

"Workers of All Lands Unite!"

SOCIALIST APPEAL

ORGAN OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST PARTY, FOURTH INTERNATIONAL.

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TWOPENCE

End of HITLER —But Not of Fascism

THREE DAYS AFTER THE ITALIAN WORKERS VENTED YEARS OF PILED UP HATRED ON MUSSOLINI AND HIS ACCOMPLICES, THE DEATH OF HITLER IS REPORTED.

This may or may not be true. But of one thing we can be sure: If the German workers could have laid hands on Hitler, his end would have been as violent, as bloody and ignominious as Mussolini's was.

An Italian working woman shot Mussolini five times—once for each of her five dead sons. Thousands upon thousands of German workers have that same bitter memory of their children and friends murdered, tortured, and broken by the Hitler regime.

The capitalist press is hypocritically rejoicing. Let the workers not be deceived. These papers, the "Daily Mail" and others are today publishing editorials on "The End of a Tyrant". Yesterday these same papers applauded and hailed the destruction of the working class organisations by the thugs of Mussolini and Hitler. Then they described Hitler as "wrestling for the soul of Germany."

The capitalist papers are owned by the same ruling class, which, terrified at the spectre of a workers' revolution in Germany and Italy, rushed

in those countries to assist in the building of the fascist thugs to smash the working class organisations.

The death of Mussolini and Hitler does not signify the death of fascism and reaction. So long as capitalism lives, it bears the seeds of fascism within it. The capitalist class of Britain and America will not hesitate to use more terrible, more brutal and savage means to destroy the workers' revolution than the fascists. They will try to deceive the masses with "democratic" pretences so long as they can. And if this fails they will organise a new and more terrible fascist regime than even Hitler's and Mussolini's.

Only the workers, building a mighty army of the working class united in its aim of destroying capitalism and taking power in its hands, can succeed in eliminating fascism from the face of the earth. This task is the workers' task.

It will be accomplished under the leadership of the Fourth International.

JOCK HASTON'S ELECTION ADDRESS TO THE WORKERS OF NEATH

Working Men and Women of Neath,

You, are about to elect a new M.P. to represent you in the House of Commons. This election, taking place at the end of the war against Germany, is probably THE most important of the war.

For the first time a Labour-Tory coalition candidate is being opposed by a revolutionary communist. Many workers have the illusion that the "Labour" candidate is a workers representative. But this is not so. He is a candidate of the Labour-Tory Coalition Government. He does not stand in this election as an independent representative of the working class but as a stooge for Churchill.

Are you in favour of the present coalition of the Labour leaders with Churchill and the other reactionary Tory-Liberal politicians of the capitalist class? Or are you for the end of this vile and bloody coalition and for the whole working class being mobilised for a great struggle to destroy capitalism and bring about a communist world? These are the issues at stake in this election.

The answer which you will give will profoundly affect the workers of the rest of Britain in the next few months.

A WAR FOR PROFITS — NOT FOR DEMOCRACY

The capitalists, assisted by the Labour leaders have told us it was a war for "democracy and against fascism." The Labour leaders have entered the coalition and acted as agents and lackeys of the capitalists on this pretext.

We Revolutionary Communists say that it has not been a war for democracy. We say to the workers that it has been, from beginning to end, a war for profits on the part of the capitalist class who direct and control the war. Life and Labour has been conscripted. The workers have given all. But property has not been conscripted. The capitalists have been free to exploit the conscripted workers and make great profits and fortunes out of the war.

Not one single wage concession has been granted to the workers without a struggle. Whenever the workers were finally forced to strike after months of negotiations the boss class have vilified the workers, and the Labour and trade union leaders have helped them.

In India, and the other colonies the war has not brought freedom and democracy; it has brought nothing but poverty, brutality and starvation. The most elementary democratic rights are denied to the colonial people who are held down by a terror as brutal as Hitler's terror. Five million Indian people died as the result of the great famine brought about by British imperialist misrule.

REACTION SUPPORTED ABROAD

In "liberated" Europe the imperialist character of the war has been clearly shown. In foreign policy every reactionary force has received the support of Churchill and the coalition. It is not the workers, trade unionists, socialists and communists that the Tory-Labour Coalition Government aids. It is those miserable and greedy quislings who aided the "foreign enemy" against their own people at the eleventh hour.

It was with Darlan, Badoglio, King Victor, Plaštiras—and similar reactionaries and quislings that they treated. It was these people, and their successors whom they have armed and supported against the European working classes.

In Greece the anti-Labour policy of Churchill and his government was most glaringly revealed. It is estimated that ten times more British troops were killed and wounded in the fighting to destroy the revolutionary Greek workers and peasants, than in the fight to drive the Germans out of Greece.

The government is even now preparing to assist, by all possible means, the return of the reactionary king to the Greek throne—the same king who in 1936 called the dictator Metaxas to power to suppress the Greek Trade Unions and Labour movement.

And the workers must never forget that the Labour leaders fully subscribed to Churchill's policy of suppressing the Greek workers; they actively aided him—and boasted of this aid in carrying out his counter-revolutionary policy of intervention.

SOLIDARITY WITH THE GERMAN WORKERS — WORKERS OF ALL LANDS UNITE!

Now that Germany has been defeated, a flood of atrocity stories has been poured forth by the Government through the capitalist press. The principal reason for this is to arouse a hatred for the German working class, in case of a communist revolution in Germany.

Yes, the Nazis have committed (Continued on page 4.)



Hitler as "wrestling for the soul of Germany."

The capitalist papers are owned by the same ruling class, which, terrified at the spectre of a workers' revolution in Germany and Italy, rushed financial aid to their brother exploiters

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Grand Internationalist Rally in Support of Jock Haston, Sunday, 12th May, 6 p.m., Gwynn Hall, Neath

750 Workers Attend Jock Haston Meeting

R.C.P. Draws Largest Audience in Campaign



BOB CONDON
Miners' Agent
Cannock Chase.

750 workers crowded into the Gwynn Hall, Neath, to hear the case of the Revolutionary Communist Party held on Sunday, April 29th. This was the biggest meeting of the election campaign, the attendance being more than at both the Labour Party and Communist Party meetings combined. Indeed it was the largest meeting to be held in the district for many years.

The workers of the Neath division, who had come in from the valleys all round, listened with keen interest to the clear revolutionary communist case.

D. J. Williams accused us the previous night at a meeting held in the same hall (attended by 300) of appealing only to the base and reckless elements of the working class. But the questions and discussion showed that the workers there assembled were the most class conscious and advanced in the district.

The three speakers at the meeting were Ted Grant, Editor of "Socialist Appeal", Bob Condon, Miners Agent Cannock Chase, and ex-International Brigadier, also well known for his articles in "Reynolds News", and Jock Haston, the Revolutionary Communist Candidate. John Lawrence, R.C.P. Organiser for Wales, was in the Chair.

