

SOCIALIST APPEAL

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TWOPENCE

GREEK PATRIOTS SENTENCED BY FASCISTS

CHURCHILL GIVES FULL SUPPORT

THE GREEK REACTIONARIES HAVE LAUNCHED A CAMPAIGN OF REPRISAL FOR THE STRIKE IN THE GREEK MIDDLE EAST FORCES. SCORES OF MILITANTS, THE MOST ACTIVE SOCIALISTS AND DEMOCRATS, ARE BEING SENTENCED TO DEATH AND IMPRISONED.

GERMANY-WHAT NEXT

Behind The Generals' Revolt

By TED GRANT

THE RECENT EVENTS IN GERMANY HAVE RAISED WIDESPREAD HOPE AND INTEREST IN THE WORKING CLASS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. THE SEEMINGLY SOLID FRONT WHICH HITLER PRESENTED TO THE WORLD HAS BEEN BROKEN BY A CONSPIRACY OF GERMAN JUNKERS AND GENERALS.

According to the reports, former ardent supporters of Hitler have attempted to assassinate him. And the Nazis have retaliated in their usual gangster terrorist fashion, by placing all power in the hands of the hated Gestapo and S.S. Chief Himmler.

Whether there was a genuine plot to murder Hitler or not (it seems certain there was) makes no difference to the significance of these events in Germany. They reveal a tremendous split within the German ruling class, which is opening the way to the outbreak of a genuine workers revolution in Germany and Europe.

"Germany is not only Germany; it is the heart of Europe", Trotsky warned before Hitler came to power. But now these words assume added gravity and urgency. For events in Germany may decide not only the future of Europe but the future of the entire world.

Hitler has had nothing better as a means of rallying the German people behind him than the threats of the Allies, Stalin included to dismember

middle class have led to executions. Mutinies have been reported among the soldiers and sailors—all these are symptoms of the coming storm.

The laws of revolution apply to all countries and to all peoples. The German nation is no different from any other. Those who sought to find a new system of society in Germany and Italy because of the victory of totalitarianism, have been refuted by events. The military defeats have led to a breaking down of the psychological inertia of the masses, and the movement for the overthrow of the hated regime has gathered strength. Lenin, in his analysis of present day society, laid down four conditions for the outbreak of the social revolution. These have been summarised by Trotsky as follows:

"The basic conditions for the victory of the proletarian revolution have been established by historical experience and clarified theoretically. (1) The bourgeois impasse and the resulting confusion of the ruling class. (2) The sharp disintegration of the ruling class. (3) The sharp disintegration of the ruling class. (4) The sharp disintegration of the ruling class."

was arrived at and Gandhi, without a single demand of 1929 being granted by British Imperialism called off the struggle.

A repetition of a similar surrender is on the cards today. In August 1942, the Congress asked the British to quit India. The resolution said that it was no longer possible to keep the masses in check. Once again it was proclaimed that the last bitter struggle for power had begun. Tremendous sacrifices were demanded from the masses. United and solid, the workers and the peasants marched into the battle. With Gandhi confined in the peaceful atmosphere of Aga Khan Palace, they stormed the nerve centres of Imperialist power. Thousands of them were shot, machine gunned and bombed from the air. But their inflexible determination to destroy the British domination was not crushed. Ever since they have carried out successful partial offensives at great risk.

Faced with a second famine, following closely on the one last year, which took a toll of 5,000,000, the voice of the Indian masses is still, Gandhi once again beats a retreat. As soon as he came out of prison, he asked Wavell for an interview. Knowing the spine-



Already out of 22 soldiers from the 1st Greek Brigade on trial, 14 have been sentenced to death; and 4 remain to be tried; 3 seamen have received life sentences; 6 have received 20 years each.

This frenzied revenge receives the full support of British imperialism. Gen. Sir Bernard Paget, C-in-C. Middle East, incites and supports this political repression, under the "non-political" screen of "concern for maintaining military discipline." At the court martial he replied to defendants who were pleading on political grounds:

"I am a soldier and do not know what you are talking about."

This, in a trial which is political in inspiration, origin and aim! In such a cowardly way the servants of British imperialism attempt to cover up their flagrantly reactionary violation of democracy. No matter that the overwhelming majority of the armed forces demonstrated their opposition to the vicious regime of the emigre Greek Government! Considering it undiplomatic to proclaim openly that the rule of the reactionary minority must be upheld, the imperialist "democrats" achieve the same result under another slogan: "No politics! Military discipline must be upheld!"

At the Lebanon Conference last month, where representatives of the resistance organisations discussed with the Cairo politicians about forming a Government of "national unity", Papandreou (the Prime Minister) gave a verbal promise that the strikers would be amnestied. On this basis the E.A.M. representatives agreed to join the Government (it will be remembered that the strike was a protest against the exclusion of EAM from the Cairo Government.) Now this promise is cynically broken.

It is quite clear why it was made in the first place. Papandreou demanded as a condition of collaboration, that the representatives of EAM should issue a statement condemning the strike. To their eternal shame these "leaders", Stalinists and Liberals, did so in the most belly-crawling terms. They spat in the faces of the soldiers

By David James

ment, attacked EAM in Greece, in spite of having opened peace negotiations on the basis of the Lebanon Conference. This was the reward that the treacherous leaders of EAM gained for selling out their supporters: when the reactionaries had made sufficient use of them they were kicked aside.

The whole farce of the Lebanon Conference can be seen to be a manoeuvre by the reactionary Greek Government. They used the Stalinists and their collaborators in the "Popular Front" in order to keep the masses quiet with promises of "unity against fascism" and so forth. Then they were able to attack the defenceless, betrayed soldiers and sailors, with all the resources of British imperialism and its military chiefs behind them. Moreover, they refused to give any of the important ministries in the new Government, notably those of war and foreign affairs, to EAM representatives.

This provoked a sharp reaction from the EAM rank-and-file. The leaders, Stalinists in particular, were willing to sell out to any extent in order to achieve "national unity". The workers and peasants rebelled at the idea of making concessions to those whom they knew as their enemies, who were murdering their comrades in the Middle East, and preparing to fix the shackles of a monarchist military dictatorship on them after the war. The Observer (2/7/44) tells the story:

"Hope for at least a large measure of Greek unity has not been abandoned despite the continued refusal of certain National Liberation Front (E.A.M.) elements to join the Papandreou Government and last week's clash between an E.A.M. band and the forces of Col. Zervas.

The main obstacle to complete

gravity and urgency. For events in Germany may decide not only the future of Europe but the future of the entire world.

Hitler has had nothing better as a means of rallying the German people behind him than the threats of the Allies, Stalin included to dismember Germany. But as the defeats have piled up on all fronts and the misery of the German masses has reached new intensity, the opposition of the German workers has been growing.

The military shock has led to a revival of the underground movement on formidable lines. Reports from the capitalist press in the last four months have indicated strikes in Hamburg, Berlin, Cologne, Essen and other cities. Movements of revolt among the students and other sections of the

follows:

"The basic conditions for the victory of the proletarian revolution have been established by historical experience and clarified theoretically. (1) The bourgeois impasse and the resulting confusion of the ruling class; (2) the sharp dissatisfaction and the striving towards decisive changes in the ranks of the petty bourgeoisie without whose support the big bourgeoisie cannot maintain itself; (3) the consciousness of the intolerable situation and readiness for revolutionary actions in the ranks of the proletariat; (4) A clear programme and a firm leadership of the proletarian vanguard—these are the four conditions for

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Indian masses is still, Gandhi once again beats a retreat. As soon as he came out of prison, he asked Wavell for an interview. Knowing the spine-

Husband K Pension Cu

War Pensions are in the news again. As the wounded return from the battle front and the killed are buried, so the steady accumulation of human unhappiness and silent bitterness is penetrating even the consciousness of our well fed rulers. With a complacency that comes from a comfortable life, our representatives in Parliament have discussed and argued upon the miserable pennies which are grudgingly given to the parents whose sons have been killed in battle, to the wives whose husbands have also made this supreme sacrifice, and to the soldiers who are returning, injured and maimed for life.

The Tory dominated Government, through its Pensions Minister, Sir W. Womersley, boasts of its generous in-

children face a total reduction of 5/ a week. And if by chance, the widow is aged 39 and not 40 or more, has no children and is capable of work, she receives, not 32/6 (after all, one can be TOO generous!) but 26/8 per week—the reduction being one of the gentle "persuasive" measures which the capitalists adopt to compel her to go to work.

We are thus presented with the following picture:—

Allowances for the child of a—	
Live soldier - - - -	12/6
Dead soldier - - - -	11/0
100% injured - - - -	7/6

And again:—	
Soldiers Wife's allowance	35/0
Soldiers Widow's allowance	32/6
(if under 40)	26/8

SUPPORT APPEAL ISSUES VITAL TO THE ORGANISED MOVEMENT

The appeal against the conviction of the four comrades sentenced in Newcastle will probably be heard on August 20th.

Although it may mean the extension of sentence, since it lies within the discretion of the judges to count sentence from date of appeal, the comrades are going forward with the appeal because of the vital issues involved for the working class movement.

The appeal will be based upon two fundamental issues.

First, was the Tyne Apprentices' strike an illegal strike? The Trade Disputes Act of 1927 was introduced to stave off the possibility legally, of another general strike—apart from the attempts to emasculate the trade unions which were secondary functions of the Trade Disputes Act. But here it is now used in an insignificant strike of a few thousand lads. Even if we accept the statements of the labour leaders that 1A(a) will end after the war—which we do not—on the basis of the Tyne conviction almost any strike would be illegal under the Trade Disputes Act. This is particularly the case if "national service" is maintained, as it will be, years after the war.

