

SOCIALIST APPEAL

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ONE PENNY

NO WAR ON THE WEST UNDER CAPITALISM

BOSS CLASS ARMY CANNOT LIBERATE EUROPE

The dire straits in which the Soviet Union finds itself has resulted in a growing feeling of anxiety among the workers, above all the organised labour movement. They see British "democracy" standing by as an onlooker while the Nazis tear at the vitals of the workers' state. It is out of this apprehension at the inactivity of British imperialism that the demand for a "Second Front in the West" has gained a hearing among the ranks of the working class. The "left" leaders in the Labour Party and a section of the Liberals have criticised the Government in Parliament and demanded "action". Above all, the Communist Party is straining its resources to the utmost with a campaign throughout the country behind the slogan "Strike in the West Now!" Appeals and exhortations explaining the weak strategic position in which Britain would find itself if the Soviet Union is defeated, are being addressed to the Government at all Communist Party meetings; resolutions sponsored by Communist Party fraction workers are being showered on Downing Street from factories and unions.

To all these entreaties, Churchill and the Government have turned a deaf ear. In parliament Churchill defended Lord Halifax, in his public declaration that it was impossible for the British army to invade Europe at the present time. Churchill's consistent and unwavering defence of the so-called Men of Munich reveals exactly where the *whole* of the ruling class stand at the present time. British imperialism is not displeased at the havoc being wrought in the Soviet

Union and the possibility of the destruction of the workers' state. The only unpleasant part of the war on the Eastern front, so far as Churchill and his class are concerned, is that Hitler is moving a little too fast and has not been sufficiently weakened. A quick victory on the part of Germany would jeopardise the strategic position of the British Empire. It is these considerations alone which has determined the sending of supplies by the imperialist powers to the Soviet Union

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11000 Shipyard Workers Win Strike Victory

More than 10,000 workers in the shipyards of Greenock and Port Glasgow gained an important victory when they came out on strike against the victimisation of Bro. Stewart, the Convenor of the Shop Stewards' Yard Committee at "Klondyke" shipbuilding yard, Greenock.

Owned by the Clan Line, the management of "Klondyke" made a serious blunder when they attempted to "transfer" Bro. Stewart to some other yard under the infamous Essential Works Order. Convenor of the Yard Committee, Secretary of No. 2 Branch of the Port Glasgow Boilermakers' Society and Chairman of the District Committee of his union, Bro. Stewart was probably the most popular leader in the whole area among the shipyard workers. Known as one of the best frame setters on the

Clydeside and a "glutton for work", Stewart had registered a complaint with the management on several occasions that the temperature of his furnace where the steel frames were "cooked" prior to bending into shape, was too low and it held up production as well as made it difficult to earn a decent wage (the job is piece work).

After numerous complaints, Turnbull, the managing director, and Allan, the foreman duly arrived at the frame bending sheds for a demonstration. After the frame had been in the furnace for a certain length of time, they called upon Stewart to get it out and bend it, as they said, it was properly cooked. An argument arose, Stewart claiming that the frame was not properly cooked; but, after a few minutes, sensing that the bosses were trying to manoeuvre him into a position where they could say that he was not competent to do the job, he withdrew the frame and bent it, with difficulty.

RUSSIAN
REVOLUTION
ANNIVERSARY

See Page 3



The Socialist Appeal
continues

LENIN'S POLICY:

An end to the coalition with the bosses. Labour and Trade Union leaders must break with the capitalist Government and wage a campaign for power on the following programme:

1. Immediate despatch of arms and material to the Soviet Union under the control of the Trade Unions and factory committees.
2. Nationalisation of the land, mines, banks, transport and all big industry without compensation.
3. Confiscation of all war profits—all company books to be open for trade union inspection.
4. Workers' control of production to end chaos and mismanagement in industry to be exercised through workers committees.
5. Equal distribution of food, clothes, etc. under control of committees elected by housewives, small shopkeepers and factory workers.
6. Sliding scale of wages to meet the increased cost of living with a guaranteed minimum.
7. Repeal of the Essential Works Order and all other anti-working class and strike-breaking laws.
8. Clear out the reactionary pro-fascist officer caste in the Army and Home Guard. Election of officers by the soldiers.

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anteced minimum. Later, the other frame-setters were called into the manager's office, where they were informed that Stewart had been impudent and that they—the workers—had to get rid of him! Their reply was immediate and unanimous: If Stewart goes, we go! On reporting this discussion to Stewart, he immediately went to the office and stated that he had no intention of being rude or impudent, and if anything he had said could be taken as rude, he apologised. Allan's reply was: We want no apology from you. You are going outside that yard gate. Stewart was then informed that a transfer form was ready for him to sign—the firm refused to take

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8. Clear out the reactionary pro-fascist officer caste in the Army and Home Guard. Election of officers by the soldiers.
9. Establishment of military academies by the Trade Unions at the expense of the state for the training of worker officers.
10. Arming of the workers under control of committees of workers elected in factories, unions and in the streets against the danger of invasion or Petainism.
11. Freedom for Ireland, India and the Colonies.
12. A Socialist appeal to the workers of Germany and Europe on the basis of this programme in Britain to join the Socialist struggle against Hitler for the Socialist United States of Europe.

Trotsky Reviewing the Red Army, 1919

The General Staff of the Red Army which was successful in defeating the imperialist armies of intervention on 21 fronts has been physically annihilated by Stalin. Its inspirer and organiser Trotsky has been assassinated by the hand of a G.P.U. agent.

Stalin frantically deposes one incompetent general after another in the hope of finding a saviour at the critical hour. But an army general staff cannot be created by a decree from the Kremlin.

In the last ten years the hack writers of the Comintern falsified history with the object of creating a military genius out of Stalin. But war is a test of military capacity. Despite the high morale, heroism and self-sacrifice of the Russians, the Red Army is suffering a series of continuous reverses. It is obvious to all but those who will not see that the Red Army generals have been outmanoeuvred and outclassed. The myth of Stalin's genius has been blasted once and for all.

The primary weapon wielded by the Red Army under Lenin and Trotsky which led to the disrupting of the interventionist armies, was the Socialist Revolution—the class struggle.

In its place has been substituted reactionary nationalist propaganda and bootlicking alliances with ruling classes and their corrupt general staffs.

But there are many thousands of revolutionists who still hold true to the banner of October. The majority of these lie rotting in Stalin's jails. In the period of crisis which lies ahead they will undoubtedly be turned to for leadership by the Russian masses. On this day will begin the dissolution of Hitler's army.



Lancaster Workers Seek Alternative

The I.L.P. polled 5,418 votes on an anti-war platform at the recent Lancaster bye-election. By this vote the workers of Lancaster registered a significant blow to the alignment of "national unity" under the leadership of the capitalist class. Twenty percent of those who voted expressed their hostility to capitalist rule; they expressed the rising consciousness of the workers that the capitalist politicians represent the interests of the capitalist class and not at all of the nation as a whole.