When the Chairman made reference to that fact that the first Labour M.P. to be sent to the House of Commons by the Welsh workers was the Scotsman, Kier Hardie, and he hoped that the workers of Neath would carry on the tradition, there was loud and enthusiastic applause.

Ted Grant spoke on the need for a working class newspaper, which voiced the needs of the working class and not of the capitalist class. He compared the policy of the "Socialist Appeal", which had consistently defended the interests of the workers, with the policy of the "Daily Worker", the "Herald", which had stood on the side of the class enemy.

Bob Condon deals with the problems of the miners and the fake promises of the government. He pointed to the great struggles that would take place after the war and the only policy which would lead the workers to success—the policy of the Revolutionary Communist Party and the Fourth International.

Jock Haston gave a brilliant speech on the role of the Trade Unions and Labour leaders and their support for the Tories in the so-called "war for democracy." "We have opposed this war since the beginning," he said. "This is a war for profits. The working class can only fight fascism by taking power into its own hands." He demonstrated how the leaders of the movement, particularly the Communist Party, had betrayed the teachings of Karl Marx and had failed to prepare the working class for the growing struggle that lies ahead.

Comrade Haston excelled himself in the way he explained the revolutionary communist case in answer to questions. He was loudly applauded on his forthright and decisive answers.

This was an inspiring meeting. After the meeting the party headquarters were crammed to capacity with miners from the valleys where discussions took place till the early hours of the morning. New members were recruited and a wide range of contacts and sympathisers were made. This meeting demonstrates that "The Revolutionary Communist Party is on the map in the district."

"German Workers are Internationalist" Says RETURNED PRISONER OF WAR

HERE ARE THE IMPRESSIONS OF PRIVATE ANDREW PATON — WHO, BEFORE HIS CALL-UP INTO THE ARMY WAS WELL KNOWN TO THE READERS OF "SOCIALIST APPEAL" FOR HIS BRILLIANT ARTICLES UNDER THE PEN NAME OF ANDREW SCOTT. COMRADE PATON HAS JUST RETURNED FROM A GERMAN PRISON CAMP, AND IMMEDIATELY PRESENTS READERS OF THE "SOCIALIST APPEAL" WITH HIS OWN PERSONAL EXPERIENCES, WHICH ARE OF INESTIMABLE VALUE, COMING AS THEY DO FROM THE PEN OF THIS REPUTABLE MARXIST JOURNALIST. — Ed.

We were working in a vast hole in the ground, an open-cast coal mine lying about 20 miles south of Leipzig. A train would whistle warning of its approach, and our gang would step off the line which we were supposed to be maintaining. In a few minutes while the train emptied its load of clay and sand and went off again, I would turn to old Emil, one of the German labourers who worked with us: "Well, what's the news today, Emil?" "Good," he would say, "the Russians are well past Breslau in the East, and the Americans and British are advancing in the West. The war cannot possibly last more than three weeks."

Emil's idea of good news was the same as that of every other German worker with whom we came in contact. Anything that would get the war over quickly and smash the power of the Nazi party was good. The German workers wanted defeat. And yet they had no illusions about the sort of peace that would follow an Allied victory.

Julius, another old German labourer would say to me: "The only value of the war to me has been to show me that all the people of Europe are pretty much the same, and have the same interests. In this mine we have Germans, French, Poles, Russians, Dutch, Danes, Serbs and English, and everybody—and they are all the same, and get on well together. It is big capital that makes them fight one another." And he would put forward to me the idea of a United States of Europe—which must be Socialist; not National Socialist, but International Socialist. He would add that when Churchill and his Government went, which they were bound to do soon after the war, he hoped the British workers would struggle for a real workers' government.

The little town near which our working camp lay had an air raid which destroyed and damaged many working class houses. Twelve of us, British prisoners of war, had been detailed to

help with bomb damage work. We marched down into town from our camp the first day, wondering what sort of reception we would get. But we needn't have worried. These German workers, most of them miners, bore us no animosity. Their attitude was summed up by old Otto, a slater and plasterer with whom two of us were put to work: "You get bombed in 1940, and we are getting it now. But you are not doing it to us, and we did not do it to you. It is big capital on both sides that does it."

Always "big capital". The consciousness of the German working class of the role of big capital is enormous and stimulating. They identified Nazism with big capital.

On the second day a simple old working class woman in whose house I was working came up to me and said: "You must write home and tell them not to drop their bombs on us in our little houses, but to drop them on Hitler and the Nazis." The old lady

was confused and puzzled, but she summed up one of the main problems of the German workers: that not only the bombs, but also the propaganda of Britain, America and Russia refused to distinguish Nazis from anti-Nazis, workers from capitalists, but made the enemy—the Germans.

We helped one family to pack up a handcart with their belongings. Old Otto picked up a picture of Hitler that was lying on the ground, and with a loud guffaw, stuck it on top of the pile. The woman of the house seized the picture, and, with an indignant cry, hurled it as far as she could down the road. There was much laughing and joking about "Adolph."

Tobacco is a great unifying agent, and no amount of Goebbels propaganda or legislation against fraternisation could break down the bond forged by Madame Nicotine. When we had no Red Cross parcels, and therefore no cigarettes, most of the old German labourers who worked with us would



Pte. A. PATON
known to readers
of the "Socialist
Appeal" as Andy
Scott.

give us enough "makings" to get a draw each. Occasionally it was real tobacco they had; more often it was some sort of wood, cut up into small chips, or that hideous ersatz tea. "There's one thing," said Peter, one of the engine drivers, "it's better to smoke it than to drink it." But whatever it was they were smoking, these German workers would always spare us a little. And so all of us, British and German together, would pollute the air with the fumes of "plant-tea"—and how we enjoyed it! The cigarette ration of the German civilians at that time, by the way, was three a day.

The soldiers too, were friendly in this way. I shall never forget how the driver of the truck in which I was taken from Normandy to Paris got out and bought us a dozen packets of cigarette papers and paid for them himself.

(Continued on back page.)

FRISCO FARCE

SAN FRANCISCO IS ABOUT TO END IN A FARCE.

The Frisco Conference, as the "Socialist Appeal" predicted, could not provide more than a temporary armed truce. Each of the big powers is preparing to fly at the others' throats in the drive for spheres of influence.

An American capitalist columnist, O'Donnell, sums up the whole farce blatantly and cynically in the following despatch:

"Befuddled experts who are master minding the confusion circus known as UNCIO (United Nations Conference for International Organisation, San Francisco — Ed.) are trying to figure out a way of winding it up as swiftly as possible before the big boys start saying in public some of the dirty cracks they are circulating in private and before they start the third World War right here."



Bevin Boys Demand Manager's Resignation

47, Station Road,
Hednesford.
18.4.45.

A campaign of terror has been waged in the Wimblebury Miners Hostel against the residents. The dictatorial manager has sought to make their life in the camp as miserable as he possibly could.

On Monday, 16th April, 1945, he got the united answer of the camp.