Before the war and during it, several larger strikes have taken place in Britain, and from the point of view of "coercion" their impact was greater by far. In 1939 and 1940 the engineering and shipbuilding apprentices struck work in almost every important centre in Britain against military conscription and demanded special guarantees for themselves. The strike succeeded in forcing some concessions—though not all. But the situation in the country was different at that time. The workers were not in the angry mood they are in today.

Following the precedent set by Judge Cassels in Newcastle, every

strike is an illegal strike. The Tyne apprentices attempted to "coerce" the Government to obtain exemption of all apprentices from the Pit Ballot Scheme; this can be applied with equal justice to any strike attempting to alter a decision of an Arbitration Tribunal, since the award of the tribunal is legally binding on the workers. This applies to transfers or any other matter coming within the jurisdiction of National Service Officers.

What it is intended to establish is that if the Government enforces certain conditions on the workers, the workers have a legitimate right to strike to enforce their demands—even though the action can be interpreted by the ruling class as "coercing" the government.

The Trade Disputes Act was designed also to make a general strike illegal. This is specifically emphasised in Section 8, Clause 2:

"A strike or lock-out shall not be deemed to be calculated to coerce the Government unless such coercion ought reasonably to be expected as a consequence thereof."

Could the strike of the apprentices, apart from the intentions of the lads, be reasonably expected to coerce the Government? Can any single strike be reasonably expected to coerce the Government? On these points there will be given a ruling on which every

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is a condition of collaboration, that the representatives of EAM should issue a statement condemning the strike. To their eternal shame these "leaders", Stalinists and Liberals, did so in the most belly-crawling terms. They spat in the faces of the soldiers who had courageously demonstrated in their favour. Their hands strengthened by this capitulation, the reactionaries launched an offensive. The butchery of the strike leaders began and is now in full swing. Simultaneously EDES, the Monarchist organisation which enjoys the support of the reactionary Greek exiles and the British Govern-

of certain National Liberation Front (E.A.M.) elements to join the Papandreou Government and last week's clash between an E.A.M. band and the forces of Col. Zervas.

The main obstacle to complete unity seems to be the intransigent attitude adopted by certain E.A.M. leaders of secondary rank like M. Glaras, who are unwilling to renounce their independence of action to any higher authority.

The three leading figures of the E.A.M. . . . took a prominent part

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N.U.R. CONFERENCE

BY SID BIDWELL

The Annual Report of the N.U.R. reveals that the organisation now has over 400,000 members and that the total assets of the Union have increased to £3,304,000. These formidable figures show the potential power which could be exercised by the railway workers if they had a fighting leadership and policy.

At the Union's Annual General Meeting which occupied a fortnight at Edinburgh in July, there was no mistaking the militant mood of the rank and file as reflected in the speeches and attitude of the 80 delegates assembled. But the feeling of the workers catered for by the Union has yet to translate itself into an industrial and political programme calculated to lift the railwaymen from their well known deplorably low economic level. When this takes place it will result in pushing the present leaders forward or out.

The presidential address of reactionary F. Burrows attacked those who criticise the Labour members of the Cabinet. He suggested we might leave it to our opponents and concentrate our criticism on Tories and Liberals. This couldn't be answered better than it was in a letter published a few days afterwards in the columns of the Union's journal the "Railway Review". It said: "I, for one, never miss an opportunity of criticising Tories and Liberals; indeed I have done so for 40 years; yet when Labour members behave exactly like these, we can hardly expect our opponents to criticise them, and criticism of Labour members becomes criticism of Tories and Liberals."

Although the delegates gave a good reception to the arguments of Will Ballantine and J. Ferguson (Labour Councillor) for the end of the electoral truce, the resolution was defeated by 17 votes to 57—however a sizeable minority. By this decision the delegates displayed an inconsistency, because they unanimously carried a

motion striking out the words "after the cessation of hostilities" in connection with the correct time to fight for a new programme. In other words they wish to maintain the present parliamentary coalition while ending the industrial truce which has kept railwaymen in a strait-jacket for nearly five years.

And again they displayed symptoms of uneasiness about the effect of the electoral truce upon the life of the Labour Party, by passing a resolution by 53 votes to 19 calling for an end to the truce in By-Elections.

Conference carried a resolution asking the Labour leaders to press the Government for Service Pay, Pensions and Allowances "consistent with present day requirements" but did not say what they considered "consistent with present day requirements". Needless to say, rail workers are not ambiguous when preparing their demands. The resolution enabled the delegates to make known their disgust with the existing position and to express their solidarity with their forces brothers. The ruling-class has utterly failed to drive a wedge between the worker and his class brother in the armed forces.

The Public Session on July 6th was devoted to a discussion on the War. A resolution was carried which had the elements of progress in it and got away from the customary jargon of the Allied forces on the military reactionary and Stalinist inspired sources. It congratulated all ranks of cesses and spoke of bringing about the utter defeat of Fascism and Nazism throughout the world.

Despite the fact that the resolution means support of the war and other deliberations meant support for the capitalist politicians who lead it, the wording of the resolution indicates that the delegates have no deep seated illusions about the role of British imperialism in the war. We wholeheartedly agree with the aspiration of defeating Fascism and Nazism throughout the world but point out it

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WARNING

ALL COMRADES AND SYMPATHISERS ARE WARNED THAT WHEN THEY ARE VISITED AND INTERROGATED BY THE C.I.D., APART FROM PRODUCING THEIR NATIONAL IDENTITY CARDS AND GIVING THEIR NAMES AND ADDRESSES, THEY ARE NOT OBLIGED TO ANSWER QUESTIONS RELATING TO THEIR POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS OR SYMPATHIES. THEY ARE NOT OBLIGED TO SAY WHETHER OR NOT THEY ARE MEMBERS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST PARTY, HOW MUCH MONEY THEY SUBSCRIBE TO ITS FUNDS OR TO GIVE ANY DETAILS OF THEIR POLITICAL ACTIVITY.

THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST PARTY, BRITISH SECTION OF THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL, IS A LEGAL ORGANISATION, MEMBERSHIP OF WHICH HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE A PUNISHABLE CRIME!

ANY COMRADE WHOM THE POLICE ATTEMPT TO INTIMIDATE SHOULD REFUSE TO GIVE ANY INFORMATION WHATSOEVER AND SHOULD INFORM THE POLICE THAT THEY WISH TO GET IN TOUCH WITH THEIR LEGAL ADVISERS.



WELSH MINER ON HORNER

To the Editor, "Socialist Appeal".

Merthyr.

Dear Comrade,

Arthur Horner, the President of the South Wales Miners' Federation was speaking in Tonypandy on Sunday, July 9th. As reported in the "South Wales Echo," he said, "the country under conditions of great stress had made many concessions to the miners. The Executive Council believed they were entitled to come to the miners and say, 'You have got a tolerable position, you have got a reasonable claim to say that your work is being appreciated'."

Here Horner is trying to gull the miners into believing that he and his Council got us these "tolerable" conditions—whereas, in fact the "great stress" he refers to was the wonderful solidarity of 100,000 Welsh miners in striking against the original terms of the Porter Award. It was this action which forced the "country" (i.e. the Government of the coal owners) to improve the Award.

He went to to say that: "if miners were ready to grumble because of the better wages paid in factories then soldiers had a still better right to grumble because they were called upon to give their lives for incomes which were not half those of the poorest paid industrial workers." Horner calls himself a "Communist". But a true communist, instead of using the low wages of the soldiers to prevent the miners from struggling to improve their own wages, would denounce the system which forces our boys "to give their lives for incomes which are not half those of the poorest paid industrial workers."

According to Horner, our wages and conditions are now "tolerable" and the "country" now appreciates our work. If this is true, there doesn't seem to be any reason for the continued existence of the host of full time officials in the M.F.G.B. who are supposed to fight to maintain and improve our conditions.

The "South Wales Echo" of July 9, states that: "coal production has been falling at the average rate of more than 9 million tons a year during the war period." I would suggest that Horner and the patriotic gang like him on the M.F.G.B. have now a good chance of serving the "country" they shout so much about by going to work

SOLDIERS PROTEST CONDITIONS—

Leader sentenced to 6 months

By J. Deane

In the last issue of the "Socialist Appeal" a letter from a soldier's wife was published. This letter outlined the treatment dealt her husband at the hands of the military authorities.

Since this letter was published more interesting facts have reached us. These facts illustrate clearly the attitude of the officer caste to the slightest suggestion of democratic demands.

Her husband, Driver J. Williams, R.E., had over-stayed his leave by seven days in order to look after his baby daughter whilst his wife was in hospital giving birth. Although he made every legal effort possible to have his leave extended he was arrested and held in a military detention compound.

The conditions in this Compound were to quote his wife, "equal to those in a concentration camp". There were three hundred men in detention awaiting trial, and like so many cattle, were surrounded by coil upon coil of barbed wire. Two thirds of the men slept in tents—the rest in the open. For three hundred prisoners there were only three water taps, and no bowls to wash themselves or their clothes. The few lavatories were in a terrible condition causing dysentery and other diseases produced by very bad sanitation. On top of this the men were not permitted to smoke, obtain writing paper, or newspapers.

On the first day of Sprr. Williams arrival, sixteen men escaped from the Compound; from then on between five and ten escaped daily—so desperate were the men. Incidentally, most of the men in detention were soldiers who had spent years abroad in the Eighth Army. These men had been fighting for "democracy" and "liberty"—or so they had been told—only to come home and be placed in the detention compound for petty offences. Appeals were made to the men to act like "disciplined soldiers". Sprr. Williams pointed out that such talk was utter nonsense in face of filthy conditions. The responsibility for the escapes and anger belonged not to the soldiers' lack of discipline, but to the officers in charge, who had imposed these terrible conditions. The men got together and elected a committee of six to make representations to the Commanding Officer. The Staff Sergeant in charge agreed to support the men. The Commanding Officer refused to see the committee who were told to see the officer of the day. He refused to see the entire committee but would see their leader. This officer tried all

to frame the leader—Driver Williams. As every soldier knows, this was not hard for an officer. In addition to the charge of overstaying his leave by seven days they framed a charge on two counts, (1) disobeying a lawful command given by a superior officer, and (2) using insubordinate language to a superior officer.