The majority of the labour and socialist

thinking workers voted for the I.L.P. despite the call by the Communist Party to vote Tory.

If the I.L.P. had a programme which gave the workers a fighting alternative to Brockway fought the election on a hotch potch of socialist and pacifist platitudes. Compromised by their outright parliamentary fraction, the I.L.P. were incapable of linking up the local struggle with a clarion call through parliament for a fighting opposition to Churchill and his class.

the capitalist class and their labour lack-

eyes on all questions which vitally affect them, there can be no doubt that they could have rallied a wider strata than they did. In parliament and through their press they should have put forward the demand that the labour and trade union leaderships break with the Tories and take power into their own hands and conduct a struggle in the interests of the workers.

Instead of this we see an opportunist watering down of the I.L.P. programme—vague and unclear as it is—to make it seem as like the reformist programme of the Labour Party as possible. On the other hand it failed to rally the workers

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MIDLAND WORKERS INCREASE PRODUCTION UNDER OWN CONTROL

There has been great agitation in the press and within the working class organisations, especially the Communist Party, on the necessity for increased production. The Socialist Appeal has consistently pointed out that the only way production can be organised efficiently without damaging the interests of the workers is through workers' control. Our Midlands correspondent has sent us some data which demonstrates that this solution is not a question of theory, but has actually been demonstrated in practice in one of the biggest and most important armament factories in the country.

In the first fortnight in which Germany invaded the Soviet Union, Churchill put through a special telephone call to the management of this factory asking for an output of a number of pieces of a certain ordnance product by the end of the month. The management protested that the figure set was beyond the limits of what the factory could produce. The absolute maximum which was obtainable when the factory was running at full pressure was about 33% less than the number of pieces in the time given. Despite protests, Churchill insisted on the urgency of the need for this particular instrument and demanded at all costs that they should be turned out.

The management found itself in the position of being well behind even the normal schedule and only half the month left to get a record output. In this situation the task seemed hopeless.

The superintendent of the factory finding himself in a quandary was compelled to appeal to the Works Committee and the Shop Stewards for a solution of the problem. This factory is one of the best, if not the best, organised and led engineering factory in the country. Already on a number of questions such as canteens, welfare, the running of the factory,

as well as the rates paid to the men, the stewards had managed to impose a certain measure of control. Due to their efforts the factory has the highest wage rates in the country.

The stewards were called to a conference at which the management explained the position. Some of the stewards immediately raised objections to the proposals of the management for a special effort. They pointed out that the principle reason for the delays and bottlenecks in this, as in all factories in the country was "Progress." For this the

Continued overleaf

HIGHER OUTPUT PLUS BETTER CONDITIONS

Continued from Page 1

management was entirely responsible. And the only way in which this most serious of all obstacles to production could be removed was investigation and action by the shop stewards in any section affected. If this could not eliminate the bottle-neck, the Convenor should be called and he would recommend action which would immediately be attended to by the management. After the superintendent had agreed to all the terms laid down by the stewards they decided to recommend acceptance of the proposals to the workers.

The terms of the agreement were:

- (1) No less pay than normal average earnings for those workers transferred to different processes than they had been working on.
- (2) Men to book up to any amount on piece-work earnings.
- (3) Earnings not to prejudice fixed or pro-tem prices.
- (4) Night Stewards to be able to call superintendent in emergency.
- (5) Special buses to be provided to take the workers home.
- (6) Where buses were not available special cars to be obtained to ensure that the workers would not have to walk long journeys home.
- (7) Canteen (which is already operated under the control of the shop-stewards themselves, thus ensuring decent food for the men, and running efficiently at low prices) to be open all night on Saturdays as well as weekdays. All meals for the men to be provided at the canteen and extra supplies obtained for this purpose. Extra supplies of cigarettes for the canteen to be laid in.
- (8) Factory to be closed down on the Saturday and Sunday following the special effort to give the workers a rest.
- (9) Stewards to get rid of bottle-necks and delays through their own control.
- (10) No quibbling on prices. The shop-stewards to judge what the usual price on the job should be.
- (11) Any dispute over total earnings to be settled by consultation between the stewards and the management.
- (12) A minimum rate for all work involved to be 2/6 per hour on piece work earnings.

At first the men were reluctant to accept an agreement which involved in-

It is true that this result was achieved by a small amount of parts being obtained from various factories in the district. But the fitting shop, the main section involved received no outside assistance at all. A few extra workers were transferred from other jobs to assist the fitters but being unfamiliar with the work their contribution to the total result was not very high.

Under these circumstances this record achievement was obtained principally through the elimination of bottle-necks and long waiting periods for the workers for the control exercised by the stewards. The wages, in addition to this, averaged for each worker from about 5/- to 6/- per hour, well above the minimum set by the stewards. Conditions and the welfare of the men were strictly guarded by the stewards. On the Sunday morning, for instance, there was no milk for the men's tea. The stewards on shift demanded that an urgent call should be sent to the local Co-op and the milk was quickly obtained.

This result demonstrates the efficacy and necessity of workers' control of production. But this is not just an isolated and exceptional fortnight. Due to the unrivalled militancy and leadership of the shop stewards this factory has achieved the highest wage rate and the best conditions in Britain; and due to the measure of control achieved by the shop stewards, produces the cheapest and, per head of production, the highest standard of any factory in Britain. In addition it is undoubtedly the most efficient and smooth running engineering factory in the British Isles.

The situation in the shop is best shown by an incident which occurred some weeks ago. A worker was in the office of one of the departments and accidentally overheard the following conversation over the telephone. Machine shop manager speaking to Engineering manager. "Look here, if I don't get those machines down by Monday, I shall ask the Convenor to take the matter up." Needless to remark the machines were down by Monday. This was the worst possible threat one department manager could offer to another!

Here we have in practice a solution to

Bosses Applaud Production Conference

The National Conference of Shop Stewards held in London on October 19th drew an attendance of 1,400 delegates from all over the country. The conference was called to promote the Stalinist line on production and to produce evidence of the success of the "production committees".

Chief reporter, Bro. Swanson, Stalinist Convenor of Napiers, opened the discussion by declaring that the purpose of the Conference was not to discuss the direction and control of production. What we want, he said, is concrete instances of how our co-operation with the managements has increased production. The response to his appeal for such concrete instances was negligible. A couple of niggardly increases were all that the delegates, mostly Communist Party members or sympathisers, could produce as evidence of the great "speed-up" through co-operation with the bosses. The majority of the reports related instances of the management refusing "co-operation" and of using increased production to cut wage rates and to undermine the standards of the workers.

