

# OUR COMRADES RELEASED!

## SOCIALIST APPEAL

Organ of the Revolutionary Communist Party, Fourth International.

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# GREAT VICTORY FOR THE WORKING CLASS

## Three Judges Quash Convictions in Appeal Court

# CAPITALISTS FEAR ARMED PARIS WORKERS

By Ted Grant

THE NAZIS HAVE BEEN ROUTED IN FRANCE. BUT MOST SIGNIFICANT HAS BEEN THE MASS MOVEMENT OF THE FRENCH WORKERS IN PARIS AND THROUGHOUT FRANCE, IN TAKING UP ARMS AGAINST THE NAZI OPPRESSOR.

It has been this mass movement of the French workers, peasants and middle class which has forced the retreat of the German army. The culminating point which has marked the entry of the French masses once again onto the arena of history, was the insurrection of the workers of Paris.

Despite the capitalist censorship of the news from Europe and the meagre reports that have been allowed to come through, it is possible to piece together the chain of events. As the Allied armies marched towards Paris, on August 13th the workers in the industrial suburbs began demonstrations which rapidly developed into armed insurrection despite the little equipment possessed by the workers, completely to a stand-still. The strike broke out throughout the Paris area which brought the life of the capital completely to a stand-still. The strike involved the French railwaymen, thus preventing the Nazis from moving troops and supplies to and from the capital. So powerful was the movement and so intense the feeling of the masses that two days after the insurrection had broken out, even the Paris police came out on strike and joined the insurrectionaries. Barricades were set up in all the working class districts of Paris and tens of thousands, armed with revolvers, sticks and rifles were joined on the barricade by hundreds of thousands without arms.

Thus, within a few days, despite the fact that the Nazis possessed many tanks and other heavy equipment, they were completely defeated. It is noteworthy that the capitalist de Gaullists, who had placed themselves at the head of the movement with the assistance of the Stalinists and reformists, quickly made a truce with the Nazi generals at a time when the movement was developing successfully. The Nazi troops were to be allowed to withdraw from Paris within 48 hours of the agreement which had been signed. The reason for this is not hard to find. It was not tender humanitarianism but fear for their property which

might be destroyed in the fighting. Thus the Nazis were enabled to gain time, draw in reserves, and continue the struggle for several more days at the cost of many more workers' lives. In 1940 the French capitalists sold Paris to Hitler without a struggle for the same reason—fear of the destruction of their property. But also because of their fear of an armed working class which could see their degeneration and corruption clearly, and which might take control of Paris and then the whole of France. The nightmare of a new and more permanent occupation of the factories as in the great stay-in strikes of 1936 obsessed them. Then they had been saved by the workers' leaders through the policy of Popular Frontism. But they were not sure it would suffice them now!

### CAPITALISTS FEAR ARMED WORKERS

The de Gaullist leadership was compelled to place itself at the head of the present uprising for fear that the movement would get out of control and also to demonstrate to Anglo-American imperialism that they were the only force in France with whom the Allies could deal. Thus they issued the call to insurrection.

But immediately the Nazis were driven from Paris, the main pre-occupation of the capitalist forces has been the disarming of the Parisian workers. The entire capitalist press has reported this as one of the "major" problems with which the de Gaulist government is faced. The "Herald" of 29th August says:

"But another problem facing General Koenig, new commandant of Paris, will be to get the Maquis underground and demobilised soldiers of the French Force of the Interior to lay down their arms.

To wean the high-spirited youths, who are still racing through the city in their small cars, waving flags and brandishing weapons, back to the hum-drum existence of labour and

rebuilding, will be one of his weightiest problems.

The "News Chronicle" of August 30th reports an even more far-fetched excuse for the disarming of the workers who freed Paris:

"To organise the legions of armed French youths now wearing the arm-bands of the F.F.I. and training them into a disciplined force, General Koenig will first of all disarm those not at the moment authorised to carry arms.

In this way the attempts of Darnand's militia and German soldiers

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COMRADES ROY TEARSE, HEATON LEE AND JOCK HASTON HAVE BEEN RELEASED. THE CONVICTION AGAINST THEM THAT THEY EACH DID ACTS "IN FURTHERANCE" OF THE TYNESIDE APPRENTICES' STRIKE, AND THAT THEY EACH AIDED AND ABETTED COMRADE BILL DAVY "IN FURTHERANCE" OF AN ILLEGAL STRIKE—HAS BEEN QUASHED BY THE COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEAL.

The organised working class has thus gained one of the most important legal victories in the struggle against anti-labour legislation. The ruling class has suffered a severe defeat in its first attempt to use the Tory Trade Disputes Act of 1927.

We are very proud of the fact that it was our Party—the Revolutionary Communist Party—aided by the Anti-Labour Laws Victims Defence Committee together with its legal advisers, which has been responsible for this great labour victory.

The Defence Committee was inaugurated under the chairmanship of Jimmy Maxton, M.P. and the legal advisers were energetically and ably represented by Ernest Silverman, brother of Sidney Silverman, M.P.

The prosecution of our comrades was the most important anti-labour criminal prosecution to be undertaken by the ruling class for many years. It was closely followed by workers—not only in all parts of Britain, but in other parts of the world. Preceded and accompanied as it was by a reactionary press campaign of unprecedented ferocity, the arrest and prosecution of our comrades was obviously carried out as the result of direct instructions from the Cabinet. It was not only a pro-

The Judges who quashed the conviction:  
Humphreys, Wrottesley, and Tucker.  
Counsel for the Director of Public Prosecutions:  
H. Paley Scott, K.C., and Dr. J. Charlesworth.  
Counsel for the Defence:  
James Burge—briefed by Smithdale, Rutledge & Co.

spection of the arrested comrades, it was in reality a prosecution of our party the Revolutionary Communist Party. Apart from striking a blow at the Revolutionary Communist Party, which alone among the organised comrades were: that they had conspired to further and had each furthered a strike declared illegal under the Trade Disputes Act.

Later, the prosecution added further charges of aiding and abetting, "inciting, and conspiracy to incite." It was the conspiracy and incitement charges parties of the working class fights with and for the militant workers at every step, the purpose of the arrests was to intimidate organised labour. The Trotskyists were to be the scapegoats for the introduction of the anti-labour Regulation 1A(a).

which afterwards became the real basis of the attempted frame-up in the Court of Assizes. From the outset of the trial we stamped it as a political frame-up and anti-labour conspiracy on the part of the state. In a written statement handed to the police when the charge was made, Comrade Haston branded the arrests as a frame-up and as the victimisation of our Party by the State.