The victims of Bevin were finally driven into revolt by the action of the manager, Mr. Balcon, ex-captain R.A.F., in entering into their private lockers in their absence during the Easter holidays. Seizing his chance when the lads were away on holiday he opened their private and personal effects, making the excuse of health the reason he pried and searched to satisfy his nasty mentality. This action brought to a head all the tremendous discontent in this unhappy camp. The boys determined to see what rights, if any, they have.

They protested through their committee to Balcon, and were told in effect that he could do as he liked in the camp. He claimed he was not bound to give notice of inspections, and that he alone was the man to make rules. The job of the committee was to collaborate with him and not to put forward the boys' views. All that was expected of Bevin Boys was to obey unquestioningly.

On Monday, 16th April, a general meeting of residents was held in the camp. The agent of the Cannock Miners, Bob Condon was invited to attend. As the agent came in, he was buttonholed by Balcon and asked for a promise not to interfere in a purely domestic matter. The manager said he could not allow him to speak in the camp.

At the meeting a host of other complaints came to light. After a full examination of the problem a resolution was put from the body of the meeting, seconded by five Bevin lads, that the manager hand in his resignation forthwith. The boys are determined to back up this resolution with action, if Balcon does not concede to their demand. Only one voted against and he had only been in the camp a fortnight.

The miners' agent was asked to speak, but informed the boys that the manager had said he could not allow him to do so. The boys were infuriated at this further example of dictatorship. They insisted that they were the residents; it was their meeting and that they were the only people who had the right to decide who should and who should not speak to them. The agent then agreed to speak and complimented the Bevin Boys on their unity and assured them that such a spirit was what was required in this country if we were to avoid a betrayal in the near future.

The miners are solid with the boys in the struggle against this petty dictatorship that is, after all, an example of the general tendency in the country to-day.

Moir, Cun-na'-don.

NEATH NEWS

BY P. PEVALIN

With polling day (May 15th) fast closing in, our headquarters have become the scene of much activity. Miners and other workers are coming in from all the valleys for discussions and offers of assistance.

Canvassing squads set out each day in an endeavour to canvass every single house in the area before polling day. The "Socialist Appeal" has been sold at every third house in the constituency. When it is remembered that the constituency covers nearly 300 square miles, this great task accomplished by our comrades can be appreciated.

LOUD SPEAKER VAN

Throughout the valleys the voice of Revolutionary Communism reverberates. Thanks to the splendid response for financial help from all the corners of Britain and the world—from Cornwall to Tyneside, from the Clyde to London, from Italy to Africa, America and Palestine—we have been enabled to procure the necessary funds to organise a fully planned campaign, a loudspeaker van has been hired.

Jock Haston and other party members are touring the area, speaking at pit-heads, in the streets and in the town. The response to our policy is indeed heartening. We know that almost every vote polled for our candidate will be a direct challenge to the policy of the Labour Party in collaborating with the Tories in the Government; it will be a direct challenge to the policy of the Communist Party which has turned its back on the struggle for communism.

Democratically, we have offered our opponents the microphone in order that they may defend their policy and state openly before the workers and ourselves the slanders and lies they persist in spreading in our absence. As usual in the case with these people, not one has had the courage to defend his statements. In fact, these die-hards hurriedly depart, amidst the jeers of their fellow workers, when this opportunity is put to them. At a meeting of some hundreds of miners at the pit-head, where the Stalinists had been active dishing out their slander leaflet, after exposing the slanders of the Stalinists for an hour, Comrade Haston called upon any member of the Communist Party to come to the micro-

phone to defend his party line. Not one came. One Stalinist slunk past, who had evidently been slandering us down the pit, heard Comrade Haston's voice boomed from the microphone: "Come on there Jimmy, we know you're a member of the Communist Party. Come and defend your party line." The miners in the audience roared with laughter and jeered as he slunk away.

Open air meetings have been started in the centre of Neath. At one stage there were close on 200 people present. Once again the platform was offered to the opposition.

Indoor meetings continue to be held with a fair amount of success. At Ystalyfera Miners' Welfare Hall, an audience of nearly 100 listened to Comrade Gerry Healy speak on "Post War Plans of the British ruling class," and Comrade Heaton Lee on the fascist atrocities, and how the capitalist class covered these up before the war. Questions and discussion concluded the meeting, after a good collection had been given towards the election fund.

At Pontardawe, Boys School, Comrade Jock Haston dealt with the repeated sell-outs of successive leaderships of the working class organisations. In the course of his speech he stated that "it was important as a first step towards re-establishing control over their leaders, that the workers should pay them the same rate of pay as they themselves receive," and stressed "the need for the right of recall and regular and frequent election of all officials." This received a warm response from the workers, who are fully conscious that their Labour and Trade Union leaders have separated themselves from the lives and needs of the workers they are supposed to represent.

L.P. AND C.P. MEETING

The Communist Party held a meeting at the Gwynn Hall, Neath—the largest hall in the area on April 20th, called under the slogan "Tounce the Trotskyists." About 300 were present.

From the platform the assembled workers were told bluntly that the Communist Party wants Churchill in a post-war cabinet. This was stated by Idris Cox, leading Stalinist in the

The Labour Party meeting held in the Gwynn Hall, Neath on Saturday, April 28th. About 300 were present.

Mr. D. Grenfell, Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Fuel and Power, in reply to a question asking for an explanation of the reasons why he voted against J. Maxton's amendment demanding the nationalisation of the coal mining industry on June 10th,

Brewery Bosses Sue N.U.D.A.W Leaders

One of the most important boss-class anti-union drives since the Osborne judgment is now taking place. Eight brewery companies have brought a civil action against Alderman Luke Hogan, Liverpool, Divisional Officer of the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers, for attempting to organise public-house workers. The case is before the Liverpool Assizes.

Early 1944, the N.U.D.A.W. began a campaign to organise these sweated workers. Mass meetings were held and general union literature distributed. These were followed by a questionnaire which was sent to public house managers in order to collect statistical information for the campaign.

The brewery companies complain that the N.U.D.A.W. questionnaire was "an interference with the contractual obligations of managers and manageresses." This is how they raise the question legally. But the fact that they are concerned with the right of a union to question and organise public-house workers is their one and only fear, as demonstrated by the remarks of their representatives in the Assize Court.

Mr. H. G. Griffiths, Chairman of Bents Brewery Co. Ltd. held the view that "his firm's managers have no desire to be organised, and the firm had refused to discuss with the trade union conditions of employment because in their view it was unnecessary."

Mr. C. F. Price, director of Higsons Brewery, "regarded the questionnaire as an impertinent interference with his private business." Could anyone put it better?

The director of Higsons Brewery puts his finger on the spot. The brewers wish to maintain the traditional secrecy of wages and conditions of the thousands of public-house workers. The "business" of sweating thousands of young workers and families is their "private business"! It is "impertinent interference" to question the miserable wages and unhealthy conditions of brewery workers. The development of union organisation would be the beginning of the end for their freedom to fleece the public and to exploit young and old public house workers.