DRIVER WILLIAMS' CASE

During the Field General Court Martial it became clear as a pike-staff that Williams was framed for political reasons. As a socialist worker he said he objected to being tried by a court composed of officers who were not concerned with so-called justice but with its opposite; he would participate under protest. He conducted his own defence and proved clearly that he was not guilty on either charge.

The case of the prosecution was based upon the evidence of an officer and a Sergeant Major. These stated that they mutually agreed to frame any against Nazi foremen. We will ten factory committees and soviets all for Germany which will unite all the Thressed of whatever race or nationality in Germany.

The British capitalists are preparing for this. Churchill stated bluntly in a House of Commons that a Communist Germany is a possibility. But, we explained, the Germans could not come from the responsibility for the crimes of the Nazis simply by "emancipating the Communist faith." The Stalinist traitors published this statement in the Daily Worker without comment! By their silence they endorse Churchill's statement and this will in line with the policy of Stalin who is preparing to aid Churchill and Roosevelt to drown the German revolution in blood.

The Stalinists know no bounds in their hate incitement against the German workers in its worst form, and even racialism of the Hitler stamp. For example William Rust writes in the Daily Worker on July 2nd: "We are not dealing with the German people as they were when they rose in 1918. The present generation has been poisoned and brutalised by 11 years of Nazi rule. Millions of the youth behave worse than beasts and the entire nation

CIVIL DEFENCE WORKERS CONDITIONS

It all happened some two and a half years' ago. The great idea came to the great mind of one of Britain's great administrators to form a reserve of highly mobile rescue men to go to the help of any area that was unable to cope with heavy air raids. This highly mobile rescue service was given the high-sounding title of Civil Defence Reserve, and each region was to have its Regional Column of the Civil Defence Reserve organised into units posted at strategic points throughout the various regions.

The men in this service have numerous grievances. But the greatest obstacle in the way of a C.D.R. man in making his grievances known is the cloud of obscurity hanging over the Civil Defence Reserve. The service is the most efficient civil defence organisation in Britain, equipped to deal with any kind of air-raid incident, first aid, rescue—heavy and light, gas, and demolition, capable of dealing with the largest air-raids ever experienced in Britain; yet it remains unknown. Ask your Warden what the initials C.D.R. mean! Tell him they mean Civil Defence Reserve, and he'll be none the wiser; officially he doesn't know it exists.

And so, the grumbles and grouses of these men pass unnoticed. They are a civilian body, but are so hampered by tested ideas of Marx, Lenin and Trotsky, further enriched by the experiences of the defeats of the workers in the past decades. Such a party exists in the Fourth International. It is weak today but will become a mighty instrument of the socialist revolution.

British workers! Prepare to support the German Revolution! Rally round the banner of the Fourth International! Join the Revolutionary Communist Party!

N. U. R. CONFERENCE

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cannot be accomplished under the leadership of the Fascist-stained Allied imperialists. Its final defeat lies in the ability of the workers "throughout the world" to deal with their native capitalists and end the breeding ground of Fascism.

A few more militant delegates at the Conference would make a great difference. Despite years of persistent en-

clear allowance for wife and children as is done in other services, rather than give him this 24s. 6d. with one hand and take it back with the other. Moreover, from the legal standpoint, the Civil Defence Reserve is NOT an INDUSTRY, but a service.

No trade rates are paid, so drivers and experienced building workers do not receive special pay. In so far as experienced building workers are not practising their trade, there is a case for not paying them a trade rate, but there is no reason at all why the driver should not be paid a special rate, especially as he is doing additional technical tasks. The only differences in pay are for different ranks: group officers, instructors, party leaders and deputy party leaders. Service pay has recently been introduced: 1s. 6d. after one year's service, 3s. 6d. after two years' service and 7s. 0d. after three years' service.

The Civil Defence Reserve provides no distinctive uniform, wearing the usual civil defence blue of the local civil defence. So the men, when out of camp, are often confused with the local services; this frequently leads to them being denied canteen facilities provided for the services. Officially, men of the C.D.R. are not allowed to use such canteens, but the voluntary workers serving in them serve the C.D.R. out of courtesy.

To sum-up, the men feel very hard-gait because, as civilians, they find they are denied the attendant privileges of either service men but are burdened with the disadvantages of being civilians, disadvantages far too numerous to account for here. In several cases we have known a C.D.R. man to be worse off financially than his soldier-brother.

What of a remedy? As a service, the Civil Defence Reserve is certainly unique. It should maintain its civil status as a Crown Service, be paid a special rate for its continuous hours of duty with no reference to cost of board and lodging, and canteen facilities should be provided at special rates in every town and village by the W.V.S. which is one of the civil defence service subsidiary bodies. Where a man is practising any trade in the C.D.R., he should be paid the trade union rate for the job.

The key to the remedy is—EVERY C.D.R. MAN IN HIS UNION!

B.I.S.A.K.T.A

WORKERS RALLY To Defence of Imprisoned Trotskyists

Resolutions and money have been coming in towards the Defence Fund. As an example at the meeting of the Rugby and District Trades Council on a motion from the N.U.G.M.W. the following resolution was carried:

"That this Trades Council, bearing in mind the struggle of the Labour movement against the Trade Disputes Act, and being a conscious part of that struggle, condemns vigorously the arrest and persecution of the four Trotskyists under a clause of this Act. This Trades Council demands their unconditional release."

Resolutions of solidarity and financial contributions have recently come in from the following organisations:

- Ford's Toolroom, Trafford Park.
- Aylesbury No. 2 A.E.U.
- Park Division Labour Party, Sheffield.
- Amalgamated Society of Woodcutting Machinists, Plymouth.
- Leeds Anti Labour Laws Victims' Defence Committee.
- N.U.D.A.W., Romford Agents Group (C.I.S.)
- A.E.U., Hoddesdon 116, HE.
- Clerical and Administrative Workers Union, S.E. London General Branch.
- A.E.U. Stratford 4th.
- Norwich Anti-Labour Laws Victims' Defence Committee.
- A.E.U. Hampton Branch No 111/HE
- Amersham Branch National Union of Agricultural Workers.
- A.E.U. Chiswick No. 2.
- A.E.U. New Moston.
- A.E.U. Meltham, Huddersfield.
- A.E.U. Llanelly Branch.
- T.&G.W.U. (7/133 Wire-workers Branch), Edinburgh.
- Southall Anti-Labour Laws Victims' Defence Committee.
- Workers at Aluminium Plant and Vessel Co., London.
- Glasgow Anti-Labour Laws Victims' Defence Committee.
- Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers, Cricklewood.
- N.A.S. of Operative House & Ship Painters and Decorators, Hetchen Branch.
- Slough Labour Party.

...aining at the average rate of more than 9 million tons a year during the war period." I would suggest that Horner and the patriotic gang like him on the M.F.G.B. have now a good chance of serving the "country" they shout so much about by going to work at the coal face at least one day a week (on a Sunday!) to make up for this loss of production. They should have plenty of time for this now that the "country" is looking after our interests.

I will ask Horner one question. He says the "country" appreciates our efforts. Then why is it that Regulation 1A(a) which, in my opinion is directed chiefly against us miners, is forced upon us?

Yours fraternally,
Ernie Harris.

Coventry A.E.U. Debate

Recently a debate took place in a Coventry A.E.U. Branch between the Revolutionary Communist Party and the Deputy Mayor, Alderman Hodgkinson, also Secretary of the Coventry Labour Party, on Post-War Policy. Without doubt it proved to be the most interesting and exciting A.E.U. meeting yet held.

On behalf of the R.C.P. the branch president led the debate. He gave a survey of the development of the Second International and its role in the first Imperialist world war.

In this war the leadership has committed the same crime against the working class, indeed much worse is the role being played by this leadership. This base treachery is revealed in their willingness to shackle the workers in the interests of capitalism. It was Bevin, Attlee, Morrison and company who brought in the E.W.O., E.P.A. and now the reactionary 1A(a) against the workers. The speaker called for an immediate ending of the Coalition; the taking of power by the labour and trade union leadership on the basis of a Socialist programme. He added that the Labour leaders would rapidly expose themselves to every worker and that finally the workers would turn to the R.C.P. as the only party capable of leading them to the revolutionary overthrow. The speaker received a tremendous ovation demonstrating the mood of the workers.

Alderman Hodgkinson then stated the case for the Labour Party. He skipped over the whole record of treachery and deceit on the part of the bankrupt L.P. leadership. "National unity" (i.e. unity of reactionary traitors) must go on. He was prepared to accept 1A(a) and any other sacrifice in order to defeat German "Fascism" and achieve the victory of British "Democracy" (Capitalism). Get the war over first

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...The Staff Sergeant in charge agreed to support the men. The Commanding Officer refused to see the committee who were told to see the officer of the day. He refused to see the entire committee but would see their leader. This officer tried all the tricks and threats at his disposal to smash what amounted to a serious demonstration against conditions. The temper of the men, their committee, and its leader, was such that nothing would prevent them making their thoroughly justifiable demands. The officer agreed to accept their demands and put them before the Colonel.