On every possible occasion, this was publicly repeated from the dock by our comrades. And whatever doubts may have existed in the minds of the weaklings in the Labour and Communist Parties, the deliberations at the Appeal Court have established with absolute clarity

that the arrests and trial at Newcastle was an attempted frame-up.

On behalf of our comrades, Counsel James Burge, instructed by the firm of Solicitors Messrs. Smithdale, Rutledge & Co., put up a magnificent fight. Even had the Judgment gone against him, the weight of his arguments would undoubtedly have forced the Court of Criminal Appeal to explain the terms of Section 1 (2) of the Trade Disputes Act and thus for the first time, would have established the rights—more accurately, lack of rights—which organised labour has within the limits of the Trade Disputes Act.

### WHAT THE APPEAL ESTABLISHED

In stating the argument for the defence, Mr. Burge said that his case would hinge around the clear definition of the terms and words of section 1, (2) of the Trade Disputes Act. This reads as follows:

"If any person declares, instigates, incites others to take part in or otherwise acts in furtherance of a strike or lock-out, declared by this Act to be illegal, he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding ten pounds or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months, or on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years."

In the submission of the defence, Judge Cassels had misdirected the Jury when he gave the following direction:

"It is not necessary that an act in furtherance of an illegal strike should be during the actual time of the strike; it may be an act which could reasonably be regarded upon the evidence, as an act in preparation for the strike and that that strike was an illegal one."

"To declare," said Mr. Burge, is an act that begins the actual strike; "to incite others to take part in" can be acts before or after the commencement of the strike; "to instigate" was an act committed before the strike, at the beginning of its preparation. But a strike must be in existence before an act can take place in "furtherance" of it.

The whole case of the prosecution at Newcastle, said Counsel, was based on

Continued on back page.



JOCK HASTON

ROY TEARSE



HEATON LEE

ANN KEEN

## £500 STILL NEEDED

The defeat of the first prosecution under the Trade Disputes Act is an historic victory for organised Labour. Labour's rights were defended. The ruling class have been forced to halt, and explain the terms of this reactionary Act.

Apart from a few outstanding workers' leaders who formed the Defence Committee and appealed for funds and support, the official leadership of the Labour and Trade Union movement supported the prosecution and the use of the Trade Disputes Act in the Tyne strike case.

But all over the country the rank and file sprang into the breach. Local defence committees were set up and funds collected to carry on the fight. Thanks to the national and local committees it was possible to raise the cost of the original hearing of the

trial at Newcastle, and go ahead with the appeal. The funds collected came exclusively from the pockets of organised workers.

This splendid response showed that class solidarity still lives and only needs stoking to bring out the dull glow into bright flames.

Once again we appeal to trade union branches, shop stewards' committees and factory collectors: the cost of the defence has not been covered; another £500 at least is needed. Make sure that your union contributes and that your factory adds its quota.

Send all donations to:  
W. G. COVE,  
Treasurer,  
Anti-Labour Laws' Victims' Defence Committee,  
318, Regents Park Road,  
London, N.3.

# ALBION STRIKE 1,600 Workers Out Supported by Glasgow A.E.U. District Committee

BY BOB ALLEN

On Tuesday, August 29th, Albion Works on the Clyde downed tools in a strike which may have great significance for all engineering workers.

At a meeting the following day, the Glasgow District Committee of the A.E.U., whose members form the overwhelming majority of the affected works, formally supported the demands of the strikers, and endorsed the strike.

The Shop Committee is leading the strike. The immediate cause of the strike was the employment of a man at a skilled trade who was incapable of supplying any evidence as to his skill. Whereas in the past the Management have agreed to accept the decision of the stewards on such matters, they now have attempted to force the employment of a man unsatisfactory to the workers and the stewards.

The "evidence" as to the man's level of skill was a scrap of paper signed by some individual out of the district.

The stewards demanded the removal of the man. This was apparently agreed to by the Management, but the next day the man was found to be still at work in the Repair Shop. On that day, Tuesday 29th August, the Repair Shop men downed tools. A mass meeting of the whole factory decided to follow suit at the midday break, the same day.

WAGE DEMAND ADDED TO STRIKE AIM— 4d. per Hour ON BONUS RATE AND BONUS FOR TIMEWORKERS

On the next day, Wednesday 30th August, a further mass meeting was called, which demanded a settlement of the wage negotiations started with the Albion Management on May 26th this year. The demand thus added to the strike aims was for 4d. per hour all round increase in bonus rate, and a timeworkers bonus equal to the average shop percentage.

Although the demand for the removal of the unskilled man formed the immediate cause of the strike, there is no doubt that the wage demand forms the main issue. The negotiations with the Management on this question over the last few months have exhausted the patience of the Shop Committee and workers alike, and led to an explosive situation in the factory. Four months ago an application for a Works Conference was made, the subject being the wage increases which are now in dispute. The Works Conference was held on the 26th May after weeks of delaying tactics on the part of the Management. At the Conference the Shop Stewards based their wage demand on Sir Alex-

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# RUMANIA CHANGES SIDES

Rumania has changed sides and declared war on Germany! As King Michael, with unconscious humour broadcast, she has remained true to her national traditions! In the last war, too Rumania began as an ally of Germany, then declared war upon her. Thus history has repeated itself.

In yet another graphic incident is revealed the mockery and pretence that this war is a "war against fascism" on the part of the capitalist "democracies" any more than the last war was a crusade to defend democracy. The small powers are only counters to be played with by the giants. Their choice in the struggle is only: which great power is to be their master. It is not a question of "democracy" or "fascism", but spheres of interests, markets, raw materials for which all the capitalist powers are fighting.

After the deal with the fascist Badoglio and the royal sponsor of fascism in Italy, comes the deal with King Michael. The same ruling class is in power in Rumania which began the war as an ally of Britain and France, turned towards Germany when Hitler was winning, and participated with Hitler in the invasion of the Soviet Union. Michael was king while the gangster dictatorship persecuted the Jews, murdered trade unionists and smashed all the workers' organisations, and cruelly exploited the workers and peasants of Rumania for the benefit of the landowners and capitalists.

The war on the Soviet Union has cost the lives of 500,000 Rumanian peasants, three times that number of casualties probably, and an equal number of deaths and casualties on

the Russian side. The atrocities of the Rumanian generals and the Rumanian fascists on Soviet soil have been denounced by Stalin's mouthpieces as being as barbarous and criminal as those of the S.S. and Gestapo. Yet we notice that while pretending the ordinary German workers and peasants are responsible for the crimes of the Nazis, and holding them responsible for their misdeeds, Stalin is quite prepared to come to terms with the Rumanian gentry genuinely responsible for atrocities and crimes.

