of Europe, and the world.

Mexican Stalinists Beat Up Spanish Anti-Fascists

NEW YORK—

A meeting held by Spanish refugees in Mexico City to commemorate the deaths of Carlo Tresca, Victor Alter and Henryk Erlich was broken up by Stalinist thugs on April 1. While the "New York Times" carried a brief report of the affair on an inside page of its April 3 issue, the press has generally hushed it up and details have been difficult to obtain.

Last week, however, the noted refugee, Victor Serge, cabled a story from Mexico City to the "New Leader" (U.S.A.), revealing that the G.P.U. had inspired and directed the attack, in the course of which Julian Gorkin, a leader of the Spanish P.O.U.M., was stabbed and badly wounded in the head.

The meeting had been called by the Iberian-Mexican Cultural Centre, organised and sponsored by Spanish anti-fascist refugees living in Mexico, and those speakers who were heard before the meeting was disrupted, denounced the Stalinist terror against political opponents.

"At eight o'clock," says Serge, "a gang of about one hundred Communists laid siege to the hall, broke down the iron door, and burst into the Centre looking for the speakers to beat them up."

LIES SUPPLEMENT CLUBS

"Armed with clubs and bits of broken furniture as well as knives and guns, they formed a strong-arm squad, evidently recruited off the streets, probably hired, and led by some Communist Party leaders who kept shouting, 'They are Germans, enemies of Mexico!'"

Serge also reports that some of the Stalinists telephoned the police at the height of the fighting and said that a body of workers was breaking up a fascist meeting which had begun with shouts of "Vive Hitler! Vive Franco! Vive Mussolini!"

When the police arrived and arrested the leaders of the attacking mob, it

Continued at foot of next Column.

illity, fear, and even rot within the fascist party, as well as a loosening of its hold on the country. Early in

LETTER OF AN INDIAN WORKER

PICTURE OF HORRIBLE CONDITIONS

The appointment of Wavell as the new Viceroy of India, is proof that Churchill and the ruling class intend to maintain the policy of repression which has reached unprecedented heights during the past year. The British workers are being kept in ignorance of events taking place in that vast sub-continent.

Churchill has always favoured the policy of the iron heel of repression to keep India subjugated. And now when British imperialism's military situation has improved, the imperialists do not intend to give concessions even to the Indian capitalist class.

While the capitalist press is filled with the atrocities and crimes of the Nazi gangsters in Europe, which arouse the natural horror of the working class throughout the world, they maintain a conspiracy of silence on the British imperialists' crimes in India. In this they are being assisted by the traitor leaders of the labour movement, who, give every publicity to the Nazi crimes and go so far as to blame the German working class, yet maintain a complete silence on the crimes of our own rulers against the Indian people.

The facts detailed below, sent us by an Indian worker just arrived from India, give a picture of the economic

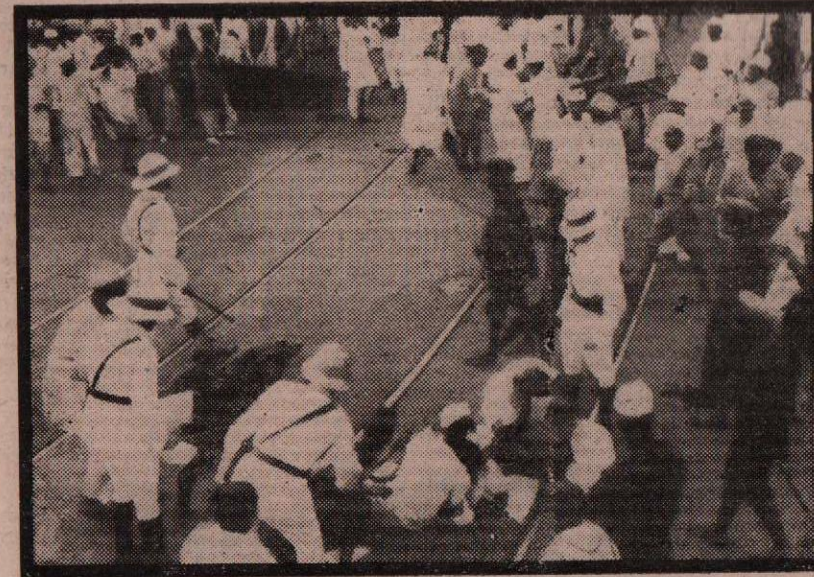
and political conditions prevailing there.

was discovered that not only Gorkin had been injured but also Enrique Gironella, an anti-fascist refugee professor from Barcelona, who had been hit on the head with a pipe.