Mr. Sellers, K.C., for the defence, said: "Employers had for years set their face against the trade union organisation of 'their' workers and had 'stone-walled like an opening batsman'."

The move to organise these workers was not before time. The terrible conditions of public house workers are very well known. They work a minimum of ten hours a day in a foul atmosphere, and for this they receive miserable wages varying from 20/- to £3 a week. The big brewers exploit thousands of families and thousands of young workers in this blackest of black industries. During the war they have reaped millions in profits. Even in "peace" time they were assured of steady high rate of profit—poverty, misery and beer go together. It is these conditions, this "private business" to sweat and fleece that the brewers want to maintain.

Alderman Luke Hogan, who is also "leader" of the Liverpool Labour Party, has a wide reputation for being a reactionary bureaucrat, but he is subject to tremendous pressure from the rank and file of the N.U.D.A.W. which is one of the largest trade unions in Merseyside. For years he has preached and practised collaboration with the local bosses. For years he has shared Tory M.P.'s platforms, that is, platforms with the very brewers who hate, yes hate, the slightest suggestion of union organisation. The brewers have a systematically organised network of stooges in the Tory Party and in the Liverpool City Council.

However, all organised workers will rally to the defence of trade unionism against this vicious attack of the brewers. It is not Luke Hogan who is at stake, but the most elementary democratic rights of the workers.

This attack, if successful, can prove disastrous to trade unionism. It can establish legal conditions whereby no union dare question or attempt to organise workers.

Workers! Sound the alarm, pass resolutions condemning this attack of the brewers; support the N.U.D.A.W. in its attempts to organise the workers.

J. DEANE.

BREAK THE COALITION Labour to 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 consumers 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; 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 worker-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.

Eve of Poll Meetings

14th MAY, at 7 p.m.

JOCK HASTON

will speak at the following meetings:

The miners are solid with the boys in the struggle against this petty dictatorship that is, after all, an example of the general tendency in the country to-day.

Moir, Cun-na'-don.

Election Fund

	£	s.	d.
Previously acknowledged	551	10	7
Belgian comrade	1	0	0
American soldier	3	0	0
M.L., Merthyr	12	6	
American soldier	10	0	
Royal Navy, Artificer	10	0	
B.L.A. soldier	1	0	0
Gwaun Cae Gurwen (Prince Albert Hostel Collection)	1	6	9
Gwaun Cae Gurwen (Meeting Collection)	10	9	
Slough sympathiser	1	0	0
Soldier in India	1	10	0
Socialist Workers Party of America	8	0	0
Neath Workers	4	7	1
London R.C.P. Branches	40	0	0
	£614	17	8



BY TROTSKY

WORLD REVOLUTION AND THE TASKS OF BRITISH WORKERS	6d.
TRANSITIONAL PROGRAMME OF THE 4th INTERNATIONAL	6d.
TRADE UNIONS	1d.
T.U.C. HELPS HITLER	1d.
PREPARING FOR POWER (Thesis of British Trotskyists)	3d.
A.B.C. OF TROTSKYISM Cannon's Testimony in U.S. Labour Trial	6d.
THE ROAD TO INDIA'S FREEDOM by A. Scott and E. Grant	3d.

called under the slogan "Trotzke the Trotskyists." About 300 were present. From the platform the assembled workers were told bluntly that the Communist Party wants Churchill in a post-war cabinet. This was stated by Idris Cox, leading Stalinist in the South Wales area. Those rank and file members of the Communist Party who have argued that they know Churchill is an enemy of the working class, and must put up with him during the war, but after the war they will really fight Churchill—these members must have had their faith badly shattered. In the coming period, when, as every class conscious worker knows, the workers will need a fighting militant programme, the so-called "Communist" Party wants to maintain an alliance with Winston Churchill!

If one judges from both the speeches made by Idris Cox and Alun Thomas, these people have well and truly renounced all intentions of fighting for communism. No longer do they advocate a "Workers' Government", but what they want to see is the furtherance of the coalition with Liberals, so-called "Progressive" Tories—not forgetting their latest recruit to the working class cause—Winston Churchill. What they want is a coalition with a "Labour majority."

This policy received a very cool applause from their supporters.

Alun Thomas devoted most of his speech to a vicious and slanderous attack against the revolutionary communists. Although he promised the audience to prove that "Jock Haston was a Fascist", like the rest of the Stalinist slanderers, conveniently forgot to do so, and left his statement completely unsubstantiated.

A large quantity of literature was sold and leaflets answering the Stalinist slanders distributed.

Mr. D. Grenfell, Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Fuel and Power, in reply to a question asking for an explanation of the reasons why he voted against J. Maxton's amendment demanding the nationalisation of the coal mining industry on June 10th, 1942, he denied doing so. Apparently, he lives in a little world of his own and is not fully conscious of what he does in the House of Commons. HE DID IN FACT VOTE AGAINST THE NATIONALISATION OF THE MINES AS CAN BE PROVED BY REFERENCE TO "HANSARD" FOR THAT DATE—Hansard being the official report of all parliamentary proceedings.

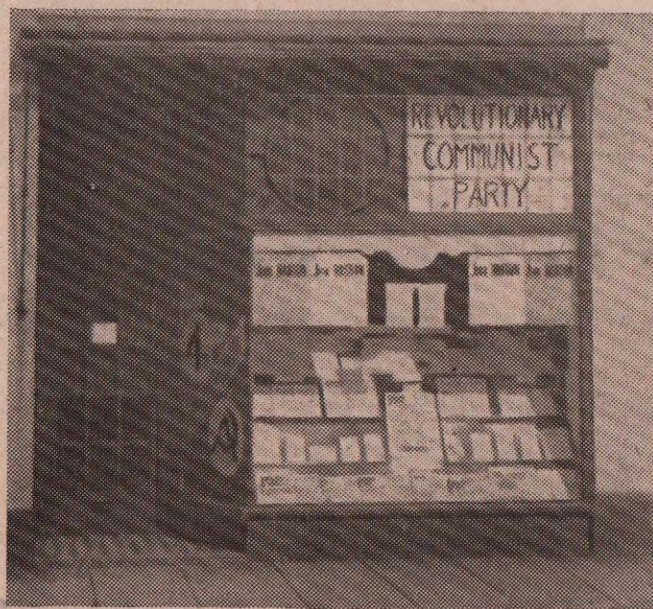
Further evidence of his mental state was suggested by the fact that he talked as if he thought it is the Communist Party of Great Britain which is putting up the rival candidate at Neath. That shows how much he interests himself in working class politics.

To all our contacts and sympathisers: please call at our headquarters at 17, Alfred Street, Neath, or telephone Neath 889. There is plenty of work to do, and from now till the end of the campaign every bit of help, no matter how small, will assist in swelling the votes for our Revolutionary Communist Candidate.