LED PROTEST AGAINST CONDITIONS

As the days passed the anger of the men in detention grew. This spread widely amongst the soldiers in the large camp outside, and they, despite all regulations to the contrary, revealed their sympathy with the men in detention. This produced a very serious problem for the officers. The possibility of a serious protest against the conditions inside the compounds as well as those outside, couldn't be handled very easily. Either they had to grant the men's demands and thus suffer defeat, or, prevent organised expression and smash the contact with the main body of soldiers outside. It was this latter course that they adopted. Firstly they separated the militants; isolated and placed under close arrest the leader of the committee; forbidding anyone to talk or communicate with him. Secondly, they placed barrier upon barrier of barbed wire around the compounds and screened them off so that no one could see in or out. But even these efforts were not quite successful—the men communicated with the soldiers outside and sang the Red Flag and the Internationale—and so it became necessary

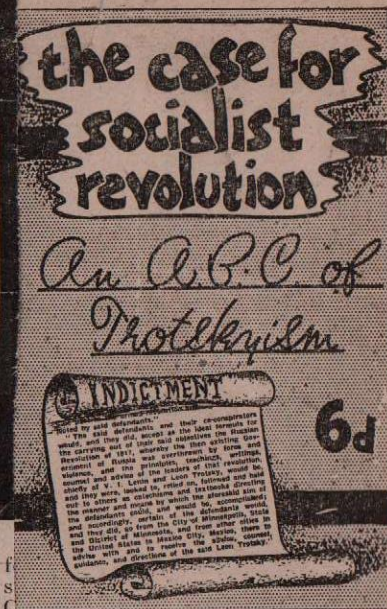
(Continued from previous Column.)

and then vote in a majority Labour Government. . . . He accused the Trotskyists of confusing the working class.

Speakers attacked Alderman Hodgkinson on his defence of the Labour bureaucracy. Dealing with the future struggles of the working class, one speaker said that the army would be on our side. Everything indicated that the workers would not accept the plans of the ruling class or the hopeless policy of the Labour leadership. It was due to the Labour bureaucrats' fear of the workers that Regulation 1A(a)—the most reactionary anti-union act ever passed—was introduced.

The effects of this meeting and the support given to the R.C.P. speaker are being felt all over Coventry. Rumours are current that the L.P. and the C.P. are uniting in a campaign to drive out the "Trotskyist menace". It is up to the rank and file of the L.P. who know the Trotskyist position to fight against this campaign of slander.

...generation has been poisoned and brutalised by 11 years of Nazi rule. Millions of the youth behave worse than beasts and the entire nation



The soldiers proved this clearly, as the verbal evidence brought before the court. The officer heard Williams make the remarks attributed by the C.S.M. although he was two yards away, but the five men inside the tent didn't hear such remarks! In evidence it was also shown that the tent flaps had been let down due to threatening weather in accordance with regulations! The complete proof of the frame-up was the evidence that the officer had had Williams in his tent the previous day and threatened to charge him with mutiny for the part he had played in obtaining better conditions for the men in the compounds. In summing up even the prosecution was forced to admit that if the evidence of the witnesses was accepted as correct the two charges against Williams must be dropped. The shallowness of the prosecution's case had been so sharply revealed that no further pretense could be made for a "fair" conviction.

Williams made a statement summing up his defence in which he showed the reasons for the frame-up and the general methods used by the officer caste against soldier militants who fight for their elementary rights. He ended his appeal by calling on his brother soldiers to struggle for democratic rights; decent living conditions in camps and barracks; and a decent wage. Clear out the reactionary officer caste—election of officers by the ranks. Establish military schools, at the expense of the State and under the control of the unions, for the training of worker-officers.

Workers everywhere, support your brothers in uniform, make these demands through your organisations.

...the ability of the workers "throughout the world" to deal with their native capitalists and end the breeding ground of Fascism.

A few more militant delegates at the Conference would make a great difference. Despite years of persistent endeavour, the Stalinists handicapped by their policy, have failed to entrench themselves in the N.U.R.

The left-ward swing in the Union seeking its expression in many ways, will become a force in remoulding the policy and leadership a lot quicker when the militants in the industry get together, thoroughly clear their minds about what is to be done, work out a common policy, and fight that policy in a nationally co-ordinated manner.

The widespread discontent with Union officials on the part of the workers who exist on an extremely low economic level, the general disgust of all grades with the existence of three unions for rail workers, offers great scope for the development of a militant leadership. The feeling for the recapturing of the Union for the members and the desire for freedom from the vice-like embrace of boss-ridden negotiating machinery in all its intricate stages, needs a common policy to fight upon within the Union.

...not being allowed to leave the camp during the evenings when they are free from normal camp duties for the rest of the day. But, as in the case of the armed forces, ALL leave beyond 12-hours was cancelled from Easter until the end of June.

On duty for several months without a call-out, the men feel this confinement most sorely, especially when it is much greater than that experienced by any soldier in barracks in Britain; and it is certainly greater than soldiers on searchlight duty who are expected to be more on the alert than the Civil Defence Reserve, which is not called into action until the local civil defence service finds it cannot deal with an incident. For all this duty-time and incarceration, for putting in twice as much duty time as the local civil defence service, the Civil Defence Reserve pay remains the same. A married man posted to the Civil Defence Reserve is allowed the usual industrial allowance of 24s. 6d. a week for board and lodging, but the single man with no dependent relatives in the strict legal sense of the word must pay 24s. 6d. for the privilege of being incarcerated in a Civil Defence Reserve camp. The sore point with most of the single men who pay this 24s. 6d. a week is that they are paying for being confined to their place of duty. As the unit is allowed to spend only 14s. a week on food for each man, the remaining 10s. 6d. must go in rent and other incidentals. So, you have the peculiar position where the employee pays the rent of his employer's premises merely because the conditions of duty compel him to live there; no such parallel exists in local civil defence. Why not make the married man a

B.I.S.A.K.T.A

Second-Round

In our July issue we reported the first round of the inner-union struggle which is now taking place within the Ebbw Vale section of BISA KTA. The officials of Ebbw Vale No. 2 Branch were recently removed from office by the Executive for "insubordination" but, as we reported then, the newly elected officials were determined to continue the militant policy of the branch. They have done so, and as a consequence, the management of the branch have refused to recognise these elected officials on the instructions, they claim, of Head Office BISA KTA.

John Brown, the General Secretary, is apparently determined to reach the democratic aspirations which exist in Ebbw Vale—but, equally important, is the determination of rank and file steel workers to resist the anti-union activities of this bureaucracy. The new officials of No. 2 Branch have taken up a fine militant stand, but the problem remains—what to do next?

One thing is certain. If the struggle against the permanent and well-paid officials of BISA KTA is to be successful then the broadest layers of workers must be drawn in. Only the solid front of the rank and file can defeat the "constitutional" manoeuvring of the bureaucracy. Already there exists machinery, however inadequate, which can be used to mobilise support. The Divisional Council the Joint Committee of the Ebbw Vale Branches of BISA KTA and the Richard Thomas Works Committee. This latter committee is representative of nearly all the unions in the steel works—with the deplorable exception of the A.E.U. Undoubtedly all this union machinery will be utilised in the struggle. In this way the workers in Ebbw Vale will realise through their own experiences the necessity to cleanse the union of its non-fighting bureaucracy and, at the same time, they will be preparing solid bases of support for the future and even more difficult struggles against the powerful Steel Bosses of Richard Thomas.

WORKERS INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers, Cricklewood.
- N.A.S. of Operative House & Ship Painters and Decorators, Hetchen Branch.
- Slough Labour Party.
- National Painters Society, Southend Branch.
- A.E.U. Ailoa Branch.
- Holloway Women's Co-op Guild.
- Whitehouse Youth Hostel.
- Bentley Branch, Yorkshire Mineworkers Association.
- Cove Stoke Branch, A.E.U. Coventry.
- A.E.U. Hackbridge Branch 131 HE.
- A.E.U. 6EE, Enfield Lock.
- Edmonton Trades Councillors.
- National Amalgamated Union of Life Assurance Workers, Hackney Branch.
- Am. Soc. of Woodworkers, Tilbury Branch.
- Am. Soc. of Woodworkers, Harlesden
- Am. Soc. of Woodworkers, Watford 1st Branch.
- Workers Northern Publishing Soc., Manchester.
- Am. Soc. of Woodworkers, Brixton 1st Branch.
- Am. Soc. of Woodworkers, Hayes Branch.
- A.U.B.T.W., Croydon Branch.
- Am. Soc. of Woodworkers, Leyton Branch.
- Am. Soc. of Woodworkers, Bermondsey Branch.
- Am. Union of Life Assurance Workers, London N.W. Victoria.
- Enfield Lock Gauge Room Shop Committee.
- Beasley French & Co. Ltd., Ashton Gate Works, Collection.
- Southend Co-op Group.
- Comrades Club & Institute, Doncaster.
- R.S.A.F. Shop Stewards Committee, Edmonton Branch, British Federation of Young Co-operators.
- Hazeldene Club, Glasgow.
- National Union of Foundry Workers, Paisley.
- Am. Soc. of Woodworkers, Harlesden.
- Glasgow Defence Committee.
- National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers, Holloway C.I.S. Agents Branch.
- National Union of Agricultural Workers, Princes Risborough, Bucks.
- National Am. Soc. Operative House and Ship Painters and Decorators, Torquay Branch.
- Basbury and District Trades Council.
- A.E.U. Ponders End.
- A.E.U. Luton Central 154 L.E. Branch.
- Nottingham Quarterly Shop Stewards Meeting.
- A.E.U. Dudley No. 1,
- A.E.U. Ponders End, No. 1.

A collection taken at the Annual Conference of the C.I.S. Agents Branch of the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers amounted to £4 and was sent to the Defence Committee.

Further aid has been received for the Defence Committee from our South African comrades who have sent this week £60 in addition to the £85 already received. This makes a total of £145 from our South African comrades. The class solidarity of our South African comrades is warmly appreciated in this country.