Following the riot Gorkin, in an interview with the Mexican newspaper, "Excelsior", named Antonio Mije, Juan Camerera, Julian Carillo and Carlos Contreras as instigators of the attack. Contreras is a notorious Stalinist G.P.U. hatchet man who was an active leader in the terror against anti-Stalinist workers in Spain during the civil war. Gorkin charges that these men met two days before the memorial meeting and planned the attack.

SECOND IN A MONTH

This is the second time that Erlich and Alter memorial meetings have been attacked by the Mexican Stalinists. According to the "New Leader", a Stalinist gang tried to violently break up a meeting held by Polish socialist refugees at the Jewish Centre of Mexico three weeks ago. That time the attackers began the riot with the cry, "Death to the Nazi spies."



HOW BRITAIN "RULES" INDIA.

and political conditions prevailing there.

"The first noticeable feature is the completeness, not only of censorship on news going abroad, but also of internal news. The important centres of agrarian unrest are completely isolated, with regiments distributed in various parts of the country and a strict control of all news by the Government. People in Bombay do not know what is taking place in Bihar, Orissa or U.P.

Secondly, the extent of the atrocities committed in famine stricken areas is just beginning to be realised. An example of this is the Chiruwr Incident, which is known in India as the "Liddice of India." After the disturbances a regiment was stationed in the village. Their stay resulted in daily evictions and whippings. When the regiment was withdrawn, the anger of the survivors fell on the local police. A policeman was killed, which resulted in brutal reprisals in the form of eviction of scores of peasants; houses were burnt down, and women and children maltreated.

In Midanepore, where a cyclone killed about 12,000 people, NO RELIEF WAS SENT BECAUSE OF THE REVOLUTIONARY TRADITION OF THE AREA. The local bureaucrats

tax on all capital increases. The budget deficiency is made up by issuing treasury bonds, while the national

may have been some amongst us who have found it somewhat difficult to understand why we are fighting."

and behind the scenes peace negotiations between the Anglo-American

Continued on page 4.

rule refers to the changing economic development:

"Whereas during the nineteenth century India's imports of British goods greatly exceeded her exports to Britain, after 1931 . . . Indian exports to Britain caught up with her imports. Since the outbreak of war, while India's purchases of British goods have been greatly restricted, British purchases of Indian goods have expanded at an unprecedented rate. At the end of 1942, despite the immense repatriation of Indian debt, the Government of India's sterling resources amounts to no less than £300,000,000."

What this means in actual fact is that India is being systematically bled and impoverished. While the masses starve, food is being exported to Britain. While the people go in rags and semi-nakedness, clothing is exported. The "Times" has itself commented on this precise method of systematic looting and robbery of the peoples in occupied territory by Nazi Germany. But nothing is said about this method going on now in India. Our Indian friend writes:

"Along with this impoverishment, tremendous speculation and growth of mushroom companies is taking place. For the first time in the history of India, British financial interests are losing ground. Agents of American banks and industry are in every key centre. They are buying up everything that will be of any value in the post war period. Land, mines and factories are daily passing into their hands . . . They have control over aircraft assembly plants, the iron and steel industry. 'Among the Indians there is a growing suspicion of America.'"

Well might Wavell, nominee of arch-enemy of India, Churchill, declare: "I am very conscious . . . of the heavy and grave responsibility that lies on me at this crisis of India's history. Not able to find a suitable 'political' scapegoat", Churchill had to find a "soldier" to enforce his rule of tyranny and oppression in India.