Workers of Neath division: make sure that your vote is registered in protest against Churchill and his quislings in the Labour movement. Make sure that your friends and fellow workers understand the true issues which are at stake in this election and cast their vote for the only independent working class candidate—(Jock) James Haston.

FORWARD TO WORKERS' POWER
—FIGHT FOR A COMMUNIST BRITAIN.

17, ALFRED STREET, NEATH.



HEADQUARTERS OF THE WEST WALES DISTRICT, REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST PARTY.

JOCK HASTON

will speak at the following meetings:

SKEWEN, COEDFRANTE GIRLS' SCHOOL	Supporting Speakers:
CLYDACH, JUNIOR SCHOOL	AJIT ROY (India).
GLYNEATH, JUNIOR SCHOOL	HAROLD ATKINSON.
RESOLVEN, GIRLS' SCHOOL	JOHN LAWRENCE.
SEVEN SISTERS, GIRLS' SCHOOL	FRANK WARD.
YSTALYFERA, WERN BOYS' SCHOOL	JIM DEANE.
NEATH, HERBERT ROAD SCHOOL	V. SASTRY (Indian Workers Federation).
NEATH, OPEN AIR, FAIRGROUND (Weather permitting)	N. KASTINOS (Greece).

E. GRANT, Editor "Socialist Appeal."



JOCK HASTON
Revolutionary
Communist Candidate

CANNOCK MINERS ORGANISING

BY H. FINCH

At the beginning of March, this year, the Cannock Chase Colliery owners threatened to "dock" the wage packets of the miners if their tubs exceeded a certain weight. The colliery officials were going to estimate the amount of dirt contained in a tub of coal and deduct "accordingly"!

In a number of cases this was actually done. Not content with their "normal" forms of exploitation, these gentlemen were going to increase the misery of the miners by making them waste time (and therefore means of earning over the Portal Award through turning out more coal) by picking out minute pieces of dirt in the gloomy light of the pit.

This callous and open move of the bosses met with fierce opposition in the Cannock Chase Pits. A deputation of the colliers met the manager and refused to accept this cut in wages. The management hastily retreated and returned the money back to those colliers whom it had robbed.

An exactly similar position occurred in the East Cannock pit. The men proved victorious here by employing similar militant and bold methods.

Indicative of the movement of the miners is the issue at West Cannock 5 Pit:—The colliers have discovered that the colliery has been overcharging them 4d. per round on explosive powders for the last six years! The colliery owners have offered to pay for two weeks overcharging! The men have refused this impertinent offer and are demanding the full 6 years' payment. They are ready to sue the company if necessary.

Last year, October 28th, men employed at Kingswood Colliery stopped work as a protest against victimisation of a contractor, Mr. Watson. This colliery had attempted to force onto nightshift Mr. Watson, who was contracting on a development heading. The colliery could not state any reasons for installing a nightshift and ignored Bob Condon's, the Miners' Agents' letters on the position. Although Mr. Watson reported for work each day he was not allowed to work unless he would agree to go onto nightshift. Yet, in the interim, two men had been placed on his job! The men finally struck work over this clear case of victimisation.

These examples of struggle have a definite significance.

The Cannock miners are beginning to regain confidence in their class. There is growing a tremendous feeling of militancy and with it, a conscious striving to abolish the miserable conditions in the pits.

The colliery owners who have imposed terrible conditions on the miners here, who have destroyed muscle, bone and brain by their brutal methods—these people are recoiling in fear before the Cannock miners. They now see a different miner: not the crushed and demoralised miner of 1926-1939, who was forced to go, cap in hand for a few hours work per week in the horrible slump years, not this miner, but the miner of 1945—militant, aggressive, and ready.

Not only on minor industrial issues is this new militancy expressed, but also on broader issues. The Cannock District, of the National Union of Mineworkers has recently elected a full time union inspector for the mines. The miners are showing determination to fight the coal barons' deliberate disregard of safety precautions. Cannock, which has the highest accident rate in the Midlands area because of the previous lack of union organisation, is now going forward to having the lowest accident rate. Mr. R. Scott, H.M. Inspector for Mines, reported to the "Cannock Advisory Committee for Accidents due to Falls of Ground" that in 1943, 50 per cent of the total accidents in pits throughout the Midlands occurred in the Cannock Chase District alone! The miners intend to stop this. Also no case of compensation has been neglected. The Union is determined to fight any and every case against the coal tyrants.

Because of the growing militancy of the miners and because of a new and virile leadership, membership of the Union is increasing tremendously. 8 months ago the membership was 4,000 out of a total of 18,000 miners. Now, it is nearly 11,000. Pit Committees are being organised. Lodges, hitherto virtually extinct, are becoming active.

Militant rank and files are going forward to the Union Council. Craft ideas are being shattered, finding living expression in "Bevin Boy" representation on all union committees.

The abolition of the primitive method of individual price listing is the next step for the Cannock miners. This method has been used by the owners to keep the workers divided in the pits. Under schemes two men, working together on one part of a seam, often receive a different wage to two men on another part of the seam, because the management has given them a different price.

The miners, realising that such methods can only help the colliery owners are determined to terminate this position once and for all. The Cannock Coalfield Conference held at Cannock Miners' College, Sunday, March 18th, decided by a unanimous vote; a vote representing all the 21 pits in Cannock—to go forward to Uniform Price Lists on the Coal Seams. This step forward will mean open collision between the miners and colliery owners.

With the industrial reawakening in Cannock, a political reawakening is taking place. Cannock unionists have formed a political Council to give full expression to the miners' political demands, and to attempt to achieve within the Labour Party, through the union delegates, a fighting Socialist programme. The need for revolutionary methods is becoming clearer and clearer to the miners.

Cannock offers the unique example of the building of a revolutionary union leadership which is relating the day-to-day struggles to the major struggle for the expropriation of the coal owners without compensation, and the nationalisation of the pits under workers' control.

Cannock is stirring from its lethargy. The rumbles of the coming explosions can already be heard. The Cannock miners are striking for freedom. Let us prepare for the coming struggles—100 per cent Union organisation as a necessary lever!

Cannock Miners: Build up your pit Committee!

For 100 per cent militant unionism! Fight for uniform price lists!

SOCIALIST APPEAL

Organ of the Revolutionary Communist Party, British Section of the Fourth International.

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EDITORIAL

MAY DAY International Workers' Day

May Day is workers' day. In the past it was the day on which all the forces of the Labour Movement gathered together in demonstrations and meetings, in strikes and mass actions, in every country, to show to the world the international solidarity and singleness of purpose of the toilers of all lands: the struggle for world socialism.

In the early years of the growth of the Labour movement, May Day was a day of confidence and optimism in the victory of the final goal on the part of the organisations and spokesmen of the working class.

But the faith of the workers was betrayed in World War I when the leaders of the Labour and Trade Union organisations went over to the side of the ruling class. Dark years intervened till the new dawn for the workers was shown by the victory of the Russian Revolution, which based itself on the message of May Day—the message of socialist internationalism. A wave of optimism spread through the ranks of the workers as they rallied to the message of the indestructible unity of the world working class.