**SOCIALIST
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EDITORIAL

The Army of the Revolution

The Red Army is on the Vistula. It is not so many months ago when it had to retreat to the Volga. It would be difficult to find a parallel transformation of annihilating defeats into annihilating victories in the history of war. The victories have been compared to those of Napoleon. But even the military achievements of the Great Corsican are dwarfed by comparison when all the circumstances are taken into account. The military commentators of the bourgeois press endeavour to console themselves that it is a result of the "Russian soul" and its devout love of "Holy Mother Russia". The serious representatives of the capitalists know better. The Stalinist scribes in Moscow have frantically lent themselves to an attempt at an explanation on these lines; making partly fictitious and generally false references to Russia's military traditions. As a matter of historical record the armies of reactionary and feudal Czarism were ignominiously beaten wherever they faced a serious opponent. Even the victories of Napoleon were based on the fact that his regime had its origin in the Revolution. The counter-revolution which he installed was on the property basis established by the revolution. It is to this type of regime that he has given his name—Bonapartism. Despite its reactionary features it represented a progressive step forward in comparison with the feudal and semi-feudal states which surrounded France. From the differences between these regimes Napoleon drew his strength.

The parallel with the Soviet Union today is immediately apparent. Stalin the Russian (caricature) Bonaparte is surrounded by a scintillating array of brilliantly talented Marshals, dressed with decorations of diamonds and gold and magnificently attired right down to the gold braid and buttons. These Marshals, like those of Bonapartist France, come from the depths of the people, although they have raised themselves above them. So in France, Napoleon referred to a Government of all the talents.

Today, the Marshals are the dominating force in control of

GANDHI CAPITULATES

BY M. NAIDU

The Indian capitalists are preparing a gigantic sell out. They are attempting a deal with blood stained British Imperialism.

With thousands of militant fighters still in concentration camps and prisons; with the masses facing the perils of a second famine; with epidemics and destitution stalking the country, Gandhi, the shrewdest representative of the Indian bourgeoisie, is crawling for a few crumbs from the Imperialists. The story is familiar and follows identically with the previous sell outs.

Unable to bear the misery any longer, the Indian masses revolted in 1929. Failing to hold them in check, uttering bold words of "struggle to a finish" the Indian National Congress led them into struggle. Within a short period, the Salt Tax struggle led to mass strikes in industries, no-rent and no-tax struggles among the peasantry. In the ranks of the armed forces discontent resulted in minor mutinies, culminating in the refusal of a Gharwali regiment to shoot the masses in Peshawar.

From inside the prison, Gandhi then started negotiations with Lord Irwin (now Halifax). The negotiations in the initial stages were conducted through a journalist. A compromise was arrived at and Gandhi, without a single demand of 1929 being granted by British Imperialism called off the struggle.

A repetition of a similar surrender is on the cards today. In August 1942, the Congress asked the British to quit India. The resolution said that it was no longer possible to keep the masses in check. Once again it was proclaimed that the last bitter struggle for power had begun. Tremendous sacrifices were demanded from the masses. United and solid, the workers and the peasants marched into the battle. With Gandhi confined in the peaceful atmosphere of Aga Khan Palace, they stormed the nerve centres of Imperialist power. Thousands of them were shot, machine gunned and bombed from the air. But their inflexible determination to destroy the British domination was not crushed. Ever since they have carried out successful partial offensives at great risk.

Faced with a second famine, following closely on the one last year, which took a toll of 5,000,000, the voice of the Indian masses is still, Gandhi once again beats a retreat. As soon as he came out of prison, he asked Wavell for an interview. Knowing the spine-

lessness of the Indian capitalists and their fear of a mass struggle, Wavell abruptly brushed him aside and refused an interview. He demanded a shameless surrender, and unconditional withdrawal of the famous Quit India resolution of August 1942.

Gandhi then started his indirect negotiations. He gave an exclusive interview to Stuart Gelder. He indicated that the proposals he was putting forward were intended for Wavell. In these proposals he withdrew every one of the demands Congress raised in 1942. It seems now that he is prepared to accept similar proposals to those of the sham "independence" offered by Cripps. Congress rejected these proposals, no doubt, as a result of the pressure from the masses and declared:

"It has been made clear that the defence of India will in any event remain under British Control. At any time Defense is a vital subject; during wartime it is all-important and covers almost every sphere of life and administration. To take away defence from the sphere of responsibility at this

BARTON



stage is to reduce that responsibility to a farce and nullity, and to make it perfectly clear that India is not going to be free in any way and her Government is not going to function as a free and independent Government during the pendency of the War." (Resolution of the Working Committee. April 11th, 1942.)

What is Gandhi's line now? Stuart Gelder reports that Gandhi agrees that "the Viceroy would remain and have complete control with the Commander-in-Chief of the British and Indian Armies". ("News Chronicle," 11.7.44)

For these favours from British Imperialism, this arch "pacifist" offers in return, Indian support for the War. When he was asked if he would advise Congress to participate in a Government carrying a war against Japan with operations on the Indian soil, he replied, "Yes". He is a pacifist only when it involves a struggle of the masses against imperialism.

Suppose even this shameless, but face-saving surrender is rejected? If British Imperialism sticks to the demand of unconditional surrender, does Gandhi intend to launch another mass civil-disobedience? "I can tell you this, that I have no intention of offering Civil Disobedience to-day".

Why not? With a brazen face he replies "I would be doing so merely to embarrass the British Government. This cannot be my object."

Indian masses are facing starvation and death. This is a climax to the two hundred years of British domination. As long as Imperialism keeps India in its grip, frequency of famines will increase. Misery, poverty, disease and starvation will be the lot of millions. Only a free India can save them from this misery. Freedom can only be won by a mass struggle. Cynically and shamelessly, Gandhi says that such a struggle may embarrass the British Government, and this cannot be his object.

Indian masses will not be deceived by such cunning manoeuvres. For them freedom is a matter of life and death. In spite of famine and pestilence, they will march forward. From bitter experience they will learn the lesson that the Indian Capitalists are only junior partners of Imperialism. Waging an implacable struggle against both, they will win their freedom.

For Indian Independence now!
No compromise with Imperialism!

TASKS OF MILITANT Trade Unionists

In an article in our last issue certain breakaway and semi-syndicalist tendencies in the Trade Unions were analysed. These tendencies, while only embracing a minority of workers, were shown to be directly due to the sell-out of trade union bureaucrats; and several small and active minorities have been and still are, propagating the ideas of break-aways, red trade unions, or pure shop committee organisations. The role of the Shop Committees and ad hoc committees will be dealt with in this article.

The necessity of turning the unions into fighting organs of the working class, independent of the boss class, and going forward on a policy of decent conditions and wages, workers' control, equal pay and uncompromising opposition to monopoly capital, is indicated by the conditions under which the workers are struggling in Britain today. But we would be lagging far behind the dynamics of the class struggle in Britain if we failed to see the special historical importance of the Shop Committees.

The Shop and Yard Committees first became of importance in World War I, but in World War II these committees have become a universal form throughout the plants in Great Britain. The Committees were formed and have become organs of struggle, partly because of the failure of the union machines in both wars to fight in the workers interests, and partly as a reflection of the forces which drive the working class to bring up the question of control at every stage of the struggle. The shop committees are historically a higher form of organisation than the trade unions. They will be the means whereby the working class will assert its own rule in the factories in the stormy period ahead, when the working class will throw up committees elected for particular struggles, and in fact every sort of fighting committee in defending itself against the attacks of the bosses.

While it is necessary for all militants to understand this special significance of the shop committees, it is also necessary to see where the shop committees and the unions interlink. To abandon the unions is to give up the task of educating the rank and file trade unionists.

THE BASIS OF THE SHOP
COMMITTEE

of Bonapartist France, come from the depts of the people, although they have raised themselves above them. So in France, Napoleon referred to a Government of all the talents.

Today, the Marshals are the dominating force in control of Russia. But their victories and the source of their strength lie not in themselves but in the almost inexhaustible resources given them by the fact that their power is based on a victorious revolution. In relation to the surrounding capitalist environment the progressiveness of the Soviet collective economy bears the same relationship as that of Napoleonic France to the rest of Europe. In the merciless test of war, the advantages given by collective ownership of the means of production over those of private ownership have been demonstrated beyond possibility of refutation.

This is the most decisive lesson for the masses which has come out of the war.

This is the second time the Red Army is marching on Warsaw! But what a profound difference between the aims and methods of the Red Army under Stalin and the Red Army under Lenin and Trotsky! Lenin and Trotsky issued declarations appealing to the Polish workers and peasants to overthrow their ruling classes, and, with the aid of the Red Army inaugurate a Soviet Republic. The Stalinist regime issues declarations guaranteeing maintenance of the "independence" of Poland's social system, i.e. capitalism. World imperialism regarded the possibility of the Red Army capturing Warsaw in 1920 as the death knell for European capitalism. They were right. Lenin intended marching on into Germany to assist the rebellious working class to install a Soviet regime.

If Britain, France, and other countries did not go to war against the weak Red Army in 1920, it was because they feared an international Socialist appeal by the Bolsheviks to the working class of those countries and the response it would have obtained. Today, they can look with uneasiness to the march on Warsaw: but do not see a direct threat to world capitalism at any rate as long as Stalin is in control of the situation. Far from appealing to the German working class and to the Polish, Stalin through the Moscow radio is appealing to the Generals . . . to organise a coup d'état and install a new regime on the lines of the Reich of the ultra-reactionary and conservative Bismarck!

Churchill and other capitalist politicians have openly expressed their delight at the process of reactionary change taking place in the Soviet Union in which the degeneration of the regime is being speeded up under the influence of the war. They are staking everything on the idea that the smashing of the revolutionary uprisings abroad, together with the internal developments and changes in the Soviet Union will lead to the overthrow of collective ownership and the restoration of capitalism in Russia. Their calculations are shrewd enough. But they are overlooking one "trifle"! Hitler too, thought he was fighting against Stalin and the bureaucracy. He has found he is fighting a Revolution. The miscalculation will cost him his head.