But all the efforts of British imperialism to keep the people of India in everlasting bondage will fail. Their attempts to bludgeon the people with force of arms is meeting with resistance. A new upsurge of the revolution in India is inevitable. It is the duty of the British working class to extend the hand of solidarity, to aid and support the struggle for freedom of their class brothers and allies, the Indian workers and peasants.

did not send any information of the devastation to the Home member of the Bengal Government. No news appeared in the Indian press. The first indication of the seriousness of the situation was given in articles published after days by Horace Alexander, a Quaker-Pacifist who is touring India.

In industrial areas it is practically impossible to obtain rice and wheat. The people are literally starving. Government grain shops, where wheat is sold at controlled prices, are shut for days at a time. Where food riots have taken place, a cordon is thrown round that area, and no more news is heard. As an example, can be cited the Habli district in Bombay residency, where famine and riots were reported, this district was completely taken over by the police imported from other areas. No outsiders were allowed in this district.

An example of the prices of clothes is that a dhoti (loin cloth) costing 4/- in 1930 costs now over a £1. According to reports out of 4,000,000 yards of cloth produced last year, nearly 3,000,000 yards have been exported abroad. It is a common sight to see even middle class men and women appearing in rags."

The "Times" proudly referring to the "progress" of India under British

STRIKE AT YORKS.

R.O.F. A CASE OF VICTIMISATION

A strike has been carried on at — Yorks, R.O.F., since June the 18th, 1943.

Below is a statement from the convener on the situation.

VICTIMISATION OF AN A.E.U. SHOP STEWARD AT R.O.F. — STATEMENT BY CONVENER OF SHOP STEWARDS.

Concerning the discharge of Bro. J. Hepple, from the R.O.F. — Bro. Hepple was employed as a Gun Fitter at the above-named factory, and the incident concerned which was the pretext for Bro. Hepple's discharge, took place on the 10th June 1943, in the main canteen, during the dinner hour break. (12-1 p.m.)

While no official canteen committee has been in existence since our inception, an unofficial committee has always been there, in case of trouble over meals.

In this case Bros. Hepple, Irving and Wood were always available, and at the request of the former canteen manager, had always occupied the same table. This table was quite near the counter from which meals were served, and over a period of two years, had been recognised by unwritten law, as the province of the Bros. previously referred to, for the obvious purpose of mediation.

On the day of the 10th at the 12-1 p.m. meal break, Bros. Hepple and Irving arrived at the canteen, in company with two apprentices with whom they had always sat for dinner.

Arriving at the table, they found a female worker sitting at one chair, and three other chairs were inverted. (This as a sign of previously booked). This practice is irregular and no brief can be held for it.

Soon afterwards, three other females appeared with their meals, and occupied the chairs.

Bro. Hepple asked whether it meant anything at all that they—Irving and himself—had been sitting there for two years, in the capacity referred to.

A volley of abuse constituted the answer from the female (Mrs. Moore), who (after prompting) ultimately laid a charge.

Incidentally it can well be mentioned here that, Bro. Hepple has a habit of laying his hand upon the shoulder of anyone, with whom he speaks, and this mannerism can thus by no means be described or interpreted as violent action.

Mrs. Moore immediately snatched up a table knife and threatened to push it through him if he did not move away.

Bro. Hepple immediately took his hand away, and then said he would put the matter into the hands of his solicitor. At this, and presumably by reason of such, Mrs. Moore began to cry, and was led away after making a distressful scene.

The next thing that Bro. Hepple knew, was that he was summoned to the superintendent's office, to be informed that a charge had been laid by Mrs. Moore. (Mrs. Moore laid the charge after she had been strongly prompted by her Shop Manager, Mr. Dyson, an ex Shop Steward and Branch Secretary of a former regime.)

The Superintendent stated that a medical inspection had revealed marks on Mrs. Moore's shoulder, and said that he (Hepple) had shook Mrs. Moore and frightened her, and submitted that the crying had occurred by reason of such.