Antonescu was not removed because Stalin refused to come to an agreement with him but because Antonescu refused to come to an agreement with Stalin! If it suited the policy of the Kremlin, it is clear that Stalin would be quite prepared to come to an agreement with the Nazis themselves, as he has done in the past. Through the so-called Free German Committee, Stalin has already collaborated with Nazi generals and junkers responsible for the crimes and atrocities in Russia.

The allies and the Kremlin are trying to persuade all the Balkan satellites of Hitler to follow the example of Rumania and do a Badoglio or a Darlan, and in Churchill's elegant phrase "work their passage home." The fact that the rulers of these countries are guilty of crimes as barbarous and foul as Hitler's, weighs no more than air on the elastic consciences of these gentlemen. Here in its nakedness is revealed the aims and methods of capitalist diplomacy, which has now been adopted by Stalin as well.

To the Rumanian workers and peasants Stalin has nothing to offer except the continuation of their slavery. The Soviet Government has guaranteed that there will be no "interference" with the social and political conditions

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FROM 3 WELSH MINERS

We are members of a lodge whose prestige of militancy is second to none in the South Wales coalfield. Working in one of the pits of the Amalgamated Anthracite Company we have contracted during the course of employment the dreaded disease of Pneumoconiosis. But the pain of this deadly scourge is nothing compared to the pain we feel when we see how the collaboration policy of the S.W.M.F. leadership has shattered the faith of the miners in their organisation.

WAGES

At the end of 1943, the Executive demanded a National Minimum Wage of £6 for underground workers, and £5 10. 0 for surface workers. What we actually got was the Porter Award. £5 (less 1/6d. for domestic coal) for underground workers, and £4 10. 0 (less 1/6d.) for surface workers.

The publication of the Award was followed by a spontaneous rising of 100,000 South Wales miners, who went on strike without the support of and against their official leadership. Because of this stoppage—and only because of this—the piece-workers received a substantial rise in wages. But, as in the previous agreements (like the Greene Award) the owners did not pay a nickel. All the money came from the coal charges fund.

Mr. W. Paynter, an official of the SWMF has stated in a letter to the Western Mail that "two thirds of South Wales miners have only received 10d. a week increase since the Greene Award". We do not know just how true this is, but at any rate in the group of three pits which comprises our lodge, 400 to 500 of our 1,700 members have to exist on the minimum of £4. 10. 0 less deductions—a weekly wage of £4. 4. 0! Surely, with the coal-owners' profits soaring, these men at least deserve their original demand of £5. 10. 0—even if, for once, the coal-owners have to pay it from their own pockets!

Non-piece workers in particular have a very real grievance today. They say terrible and violent things about the "leadership", who have the nerve to talk about mining prosperity in relation to wages! Complete non-confidence in the leadership exists—especially among the surface workers—and it is not only in our area that this dissatisfaction prevails. So much for the wages question. Now let us look at the problem of production.

PRODUCTION

The bureaucratic leadership of the SWMF howls like Oliver Twist for—MORE COAL. But how does this square with our experiences actually working underground? With the change in the military situation the miners have been subjected to vigorous attacks from the coalowners. Provocation and intimidation is now freely practised. In the opinion of a lot of miners, the object of these tactics is to demonstrate the impossibility of the miners' demand for the Nationalisation of the Mining Industry. Every hitch in production is met by the management with the attitude of "I blame the workers". On the slightest pretext men are reported to the Regional Investigation Officer for impeding production. Our Pit Production Committee has sent resolutions to the Chief Fuel Officer asking that action be taken against this managerial attitude—but nothing whatever has been done. Here is a typical example.

In one pit in West Wales, the Guaranteed Weekly Wage was withheld for two weeks. Since the introduction of the guaranteed wage, it has been the task of the deputies to book every day the amount of time the colliers have been idle through no fault of their own. At the pit in question, they refused to do this because, they said, "the colliers were unwell to them in disputing their weekly guaranteed wage assessment!" The pit lost one whole shift—that is, 500 tons—because of this entirely avoidable dispute. But the workers know very well who is responsible. The dispute was eventually settled with a complete capitulation on the part of the management who admitted they had been in error. But no action was taken against them for their deliberate impeding of coal production. Yet miners are prosecuted every day for absenteeism etc., which is supposed to hold up production.

This incident shows that the present "dual" control in the mines is a farce. The coal-owners deliberately impede production in order to discredit the miners. No action is taken against them by the Ministry of Fuel and Power. As for the Pit Production Committees, the power of the workers representatives is absolutely nil.

To achieve a real harmony in the pits and prosperity for the miners, it is necessary to overthrow the present system of private ownership and establish a genuine Workers' Control of a Nationalised Mining Industry. Today we are strong enough to enforce this demand. We have no mass unemployment to drag us back. Let us reply to the howls of the miners' leaders for more production by demanding that they wage a struggle for these just demands:—

A weekly wage of £6 for underground workers—£5 10s. for surface-

A five-day week, Repeal of regulation 1A(a). Nationalisation of the Mining Industry and its operation under workers' control.

End the collaboration with the colliery owners and British Imperialism.

C.P. ON MERSEYSIDE

Liverpool, 8. 24.8.44. "Socialist Appeal", Dear Comrade, The attitude of certain so-called "Communist" Party members towards militant workers on the Merseyside, deserves some degree of exposure.

The role of Stalinism in the sphere of the international class struggle and its abject pandering to the Anglo-American imperialists, is we hope, too well known to your readers, to be commented upon in this letter. But when one is confronted with the spectacle of ordinary rank and file Stalinists acting as agent provocateurs for the bosses, and ultimately the police, it is time something was done to damp their reactionary enthusiasm.

A short while ago, during a dinner hour meeting held by the Stalinists on the Liverpool Dock Road, I decided to have a go at one of the speakers during question time. My first question, which dealt with the Stalin-Hitler non-aggression pact was not answered to my satisfaction, nor apparently to that of a large section of the audience. On trying to further question the speaker on the subject of a "stooge" in the audience inquired of the speaker whether I was on his "list". The speaker knew me and the answer was in the affirmative.