One delegate from a great munitions factory reported that they were now working only three days a week on day shift and three nights a week on night shift! Another related how they had been asked to "go slow" on production. A delegate from the Merseyside, attempting to remove some of the blame from the backs of the managements, stated that often the workers themselves were to blame for lack of production and demanded that "slackers" be thrown into the army on 2/- a day! His speech has been loudly boosted in all the boss class papers—a vilification campaign against the workers in which the Stalinist press has joined. Needless to say, the great amount of evidence exposing the open sabotage and waste by the bosses and managements arising from the profit system, has been given practically no publicity at all.

The sabotaging of the "war effort" by the finance capitalists was the theme of almost every delegate's speech, yet the moral in the official reports, to the acclamation of the boss class press, was that the workers must get together with the

SCIENCE FOR THE MASSES

Lord Woolton Ate Grass Extract:
Why Shouldn't You? Asks Professor
J. B. S. Haldane

Professor J. B. S. Haldane, reviewing A.R.P. and food problems, suggests grass proteins as a substitute war-time food and asks for a million volunteers to eat these extracts once a week in place of meat and cheese.

Science demonstrates that potatoes and grass are good for you, said Lord Woolton in January 1941. Science is being prostituted in the interests of Woolton and his class. Woolton must go! said Professor Haldane of the same date.

But January to October is too long for the Stalinists to remember what they wrote in the interim. When the Stalin-Hitler Pact was on the order of the day and the Communist Party were "opposing" the war, Haldane was the most vociferous in dubbing Woolton—(not his class)—as responsible for the maldistribution of food.

Today the situation has "changed". "Woolton ate grass, why can't you?" says Haldane, and we are dished up with a good scientific argument why a million workers should be served with a plate of grass once a week in place of meat and cheese—in the interests of the "national effort"!

1,000 APPRENTICE PLUMBERS ON STRIKE

Nearly 1,000 apprentice plumbers have been on strike in the Scottish area for more than two weeks. The demands of the lads as outlined in their manifesto are simple and obvious. The wage rates to be the same as other apprentices in the building trade; the plumbers union to negotiate for apprentice plumbers; no victimisation of apprentice strikers.

The wage scale starts at 8/- for the first year's apprenticeship and finishes at 24/- in the sixth year. This is half the wages of the apprentices in the other

DAILY WORKER Monday, January 6, 1941

Daily Worker
for a People's Government that will defend the people and lead forward to peace and a free Socialist Britain.
Editorial Board: J. B. S. HALDANE (Chairman)
SEAN O'CASEY R. FADE'ARNOT COUNCILLOR JACK OWEN

WOOLTON MUST GO!
Woolton must go and with him all the representatives of Big Business entrenched

Lord Woolton is responsible. And his solution? Eat more potatoes and prepare yourselves for a bread shortage. He also advises scientists to prepare new dishes. Grass outlets, we suppose.

Yes, science is being prostituted in the interests of Woolton and his class. But now it has the weight of Professor Haldane behind it. Not only the political leaders of the Stalinist organisations have been corrupted to the core, but the best of the intellectuals and scientists are becoming completely cynical and using their authority as scientists to fool the workers, instead of in the interests of the workers.

With this background, and with no previous experience of strike or trade union activity, the solid way in which the lads responded to the initial call to battle is a striking demonstration of the capacity of even the newest layers of the working class to close their ranks in fighting formations when once a lead is given. All praise must be given to the leaders of the plumbers apprentices for their militant lead.

The actions of the lads awakened an immediate response among other sections of the workers. Strike headquarters for

(11) Any dispute over total earnings to be settled by consultation between the stewards and the management.

(12) A minimum rate for all work involved to be 2/6 per hour on-piece work earnings.

At first the men were reluctant to accept an agreement which involved increased exertions on their part. But when the stewards had explained the conditions and that the management would not be able to utilise the position to lower the standards and rates under the terms of the agreement they enthusiastically endorsed the action of the stewards. The Works Committee asked the men when anything went wrong to appeal to the shop stewards, and if necessary to notify the Convenor, and the matter would be immediately attended to and rectified.

During the course of the next fortnight any break-down in production was immediately set right through the intervention of the stewards. By this means bottlenecks were broken and smooth running of all departments ensured. When any hitch occurred in the departments, the men did not approach the management but immediately called the stewards.

Given these conditions and with virtual control of production in the hands of the shop stewards the production quota set was easily realised. *The management admitted that the factory had produced 33% more than was deemed possible utilising the machinery on the basis of the absolute maximum of production.*

100,000 HOURS LOST THROUGH VICTIMISATION

Continued from Page 1

the responsibility of transferring him—they wanted him to do the job himself. Stewart naturally replied that he did not wish to sign, nor would he do so. He was then dismissed.

Within a short time the whole yard—including all the other sections—were outside the gate. The men's demand was simple: Return of Stewart to his job. No victimisation through the Essential Works Order.

The firm refused to discuss or negotiate until the men returned to work. The following day, Scotts, the largest yard in Greenock were out to a man and they were followed by the yards at Port Glasgow. Still the firm refused to discuss.

The Ministry of Labour then decided to intervene. The usual advice was given: back to work and then negotiate. But the workers refused to hudge. And so the situation stood till Thursday midday, 9,000 men standing solidly behind their fellow worker. At this juncture, however, the situation took a radical change. Nearly 1,600 men from Scott's engine

“Look here, if I don't get those machines down by Monday, I shall ask the Convenor to take the matter up.” Needless to remark the machines were down by Monday. This was the worst possible threat one department manager could offer to another!

Here we have in practice a solution to the problem of production. Not, as in the case of Dalmuir's in Scotland, the handing over of State-owned factories to the control of the insatiable and inefficient monopoly capitalists but *their operation under workers' control*. Control through the shop-stewards and works committees would immediately result in sending production to soaring heights and furthermore it would result in the bettering of the standard of living and conditions of the workers.

The main reason that the bosses and their government will not agree to this is their fear of the workers. For workers' control of production does more than increase production: it increases the confidence of the workers in their own ability and independence as a class. Today workers' control may mean more profits but tomorrow the workers might, seeing that they could organise production far more efficiently than the bosses, conclude that the nation could do far better without the profiteers altogether. In defending their sacred rights of property the bosses and the government will never willingly allow the workers to control production only the organised might of the workers can force them to do so.

shop marched out in a body at midday. The strike was spreading from the yards and into the shops. After hurried consultations among the bosses and their government stooges, there was an immediate capitulation. The workers demands were met in full. Stewart to be reinstated and a government inquiry to be made into the action of the management.

There will be no real gain from the government inquiry for the workers, of course. Already after some delay, the first meeting of the inquiry was adjourned until an unspecified date. The workers and public might forget a little and it may yet be possible to save the bosses' face before the public. Such is the reasoning behind these government inquiries.

But this cannot blunt the fine victory of the Clydeside workers. They have shown that the traditional fighting spirit still smoulders and can easily be fanned to flames by boss class provocation.

An impartial inquiry into this particular strike would blow to hell the shouting by Churchill, Bevin and the Stalinist renegades that the workers must work harder to increase production. It would publicly explain that through capitalist class prejudice and antagonism to a first class, but militant workman, about 100,000 hours of production were lost.