On Tuesday, 15th June, the Superintendent heard the testimony of witnesses, for and against Bro. Hepple.

On Wednesday, 16th June, at 4-5 p.m. in response to a message, I accompanied Bro. Hepple to the Superintendent's room. The Super. intimated that he had formed a decision, but in view of the lateness of the hour, he thought it best to delay same until next day. This, he said, in case we were desirous of asking questions.

Thursday, 17th June, brought intimidation at 4 p.m. that Bro. Hepple and myself were required in the Superintendent's room. Proceeding there, we listened to a preamble anent violence, protection of workers, etc., ad nauseam and finally to a verdict of "serious misconduct."

No specific time was given however. At 4-40 p.m. the Shop Manager came to Bro. Hepple and handed him his form of discharge; this to take effect from the same day at 5 p.m.

In no case were remarks made in answer to questions asked by Bro. Hepple, viz., either to Superintendent or Mr. Spowage.

"We, the male labour at — being of the opinion, that the action of the Superintendent in dismissing Bro. Hepple, was the victimisation of a shop steward and a blow aimed at our organization inside the factory, and we are withdrawing our labour until Bro. Hepple is reinstated. Then we are prepared to accept an impartial inquiry into the whole case, leading to this dispute." M

Saturday, 19th, saw many more workers out, and the stewards and myself, kept in touch with the Superintendent until 12 noon.

No answer had by then been received.

Monday, 21st, brought almost in entirety the skilled male workers, of the factory, dilutees and large numbers of female workers, to a meeting in the Trades Hall, Leeds. The Hall was full to capacity, and the audience registered their disapproval of the Superintendent's action in no uncertain manner, and the previous resolution was upheld, and intimation of such conveyed to him. The next meeting was decided for Wednesday, 23rd June, in the Trades Hall.

In conclusion it can be said that this incident, whereby Bro. Hepple was discharged, is in itself a clear case of victimisation, and any inquiry which may result from this stoppage, will have in the statements of witnesses, ample testimony to a crude, clumsy attempt to rid themselves of an active and militant shop steward.

ROOSEVELT'S LABOUR POLICY

Continued from Page 1.

Now the American workers are beginning to learn the same lesson. Congress has dealt severe blows against the standards of the workers, while

SOUTH WALES MINERS STRIKE

4,000 miners struck work in South Wales recently as a protest against the imprisonment of twenty ment employed at Tareni Colliery, Godre'rgaig. Twenty-four miners had been summoned on June 12th for "impeding production," and it was alleged that they had pursued a deliberate policy of "ca'Canny." Twenty of the men had refused to pay the £20 fines imposed and had chosen to serve a month in prison instead.

Commencing in the Tareni Colliery where a complete stoppage took place in support of the 20 imprisoned Hauliers, the strike eventually spread to five more pits. The men were incensed by the police actions: these methods were those of the Hitler regime they said. One miner told how at the Vanteg Colliery a policeman called every morning to collect the names of men absent from work. It was patently obvious that the management and the police had collaborated in their vicious attacks on the men.

The miners' leaders exerted all their energy and powers of persuasion at various mass meetings in their efforts to get the men back to work. Because of this treacherous policy of their union leaders a section of the miners have returned to work in the hope of a settlement being reached. Two collieries however, remain out and the men are strong in their determination to obtain the release of their comrades in prison.

There have been many bitter comments in the Swansea Valley about the policy conducted by the leaders of the South Wales Federation controlled by the Stalinists in this dispute. Many miners are determined to replace their

Continued at foot of next Column.

Statute Book, they would serve only to mobilise Labour and the Trade Unions in defence of their hard won rights, but that the mere act in itself would not prevent strikes. On the contrary, the mobilised workers would ignore the act and thus weaken the

Labour Leaders Back Vansittartism

Continued from Page 1.