The Russian people have made three revolutions; a Fourth, a political revolution, can be expected with the march of events. Whatever vicissitudes the Soviet Union may go through, it is not Marshals and Generals who will have the last say. As in other countries the last word will rest with the masses. Having defended the heritage of October they will overthrow the usurpers and restore its regime of proletarian democracy. On a new and higher level, together with the workers of Europe they will organise a Soviet United States of Europe.

took a ton of 3,000,000, the voice of the Indian masses is still, Gandhi once again beats a retreat. As soon as he came out of prison, he asked Wavell for an interview. Knowing the spine-

Husband Killed— Pension Cut

By **JIM HINCHLIFFE**

War Pensions are in the news again. As the wounded return from the battle front and the killed are buried, so the steady accumulation of human unhappiness and silent bitterness is penetrating even the consciousness of our well fed rulers. With a complacency that comes from a comfortable life, our representatives in Parliament have discussed and argued upon the miserable pennies which are grudgingly given to the parents whose sons have been killed in battle, to the wives whose husbands have also made this supreme sacrifice, and to the soldiers who are returning, injured and maimed for life.

The Tory dominated Government, through its Pensions Minister, Sir W. Womersley, boasts of its generous increases—a 6d. here, a shilling there, and in one case, as much as 3/6! Not, they claim, that the people who receive these apparently generous increases really want them. In arguing against a flat-rate pension for the parents who have lost a son in the war, he said that:

"They do not measure their grief in pounds, shillings and pence." Maybe so, Sir Womersley! But the measly and disgusting pensions which are granted in the terms of pounds, shillings and pence, can in their turn, be the cause of an immeasurable amount of grief!

The essence of the method which is adopted by the Government when dealing with any pension problem—in this case it is War pensions—is illustrated remarkably well in relation to the different treatment which is meted out to the widow and a wife of a soldier. A widow receives 32/6 a week, and a wife 35s., and on the surface, such treatment appears senseless since the obligations are the same in both cases. It is only when we understand that a wife, who receives 2/6 a week more, has a LIVE husband, with rifle in hand and prepared to fight for her conditions, and that a widow is deprived of such a weapon, that we get a glimpse of the CLASS attitude which underlies the granting of these few shillings. A wife can exert an uncomfortable pressure which the widow cannot!

HUSBAND KILLED—ALLOWANCES CUT

This is a mere trifle however, for upon the death of her soldier husband, the children's allowances are cut by 1/6 per child, so that a widow and two

children face a total reduction of 5/6 a week. And if by chance, the widow is aged 39 and not 40 or more, has no children and is capable of work, she receives, not 32/6 (after all, one can be TOO generous!) but 26/8 per week—the reduction being one of the gently "persuasive" measures which the capitalists adopt to compel her to go to work.

We are thus presented with the following picture:—

Allowances for the child of a—	
Live soldier	12/6
Dead soldier	11/0
100% injured	7/6

And again:—

Soldiers Wife's allowance	35/0
Soldiers Widow's allowance	32/6
(if under 40)	26/8

We can now see that even if the workers do not measure their grief in terms of money, the ruling class certainly do, calculating it to the nearest penny, and then having the audacity to cover the whole despicable scheme with a display of "christian benevolence" and "democratic" hypocrisy.

BOER WAR PENSIONER BETTER OFF!

Despite all this however, the most effective exposure can be made when we consider them in relation to the official cost-of-living figures, and are consequently able to obtain an idea of the real buying power of the pension. We discover for instance, that the Boer War pensioner received in 1933, a weekly sum of £2, and according to the official cost-of-living figures, this would be the equivalent today to £3. 6. 8d. In 1939, the World War I pensioner received £1 17. 6d., the real value of which is equal to £2 8. 9d., and today in 1944, the World War II pensioner, totally disabled, receives £2. 10. 0d.

In short, the position can be summarised as follows:—

Boer War Pensioner, 1933	£3 6 8
World War I Pensioner, 1939	£2 8 9
World War II Pensioner, 1944	£10 0

In contrast to the NOMINAL sums which give the APPEARANCE of increases, these figures give the REAL purchasing power of the money as it is valued today. They illustrate vividly the results of such a critical examination, where a 10/0 increase is exposed as a 16/8 DECREASE, and thus provides us with a startling example of

the real nature of capitalist "reforms" and its much vaunted "gradual progress"!

BROTHER—CAN YOU SPARE A LIMB?

There is not only the financial aspect of this question however, for what of the wounded who return and who have to be fitted up with new artificial limbs, maybe eyes, legs or arms—or some of each? They will get their usual fifty shillings to live upon, and then be fitted up with these "replacements", and then for the rest of their lives left to pay the price which the present generations will forever carry as the reward of imperialistic butchery and rule. It is a subject which is delicately dropped by the ruling class as one of the more gruesome results of the war.

"The method of providing artificial eyes", reported Sir Ian Frazer, "is to send a trayful to a hospital, where the surgeon will pick one he likes the look of, and it will be ordered . . . The pieces will be sent down, and they will be more or less right. But 'more or less' right is not enough. Artificial eyes ought not to come off the peg . . ."

But for people with money, the position is different, as he further reports:—

"anybody who can afford it, in this country, does not get a Ministry of Pensions eye: he orders one of his own, and gets it individually made."

In discussing replacements for the lower part of the anatomy, he states:

"What I hear about artificial legs is that they are very good. They are easy things to substitute . . . But with artificial hands, that is not the case . . . In other countries there are new materials and designs, not hitherto incorporated in the hands that are made here . . . Nor is it true that a hand suitable for men who can see is suitable for men who cannot see. I have ten men who have lost both their hands and their eyes . . ."

This however, is a great improvement from the last war, when, according to Mr. Charleton, M.P. for Leeds S.:

"those who lost limbs had to go into the forests and cut crutches for themselves . . ."

There is no need then, for the limbless soldier of THIS war to worry about THIS aspect of his future. He will be fitted with limbs which will be

(Continued in next Column.)

freedom. Against both the unions interlink. To abandon the unions is to give up the task of educating the rank and file trade unionists.

THE BASIS OF THE SHOP COMMITTEE

Shop and yard committees are always constituted by the most self-sacrificing and class conscious union militants. Before a shop committee can be set up anywhere it is necessary that the overwhelming majority of the workers in the plant have already become conscious of the necessity for trade union organisation. The "union consciousness" of the workers is the first and most elementary step in working class organisation. It is no accident that the demand for trade union recognition is the first demand of any factory workers seeking organisation against the boss. Without that recognition forced from the employers, a real shop committee cannot be set up. From the beginning of the existence of any shop committee its struggle is seen to link directly with the trade union struggle against the boss class as a whole. Conversely, a factory with 20% union organisation cannot have a strong shop committee because the basis of a successful struggle—the "trade union consciousness" of the workers—is lacking. The syndicalist elements, by advocating support only for the shop committees, and rejecting propaganda and organisation for the trade unions, are attempting to side-track these elementary facts, and in so doing are weakening the struggles and the organisation of the shop committees themselves.

(Continued on page 4.)

"more or less" satisfactory and will then be able to take his turn at the Labour Exchange queues without being at a disadvantage. Perhaps this is the reason for the decrease in the pension—a person without a leg or arm has less body to look after, and therefore incurs less expense. After all, war has developed since the days of the Boer War!

It is almost impossible to properly express in words and statistics, the overwhelming amount of suffering and anguish that is the result of this inhuman attitude which the Government adopts towards the welfare of the working masses. Let those who characterise these words as "hopeless exaggerations" of the truth, live under the conditions they impose—let them experience the continual poverty which is the lot of the workers throughout their entire lives!

Every human being is entitled to the minimum of work or full maintenance, and full and ample allowances should be paid to all those who have lost their breadwinner—whether a husband or a son—as a result of the war. The organised workers must press through every Labour and Trade Union channel for the Government to treat the workers in the same liberal fashion as they treat the members of their own class, to provide really ample pensions and allowances for all those who are in need.

SUPPORT GERMAN WORKERS

(Continued from page 1).

the victory of the proletarian revolution. The main reason for the defeats of many revolutions is rooted in the fact that these four conditions rarely attain the necessary degree of maturity at one and the same time. In history, war has not infrequently been the mother of revolution precisely because it rocks the superannuated regimes to their foundation, weakens the ruling class and hastens the growth of revolutionary indignation among the oppressed classes."

"War and the World Revolution." Feeling the hot breath of revolution and dreading its consequences, faced with inevitable military defeat, the German ruling class is seeking some way out of the impasse. The coming revolution has announced itself by producing a split in the ranks of the ruling class. The Russian Revolution of February 1917 was foreshadowed by the murder of Kuznetsov two months earlier. He was killed by members of the Court nobility in an endeavour to save Czarism. But despite the fact that he was murdered, the Czar, under whose influence he had been, continued his policy. But the effect of the assassination was entirely unexpected by the perpetrators. The fissures and quarrels between the ruling class at the top, produced a ferment and excitement at the bottom. The murder, which was intended to save the regime in Russia, acted as a mighty impulse in galvanising the masses into activity for its overthrow.

In Germany the ruling class, the Junkers and capitalists, generals and bishops had gladly handed control of the state over to Hitler. Now they are quaking in their shoes as they consider the revenge the masses might wreak upon them for their crimes. Their sinister mascot Hitler, is turning into a bad-luck charm. They are attempting to rid themselves of what is becoming a millstone round their necks. Thus has come about the conspiracy of the generals. Their perspectives are clear. In the best event, they would bargain with the Allies. In the worst event, if the German masses got out of hand, they would surrender to the Allied capitalists, seeking the protection of the Allied armies against their own working class. That the Allies would respond to such overtures they have seen in Italy.