German workers, French workers, Japanese and American workers saved the Russian Revolution by the internationalism of the deed. The May Days of these years were days of tremendous upsurge on all the Continents of the world.

But capitalism was saved by the Labour leaders of the Second International, and the weak Soviet Republic, itself helpless in the grip of the bureaucracy which abandoned Lenin's internationalism and went over to nationalist socialism. On the wave of reaction, decaying capitalism exploited all the foul prejudices and racialism in order to destroy the international solidarity of the working class. The nationalism of Hitler and the fascists crushed the German and Italian workers, and because of the nationalist degeneration of the Third International, which became even worse than that of the Second, capitalism prepared a second bloody sacrifice of the peoples of the world on the altar of finance capital.

During World War II, nationalist poison and excesses have reached their extreme limit. 'All Europe, and a great part of Asia has been laid in ruins. The masses have been reduced in Europe and Asia to a condition of poverty and chaos unsurpassed for centuries. Thus the reliance of the reformists on national, gradual reforms and slow progress, ended in the victory of fascism and the most terrible of all wars. The predictions and the warnings of the revolutionary internationalists have come to pass: unless

ITALIAN WORKERS TAKE ACTION

Allies Moving In to Crush Revolution

By D. JAMES

CHURCHILL PREPARING ANOTHER GREECE!

MILAN, TURIN, GENOA AND PRACTICALLY THE WHOLE OF NORTHERN ITALY HAVE BEEN LIBERATED BY PARTISANS. THE ARMED WORKERS HAVE RISEN AND OVERTHROWN THE NAZIS AND THE "REPUBLICAN FASCISTS". THIS INSPIRING NEWS HERALDS THE OPENING OF THE SECOND PHASE OF THE ITALIAN REVOLUTION, WHICH BEGAN IN JULY, 1943, WITH THE DOWNFALL OF MUSSOLINI.

British and American troops are being rushed to occupy the cities. For what reason? The Italian workers themselves have destroyed the power of the fascists. Is it perhaps in order to help them liquidate the last remnants? But what aid do the Italian workers need from the Allied imperialists? Within two days of capturing Mussolini the Italian workers tried and executed him; the Allies had the war-criminal Roatta in their hands for 18 months and then allowed him to escape.

The whole situation in Greece all over again! Churchill sent troops into Greece, which had been freed by the workers and peasants of ELAS, ostensibly in order to fight the Nazis; in reality in order to restore the power of the landlords and capitalists and disarm the workers. His aim in Northern Italy is the same.

The British and American capitalist class fears that the spark of revolution may kindle a blaze throughout Italy, throughout tortured, ruined and starving Europe. They are rushing in forces to stamp it out. With Nazi Germany in collapse there can be no other reason.

ITALIAN WORKERS PREPARE

The Press and the Allied Command, together with the Socialist and Stalinist leaders, picture the insurrection as the culmination of a "national" struggle conducted by Italian "patriots". The "Committee of National Liberation", the six-party coalition of the Socialist and "Communist" Parties which is the official leadership of the partisan struggle, paints the same picture. Nevertheless, it is quite false.

It is impossible to understand the partisan warfare and resistance to the Nazis and Fascists in Northern Italy unless it is remembered that it was the continuation of the workers' revolution which began with the fall of Mussolini.

In every other European country except possibly Poland, the Nazis invaded at a time when the working class was not in a state of ferment; resistance only grew up during the occupation, and consequently the class struggle was obscured to a greater or

The partisan warfare was conducted mainly by workers who fled to the hills to escape deportation to Germany.

The partisans themselves realise very well the class character of their struggle, as shown by an interview with one of them, reported in the "Socialist Appeal" (Jan., 1945):

"I talked with a Partisan fighter who had come from the North. He said that the Partisans, mainly workers and poor peasants, want Soviets. It is now common talk among the Partisans—they never call themselves 'patriots' as the Allied and Stalinist press falsely title them—that Tito has sold out. He compromised with the bourgeoisie, accepted their Government.' Their attitude to the Allied invaders is 'get out and leave us to solve our own problems, including the problem of the Nazis'."

THE ATTITUDE OF THE ALLIES

While they deliberately distort the true meaning of the struggle of the Italian partisans in order to confuse the workers, the Allied imperialists realise very well what it is. That is why they are hastening to get Northern Italy under their control: in order to disarm the workers and protect the capitalists, to organise armed forces under the control of reactionary officers, as in Greece.

They have begun, however, by "recognising" the Partisan struggle after having ignored it up to now. They have recognised the Committees of Liberation as the temporary authorities until the Allies arrive. One reason is that they have little alternative. These Committees have the power anyway, and the reserves of counter-revolutionary troops which the Allies can regard as reliable are not very great for a big struggle. The majority of British troops have been profoundly affected by the terrible poverty which surrounds them in Italy, and would not be ready to shoot down the workers attempting to throw off their exploiters.

But the main reason for recognising the Committees of Liberation is that the leaders of the working-class parties have shown in advance that they are ready to capitulate before the Allied demands. Were this not the case, the Allies would try to crush them no matter what the cost. But the extent to which these "leaders" are prepared to sell out the workers is shown by an interview with the Press given by Signor Scoccimarro, Stalinist Minister for Occupied Italy in the Bonomi Government:

"Signor Scoccimarro described the careful plans which have been drawn up with the Allies for rallying the 100,000 or more partisans we expect to meet from now on. Special camps have been arranged and special Italian Regular Army officers trained as adjutants to run these camps. 'We do not want a repetition of the Greek tragedy,' said Scoccimarro." (Manchester Guardian, 23/4/45).

The EAM leaders in Greece agreed to disarm the workers, but under pressure from the masses were forced to demand disarmament of the reaction, and were thereby forced into leadership in the civil war. The Italian Stalinists are mortally afraid of finding themselves in such an embarrassing position, so they agree in advance to put the Partisans in concentration camps under 'special' officers! To cap it all, the new Extraordinary Assize Courts which are being set up under a Stalinist Minister, ostensibly to try collaborators, have power "to deal with anyone in liberated Italy who is organising armed bands"—and therefore also with organisers of workers' militias.

If, however, as is quite likely, the armed workers refuse to follow the abject capitulation of the Socialist and Stalinist leaders and embark on revolutionary activity, Churchill and his Allies, will declare war on them and treat them as brutally as they did the Greek partisans. The Allied imperialists will make use of the Committee of National Liberation as long as it is still useful for deceiving the masses and blunting their revolutionary will.

On the whole deception is cheaper than force.

THE WORKERS' LEADERSHIP.

The revolution was halted in 1943 by the Allied and German occupations. But this would not have been possible if its road had not first been blocked by the reformist activity of the Socialist and Stalinist leaders. When the workers spontaneously set up factory committees, instead of extending them, broadening them to include all representatives of the working population, carrying the struggle into the countryside, arming the workers under control of the committees and fighting for them to take State power into their hands, the leaders of these parties—who had the allegiance of the majority of workers on account of their traditions—signed an agreement with Badoglio restricting the committee to purely economic functions.