"bulwark against Bolshevism" in Germany, with Hitler as a useful and pliable tool they could use to destroy the Soviet Union. Churchill openly praised Mussolini, Hitler and Franco before the war. Amery justified the crimes of the Japanese militarists against China. The British capitalist class has always supported fascism and reaction throughout the world. Is the responsibility for these crimes then, to be laid at the door of the British working class? Are the British workers to be held responsible for the crimes which British imperialism is committing in India at this very moment? The majority of the population in Britain are not aware of what is taking place.

The Labour and Trade Union leaders are. But they are silent! They have the possibility to speak out without the danger of the firing squad and the concentration camp which faces the opposition in Germany and Italy. But they are silent! They thus make themselves fully responsible for the crimes of British imperialism. The British ruling class has allied itself with Sikorski, Giraud, De Gaulle, Darlan and other fascist and pro-fascist leaders and governments. They have in the recent period given Franco, one of the fascist butchers, supplies of vital materials and loans to prop up his regime! But the Labour and Trade Union leadership is silent and even supports these measures!

C.P. JOINS IN THE REACTIONARY CAMPAIGN

The Labour leaders would not have dared to so openly and shamelessly support the capitalists in their slander and defaming of the German people, had it not been for the even more despicable and nauseating campaign being conducted by the so-called Communist Party. Its organ the "Daily Worker" of June 10th contains an article by D. N. Pritt, headed "Germany After The War" in which he approves of the demand made in a resolution to be put before the Labour Party Conference that "Germany must be disarmed and her capacity to re-arm destroyed, so far as this is technically possible". This would mean if carried out the dismantling of Germany's heavy industry and the reduction not only of the Germans' standard of living to starvation level, but that of all Europe whose economy in large part is dependent on that of Germany. But then Pritt proceeds:

"Together with the above measures must be tackled the problem of how to deal with the great masses of Germans who today acquiesce in the Hit-

ler regime and its crimes. For this they cannot be absolved, and their late repentance will be suspect."

To make their position quite definite the "Daily Worker" of June 24th, in an editorial declares, while hypocritically pretending to dissociate itself from the Vansittartites:

"The pacifists gaze through theoretical spectacles, blind to the corruption and degradation of the great majority of the German community today."

The pacifists are merely dragged into this argument as a shield to conceal the real aim of the Stalinist renegades. This was indicated some time back when Moscow radio broadcast the aims of the "Union of the Polish Patriots" for Poland after the war. Silesia, East Prussia and Danzig are to be taken from Germany and handed back to Poland. The "Daily Worker" printed a report of this broadcast with approval. Although previously they had shown fake indignation at similar suggestions put out by a group of Tory M.P.'s for the dismemberment of Germany.

THEY WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR HITLER

What does all this attack on the German workers amount to? Thousands and tens of thousands of the underground opposition continue the struggle against Hitler, despite the terrible risks and penalties; and other tens of thousands fill the concentration camps or have been executed. Nevertheless, it is true at the present time that the German workers and the German people generally while not supporting Hitler, have continued to tolerate the rule of Hitler during the war.

man workers, and trade unionists especially, never supported Hitler. When in 1918 the German workers made a revolution and overthrew the Kaiser it was the German Social-Democrats who saved capitalism and prevented the workers from taking power.

The rise of Hitler was due to the slump of 1929-33 when the failure of the Socialist and Communist Party to show a way out, led the bulk of the middle class, not the workers, in sheer

anything at all that is Irving and himself—had been sitting there for two years, in the capacity referred to.

A volley of abuse constituted the answer from the female (Mrs. Moore), who (after prompting) ultimately laid a charge.

Bro. Hepple kept quiet for a while and continued eating his dinner, and then the female concerned shouted at him "You are worse than one of those things that crawl," at the same time making a movement with one hand, suggestive of her remark. Bro. Hepple went on eating for a few minutes, (per Mrs. Moore herself) and then rose to his feet and walked round the table where Mrs. Moore sat. Placing one hand on her shoulder, he told her that it was as well she was a woman, and that she was hiding behind and presuming upon her sex.