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The sabotaging of the “war effort” by the finance capitalists was the theme of almost every delegate's speech, yet the moral in the official reports, to the acclamation of the boss class press, was that the workers must get together with the people responsible for the hold up.

Composite resolutions drawn up by the standing orders committee were read out. These were the usual Stalinist resolutions calling for the lifting of the ban of the “Daily Worker” and for support in the “struggle against Hitler.” **The only opposition resolution was “summarised” and ridiculed by the Standing Orders Committee without giving the delegates the opportunity to hear it.** Pressure from the body of the hall forced the platform to take a vote upon whether it should be read out or not. The motion for its non-acceptance was carried by a very dubious majority. All known opponents of the policy of the platform were suppressed, Swanson selecting only those who were supporters of the Stalinist line.

FIGHTING ALTERNATIVE GIVEN BY GIRL SHOP STEWARD.

The striking contrast between the platform and the aspirations of the delegates was illustrated by the applause given to Rachel Ryan a young girl shop steward who was delegate from the West London Shop Stewards Area Committee, and who only slipped through because she was not known as an opponent of class collaboration. “I have only been a year in industry,” she said, “but I



R. RYAN

have been just long enough to know that the chaos in industry is not caused by the workers, but by the incompetence and lack of planning on the part of the bosses, their managers and foremen.” She then went on to give concrete instances of how the profit system is responsible for holding up production in her own factory and how the bosses deliberately sabotage output. **“Some delegates have argued that we can increase output by means of production committees composed of delegates of workers and bosses.”** She said, **“I know from my own experience that the bosses will not co-operate with the workers on any issue. They will brook no interference with their rule. Where these committees are set up, the bosses will attempt to use them to paralyse the independent action of the workers and can only agree to production committees which are completely under their control. The bosses will use the workers' representatives on these committees, precisely as the capitalist government is using the Labour and Trade Union leaders: to impose restrictive legislation which they could not otherwise operate.”**

“There are only two methods of increasing production,” she went on, “the present situation can't last long. The one alternative is that of Nazi Germany where production is organised through the

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The actions of the lads awakened an immediate response among other sections of the workers. Strike headquarters for Lanarkshire were given by the Motherwell Trades and Labour Council and funds have been collected. Their action also received full support of the Plumbers' organiser in the West of Scotland.

Within a few days of the strike, the Ministry of Labour intervened and asked the lads to go back, promising to set up an arbitration council within 21 days. This was followed by the intervention of Sir Pat Dollan who appealed and urged the lads to go back to work pending negotiations.

But the dictatorial attitude of the employers, who refused even to discuss with the strike committee, has infuriated the apprentices. It has made the lads more determined than ever to hold out until their demands are met.

The organised workers must give them solid backing. This first skirmish of the plumbers apprentices must result in a victory. Their vitality and enthusiasm gives the lie to the pessimists in the labour movement who claim the workers have lost their fighting spirit.

complete destruction of all working class rights. The other alternative is the establishment of workers' control which would not only increase production but would also safeguard and extend the rights we have won through years of struggle. If this Conference gives a lead, and I hope that it will, for a movement in the Trade Unions and factories for the control of production through factory committees, it would be the first serious blow struck against fascism and in the defence of the Soviet Union.”

The speech was greeted with loud applause by the assembled delegates and it was clear that there was considerable support among the delegates for this alternative lead.

BOSSSES APPLAUD SWANSON'S REPLY

Swanson made a slanderous attack on this delegate. He stated that she “only represented 38 workers” and his statement was quoted by the yellow press with a sigh of relief. But he did not mention that these workers were 38 Shop Stewards—the West London Area Shop Stewards' Committee of which he is the chairman! Swanson is well aware that Miss Ryan represents many more than 38 workers in her factory where she has been responsible for the organising of the women into the union. But this trick of the platform was only a cover to avoid replying to the delegate's policy.

It is no accident that the Jackal press of the capitalist class came out strongly supporting Swanson and savagely attacked Miss Ryan “for trying to use the Conference for political ends”. As if the conference was not called for the promotion of a political line—one of class collaboration and capitulation to the Tories!

Shop stewards and workers everywhere

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All comrades and friends are notified that Socialist Appeal Fighting Fund Collecting cards can be obtained from any of the sellers or by writing to the Editor. These cards have proved invaluable for the reminding of the comrades that every subscriber must be asked for a contribution, however small. Send for a card immediately!

At the time of going to press we have not yet received all the monies collected during the last month for the Fighting Fund. We publish only those contributions paid in up till the middle of last month.

Previously acknowledged	52	1	0
East London	5	0	0
Napiers Workers	12	0	0
Glasgow	10	0	0
Willesden	5	10	0
Anon	1	0	0
Y.C.L.er	10	0	0
Newcastle reader	6	6	
Bristol	3	0	0
Coventry	1	0	0
Motherwell	12	0	0

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must draw their own conclusions from the boost the press and wireless has given to the Production Conference. The capitalist class are crooning when faced with a policy of class collaboration. But it is a different matter when faced with a fighting policy for workers control.

RUSSIAN REVOLUTION 24 YEARS AFTER—

An observer surveying the horizons of Europe in October 1917 would have reported an unrelieved grey mass of universal misery, a continent of blood, hunger, pestilence and apparently endless war.

One month later the same observer would have found the scene transformed. In place of the hopeless acceptance of the war, a new spirit growing among the masses; in place of lethargy, a quickening excitement; in place of hopelessness, a new hope.

In that month the Russian Revolution had taken place. And the Russian Revolution had demonstrated to the masses of all Europe that there *was* an alternative to the acceptance of the war plans of the ruling class. As the months passed by, this lesson was emphasised, and the leaders of the Revolution, Lenin and Trotsky, missed no opportunity of proclaiming it to the European workers and peasants.

They showed how the Russian capitalists, like their counterparts throughout Europe had used the cry of "national unity", not to safeguard the country and the interests of the masses, but to make sure that their profits and their class position were kept intact. When a threat came from the workers, these so-called "defenders of the country" showed themselves only too ready to open the back door to the German armies so as to get their assistance in keeping the workers in order.

Lenin and Trotsky showed also how the Russian "Socialists" like their counterparts in Europe, had done their bit in trying to keep the workers subservient by their cry that—"First we must win the war, and then we can think of socialism!"

But the Russian masses learnt, through their own experience and through the clear leadership of the Bolsheviks, that none of their problems—peace, hunger, land, etc.—could be solved without their taking the governmental power into their own hands. Ignoring the appeals, entreaties and threats of capitalists and "Socialists" they took their destiny into their own grasp and proceeded toward the real solution of their gigantic problems.