This little "incident" was characteristic of the Stalinist treachery during the Spanish Civil War. Members of the Revolutionary Communist Party have a special duty to perform in exposing these "stool-pigeons" to the misled rank and file who in joining the "Communist" Party believe it to be a genuine communist organisation.

Congratulations on the "Socialist Appeal". It is an excellent job of work. May the circulation soar.

Yours fraternally, "A Liverpool Docker."

"DEMOCRATIC" DISCUSSION IN C.P. MEETINGS

Waterloo, Liverpool 22.

"Socialist Appeal"

Dear Comrade,

A little item which might interest the "Socialist Appeal" is that the Birkenhead C.P. is holding in Wallasey a series of meetings on the decisions of the Teheran Conference. The fact that no-one has any idea of what has actually been decided on at Teheran (apart from the unfortunate Poles in Warsaw) seems to be no bar to discussing the decisions.

Two comrades attended the first lecture of the series, and asked a few questions regarding the role of the Stalinists nationally and internationally.

When the time came for the next meeting one comrade walked, or was about to walk, in when he was stopped at the door by a local leading Stalinist who drew his attention to a large notice fastened to the door which read: "The C.P. Reserve the right to refuse admission."

The Stalinist doorkeeper volunteered the information that no Trotskyists would be allowed to attend the discussion.

So the air of secrecy surrounding the discussions at Teheran is being joyfully adhered to by the C.P. in Wallasey!

Paternal greeting, B.C.

Glass House Conditions

We print below a copy of the letter circulated to Members of Parliament by the wife of a British soldier, Dvr. John Williams, who is serving a totally unjustified sentence of six months' detention. The conditions described here—fully substantiated by other victims—blast wide open the pretence that conditions are basically improved after the enquiry into the death of Rifleman Clayton, which shocked the nation over a year ago.

From the Labour movement must come a determined struggle on behalf of the workers in uniform. Many M.P.'s claim to be the "friends of the serving man and his family." It will be a real test of their sincerity to see which M.P.'s are, in fact, prepared to raise this issue and fight to remove these barbaric institutions.

19, Quinton Parade, Cheylesmore, Coventry. 7th August, 1944.

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you in order to bring to your notice some idea of the actual conditions under which British soldiers detained in detention camps are forced to exist. I hope that after reading this letter you will be moved to give this matter as great a degree of publicity as you can and that you will exert whatever influence you possess in an endeavour to ameliorate the unhappy lot of the prisoners.

My husband, Driver J. Williams, Service No. 14529500, applied for compassionate leave at the time of the birth of my second child. He was granted leave for 7 days, but as this was inadequate, we appealed for an extension of a further three weeks as I expected to be in hospital for two weeks at least and there was nobody to take care of the first child. This request was refused and on the 4th June the police called to arrest my husband. Since he had the two year old child on his hands and nobody to whom he could entrust her, he left the house and so avoided arrest. When at length the time came for me to leave the hospital he visited me to make arrangements for my return home and was arrested.



John Williams.

After a court-martial lasting three days, during which my husband conducted his own defence, he was finally sentenced to four months' detention, a sentence which I learned later was to be served in Darland detention camp, Gillingham, Kent. This, you will doubtless recall, was the camp at which the unfortunate Private Clayton died in rather questionable circumstances. I have since received a letter from my husband describing the conditions in which the prisoners are forced to exist and which merit the widest exposure. Permit me to quote from this letter:—

"... Since Clayton's death these people have soft peddled a lot as far as open brutality is concerned. Though the place is still run by a gang who bully and drive the men like slaves. While as I say open brutality is no longer practised, nevertheless they practice tricks which have the same aim, which is to humiliate, crush and degrade the men. For instance, the dinners never vary. They consist of potatoes (not washed or peeled), lumped with cooked rice and inedible cabbage—all slapped on a plate, and a bowl of so-called 'soup'. This dinner never varies; there is never a

sweet, unless the rice which is lumped with the potatoes is supposed to be the 'sweet'. In the morning they dish out a plate of unsweetened porridge, a lump of bread and butter and some undrinkable 'cocoa' which has neither milk or sugar in it. Then at dinner time the dinner I have described, and at tea time a lump of bread, 4 ozs. and butter with unsweetened tea. This diet—hopeless, monotonous swill, has been devised by these scoundrels in order to smash the men's morale. You can imagine hungry men all the time drilling and rushing about, having to live on this heartbreaking swill. As I say, it never alters day in and day out. Another instance of the devilish tricks they perpetrate upon the men is that one razor blade has to last one man twelve days, this with cold water for shaving. If the men break the blades trying to sharpen them they lose two days remission which means they come out two days later than they would have done.

Once again, on a Sunday the men do not do the normal drill etc. They are brought out for exercise and this is turned into torture by the guards. In the morning the men spend two hours continuous marching, never stopping, up and down the huge square. In the afternoon they are marching continuously round this huge place for another two hours. In effect the "exercise" is turned into a gruelling punishment. Further we have one wash day and bath day every week. On this day we get one piece of ersatz soap 2 1/2 x 2 x 1/4 in. thick. With this you are to wash one shirt, one pair of pants, one pair of socks, denim trousers and a towel. Incidentally to wash these articles two men share one bucketful of hot water—no more. That is, ten articles are washed in a bucketful of water. Then having washed your clothes with this piece of soap, you have to bath in a bowlful of water and this is supposed to last you all the week and yet they will not allow the men to have proper washing soap sent in from outside...

"... I would like to bring to the notice of Members of Parliament details of some of the savage sentences imposed upon youths of twenty-one years of two years sentences for one and two days absences... The air is often tense with hatred against the guards, though of course the men tolerate otherwise intolerable insults in order to avoid reprisals such as bread and water punishments and loss of remission—even so there are brave men who fight just the same, a number are usually on hunger strike... I forgot to mention that they make us bath in the water bowls in the wash-houses. These bowls come up to our waists. We all stand around naked on a cold wet concrete floor, trying to push in somewhere, and we bathe by lifting our legs into the bowl one at a time. They can't kick you in the teeth these days so they indulge in pleasantries like these. Another trick is to wake you up in the middle of the night, every night, and make us dress under the pretext that it is part of ARP against rockets etc., but the whole place is kept locked up, and if the place was hit it would be too late to do anything... I am greatly encouraged to receive the letters that you sent, the pressure is terrific of course. I try to act like a man without running my head into a wall. I have not clashed with them, but if I do I will go the whole hog and that means real punishment..."