ITALY

Continued from page 3

Imperialists and Italy have obviously been taking place. Rumours have been published in the press that Badoglio and Crown Prince Umberto were secretly in Algiers attempting to make some peace arrangement with Britain and America. To make peace with Mussolini would arouse too much disgust and anger amongst the people of Britain and America. So the British capitalists desire somebody else to be in control in Italy, while essentially things will remain the same. But there is no question of fascism or democracy involved here! This plays no part in capitalist diplomacy. The "Daily Telegraph", one of the foremost organs of Big Business openly printed an article in which C. M. Franzero, former Italian Fascist suggested that the British should make peace with and help the army, the Church, the industrialists and the upper classes to throw out fascism in Italy and take control. As if it was not precisely these forces which placed Mussolini and his thugs and gangsters in power!

In the "News Chronicle" of June 29th, facts about Grandi, former Italian Ambassador to Britain and one of the "non-fascists" whose name has been bandied about as a suitable alternative to Mussolini are given. Count Grandi once boasted of having shot Italian co-operators with his own hand when he was Fascist "Ras" of Bologna. He was the commander of many punitive expeditions which hunted down "Bolshevik" Italian peasants like wild beasts. These are the type of fine gentlemen which British-American capitalism wish to place in control of Italy.

They do not desire a real change in Italy. But the masses of the Italian people have a different desire. They will move towards revolution. British and American workers must assist them in their struggle by continuing the fight against capitalists in Britain for Workers' Power and Socialism.

to Bro. Hepple and handed him his form of discharge; this to take effect from the same day at 5 p.m.

In no case were remarks made in answer to questions asked by Bro. Hepple, viz., either to Superintendent or Mr. Spowage.

Word soon went round the factory, and on Friday, 18th June, I was approached by a deputation from the West Shop, skilled workers, with the request that I contact the Super. and inform him, that unless Bro. Hepple was reinstated, the West Shop skilled labour would cease work at noon.

This was conveyed to the Super. by Bro. Ryan and myself, and the statement was made verbally.

Some little time afterwards, I received a phone message from the Superintendent, asking that the resolution be tendered in writing. After consulting the deputation, I was instructed to inform the Super. that he would receive a written resolution that same afternoon—from a meeting held in the A.E.U. Hall. The skilled male workers from West Shop, Middle Shop and a number from the Tool room, attended this meeting of Friday 18th June.

Later, three shop stewards and myself attended the meeting, and a resolution was passed and sent up to the Superintendent as follows:—

CLAYTON CASE

Continued from page 1

the army regime will be put into effect. As in the case of the maltreatment of the conscientious objectors in a Liverpool military jail and in the notorious Hi-de-hi Colonel incident the reactionary army staff and the Government will again endeavour to hush matters up.

The military detention camps are part of the general plan for upholding the prestige of the military caste. It is the task of the specially chosen N.C.O.'s to break the spirit of any soldier who may rebel.

The death of Clayton has forced the military caste to put up his assaulters for trial as a sop to public opinion. In this way they hope to circumvent a general enquiry into conditions in the detention camps and the methods on which they operate.

Culliney and Salter have been sentenced and the Government have promised an enquiry, but the matter must not be allowed to rest there. Workers in the Trade Unions and Labour movement, and indeed all workers, have sons, brothers and friends in the armed forces for whose welfare they are very much concerned. They will not abandon them to the position of being at the mercy of people of the stamp of the Cullineys and Salters, professional bullies of the worst type. Nor can they trust an enquiry conducted by any organisation but one which represents them directly and

Continued from page 1.

Now the American workers are beginning to learn the same lesson. Congress has dealt severe blows against the standards of the workers, while legislation to safeguard the interests of the employers has been passed. The union leaders capitulated completely to the pressure of the employers at the beginning of the war and renounced the use of the strike weapon for the duration. Lewis was one who voted against strike action for the duration of the war.

Now when the workers are beginning to stir, despite the attitude of the union leaders, Congress has rushed through a series of anti-strike laws. This has been aimed particularly against the miners and in an attempt to frustrate the rising tide of protest amongst the American workers at the profiteering of the bosses. The fact that Roosevelt opposed this does not signify that he is more "democratic" or has any opposition to these measures against the workers. In his eight years of office Roosevelt has learned more subtle methods of dealing with militant labour. His only objection to these vicious anti-working class measures, was because he knew that in putting these anti-strike acts on the

whose freedom from bourgeois ideology is ensured.