Peace was achieved at Brest Litovsk, but no illusions regarding the value of this were held out by Lenin and Trotsky to the masses of Russia and Europe. So long as European capitalism remained in the saddle there could be no real peace. When the Treaty was signed Trotsky warned the masses that, although this was a great triumph, it did not constitute a genuine, democratic and lasting peace. In a manifesto to the peoples of Europe he said:

"We do not conceal from anyone that we consider the present capitalist governments are incapable of making a democratic peace. Only the revolutionary struggle of the workers against their present governments can bring such a peace to Europe. Its full realisation

AWAKENING IN INDIA

A wave of discontent and opposition to British Imperialist rule is sweeping India. The ruthless attacks of the government against all working-class organisations coupled with the point blank refusal of the Churchill government to discuss Indian independence has thrown the whole country into a state of ferment.

Reports reaching this country despite the strictest war-time censorship disclose a situation which for sheer despotic terrorism rivals only that of Nazi Germany and Occupied Europe.

The jails and concentration camps are overcrowded with workers and peasant leaders who have dared to raise a voice of protest against the rule of the British Raj. Inside these "hell holes" the conditions are indescribable and many hundreds of workers have gone on hunger strike as a protest.

The Lahore "Tribune" reports "that a batch of 25 detainees in the Agra central jail have resorted to hunger strike as a protest against the refusal of the U.P. government to redress some of their grievances", whilst in Lyallpur jail "175 political prisoners have resorted to half meal hunger strike". The "Tribune" goes on to describe the conditions in this jail. "The heat is intense and the atmosphere unwholesome, which is borne out by the alarming and heavy decrease in the weight of political prisoners ranging from 10 lbs. to 40 lbs." "There is no proper and adequate arrangement for the supply

of water" . . . "The unprotected and unroofed latrines have been constructed contiguous to the tents, which owing to their uncleanness pollute the whole atmosphere of the camp. There are few beds in the jail hospital in comparison to the number of the sick. There is no proper and adequate stock of medicine".

BRITISH BOSSES LIVE ON THE SUFFERING OF THE INDIAN MASSES.

The British capitalists squeeze 150 million pounds profit annually from the exploitation of the Indian people. In this vast country of nearly 400,000,000 inhabitants the average yearly income works out at about 4 pounds 4 shillings per head of the population. In the Bombay district recently, constructional labourers were only receiving 2d. a day and in the Bengal, Bihar and Orissa areas unskilled men received 9d. a day; women 6d. and children 4d.

This wholesale plundering of the poor is responsible for terrible hardship and suffering. 74% of the population live in one room tenements; 41% are undernourished and 20% are starving. The Official Health Report states that "throughout India disease is increasing rapidly and steadily". In the Jhansi district alone out of 2,885 cases of cholera,

1,390 proved fatal. When it comes to persecution and robbery such as this, the British Capitalists have not much to learn from Hitler.

INDIAN WORKERS ARE FIGHTING FOR A CORRECT POLITICAL PROGRAMME.

Inside this vast concentration camp, the advance guard of the workers movement are busily preparing themselves for the struggles ahead. The steel chains and prison bars of imperialism are powerless to prevent the germ of revolution from growing and spreading.

On October the 16th, the Indian government communique announced the capture of certain plans formulated by Jai Prakash Nair one of the leaders of the Congress Socialist Party, who at the outbreak of war received 9 months imprisonment for an anti-war speech. He has subsequently been detained as a security prisoner at the Deoli concentration camp. During an interview with his wife he attempted to smuggle these plans to her and was caught.

The position he adopted was that it was necessary "to consolidate the Congress Socialist Party by winning over important members of Terrorist organis-

Continued on page 4

UNION DEFENCE GUARD

Pretext for Roosevelt Prosecution

It has just been learned from authoritative sources that the famous Minneapolis Union Defence Guard, organised three years ago by members of Local 544 of the Teamsters Union, will be the centre of the Government's case in the trial of the 29 leaders of the American Socialist Workers' Party (Trotskyist) and of the Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union, Local 544-CIO.

Originally the Government set out to convict the defendants on the basis of

against Local 544 locally, and of actual vigilante attacks on unions in other parts of the nation during the summer of 1938.

In the spring and summer of 1938, the fascist Silver Shirts were carrying on an energetic organising campaign in the Twin Cities. In addition to the Silver Shirts, the Associated Farmers Group was also active in Minnesota during this period. On July 28th the Associated Farmers held a meeting calling for the formation of "axe-handle brigades" to

themselves with the measures necessary for defence against such attacks.

The members of the Guard were divided into small groups so as to facilitate rapid mobilisation in the event of a surprise attack upon the unions. Most of the men went through simple lessons in self defence. The members decided to acquaint themselves with the use of firearms in order to meet armed attacks on the union. For this purpose four .22 calibre single shot guns were secured—

genuine, democratic and lasting peace. In a manifesto to the peoples of Europe he said:

"We do not conceal from anyone that we consider the present capitalist governments are incapable of making a democratic peace. Only the revolutionary struggle of the workers against their present governments can bring such a peace to Europe. Its full realisation will be guaranteed only through the victorious proletarian revolution in all capitalist countries."

In the first defence of the October Revolution against the intervention of 14 capitalist states, the main weapon wielded by Lenin and Trotsky, and the weapon without which they could never have won through, was this international, revolutionary appeal to the soldiers and workers of the countries that were attacking them.

The ragged, hastily-organised, ill-equipped Red Army fought against armies supplied with the finest equipment from the factories of Britain, America, Japan, France and many other countries. If the issue had depended on a purely military struggle they would inevitably have been smashed in the first few months. But the weapon of socialist propaganda enabled them to make the interventionist armies simply melt away. Churchill himself has admitted the potency of this weapon. In his "World Crisis" he has written:

"The French troops were themselves affected by the Communist propaganda, and practically the whole of the fleet mutinied. Why should they fight now that the war was over? Why should they interfere in Russian affairs? Why should they not go home? Why should they not indeed assist those Russian movements which sought to level all national authority and establish the universal regime of soldiers, sailors and workmen? The well-tempered weapon which had served with scarcely a failure in all the clashes of Armageddon now broke surprisingly in the hands which turned it to a new task."

But the "victorious, proletarian revolutions" did not take place and, twenty four years later Europe finds itself plunged by imperialism into an even more barbarous and bloody war, just as Lenin and Trotsky had warned. And the Soviet Union itself, isolated through Stalin's "Socialism in one country" and the substitution of a reliance on power politics and secret diplomacy for Lenin's reliance on the international working class, is being mercilessly attacked by Hitler's war machine.

On this anniversary of the Russian Revolution we again see the armies of imperialism attempting to batter into oblivion the first workers' state. But see the difference! This time reliance is placed, not on the workers and peasants and their class struggle, but on Churchill, Roosevelt and the Anglo-American capitalists. This time the appeal is not to fight for European and world Socialism, but for "Christianity", for the destruction of the "megalomaniac Hitler", for "democracy", for the "Atlantic Charter"—in a word for the war aims of British and American imperialism. This time the propaganda addressed to the German workers holds forth the illusion that the present "democratic" capitalist Governments are capable of making a "democratic" peace.