When the revolution was halted, these parties joined in a coalition with capitalist parties, the "Committee of National Liberation", and participated in the puppet Bonomi Government in "liberated" Italy. The Stalinist Party even supported Badoglio and King Victor Emmanuel, and now serves under Prince Umberto. The Socialist Party has—in words—a more "left" position. But because they both participate in the coalition with capitalist parties they are equally pledged to support capitalism. This Committee of Liberation is the greatest obstacle in the way of a revolutionary struggle for the Italian workers, and is responsible for spreading the false idea of a "national" struggle in the ranks of the partisans. Like the Popular Front and E.A.M. in Greece, it diverts the workers from a fight to overthrow the capitalist class, to a vague fight for "democracy" without class content, i.e. in practice, capitalist democracy. In every case this has led to betrayal and defeat.

THE ITALIAN WORKERS HAVE LEARNED MANY LESSONS

Under the blows of the occupation the Italian workers have had the opportunity to learn many lessons, to draw conclusions from the defeat of the first stage of the revolution, and to form opinions of the policy of their leaders as it has worked out in practice. The "wind from the North" will blow very chill for these gentlemen as well as for the capitalist class itself.

The Monarchy, which diligently served Fascism for 20 years, and now serves the Allied "democrats" with equal readiness, is the object of the greatest hatred of the Italian people. Even the "Daily Telegraph" correspondent in Rome reported (25/4/45):

"By far the most numerous of the

GERMAN MINERS Supported 1926 STRIKE

GERMAN MINERS'

Today the Labour leaders and Communist Party are slandering the German workers. Forgotten

has been laid in ruins. The masses have been reduced in Europe and Asia to a condition of poverty and chaos unsurpassed for centuries. Thus the reliance of the reformists on national, gradual reforms and slow progress, ended in the victory of fascism and the most terrible of all wars. The predictions and the warnings of the revolutionary internationalists have come to pass: unless the workers of Europe overthrew their capitalist classes, the system would reduce Europe, in its tragic impasse, to a position of barbarism.

Mussolini and Hitler have passed off the stage of history. This will fill the masses in Italy and Germany with rejoicing. It will be greeted with jubilation by the workers of the whole world. Their fall marks the beginning of the revolutionary upsurge in Europe: their fall brings new difficulties for world imperialism. The European workers, conscious of the backing and support and aid which the Allied imperialists rendered to their torturers in the terrible years preceding the war, will be filled with a new confidence and strength at the ignominious end of these tools of capitalism. They will seek the road of socialist revolution, of breaking down the national barriers, and the final destruction of the capitalist system which bred Mussolini and Hitler.

Instead of rallying to the support of the European working class; instead of exposing the aims of the capitalist class, who thrive on racial intolerance and oppression; who have everything to gain by inciting fratricidal strife between the workers of all lands, the Labour and Stalinist leaders encourage and aid in disseminating Vansittart poison.

The capitalists hope that with this aid, they will be able to smash the revolution in Europe and Asia and throughout the world. In this they have the full support of Stalin and the bureaucracy in Russia, who have not only abandoned international socialism, but have become one of the greatest menaces to it. They regard with the same fear the prospect of revolution in Germany and the world as do the imperialist powers themselves.

But this national chauvinism will pass away. The crimes of capitalism are preparing a reckoning. The last world war was followed by a wave of revolutions, of a revulsion from the nationalism of the capitalist class and their labour lackeys, and a turning away from the narrow horizon of the national states towards internationalism and the solidarity of all those who toil.

The Third International has followed the Second. In trying to save capitalism both have destroyed themselves as internationals. But on May Day of 1945 the message of internationalism, of workers' solidarity rings out more urgently than ever before as the sole road of salvation for the toiling peoples the world over.

In the last world war, Lenin pointed out that if capitalism survived new sufferings and slaughters of the peoples were inevitable. Lenin's warnings have been tragically borne out. And today we, the followers of Lenin say: If capitalism survives the second world war, the third imperialist slaughter is inevitable. Already, the capitalists are preparing for the World War III.

Only the Fourth International, the world party of Socialist Revolution, stands for the traditions of May Day. Only our Party calls for the international solidarity of the toilers of all lands, races and creeds without distinction into first class and second class citizens, into guilty or less guilty of the atrocities of imperialism in Asia or Africa, or of fascism in Europe.

May Day is ours. Under the inspiring message of Marx and Engels, of Lenin and Trotsky, of Liebknecht and Luxemburg, of Connolly and MacLean, the working class will take to the road of the world socialist revolution. Long Live May Day! Long Live the international solidarity of the workers of the world! Workers of all lands unite. You have nothing to lose but your chains. You have a world to gain! Long Live the Fourth International!

In every other European country except possibly Poland, the Nazis invaded at a time when the working class was not in a state of ferment, resistance only grew up during the occupation, and consequently the class struggle was obscured to a greater or lesser extent beneath the appearance of a "national" struggle. But in Italy they entered for the direct purpose of crushing a socialist revolution, which had begun with the setting up of factory committee in the cities to control production, workers' militias to smash the fascists (and the disintegration of the army sent by Badoglio against the workers. The Nazis appeared as saviours of the propertied classes and enemies of the revolution—and resistance to them consequently bore a revolutionary character.

The most powerful blows were struck by the workers, who staged mass strikes and street demonstrations, not once but again and again. For example, the "Daily Telegraph" (19/7/44) reported:

"Leaflets distributed in the streets of Milan urge workers to create 'a permanent atmosphere of insurrection,' and prepare for a general strike to begin next Tuesday. New strikes have broken out in Milan, while in Turin and Genoa strikes continue."

CEYLON TROTSKYIST ARRESTED

The "Free Press" of March 19th, reports from Bombay that Carol Singam, a Cylonese, was arrested by the Bombay C.I.D. under the Defence of India rules.

"When they searched his house it is alleged that they found objectionable literature. He is alleged to be a member of the Trotskyist Party."

Thus in spite of the conditional release of our comrades in Ceylon, the persecution of Bolshevik-Leninists in India goes on unabated.

Bombing Policy in Germany ALLIED OWNED PLANTS UN-HARMED

From "The Militant", American Trotskyist organ.

Amid the slaughter and devastation in the Rhine and Ruhr areas after three years of merciless bombing, American troops were startled to discover huge war plants virtually unscathed.

THEY ARE PLANTS IN WHICH AMERICAN AND BRITISH CAPITAL IS INVESTED.

Writing from Krefeld-Uerlingen, Germany, "Chicago Sun" correspondent John M. Mechlin reported last week in a delayed despatch that American soldiers are asking "with ill-concealed sarcasm" how it happens that they found "several giant factories running full blast", including those

of the Krupp steel, I.G. Farbenindustrie chemical and Wagonfabrik automobile trusts. All these companies have been associated in cartel deals with American and British monopolies.