In the atmosphere of the bourgeois court all the true facts do not come to light. For fear of victimisation soldiers who may have witnessed scenes of brutality do not come forward. A Government enquiry would be used to whitewash the detention camp system without making any fundamental alterations. On the other hand an independent working class enquiry into conditions in the army detention camps, conducted by Trade Union Committees in collaboration with rank and file soldier representatives would be able to expose any brutal methods of punishment for misdemeanours.

Workers must demand that the Labour and Trade Union leaders should set up a commission of enquiry through the machinery of the T.U. movement elected by and responsible to the organised workers to investigate the treatment of their brothers and friends in the army. The worker in the factories must unite with the worker in uniform, to ensure fair treatment for the soldiers. Soldiers must be allowed to give evidence before Trade Union Committees free from the threat of victimisation and reprisals. Investigations must be carried out free from all interference from the police or military authorities.

Only in such a manner will conditions be bettered in the detention camps and the certainty of any brutal treatment taking place be abolished.

Statute Book, they would serve only to mobilise Labour and the Trade Unions in defence of their hard won rights, but that the mere act in itself would not prevent strikes. On the contrary, the mobilised workers would ignore the act and thus weaken the stability of the whole administration.

Roosevelt proposed a more subtle and hardly less vicious method of curbing strikes. He wanted the extension of the Conscription law to allow him to draft men up to the age of 65. The idea behind this was that strikers would be conscripted into non-combatant service and then sent back to their jobs under military discipline. Under these conditions, any strike action would be characterised as "mutiny" and the army has means of dealing with such a situation.

Roosevelt's contention has already been demonstrated as correct. According to the "News Chronicle" of June 29th:

"More than 2,200 more U.S. war workers are out on strike—this time in the Chrysler factories in Michigan—in spite of the anti-strike bill passed by Congress last week. They are the first to strike since the passage of the Bill and the over-riding of President Roosevelt's veto on it by Congress."

An attempt has been made to picture the strikes in the mines as being due to a personal feud between Lewis and Roosevelt. But Lewis has been pushed by the miners themselves, whose living conditions are being driven down.

Nevertheless, partly because of the terrific pressure from the miners, Lewis has been playing a relatively progressive role. The union leaders, who have been supporting the capitalists, who have not even deigned to accept them into the government, have been forced to protest against the vicious anti-working class legislation introduced by the American parliament. But at the same time, they have condemned Lewis, whose organisation, the United Mineworkers, is now outside both union organisations, because he led the struggle of the miners into strike action, albeit under pressure.

The task of the moment in America is for the workers to organise an independent class party of their own. The present strike and the hostile attacks of the anti-union, anti-working class employers who are prepared to go to any lengths to break the resistance of the workers to attacks on their standard of living, make inevitable a reaction against capitalist politics within the ranks of the workers.

The Socialist Workers Party, section of the Fourth International in America, is advocating the setting up of an independent Labour Party as the next step forward for the American working class. This would perform a similar function as the Labour Party has done in Britain in the past decades and pave the way for the realisation amongst the American workers that only workers' power and revolutionary socialism can solve the problems of the working class. But the first indispensable step towards the understanding of the necessity for this lies in independent working class politics free from alliance and entanglements with the capitalist parties.