With a revolutionary appeal from Russia, an appeal for struggle against capitalism and for the building of a Socialist United States of Europe, the entire mood of the German masses would be changed, and with it would change the outlook for the Soviet Union and the whole of humanity.

But Stalin will not make this appeal. Its effects would unseat the Soviet bureaucracy together with the other rulers of Europe. All the more

of the Government's case in the trial of the 29 leaders of the American Socialist Workers' Party (Trotskyist) and of the Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union, Local 544-CIO.

Originally the Government set out to convict the defendants on the basis of their militant opposition to the Roosevelt war programme and the shackling of the labour movement to the war machine. However a council of war decided that it was too dangerous to press the case on the basis of their anti-war policy, which might win much popular sympathy for the defendants, and it was decided instead to accuse them of "arming the workers", which they claim was the function of the Union Defence Guard.

Roosevelt is today devoting all his energies to driving America into a war which he claims is "against fascism." The facts show that the Union Defence Guards referred to was organised to defend the labour movement in Minneapolis against attacks by American fascist groups. That was its openly stated purpose and it was on the basis of this that workers joined the Guard.

THREAT OF THE SILVER SHIRTS

The Guard was organised by members of the Minneapolis General Drivers Union, Local 544, AFL, in August 1938, as the outgrowth and the answer to a series of vigilante and fascist threats of violence

urgent is it, therefore, that in spite of Stalin the British workers, who still have their organisations intact and still have a mighty voice, should carry on the struggle for power. In no other way will the Soviet Union be defended. In no other way will Europe climb out of the dark pit in which it is at present plunged, and emerge into a life of freedom, peace and plenty.

An observer scanning the horizons of Europe today would see a Continent without hope; a black Continent of war, starvation and repression; a Continent which seemed to have no future but a deepening and a widening of its present miseries. That same observer a few months later can see a complete transformation—if the lessons of the Russian Revolution are learned.

The workers of one country can break the present spell. By carrying the class struggle to the point of taking power as did the workers of Russia 24 years ago, the British workers can light a fire which will spread through the Continent like wildfire.

In these 24 years the decay and degeneration of capitalism has proceeded apace. The prospects held out by the system have become infinitely more horrible. The greater, therefore, will be the response of the masses to a new October. There will not be the same hesitations and falterings as there were before. Bourgeois democracy throughout the Continent has proved its utter bankruptcy. The masses will spurn it with contempt. Their way will be the way of Lenin and Trotsky. Only a new October—a World October—can bring real peace and offer humanity a way out of its present fearful impasse.

energetic organising campaign in the Twin Cities. In addition to the Silver Shirts, the Associated Farmers Group was also active in Minnesota during this period. On July 28th the Associated Farmers held a meeting calling for the formation of "axe-handle brigades" to war on organised labour. At the same time vigilante attacks were actually being carried out against labour in other parts of the country. In New Orleans a drivers' strike had been broken by a reign of vigilante terror during which the strike leaders were beaten and compelled to hide. Employers did not conceal the fact that they had paid some 12,000 dollars to the police for "strike duty".

Such actions, which were taking place on a national scale, resulted in the formation of the Minneapolis Union Defence Guard.

ORGANISATION OF THE GUARD

The Guard, though organised by a group of members of Local 544, was not an official part of the union. Members of other unions were eligible to join it, and did. During the first few weeks after its organisation, the Union Defence Guard met in the basement of the Drivers Hall. General discussion was held on the methods by which vigilante and fascist gangs carry out their terrorist attacks on workers' organisations. The members of the guard were thus able to familiarise

rapid mobilisation in the event of a surprise attack upon the unions. Most of the men went through simple lessons in self defence. The members decided to acquaint themselves with the use of fire-arms in order to meet armed attacks on the union. For this purpose four .22 calibre single shot guns were secured—two target pistols and two target rifles—and target practice was held by the guard members. None of the members carried or possessed arms. The four .22's and the target munitions were purchased by funds raised through the sale of tickets for a dance planned by the guard. On December 17th the Guard gave a dance at the Drivers' Hall. The affair was open to the public and was recorded in the pages of the union paper.

Following the target practice in September, a test mobilisation of the Guard was held one evening, during which more than 200 union members reported. After the mobilisation all of them attended the local theatre. The union felt that the Silver Shirts and other fascist organisations would learn of the organisation of the Guard and this would dampen their ardour for an attack on the union headquarters and the union leaders. THIS PROVED TO BE THE CASE! FOR THEY DISCONTINUED THEIR PUBLIC ACTIVITIES IN MINNEAPOLIS.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE GUARD

With the disappearance of the Silver Shirts, the main reason for the formation of the Union Defence Guard also disappeared, and gradually it became a social organisation. The name Union Defence Guard was continued, mainly as an insurance against anti-labour gangs getting any ideas about attacking the union hall.

WHAT ROOSEVELT FEARS

The Roosevelt administration knows that this guard was organised to fight fascism, that its purpose was not "the overthrow of the government", but the defence of the labour movement against its enemies. The administration knows too that with the decline of the activities of the fascist groups for the time being, the character and activities of the guard changed.

It is not the guard itself that Roosevelt fears, but the idea contained in its formation, that the working class can trust nothing but its own organised strength in the fight against its enemies.

This he recognises as a real threat against his plans to drag the American people into a war for imperialist profits. This is why he distorts the facts, prosecutes the 29 defendants and tries to smash the Socialist Workers Party.

NO TRUST IN CAPITALIST OFFICER CASTE

Continued from Page 1

and forms the basis of Anglo-American policy. But let it never be forgotten that a victory on the part of the Red Army would jeopardise the very foundations of the British empire and the ruling class. The defeat and dismemberment of the Soviet Union is taken for granted as part and parcel of their plans.

BOSSSES NEVER TAKE ADVICE FROM WORKERS

The needs and interests of finance capital have always, and will always determine the policy of all capitalist states. These needs determine the policy of British imperialism in peace and war. "War is a continuation of politics by other means." To appeal to the better nature and attempt to arouse the "sympathy" of the class enemy at the terrible sacrifices of the Russian workers and peasants is absurd. The capitalists will give admiration in plenty, but they will only give such assistance as is consistent with their class interests and strategy. The attempt of Pollitt, Palm Dutt and others to teach the ruling class their real interests as to how "Britain" can best be served is ludicrous. The boot-licking attitude of Gallagher towards Churchill is symbolic of the whole position. The ruling class know their business very well and do not require the assistance of the renegade "leaders" of the workers to teach it to them.

Meanwhile the Labour leaders sit back content to let this question, as all others, rest in the hands of "those who are in a position to know"; that is in the hands of the bankers and generals whose incapacity and corruption have been revealed by the recent despatches of Lord Gort and whose reports were merely published to show the British workers that they have not the equipment or forces at the present time to invade Europe.