When reading these extracts from my husband's letter I would urge you to remember that these prisoners are guilty of no heinous crime or grave offences. Surely, sir, that such conditions exist and are tolerated is a matter calling for urgent redress. It is with this object that I have written you and would be glad if you were able to give this matter your earnest consideration. I would be glad to supply you with any further particulars should you require them.

Yours sincerely, (signed) Sheila Williams.

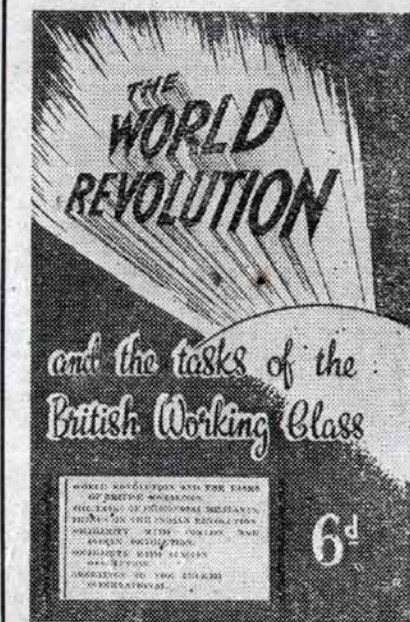
A.E.U. VIGILANCE COMMITTEE FORMED

Concern is being felt among South London A.E.U. branches over recent developments inside the union.

Many members were worried by the action of the Executive Council in debaring Bro. Armstrong from holding office after he had taken a militant stand during the Belfast Shipyards dispute. Following this, another prominent member who has taken up a militant attitude, Bro. Hallett, has been removed from office as South London District Secretary, after having been advised by Executive Council to take up office, on the grounds that there were "irregularities" in the ballot for this office.

These South London branches have formed a "Vigilance Committee" and at a Special Meeting attended by delegates from Deptford, Battersea, Wandsworth, Plumstead, Wimbledon, and Dulwich, discussed the position of Bro. Hallett.

It was pointed out that the "irregularity" in the ballot was that one member (a supporter incidentally of Bro. Hallett's opponent) had voted for another branch member by proxy, and that this only came to light after Bro. Hallett had been declared elected to office. In view of this the suspicion of positive "frame-up" had to be con-



sidered. In order that any such suggestion should be overcome, and so that an official should not be elected on a minority vote, a new ballot should be conducted.

Under Rule 2 it is stated that "if an official is removed by death or otherwise" a new ballot must take place.

The committee drew up a resolution to be moved at the branches as follows:—

"This branch, having heard of the action of the Executive Council in cancelling the vote of Deptford 2 Branch are of the opinion that this action which removed Bro. Hallett from the position of District Secretary, was unwarranted. It is said that members cast votes by proxy on behalf of Bro. Hill and the action of the E.C. has put this Bro. into office. This branch therefore calls upon E.C. to allow Deptford 2 to take the vote again in a constitutional manner in accordance with rule 2, clause 2 last paragraph: 'That any official removed by death or otherwise, another election shall take place'. This would mean a new ballot being taken and would be fair to the membership and the candidates."

The Vigilance Committee is continuing its work, in spite of difficulties created by the Flying Bombs, and is taking steps to have rectified the contradiction in rule 2.

BREAK THE COALITION!

Labour to Power

on the following Programme

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:—

- Industrial and Economic Policy. 1. Nationalisation of the land, mines, banks, transport and all big industry without compensation, as the prerequisite for a planned economy and the only means of ensuring full employment with adequate standards of living for the workers, and the operation of the means of production under control of workers committees. 2. Confiscation of all war profits, all company books to be open for trade union inspection, control of production through workers' committees to end the chaos and mismanagement. 3. Distribution of food, clothes and other consumer commodities under the control of committees of workers elected from the Co-ops, distributive trades, factories, housewives' committees, and small shopkeepers, and allocation of housing under the control of tenants' committees. 4. A rising scale of wages to meet the increased cost of living with a guaranteed minimum; the rate for the job; and industrial rates for all members of the armed forces.

Democratic Demands 5. Repeal of the Essential Works Order, the Emergency Powers Act and all other anti-working class and strike-breaking legislation.

6. Full electoral and democratic rights for all persons from the age of 18 years. Full democratic and political rights for the men and women in uniform.

7. Immediate freedom and unconditional independence for India, Ireland and all the colonies of Britain; immediate withdrawal of British armed forces from these countries; full economic and military assistance to the Indian and colonial peoples to maintain their independence against all imperialist attack.

Military Policy 8. Clear out the reactionary, pro-fascist, and anti-labour officer caste in the armed forces and Home Guard; election of officers by the ranks.

9. Establishment of military schools by the Trade Unions at the expense of the state for the training of workers' officers; arming of the workers under the control of workers' committees elected in the factories, unions and in the streets for the defence of the democratic rights of the workers from reactionary attacks by the enemies of the working class at home and abroad.

International Policy 10. Against race hatred and discrimination of all forms (Vansittartism, Anti-Semitism, and the Colour Bar); for the fraternisation and co-operation of workers and soldiers of all countries.

11. Unconditional defence of the Soviet Union against all imperialist powers; despatch of arms, food and essential materials to the Soviet Union under the control of the Trade Unions and factory committees.

12. A Socialist appeal to the workers of Germany, Europe, Japan, and the rest of the world, on the basis of this programme in Britain, to join the socialist struggle against Nazism, Fascism and all forms of capitalist oppression and for a Socialist United States of Europe and a Federation of Asiatic Soviet Socialist Republics.

"Socialist Appeal" Fighting Fund

The working class press has always had great difficulty in keeping going financially. We have not got the big advertising revenue of the Capitalist press or the "Million sales" to offset the heavy costs of production.

The "Socialist Appeal" relies on the solidarity of the workers who, in steadily increasing numbers, begin to realise that our paper reflects their interests.

In the present difficult times we ask our readers to co-operate with the Party in order to maintain our Press. You can help in many ways, for instance:—

- 1. Pass the "S.A." around and get fresh readers. 2. Pay for your copy promptly and see that others do the same. 3. If you are a subscriber or agent—clear your account periodically. (We cannot afford a big staff of book-keepers to keep sending reminders). 4. Make a sacrifice—give, collect and send in donations to our "Fighting Fund". We need an extra £50 per month to keep things steady.

The "Socialist Appeal" has no other purpose than to serve the interests of the working class in their struggle for emancipation.

KEEP THE PRESS GOING! ASK FOR COLLECTING CARDS! Business Manager.

VICTORY MEETINGS National Tour of Released Comrades

SOUTH WALES. Anti-Labour Laws Victims' Defence Committee.