From Stalin they have received systematic encouragement. Was it not Stalin who first supported and recognised the regime of the Fascist gangster Badoglio in Italy; they are sure that he would come to some like agreement with a German Badoglio. Stalin's activities have given them no cause for fear. Far from appealing to the German masses on a socialist basis to overthrow Hitler and establish a Socialist Germany, he has organised the "Free German" Committee in Moscow which is predominantly com-

posed of reactionary military elements, and the "League of German Officers" which boasts such figures among its members as General von Seydlitz, Lt. General Edler von Daniel, Major General Carl Hess, and 2nd Lt. Count von Einseidel.

Major Herbert Soesslin, writing in "Freie Deutschland" made their objectives quite clear:

"... We must avert at all costs any repetition of the events of 1918. We must avoid all anarchy and undisciplined behaviour..."

The traditions on which they make their appeals to the German people are those of "Bismarck's Germany", the Germany of the Kaiser. Stalin has underlined this by the appeals on the Moscow radio during the crisis when they proclaimed that the fate of Germany should be decided by the generals uniting to throw out the Nazis!

The latest reports from Germany indicate that the Nazis have emerged victorious in their struggle with the army clique. This is symbolised by the introduction of the Hitler salute to replace that of the traditional army salute. No doubt Hitler imagines he has scored another June 30th and settled account decisively with his internal enemies. Not for him the inglorious collapse of his erstwhile teacher Mussolini! But this time will not be the same as the last. The violence of June 30th confirmed his grip on the power; the violence of July 1944 marks the beginning of the end of Nazism. Metaphysicians imagine that the same act, if repeated successfully, will have the same result. Not so! Hitler succeeded in stabilising his regime in its first phase by his purge because it was directed against the middle class opposition while the workers remained quiescent spectators, their organisations having been destroyed.

But the revolt of the Generals reveal to the mass of the workers and soldiers the utter desperation of the situation. Far from crushing the resistance to the regime, the sparks of opposition will be fanned into revolutionary flames. New attempts by cliques within the ruling class are certain. But this is the least important question. The dazed masses have received a shock which will lead to far stronger mass resistance than before. Hitler's triumph will be short lived. Already reports have appeared of fighting and mass demonstrations in many of the industrial areas of Germany, of whole regiments of soldiers being shot and whole divisions disbanded.

The effects of these events on the

German people is evident. The German radio speaks of groups of Germans gathering on the streets excitedly round the radios in shops and newspaper kiosks. Without a doubt the entire population is now discussing the meaning of the putsch. In the factories and streets the workers must be openly voicing their opposition to the hated regime while the Gestapo informers remain silent, not daring to intervene.

All these years in face of insuperable obstacles small underground groups and organisations have struggled against the Nazis and upheld the ideas of Marxism. Now their time is coming. The underground organisations will gain a mass basis and mass support in the coming months. The mighty traditions of the German workers will result in mass organisations springing up as if from under the ground itself, as in Italy. The German workers will be reinforced by support from millions of foreign workers in Germany. Already bonds of sympathy have secretly been established between German workers working side by side with French, Belgian, Russian and other European workers united by mutual hatred and solidarity against Nazi foremen. We will see factory committees and soviets all over Germany which will unite all the oppressed of whatever race or nationality in Germany.

The British capitalists are preparing for this. Churchill stated bluntly in the House of Commons that a Communist Germany is a possibility. But, he explained, the Germans could not escape from the responsibility for the crimes of the Nazis simply by "embracing the Communist faith." The Stalinist traitors published this statement in the *Daily Worker* without comment! By their silence they endorse Churchill's statement and this is in line with the policy of Stalin who is preparing to aid Churchill and Roosevelt to drown the German revolution in blood.

The Stalinists know no bounds in their hate incitement against the German workers in its worst form, and even racialism of the Hitler stamp. For example William Rust writes in the *Daily Worker* on July 2nd:

"We are not dealing with the German people as they were when they rose in 1918. The present generation has been poisoned and brutalised by 11 years of Nazi rule. Millions of the youth behave worse than beasts and the entire nation

must take responsibility for the crimes committed in its name."

But socialists and communists (not in name but in deed) know how to characterise this appeal to the basest instincts of racial chauvinism. The British workers must see that they occupy a key position in relation to the German revolution. The success of the revolution in Germany depends in large measure on the attitude adopted by the British workers and soldiers. Once Hitler has gone the alleged aim of the European war in "fighting fascism" will have disappeared, but the Allied imperialists will try and occupy Germany long after the conclusion of the war. Whether they succeed or not will be determined by the attitude of the British working class. One thing we know: the appeal to fraternise which the German socialist workers made to the army of occupation in Germany after the last war received a favourable response. The sons of the British Tommies in this war are far more class conscious than their fathers in the last. The response today will be even more favourable.

Military events are giving place to political events. The working class of the world will have the last say. The advanced workers must prepare and not get caught by surprise by coming events. To the building of the party—the most indispensable condition laid down by Lenin, the advanced workers must dedicate their efforts. A party, basing itself on the tested ideas of Marx, Lenin and Trotsky, further enriched by the experiences of the defeats of the workers in the past decades. Such a party exists in the Fourth International. It is weak today but will become a mighty instrument of the socialist revolution.

British workers! Prepare to support the German Revolution! Rally round the banner of the Fourth International! Join the Revolutionary Communist Party!

N. U. R. CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 1)

cannot be accomplished under the leadership of the Fascist-stained Allied imperialists. Its final defeat lies in the ability of the workers "throughout the world" to deal with their native capitalists and end the breeding ground of Fascism.

A few more militant delegates at the Conference would make a great difference. Despite years of persistent en-

Tasks of T.U. Militants

(Continued from page 3)

THE MILITANT STEWARDS MUST MAKE THEIR VOICES HEARD IN THE UNIONS

If the shop stewards in particular areas where discontent is rife, turn their backs on the trade union and proclaim breakaways, or advise or encourage the workers not to pay their union dues, they will be rendering a great disservice to the working class by their default from their elementary duties to the workers. In effect such a policy means to abandon the rank and file trade unionists. It means giving up the struggle against the trade union bosses and allowing them to continue to dictate to and delude the rank and file without opposition. It is the job of the class conscious militants to be in the unions fighting, exposing the bureaucrats before the members and patiently explaining and organising against the bureaucrats.

We say that no matter how painfully the rule of the bureaucrats has been felt by the militants, they must not separate themselves from the great mass of the union organised workers. On the contrary, the shop stewards and shop committees should encourage all workers who are discontented to go into the union branches to express their feelings and give them organised expression.

Attack the union bosses at all points of the compass through the factories and the branches. The unions have socialism inscribed in their constitutions—let them really fight for socialism! If the militants of the syndicalist type feel that they cannot defeat the union bureaucrats how can they expect to defeat a much stronger enemy—the boss class? And that this struggle has been successful in the past is an encouraging lesson from the history of the Clyde Workers' Committee in World War I and even in this war. The Clyde Workers' Committee made its voice heard in the unions to such an extent that they isolated the union bureaucrats completely, and became the chief voice representing both the shop committees and the unions. The combination of "legal" work through the official machines and "illegal" work of the shop committees, must be studied and applied skilfully and tenaciously by the class conscious workers.

The militants in this period have a clear duty to draw upon the lessons of the past and to propagate them to the masses of the workers in the unions.

Support the Imprisoned Comrades

(Continued from page 1)

worker capable of understanding the issues at stake, will see the significance. Here will be established whether the Trade Disputes Act covered only a general strike or any and every isolated strike.

It will also be argued that during war, workers coming under the Essential Work Order are employed by the Government, and as such the Government becomes their employer. Revin has advanced repeated claims that in fact all workers are employed by the State. This is one of the excuses advanced by the labour leaders for their capitulation to the capitalist class. As such, any decision of the Government which arouses discontent among the workers, becomes a dispute between workers and employer. If the workers wish to take action against their conditions—the employer can lay the responsibility at the door of the Government. Yet, if the workers hold the Government responsible, they cynically disclaim responsibility and argue that they are not the employers.

The second point at issue is the definition of "furthering" a strike. Judge Cassels ruled that propaganda preceding a strike constitutes "furtherance" of a strike. In the appeal it will be argued that this interpretation of "furtherance" can lead to grave consequences for the working class and that this places in the hands of the ruling class a weapon which cannot go unchallenged.

According to the Newcastle decision, if a committee of Shop Stewards issues leaflets about a particular grievance which ultimately results in strike, they can be convicted solely upon the evidence of issuing leaflets. The results of this decision are far reaching under the new Regulation 1A(a). For the same "offence" under the new regulation, any shop steward or worker can be sentenced to five years penal servitude. In effect this means not only an attempt to prevent strike action, the only effective weapon of the working class; it is an attempt to prevent the issuance of propaganda about a grievance.

Naturally, we have no illusions about the "justice" of capitalist court decisions. The capitalist class will, if necessary, change their laws to suit their own interests. A ruling of yesterday can be reversed today if it can save their privileges. But the working class must use every method at its disposal to retain its hard won position. If it can be established in law that the present decision violates even the laws promulgated by the

Stalin's activities have given them no cause for fear. Far from appealing to the German masses on a socialist basis to overthrow Hitler and establish a Socialist Germany, he has organised the "Free German" Committee in Moscow which is predominantly com-

bered. Hitler's triumph will be short lived. Already reports have appeared of fighting and mass demonstrations in many of the industrial areas of Germany, of whole regiments of soldiers being shot and whole divisions disbanded. The effects of these events on the

GREEK REPRISALS

(Continued from page 1)

in the Lebanon Conference six weeks ago, and are quite ready to enter the Government. But they have hesitated to take this step without full approval from those they represent lest this should further split the resistance movement and bring about increased civil strife in Greece.