INVASION UNDER CHURCHILL WOULD DRIVE GERMAN WORKERS BEHIND HITLER

see a socialist Europe, the British imperialists will unhesitatingly take the class course of their French counterparts. Their allies of yesterday, the French capitalist class, the admirals, generals, "democrats", became transformed within 24 hours into obedient servants of Hitler. Instead of fighting to the death like the Russian army, they preferred to save their property and surrender.

NO TRUST IN ARMY OFFICERS

Following the fall of France, the Communist Party hammered home the fascist character of the capitulatory officers. They drew the parallel that in Britain the officer caste had similar interests and characteristics. But today we are supposed to forget this and they are now demanding an invasion of the Continent *under the leadership of these very corrupt, pro-fascist, incompetent officers!* They demand of the British workers today that they stake their fate on the generals and officers who have excelled themselves only in retreats and defeats and who will act no differently to their French, Belgian and Norwegian counterparts. The French example is a great warning that the officers from the class of capitalist democracy can lead the workers only to useless slaughter, defeats and betrayals. It exposed their incapacity to even wage a war which was directly connected with their own class interests. The despatches of Gort prove that the incompetence was not confined to the French capitalists alone.

A WORKERS' ARMY WOULD BE WELCOMED

The only way in which the struggle against fascism can be successfully waged would be by taking the control of the army and industry by the working class. This very fact would have an immediate effect on the whole of Europe. The German workers, freed from the fear of Versailles, would soon respond by settling accounts with Hitler. And if they needed assistance in the overthrow of Hitler, an expeditionary force could be landed in Europe, certain of the support and co-operation of all the oppressed in Europe. It would be welcomed by the Italian and

SUPPORT INDIAN STRUGGLE

Continued from Page 3

ations, the known Revolutionary Socialist Party, and the Hindustan Republican Socialist Association, and by isolating the Communist Party. "If only to attract the youth of India," he urged, "the formation of an underground wing of the Congress Socialist Party, which would acquire funds by the old method".

Comrade Nairn emphasised the political need for a clear distinction between the war between Britain and Germany and the Russo-German war.

"Our attitude," he said, "should be that we sympathise fully with Russia, but are helpless to do anything about it." "At the same time our opposition to Britain's war effort and our Nationalist struggle should continue as should all our class movement."

The document also contained a programme for a "peasants' struggle" in a selected area, in contrast with the "farce" of Ghandi's non-violent disobedience.

It is obvious that this material has been twisted and distorted by the Indian Government police. One can hardly expect the heads of British imperialism to present a true picture of matter concerning the overthrow of their regime. But apart from this it is clear that a section of the Indian working class is groping for a correct political programme. The idea of isolating the Communist Party shows that its complete capitulation to British imperialism is being realised, and flowing from this the need for revolutionary independence is being put forward as an alternative.

The Communist Party, as was to be expected, has once again betrayed the Indian masses to the "gallant democrats" of Whitehall. Using the "defence of the Soviet Union" as an excuse, they have capitulated completely to British imperialism and put forward a policy *to the right of the bourgeois Indian National Congress*. It is this treachery that has aroused the disgust of Nairn. In this sense it is an important step forward for the revolutionary movement in India. It is necessary to win the thousands of militant workers and peasants who support the Stalinists to the revolutionary banner.

A National Programme for Youth

National Conference of youth was held in London on October 5th. 263 delegates representing 45,000 engineering youth and apprentices attended. The Conference was organised by the "Engineering and Allied Trades, National Apprentices and Youth Movement." 97 of the delegates came from London, 72 from Scotland and the remainder from various parts of the country.

The E.&A.T.N.A.&Y.M. was set up in May 1941 at a Conference held in Manchester as a result of the magnificent Clyde and Manchester apprentices struggles and it represented a significant step forward for the youth movement. Its programme called for the building of a national youth movement on the basis of 100% trade unionism and 3d. per hour increase for all under twenty one. Around this programme youth everywhere were organising, as reported by the Clydeside apprentice paper THE APPRENTICE MAG.

But after the change in line by the Communist Party the leadership of this movement called another conference in Manchester but this time, the fighting programme laid down at the first conference was dropped, and in its place was adopted a programme accepting the wage proposals of the A.E.U. National Committee. Instead of *wages* being item No. 1, *increased production* became item No. 1. The struggle for better conditions for youth was cast aside for increase in production and collaboration with the managements. But some of the apprentices could not believe that this would be the outcome. Any doubts they had must have been completely wiped out by the London Conference.

A number of delegates were disappointed at the conference being called merely to discuss "increased production". This was clearly shown by the delegates' speeches. So strong was the urge to discuss their own problems rather than the red herring of "increased production" that time and again they had to be reminded that they were there to discuss how to increase production and that they

should give examples of how this could be done.

At a time when the youth should be organised for bigger gains the leaders call upon them to sacrifice their hard won rights and conditions! Did the Clydeside and Lancashire apprentices struggle so hard with the Government and all the bosses opposed to them, in order that their leaders should later collaborate with these same bosses? We don't think so.

The present leadership, in carrying out the policy of the Communist Party is betraying the whole future struggle of the youth movement. A National youth movement will never be built up on such a foundation of class collaboration; it will only be built on the basis of a genuine militant programme corresponding to the needs of the industrial youth.

Such a programme would include in its demands:

3d. per hour increase for all under 21. (Those in the A.E.U. should demand that their National Committee's proposals be immediately negotiated.)

100% trade unionism.

Holidays with Pay.

Equal pay for equal work.

School training in the employers' time at the employers' expense.

Education schemes on the job at the employers' expense, under the control of the apprentice committees.

Organisational independence for the youth inside the unions.

Election of apprentices and youth factory committees for the establishment of factory committees.

To struggle for workers' control of production.

All youths, apprentices, shop stewards and union militants are called upon to give active support to the above programme.

FOR A GENUINE MILITANT PROGRAMME!

FOR A NATIONAL YOUTH MOVEMENT!

J. D., Secretary of the Merseyside
Apprentice Committee.

Significance of Lancaster Vote

Continued from Page 1

round a concrete alternative to the pre- CALLED ON THE TORY CANDIDATE.

to show the British workers that they have not the equipment or forces at the present time to invade Europe.

INVASION UNDER CHURCHILL WOULD DRIVE GERMAN WORKERS BEHIND HITLER

And if British imperialism were prepared to send an invading force to Europe, what response would they get from the oppressed peoples? They have nothing to offer the workers and peasants of Europe except to replace Hitler's jackboot with their own. The oppressed Indian and colonial masses will testify to this. They would not dare to risk applying a match to the social dynamite on the Continent, and in order to maintain "order" they would have to restore their handpicked agents and gaulieters. Above all, the landing of an expeditionary force under the control of Churchill and British imperialism would immediately result in the stiffening and solidifying of the German workers and soldiers around Hitler. The only reason they tolerate Hitler now is because of the fear of a new Versailles, and this while the British troops are remote and far away in the British Isles. The spectre of an occupation of Germany by troops under the control of the British capitalist class would lead the German workers and soldiers to fight desperately to avert such a catastrophe for them.