Public Meeting, Miners' Hall, Merthyr. Release of Haston, Tearse and Lee and its significance to the working class.

Demand the repeal of the Trade Disputes Act and Regulation 1A(a). Speakers: Rhys Davies, M.P., Jock Haston, General Secretary, Revolutionary Communist Party. Sunday, October 1st, 1944 at 7 p.m.

EDINBURGH. Revolutionary Communist Party, Edinburgh Branch.

Public Meeting. The release of the Trotskyists and the victory for the working class. Melbourne Hall, Edinburgh. October 15th, 1944, at 7 p.m.

Speakers: Jock Haston, Roy Tearse

LIVERPOOL. Anti-Labour Laws Victims' Defence Committee.

The release of Haston, Tearse and Lee and its significance to the working class.

Speakers: Rhys Davies, M.P., S. Silverman, M.P., Jock Haston, R.C.P., Bill Davy, Tyne Apprentice leader. Engineer's Hall, Liverpool. September 24th, 1944 at 7 p.m.

GLASGOW. Anti-Labour Laws' Victims Defence Committee.

Meeting at St. Andrews Halls, Sunday, 17th September at 7 p.m.

Speakers: Roy Tearse, Heaton Lee, Jock Haston. The Release of the Three and Its Meaning

ABERDEEN. Anti-Labour Laws Victims' Defence Committee.

Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 21st 1944. Watch for the time and place in the next issue.

Speakers: Jock Haston and Roy Tearse.

NOTTINGHAM. Anti-Labour Laws Victims' Defence Committee.

Public Meeting, Sunday, 8th October. Speakers: Jock Haston, Roy Tearse.

The Release of the Three and its meaning for the workers.

Meetings will also be held in London, Coventry, Birmingham, etc.

WORKERS! RALLY TO THE MEETING IN YOUR DISTRICT

SOCIALIST APPEAL

Organ of the Revolutionary Communist Party, British Section of the Fourth International. 256 HARROW ROAD, LONDON, W.2. Phone: CUN 2528. EDITOR: E. Grant. BUSINESS MANAGER: J. Graham.

EDITORIAL

Five Years of War!

Five years of war! — Five years of unparalleled destruction, slaughter, starvation and disease — of blood, sweat and tears. The massacre of the masses, the impoverishment of the toilers of the world. Meanwhile the enriching of the few has proceeded apace.

These are the fruits of the social system, rotten with decay. Five years of war! Over the bones of the masses the pendulum swings back. Nazism—yesterday triumphant, brutal, boastful, is shattered to-day. Its Far Eastern Ally trembles at the writing on the wall.

No need to tell the organised workers of the world that the victory of the forces of Nazism would have led to world-wide reaction and an epoch of human decay.

Victory is for the Anglo-American "democracies" and for Stalinism—but democracy is not ensured. No less surely than the Nazis, will their programme lead to an epoch of social decay. Stalin appeals, not to the German proletariat but to the German Generals; Churchill and Roosevelt to the Quisling Kings and "noble" families, flunkies of the capitalist class.

The war of 1914-1918 was called the "war to end wars". But the Versailles Treaty created by the victors led direct to the Second World War. And to-day, openly the prospective victors promise to impose a super-Versailles on Germany which in turn must inevitably lead to a third world blood bath. Already behind the scenes, the carve up of all Europe is almost completed. Cynical, secret diplomatic horse deals are being negotiated behind the backs of the working classes of the world in which Cain Stalin plays his part.

In preparation for the "peace" a hate campaign is under way in the capitalist and Stalinist press unequalled in this war. The criminal characteristics of Nazism are painted as the character of the German people as a whole.

Race and social oppression, the destruction of Labour's rights—these are not peculiar to the fascists. In "democratic" Africa, Churchill and Smuts oppress the black masses as viciously as Hitler does the Jews. In America the Ghetto of the Nazis finds parallel in the Ghettos of the negroes. In India, 400,000,000 people are starved and denied the most elementary democratic rights by the cynical "democratic" British capitalists. But this foul oppression is no more characteristic of the British masses than are the foul deeds of the Nazis, a characteristic of the German workers and peasants.

Those who create illusions in the programme of Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin either do not understand the lessons of history, or in the case of the workers' leaders, are out and out traitors to the working class.

Capitalism is an outlived social system, in its fascist or democratic political form. Only class victories in Europe can lead to a new future for humanity. The task of genuine leaders of the working class is to break through the hate campaign against the German people, demonstrate a class solidarity with the German working class, and fraternise with the defeated German soldiers.

In five years of war, the Fourth International has consistently striven to break through the barriers of censorship to bring the message of international socialism to the masses of the world.

Against the new Versailles of Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin, the programme of the Fourth International is for the Socialist United States of Europe, and a socialist world.

TROTSKY MEMORIAL MEETING

On August 21st 1944, fourth anniversary of the assassination of Leon Trotsky, a packed meeting of London workers was held at the Conway Hall to pay tribute to his memory and to the strength of the ideas with which he armed the revolutionary vanguard of the working class. The meeting was held despite the interruption of the drone of buzz-bombs overhead, as if to make open challenge on behalf of the Old Man to these latest foul excesses of the decaying Imperialist system against which he fought for over 40 years. On the platform were comrades David James, Ajit Roy, Millie Lee and Ted Grant, the chair being ably taken by comrade Gerry Healy. Comrade James of the London District Committee dealt with Trotsky's struggle against the betrayals of Stalinism. Comrade Roy dealt with Trotsky and the colonial workers. While Comrade Lee gave conclusive proof of the responsibility of Stalin's G.P.U. murder machine, for the

assassination of the Old Man and again warned the working class against this terrorist and monstrous weapon of the Soviet bureaucracy. Comrade Grant dealt with Trotsky's monumental contributions to Marxian theory, the theory of Permanent Revolution; the analysis of the German defeat of 1923, the growth of Stalinism, the nature of Fascism, as well as his searching analysis of every victory and defeat of the working class over the last decades. But Trotsky's greatest contribution to the world working class was the founding of the Fourth International. The hall was decorated with revolutionary slogans and banners. A collection produced £12, while sales of our literature went well. In many ways this was the most enthusiastic and successful Trotsky Memorial meeting held in London, with an audience composed mainly of sympathisers and contacts. After the meeting a group of worker-members of the Communist Party made application to join the R.C.P. as they were disgusted with the crawling policy of Stalinism and looked to the Trotskyists as the continuers of the old revolutionary traditions of the Communist International. F. W.