The chance of real unity among the Greeks now depends on whether the E.A.M. and the Greek Communist Party can eliminate the handful of trouble-makers, like Claras, without these people carrying a large section of the rank-and-file with them.

On the broad issues there is now no disagreement between the first-rank leaders of the E.A.M. and the Communist Party, and the Papan-dreou Government."

The leaders of the Communist Party emerge as agents of reaction in the resistance movement. The second-line leaders, the "trouble-makers", express the revolutionary feelings of the masses who do not want any truck with the Cairo gang or their British imperialist backers.

This revolt of the rank-and-file forced the leaders of EAM to refuse to join the Papan-dreou Government. Any further dealings with the Cairo politicians would have irrevocably destroyed their prestige and they would find themselves without support from the masses. So they made a demonstrative break—only in order to prepare a fresh betrayal under a more "left" banner.

A Government has now been set up in Greece, of a Popular Front character. Reports from Cairo say that under the previous Premier, Tsouderos, 33% of the Greek armed forces were in prison; under "democrat" Papan-dreou, 89% of the Greek armed forces are in prison. Its programme includes (1) achievement of unity among the guerrillas, (2) driving the Germans and Bulgars out of Greece (3) establishing a new Greek State on the principles of the Atlantic Charter and Teheran. The fact that this programme contains not a word about expropriation of the landlords and capitalists, together with its implicit support of Allied "democracy", brands it as another sell-out. Unless there is a determined break with the capitalist class, and a socialist programme, the Greek masses will only be delivered once more into the arms of reaction. Unless the truth is told about the reactionary aims of the imperialists—Allied as well as German—they will suffer the same fate as the soldiers and sailors in the Middle East. The Stalinists, of course, do their utmost to whitewash the Allies and defend capitalism, embellishing it with all

sorts of "democratic" colours—which the tide of events will soon wash off.

This role is played by the Stalinists everywhere. They form the most reactionary wing of the workers' movement; they support capitalism in all its vileness. When the workers begin to get disillusioned they adopt a more left-sounding policy, but always with one aim: to head off the revolution, prevent its development, strangle it. In Italy they supported Badoglio until mass pressure overthrew him; now they support the senile puppet Bonomi. In Yugoslavia, which is in many respects similar to Greece, the Stalinist Tito and his friends have succeeded temporarily in depriving the guerrilla movement of its revolutionary character. An agreement has been reached with the Yugoslav politicians in London; who are no better than their Greek counterparts. The National Liberation Army, Philip Jordan reports in the "News Chronicle", has replaced the Red Front salute with the ordinary military salute—a significant detail! Churchill made plain in his speech on Foreign Affairs how much the capitalists owe to the counter revolutionary actions of the Stalinists:

"We have proclaimed ourselves the strong supporters of Marshal Tito because of his heroic and massive struggle against the German armies . . . Marshal Tito has largely sunk his Communist aspect in his character as a Yugoslav patriot leader. He repeatedly proclaims he has no intention of reversing the property and social systems which prevail in Serbia . . ."

In the coming European revolution the picture will be different. Already fascism has been overthrown in Italy, and the Nazi regime is on the verge of revolutionary collapse. Stalinism is fast losing the revolutionary veneer which enabled it to gain the leadership of revolutionary workers. The dissolution of the Comintern, the collaboration of "communists" with the most despicable representatives of capitalism, and Stalin's friendship with the capitalist powers, are causing advanced workers to look elsewhere for a revolutionary lead. They are beginning to turn to the Fourth International, the only organisation which has consistently fought against all capitalists and class collaborators.

The emergence of a left wing leadership in Greece, in opposition to the Stalinist capitulation, testifies to the vitality and will to revolt of the working class and all the oppressed. Tomorrow this will be seen all over Europe. With such a spontaneous international desire of the masses for revolutionary action against the ruling class together with the world party of the Fourth International, the victory of the Socialist revolution is assured.

generation of the workers "throughout the world" to deal with their native capitalists and end the breeding ground of Fascism.

the case for socialist revolution

An A.B.C. of Trotskyism



A few more militant delegates at the Conference would make a great difference. Despite years of persistent endeavour, the Stalinists handicapped by their policy, have failed to entrench themselves in the N.U.R.

The left-ward swing in the Union seeking its expression in many ways, will become a force in remoulding the policy and leadership a lot quicker when the militants in the industry get together, thoroughly clear their minds about what is to be done, work out a common policy, and fight that policy in a nationally co-ordinated manner.

The widespread discontent with Union officials on the part of the workers who exist on an extremely low economic level, the general disgust of all grades with the existence of three unions for rail workers, offers great scope for the development of a militant leadership. The feeling for the recapturing of the Union for the members and the desire for freedom from the vice-like embrace of boss-ridden negotiating machinery in all its intricate stages, needs a common policy to fight upon within the Union.

OUR GREEK MARTYRS

The murderous hand of Hitlerism has struck once again at the Trotskyist movement in Europe. According to official dispatches of the reactionary Greek government-in-exile, 17 members of the Archo-Marxists, among them Vite, the general secretary, have been executed by German occupation authorities in Athens. Four other Trotskyists, according to the same source, fell before a German firing squad in Salonika.

The "crime" of these courageous revolutionary fighters was they took part in the struggle against the Nazi oppressors in Greece. Specifically, they were charged with conducting Communist agitation and being in illegal possession of arms.

Vite was for some time secretary to Leon Trotsky when the "Old Man" lived in exile in France. He was also a member of the International Secretariat of the Fourth International. From emigration in France, he returned to Greece in 1941 or 1942 in order to participate in the reorganization of the Greek Trotskyist movement.

This is not the first time the Nazi beast has sunk its bloody claws into the revolutionary socialist movement represented by Trotskyism. Only last year, through underground channels, word came of the execution of three of our comrades before a Nazi firing squad in occupied Belgium. The fallen revolutionary fighters were comrades Renery, Van Belle and Lemmens, members of the Revolutionary Socialist Party, Belgian section of the Fourth International. Others have fallen in Holland and Norway.

Within Hitler's German stronghold itself, before the outbreak of the present war, the Trotskyists were hunted by the Gestapo and many were felled by the headman's axe.

With deepest sorrow we salute the memory of our fallen comrades, soldiers in the great battle for a socialist world. The Greek proletariat will avenge the foul murder of these heroic revolutionary fighters by sweeping away the Nazi despots. Their sacrifice will be vindicated in the coming Greek and European revolution which will project the entire Continent along the path of socialism.

applied skillfully and tenaciously by the class conscious workers.

The militants in this period have a clear duty to draw upon the lessons of the past and to propagate them to the masses of the workers in the unions.

At the present time there is no basic conflict between the shop committees and the trade unions. The two are interdependent and interlinker. But in spite of the high percentage of union organisation at the present stage, neither the shop committees nor the unions embrace yet the majority of the working class. In the future, during periods of exceptional upsurge in the labour movement, the great majority, the whole of the working class, will be drawn into the struggle with the creation of *ad hoc*, strike and shop committees, all leading up finally to the soviets. But such committees are organised for particular struggles and when the struggle dies down they usually collapse.

Trotsky Book Suppressed

Frank C. Haighen, feature writer for La Follette's *Progressive*, writes in the May 1 issue:

"Helen Lombard, who conducts a Washington column, distributed by the Bell Syndicate, and occasionally published by the Washington Evening Star, reveals a chapter of book suppression in this country, quite unknown to the mass of the intelligentsia. The book suppressed is Stalin, an Appraisal of The Man and His Influence, by the late Leon Trotsky. It was printed by its publishers, Harper and Brothers, but withdrawn by them prior to public sale late in 1941. The publishers gave as the reason for withdrawal 'a concern for the work's adverse effect on international relations,' says Mrs. Lombard, and 'the Library of Congress, in compliance with the publisher's request, withdrew from public circulation the two copyright copies which had been deposited with it.'

"But the Library of Congress is even chary of letting it go freely and without strings into the hands of members of Congress. 'When the book is delivered in compliance with a Congressional demand,' says Mrs. Lombard, 'the letter that accompanies it requests that it be returned to a particular official of the library and states that the State Department is interested in the matter.'

"One member of Congress was asked not to let the book get out of his hands nor to permit it to be examined by any other person . . . State Department officials have made informal suggestions that any quotation from the book would be harmful to Soviet-American relations . . ."

can be reversed today if it can save their privileges. But the working class must use every method at its disposal to retain its hard won position. If it can be established in law that the present decision violates even the laws promulgated by the ruling class, workers who may cherish any illusions will realise the need for a struggle not only against a particular law but against the whole capitalist structure.

The struggle against the convictions is not confined to a legal fight. While it serves as a rallying point, the real struggle must be waged in the ranks of the working class. Only mass decisions and mass action can change the legal fetters imposed upon the workers. Once the tide of struggle among the working class rises, all these reactionary laws will be swept aside.

The fact that the trade union bureaucracy is ignoring this vitally important labour case points to the need to arouse the rank and file to the issues at stake. Not one executive of a national trade union has responded to an appeal for moral or financial aid. It rests upon the shoulders of the rank and file militants to demand of their leadership to rally to the campaign to defeat the infamous Trade Disputes Act and Regulation 1. All their protestations against these reactionary acts are worthless if they do not conduct a struggle against their operation. An attack on one section of the working class is an attack on the entire working class. This is a lesson to be hammered home in every shop and every branch. Rally to the defence of the victimised militants! They are serving sentences of imprisonment in the interests of the whole working class.

LEON TROTSKY Memorial MEETING
CONWAY HALL,
RED LION SQUARE,
MONDAY, AUGUST 21ST
7 p.m.

Speakers:—
TED GRANT
MILLIE LEE
DAVID JAMES
AJIT ROY
Chair: **G. HEALY.**

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