terrible tasks and penalties, and other tens of thousands fill the concentration camps or have been executed. Nevertheless, it is true at the present time that the German workers and the German people generally while not supporting Hitler, have continued to tolerate the rule of Hitler during the war. But they do so because they do not see any other way out. Stalin offers them no alternative except support for Churchill and Anglo-American imperialism. Hitler points to the results of the defeat of Germany in the last world war. The "democratic" states stripped Germany of her resources. Even after the armistice, the blockade of Germany was continued and a million German babies died for lack of milk. Goebbels, in his propaganda points out that if British and American imperialism win the war, a terrible fate would befall the German people. This is perfectly true. And the Labour leaders and Stalinists, by supporting the ruling class, paralyse and confuse the working class in Germany. Forced to choose between support for Churchill and the ruling class, and victory for Hitler the British workers naturally would support the former. The German workers, while they do not see any other path, naturally enough tolerate the latter. The way out of this dilemma lies in the workers in Britain fighting for power on a revolutionary Socialist programme. Faced with a workers' government in Britain making an international socialist appeal, Hitler could not last for more than a few weeks or months at most. But, the Labour leaders and Stalinists by supporting the ruling class in Britain, aid and give support to Hitler, who then uses the argument that the Labour movement in Britain stands for Vansittartism.

But what is absolutely shameful in this cynical attack on the German workers is that the actual responsibility for the coming to power of Hitler rests not on the shoulders of the German workers, but precisely on those gentlemen of the Stalinist and Labour bureaucracy and their brothers in Germany who have the audacity to point the accusing finger of scorn at the German workers. In spite of the lies of the Dukes the overwhelming majority of the Ger-

present leadership and at a mass meeting which is to be held a demand is to be put forward for the re-election of Union officials every three years.

As in other coalfields it is being demonstrated in South Wales that the union leaders are assisting the mine-owners in their attacks against the men. Horner, and the other treacherous leaders of the South Wales miners, who gained their positions as militant fighters, must be replaced by militants who can be relied on to fight in the interests of the miners. In order that the leaders can be made to be responsible to the rank and file, it is necessary that they come up for re-election at least every two years. Every militant miner should press forward for the adoption of these demands.

P.D.

Democrats who saved capitalism and prevented the workers from taking power.

The rise of Hitler was due to the slump of 1929-33 when the failure of the Socialist and Communist Party to show a way out, led the bulk of the middle class, not the workers, in sheer despair and frenzy to throw themselves behind the Nazis. But Hitler could still have easily been defeated. The Social Democrats told the workers to trust Hindenburg as a bulwark against Hitler just as the Stalinists and Labour leaders ask the workers to support Churchill today. Both the Social Democrats and the Stalinists refused to have a united front against Hitler which would have sealed his doom. The "Communist" party in Germany even voted together with the Fascists against the Socialist Government in Prussia. By splitting the ranks of the working class and paralysing their forces both the Stalinist and Social Democrats bear responsibility for the victory of Hitler. 8,000,000 German workers supported the Social Democrats; 6,000,000 German workers supported the Communist Party. Millions of the German workers were armed; they were anxious and eager to crush the monster of fascism. But the leadership betrayed the struggle. They were incapable of waging a real fight. Trotsky and the Fourth International waged an international campaign for four years from 1930-33, demanding that the German Labour and Communist Parties enter into a united front to crush Hitler. But these traitors refused to do so.

The C.P. declared, even after the first year of Hitler's rule, that the coming to power of fascism was a victory for the working class, as it aggravated the class struggle; that Hitler would not last very long! The trade union leaders in Germany and the Socialist Party even voted for Hitler after he came to power! And what is important to note. The Labour and Trade Union bureaucrats in Britain attempted to justify the policy of their counterparts in Germany. At the T.U.C. Conference in 1933, Citrine justified the refusal of the Trade Union leaders to call a general strike which could have overthrown Hitler, because it would have led to civil war! And now these arrant hypocrites blame the German workers.

Hitler's regime has endured ten years. He has piled agony upon agony on the German people and now the people of Occupied Europe. But already the ground is shaking under his feet. The German workers are beginning to stir. They will overthrow Hitler. But the British workers must help them in their difficult struggle by continuing the fight for workers' power and socialism and extending the hand of friendship and comradeship to their German brothers. Do not let the British and American capitalists intervene against the coming German revolution. The Labour and Stalinist leaders do not represent the views of the rank and file British workers. Together with the German workers we will build a new world out of the blood and chaos of capitalism. Not for a Treaty of Revenge but for the Socialist United States of Europe!