STALINIST QUISLINGS IN INDIA

By M. Naidu

India is facing a second famine. Already epidemics resulting from dreadful sanitary conditions and malnutrition are taking a heavy toll. Inflation and mounting prices have forced down the standards of living to sub-human levels. Unable to bear their monstrous conditions, in an attempt to maintain even the low standards from falling lower, the workers have repeatedly resorted to strikes.

The present chaos and misery are the result of two hundred years of exploitation by British Imperialism. It is to overthrow British Imperialism, the root cause of hunger and starvation in India, that the Indian masses waged a struggle in 1942. All this is elementary A.B.C. to serious Socialist workers all over the world. But it is important to restate them, because a document issued by the Indian C.P. which has just reached us, makes no mention of these facts. The document is called Working Class and National Defence. Submitted by B. T. Ranadive and adopted by the Congress of the Communist Party of India on 28th May, 1943.

The British Workers have experienced the strike-breaking pro-boss class role of the C.P. The American workers have seen the dissolution of the C.P., and heard Browder advocating a stabilisation of Capitalism in the post-war period. But no-where has the supreme cynicism on the part of C.P. been so manifest, alongside the lowest depths of misery to which the workers have been reduced, as in India. Ranadive, the renegade, starts off with an accurate description of what is taking place in India:

"There were strikes for food and for dearness allowances. There were strikes in railway workshops producing for war; in textile factories, in engineering shops, working for war; in dockyards and godyards in the train services. Workers in backward industries on strike; workers in organised industries on strike."

What did the Communist Party of India do? Did it lead the workers to a victorious end? Did it inspire the workers with a will to power? Ranadive answers: "We prevented strikes from spreading or intervened in spontaneous strikes and speedily settled them."

Let any one may misunderstand what this "intervention" meant he adds later: "The workers were per-

suaded to go back without any change for the better."

This energetic intervention of the C.P., it seems, is not appreciated by the workers. They had genuine grievances. They had a bitter experience in the past. Persuasion of the C.P. through its paid propagandists and its Government rag "Peoples War", made no impression on the workers. Ranadive himself admits:

"Consider his condition of work which are hellish to-day. Consider his past experience which has only shown that every advance made in his skill has been exploited by the employers; that nothing is to be secured from employers without a fight; that Government is an alien government which suppresses his nation, his people and his rights."

The result is that the C.P. could not prevent strikes. Ranadive is quite self-critical. This state of affairs he attributes to a failure of the Communist Party. The source of this failure is so breath-taking that his words are worth quoting.

"We failed to whip up anti-Japanese hatred, failed to whip up anti-fascist hatred, even though a bald account of the atrocities committed by the Axis Powers would have roused the hatred of any man."

Leaving aside the stupid "anti-Japanese" chauvinism without an attempt to explain the difference between the capitalist and military caste, and the masses of Japan—the workers of Bombay, Sholapur and Cawnpore may very well ask: why should we look beyond the borders of India for "atrocities"? Amritsar is not somewhere in Europe occupied by Germany, or in those parts of Asia occupied by Japan. The very benevolent British Imperialists whom you want us to support, shot down unarmed people like dogs. We have witnessed the atrocities of Sholapur and Chittagong. A Whipping Act is still in force. Villages have been razed to the ground; witness the village of Chimur. Hostages have been shot. Bombs are dropped from the air and the machine gunning of unarmed crowds is a common occurrence. Why not a word of protest against these? This C.P. hack

has no word of protest against the atrocities committed by British Imperialism in a pamphlet of 34 pages, produced to whip up support for British Imperialism.

Apparently the members of the Indian C.P. itself could not grasp the full significance of this ban on strikes. Some of them felt that, after all, increased production should result in increased wages. Vice versa, higher wages and better conditions would increase production. This deviation from the Party line of unconditional support to the bosses and the British Imperialists receives an admonition from Ranadive:

"Gradually, step by step, economic demands are put forward as conditions of increasing production. Not that our comrades crudely formulate them as conditions... The result is that economic demands do operate as conditions."

"This," he concludes sternly, "is not patriotism; it is the same wrong policy of the national leadership, which landed our country in this crisis."

For the crisis, economic, political and social, the responsibility is placed on the shoulders of the national leaders of Congress. Not a word about British Imperialism and its exploitation of India. Not a mention of the deliberate policy of inflation and exports of foodstuffs resulting in mass hunger and millions of deaths from starvation. Don't even ask for increased wages for intensified exploitation resulting in greater production; this is the counsel of betrayal that Ranadive offers.

Some of the members of the C.P., some of the old militants dazed by this policy, seemed to have expressed dissatisfaction with giving up the right to strike. Even though strikes are banned, can't we keep it as a last reserve weapon, as an instrument of threat against the boss class? Ranadive thinks of every cause which might contain the danger of strike and proceeds sternly:

"They (Party members) think that by banning strikes we are removing our only sanction to enforce economic demands. They would like at least the threat of a strike to be kept to ward production for ransom." Here is a gem of wisdom as a reply to these Party members.

"When the role of every strike, no matter what its cause, is to stop production why should there be such confusion?"

Of course, none of these pep talks to Party members stop the strikes. The Indian workers have struggled heroically in the past and will continue to do so. Ranadive, having failed in his mission to bolster up the rotten structure of British Imperialism, turns sternly to the Indian workers and says it is necessary to issue:

"A clear warning to the workers that immediate demands cannot be won through strikes; that strikes only disrupt their unity and strength and make them helpless before the employers and bureaucracy; a straight appeal to them in the name of the soldiers, their brothers..." (more rhetoric not worth quoting).

Ranadive does not forget to besmirch the heroic masses who attempted to deal a death blow to British Imperialism in 1942. More than 15,000 of them were shot in a few days. Thousands of them were whipped and flung into the concentration camps. He reserves his choice adjectives for them as "the Fifth Column," "the advanced guard of the Japanese militarists."

"On the political front we defeated the fifth column and foiled its game of sabotage and anarchy!"

No wonder the enraged workers burnt down the C.P. offices and pelted stones at their speakers and broke up their meetings. No wonder some of their leaders were murdered by the workers in Bengal where the C.P. concluded an agreement with the riff-raff to create strike-breaking, black-leg organisations.