THE ALTERNATIVES ARE: FASCISM OR SOCIALISM

There is no worker in the socialist movement who would not like to see accounts with the Nazi barbarians settled once and for all. Their bestialities have shown to what depths capitalism can actually reach when workers have no safeguards in the resistance of their own organisations. But the ruling class in Britain, especially the officer caste, looked with approval on the destruction of the workers' organisations in Germany, and only turned against Hitler when he threatened their empire and profits. The first sign of uprising in Germany and the Continent which would threaten to lead to a socialist revolution, and Churchill would soon find a common language with Hitler and Mussolini.

And if such an occupation were successful would this succeed in saving the Soviet Union and obliterating fascism from the European Continent? Basing ourselves on the Leninist position that the world must go forward either to socialism or fascism, we must answer that rather than

man workers, freed from the fear of Versailles, would soon respond by settling accounts with Hitler. And if they needed assistance in the overthrow of Hitler, an expeditionary force could be landed in Europe, certain of the support and co-operation of all the oppressed in Europe. It would be welcomed by the Italian and German workers, not as the army of a foreign oppressor, but as an army of fellow workers coming to their aid against the capitalist oppressors.

LENINISTS "SWIM AGAINST STREAM"

By the taking of power by the British workers, the entire world situation would be transformed. "But," argue the Communist Party leadership, "this may be true but, what are we to do at the present time? The workers are not ready to take power." Many sincere rank and file members of the Communist Party and other militants agree with our analysis, but say, "But what can we do now? The policy of the Communist Party is the only realistic policy." But if the working class is not strong enough to take independent action, then no pleading with Churchill will take effect. And if the workers were in a strong enough position to influence him, they would not have to appeal or rely on the ruling class at all. If the workers are not conscious enough to take things into their own hands it is disastrous deceiving the advanced workers that Churchill or any other ruling class politician, can in the meantime, defend their interests. All the greater the reason to devote ourselves to a "patient" explanation as to the real situation that exists by showing the aims and aspirations of British imperialism and convince them of the only road for the liberation of the working class.

Never in history have the workers achieved anything by relying on the goodwill of their masters. Always, and under all conditions it is necessary to tell the workers Lenin's elementary axiom: only by relying on their own organisations, strength and initiative can the workers achieve their aim. The only way to mobilise for a genuine "Second Front in the West" is to demand that the labour leaders break with the capitalists, put an end to the deception of the workers by the coalition with their main enemy and take power into their own hands on the basis of our programme. No reliance on the boss class and their generals! Only workers power can transform the imperialist war into a genuine revolutionary war in defence of the Workers' state, for a genuine fight against fascism and for socialism.

right of the bourgeois Indian National Congress. It is this treachery that has aroused the disgust of Nairn. In this sense it is an important step forward for the revolutionary movement in India. It is necessary to win the thousands of militant workers and peasants who support the Stalinists to the revolutionary banner. Unless this is done and Nairn and his tendency places itself firmly on a revolutionary socialist platform, it will doom itself to sterility and destruction.

We welcome the fact that despite the correct rejection of the Communist Party, this document stands in favour of the Soviet Union. Although it does not go further than offering "sympathy", it is a step towards a Marxist analysis of events.

BRITISH WORKERS MUST LEAD

The ruling class have stated that no discussion on Indian independence can take place until after the war. Indeed, Churchill has stated that though point 4 of the "Atlantic Charter" promises freedom to the oppressed people of Europe, it does not apply to India. The Labour and Trade Union leaders agree with this. The gentlemen who nightly promise "freedom" to the downtrodden Czechs and Poles carefully ignore the oppressed masses of the Empire. It is time the British workers had a say in the matter. If the Labour and Trade Union bosses are really genuine in the desire to free the European workers from Hitlerism, then why not convince them of their sincerity by first of all demanding freedom for the colonial and semi-colonial countries which for centuries have been looted by the bankers and magnates of the City of London. Such an appeal would find an immediate response not only in Europe but in the colonial countries of the world.

If the British workers are to mobilise the support of the Indian masses in the struggle against the common enemy—British Imperialism, then it is essential that we get down to implementing the slogan "freedom for India" without delay.

G. HEALY.

● READ
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to discuss how to increase production and that they

J. D., Secretary of the Merseyside
Apprentice Committee.

Significance of Lancaster Vote

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round a concrete alternative to the present government as step to the seizure of power.

But in spite of the semi-pacifist policy of the I.L.P., it was an elementary duty of the working class parties who did not participate in the elections on their own platform, to give critical support to the working class candidate; explaining what they did not support in the I.L.P. platform and putting forward their own policy. But teaching the workers to show a class solidarity by voting for the working class candidate.

The present role of the Communist Party was revealed by its policy which was foisted on the local party from above. AN OFFICIAL DEPUTATION FROM THE LOCAL COMMUNIST PARTY

CALLER ON THE TORY CANDIDATE, PLEDGING THEIR UNRESERVED SUPPORT FOR HIS ELECTION! Let this manifestation of anti-working class activity sink deeply into the mind of every class conscious worker inside and outside the Party.

The Lancaster vote is the sounding board of the coming tide of revolt among the British workers. It shows that the spirit of independent class struggle is rearing its head. This underlines the urgent need for the revolutionary socialists to carry their programme into the ranks of the working class and to prepare a genuine alternative leadership to that of the old parties in order to lead the workers to the seizure of power.

WINTER SESSION

Holborn Hall, Room No. 2. Lectures start at 3

Sunday, November 16th.

WAR AND THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL. A. Roy.

Sunday, November 23rd.

THE SOVIET UNION—Stalinism or Leninism. G. Healy.

Sunday, November 30th.

FASCISM AND THE CLASS WAR. J. Haston.

Sunday, December 7th.

A PROGRAMME FOR THE COMING BRITISH REVOLUTION. E. Grant.

LONDON:

Hendon: Deerfield Club, Station Road, N.W.4. Every Thursday, 7.30 p.m.

Wimbledon: William Morris Hall, 227 Broadway. Every Sunday, 7.30 p.m.

And at

Edmonton, East End, Southall and Kilburn. Ask or write for particulars.

GLASGOW:

Clarion Rooms, Wellington Street. Every Sunday at 7 p.m.

RUSSIAN REVOLUTION



HOLBORN HALL, LONDON

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9th

AT 6.30 P.M.

Doors Open at 6 p.m.

Speakers: Ted Grant, Jock Haston, Gerry Healy

LIVERPOOL Lundy Hall, Beech Street

November 22nd at 6 p.m.

Hear the Recording of Trotskys Speech

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