In the coming period, the Indian masses will face stern struggles. In the last twenty-five years, repeatedly, they have displayed magnificent courage and fighting qualities. Once again in the near future they will prepare to overthrow the monstrous regime of Imperialism which reduces them to physical starvation, mental stagnation, and spiritual degradation. In those struggles, these renegades who are agents of the enemy will be thrust into the dust heap of history. In the meanwhile, closing their ranks, with a fighting programme, purging the movement of such treacherous elements, they should go forward, ready for future battles. The Indian Bolshevik-Leninists, Indian section of the Fourth International, operating illegally, persecuted by British imperialism, present such a fighting programme.

INTERNATIONAL NOTES

By Frank Ward

URUGUAY.

From two South American Republics, Uruguay and Paraguay, come reports of sweeping Labour struggles and of particular significance to members and sympathisers of the R.C.P.—also reports of the active participation in these struggles by the national sections of the Fourth International. These reports show not only the growing resistance of the Latin American workers to the dictators and quislings of Wall-Street, but are also indicative of the growing fear amongst the ruling classes of the whole world, at the spread of Trotskyist influence in the working class movement.

A campaign of fierce attacks and slanders led by the Minister of the Interior has been launched against the Uruguayan Trotskyists and against the Fourth International as a whole—making particular reference to the police raids on the British section, the R.C.P.

The attack was launched in the Chamber of Deputies during the four day debate on the reactionary anti-labour policy of the Government in recent strikes. There are many striking resemblances to the method which Ernest Bevin used in this country to introduce anti-Labour measures.

There had been a strike in the National Frigorifico, the large Swift meat-packing plant. However, instead of introducing legislation equivalent to Bevin's reactionary IA(a), the Government took the step of extending by decree, the status of a "public service" to this undertaking, with the implied threat of doing this in every strike. Under the Penal Code, striking in any "public service" becomes a criminal offence punishable with 3 to 18 months imprisonment. Thus as with IA(a) here almost all strikes become potentially illegal. The only "left" elements to support this reactionary measure were the two Stalinist deputies.

During the debate, early last June, the decree was attacked by the Social-Democrat, Cardozo who condemned it as a reactionary attack on the elementary democratic rights of the workers.

The Minister of the Interior led off a violent attack on the Trotskyists which in its content is identical with that of Bevin's speech in the House of Commons.

Carefully clearing the Uruguayan Stalinists and reformists of responsibility—they had been slavishly carrying out their international policy of betrayal of the workers and support for the bosses)—the Minister of the Interior tried to place the responsibility for the strike movement almost exclusively on the Trotskyists making it an attack on the whole Fourth International.

"This group which has appeared in our country," the Minister declared, "is not restricted to Uruguay. It has appeared simultaneously in Great Brit-

ain, the United States, South Africa and our country."

He then referred to the police raids and arrests of the comrades of the R.C.P., and lyingly stated that the British Police "were able to establish the existence of an organisation to instigate strikes in order to impede the second front of the Allied Nations..."

The victory of our struggle here and the release of our comrades is a stinging reply to the slanders of the reactionaries not only at home but in far away Uruguay!

The Minister then excitedly brandished copies of the Uruguayan Trotskyist paper "Contra la Corriente" (Against the Stream) and shouted: "These people are amongst us. They say that this is actually an Imperialist war; that the working class must not believe in the vote!"

Yes we do say that this is an imperialist war, and in so doing we strip the false mask of "democratic" and "freedom-loving" phrases from the rapacious Allied Imperialists and their no less rapacious hangers-on. It is for speaking the truth that the Trotskyists, as the most vigilant defenders of working class rights, are being attacked by the Uruguayan ruling class. Their attempt to strike at the ideas and cadres of the world revolutionary movement must be met with determined resistance by the workers of Uruguay and the whole world.

ARRESTED IN ALGERIA.

ALGERIA, May 31—A number of Jewish refugees from Austria have been arrested in Algeria and Morocco for organizing Trotskyist cells in co-operation with the Arabs, in various localities.

(From special dispatch to the "Jewish Morning Journal.")

GERMANY.

According to the "New York Times" "Following earlier reports of organised Communist activity in Germany, stories of the first underground Communist convention 'somewhere in Germany' have been heard."

"The convention's aim was to establish a Communist trade union central body. This is reported to have been done. Communist 'cells' have been formed in many German industrial centres... the German Communists are said to be internationalists, or as they would be called in Moscow, Trotskyists."

FRANCE

In a survey of underground papers published in Nazi-occupied France, a writer in the "New Yorker" includes a reference to "a little sheet called 'Le Soviet', which carries at its masthead the line 'Long Live Trotsky and Lenin! Down with Stalin, grave-digger of the Third International!'"

"Le Soviet" has been appearing at more or less regular intervals during the past two years, perhaps longer. It is the organ of the Parti Ouvrier Internationaliste (Workers' Internationalist Party), French section of the Fourth International.

PARAGUAY.

Early this year Paraguay was paralysed by a general strike of the workers in industry, transport and public utilities. The workers were demanding the restoration of democratic rights, the removal of fascists from public office, restoration of the right to strike, repeal of a decree disbanding their trade unions and for wage increases to meet the soaring cost of living. By using troops to establish a brutal reign of terror the Government defeated the workers after a four week struggle. No word of the strike was reported in the "free" press of the Allies. Paraguay with a population of little more than one million, entered the "democratic" camp of the competing Imperialists and broke relations with the Axis in January 1942. To show its love for "democracy" the reactionary dictatorship of Moringo, a puppet Government of Wall Street, ordered the disbandment of the trade unions and the suppression of all other democratic rights.

On February 14th last, the workers fought back against these reactionary decrees and against the starvation level at which wages were being kept.

have demonstrated a spirit which will lead ultimately to the removal of the puppet-dictator-quisling of Wall Street from the backs of the South American workers and peasants.

All transport was halted—printing workers struck; industry was at a standstill.

Despite magnificent solidarity the workers were eventually beaten back to work some three to four weeks later. The use of troops, the threats of punitive action against strikers' wives and the arresting and herding into concentration camps of more than 600 workers and union officials—and hunger, eventually defeated the Paraguayan working class.

The American "Militant" reports on the activities of the Paraguayan section of the Fourth International in this struggle:

"During the strike, members... issued several leaflets and participated as delegates in the strike committees at Asuncion and Pilar. Two members of the International Communists of Germany, now in exile, were arrested while collecting contributions for the strike fund."

The ruling class of Paraguay may congratulate themselves on having secured a victory over the workers—but the rising tide of revolt against Allied and Axis Imperialists will make their victory empty and uneasy. By the magnificent solidarity in this general strike the Paraguayan workers have demonstrated a spirit which will

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By V. SASTRY

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