"There is a rumour circulating that the reason the Allies did not bomb the Wagonfabrik plant is because six members of the company's Board of Directors are Englishmen... the rumour is important because the Yanks believe it," says Mechlin.

In the New York daily PM, March 27th, Max Lerner reporting on his tour in the Rhineland, stated that "it gave me a jolt to see American industrial plants in Neuss. It also gave me a jolt to find out that the Ford motor plant in the suburbs of Cologne was

Today the Labour leaders and Communist Party are slandering the German workers. Forgotten are the lessons of international solidarity. The miners in particular will remember the solidarity of the German miners and of the German working class during the miners' and General Strike of 1926. The German workers refused to allow the capitalist class of Britain and America to use German miners to undermine the position of the British miners. We reproduce the following item from the "British Worker, Official Strike News Bulletin, Published by the General Council of the Trades Union Congress", dated May 6th, 1926.

GERMAN MINERS' FULL SUPPORT
 "Your Struggle is Also Our Struggle"
NO COAL EXPORT
 German workers' support for their British comrades is solid.
 The Government's "British Gazette"

THE ABOVE CUTTING is an Extract from the "BRITISH WORKER", Official Strike Bulletin of the General Council of the T.U.C., May 6th, 1926.

GERMAN MINERS' FULL SUPPORT
 "Your Struggle is also our Struggle."
NO COAL EXPORT
 German workers' support for their British comrades is solid.

The Government's "British Gazette" stated yesterday that the miners belonging to the Christian (Catholic) Trade Unions have decided not to help the British strikers.

This is not true. Today the Executives of all the miners' unions, including

the Christian Unions, issued a joint proclamation to the Ruhr miners, urging them to help their British comrades.

No coal must be sent to England, no overtime must be worked.

"The British miners' struggle is our struggle," the proclamation concludes. "The owners' victory would result in a catastrophe for working conditions everywhere."

Resolutions of sympathy are being passed by Labour organisations, irrespective of whether they are "Right" or "Left", "Socialist" or "Communist", or "Christian."

relatively unharmed." He added that there is "bitter suspicion" among the American troops. "They think that British and American air bombardment deliberately spared factories in which Anglo-American money had been invested."

When asked at a press conference why these particular vital war factories were skipped in bombings for over three years, General Arnold, Chief of the U.S. Army Air Forces, first asked: "What reason could there be for missing them? Informed of the Anglo-American financial connections, he passed off the whole matter laughingly saying "I could say something about that, but I won't."

One of the greatest scandals after the first imperialist World War was (Continued foot of next Column.)

serves the Allied "democrats" with equal readiness, is the object of the greatest hatred of the Italian people. Even the "Daily Telegraph" correspondent in Rome reported (25/4/45):

"By far the most numerous of the slogans which disfigure the walls not only in Rome but in every town and village I have visited are those which cry 'Down with the King!' and 'Long live the King!' The former are much more plentiful."

And if this is the case in Southern Italy, how much more so will it be in the North, where even Mussolini had to call himself a "republican" in an attempt to gain mass support! Undoubtedly there will—as in Greece—be a struggle between the masses who wish to get rid of the reactionary Monarchy, and the forces of "order" who wish to retain it as an element of "stability" (backed especially by Churchill, who, as is well known, is greatly attached to the monarchical principle). It is possible that even the Stalinists will be forced into demanding the overthrow of the monarchy. But for them this will merely be a means of diverting the workers from more fundamental issues. The Italian Trotskyists, the Communist Workers Party, on the other hand, put forward the slogan of a democratic republic as a means of mobilising wide masses for more revolutionary demands.

The most important thing is that the experience since September 1943 has destroyed many illusions in the "democratic" aims of the Allies. Their protection of the monarchy and the fascists in the administration has gone on so long that it can no longer be excused even to the most backward worker as being due to "military necessity". A year and a half of Anglo-American rule has impoverished the country to such a degree that it could be stated that the ration in Rome last year was lower than in Warsaw under the Nazis! By flooding the country with fake money ("occupation lira") to the tune of 125,000,000 pounds, and requisitioning goods and services to the same amount, the inflation has reached astronomical proportions. The "Observer" (18/2/45) could say that "Italy threatens to become a distressed area large enough to upset the economics and tranquility of the Mediterranean."

PERSPECTIVES OF THE NEW REVOLUTION

The second phase of the Revolution takes place on far more favourable ground than the first. Not only the Allies, but also the Socialist and Stalinist parties are showing what their policies mean in practice. Already

(Continued on back page)

the revelation of the "gentlemen's agreement" between the contending powers not to shell or bomb plants from which capitalists on both sides of the lines were making blood profits. The second imperialist World War—in which the suffering of the masses has been incalculably worse than in 1914-1918—also finds the capitalist rulers safeguarding their mutually profitable interests.

Jock Haston's Election Address

(Continued from page 1.)

monstrous crimes! But they have committed them against the German working class as well. While the Nazis were committing monstrous crimes against the German working class, the British capitalists, who now weep crocodile tears condoned as progressive the fascist attacks against our German fellow workers and aided the Nazis.

The atrocities of the British imperialists in India are equal to those committed by the Nazis in Europe—concentration camps, mass starvation, disease, flogging of political prisoners, collective fines, starved prisoners—all these things are perpetrated by Churchill and his class in India today.

The race hatred in the British colonies, and in the Southern States of the United States against the Negro, is as vicious as the race hatred of the Nazis towards the Jews.

Remember the last war with its foul atrocity stories, which were afterwards officially admitted to have been lies. The workers must not be misled by the vile capitalist propaganda that every German worker is a beast; and has to be "re-educated" by our capitalist class.

It is our duty to remember the class ties and the great sacrifices of the German worker anti-fascists. At this late hour we say bluntly and boldly to the workers of Neath and of Britain: You have more in common with the German worker than with Churchill and his class. Churchill and his class have more in common with fascism than with the miners, steel workers, and other sections of the British working class.

It was not a Nazi who said of Adolf Hitler that:

"... Hitler's struggle cannot be read without admiration for the courage, the perseverance, and the vital force which enabled him to challenge, defy, conciliate and overcome all the authorities and resistances which barred his path." It was Winston Churchill, in his book "Great Contemporaries."

The great and mighty Labour movement of the German workers, which it was Hitler's principal mission to destroy, and in which task he was aided with money and arms by British and American capitalism, will rise out of the ashes of Germany. Our task as workers is to help the German working class movement to arise. It is not possible to do so unless we fight night and day against the foul policy of race hatred and Vansittartism. It is not possible to do so unless we fight against the capitalists and the coalition policy of the Labour leaders

Britain is now a debtor nation. It is we British workers from whom the capitalists of other countries, particularly America, will draw tribute in future if capitalism remains.

British foreign markets have been reduced to less than a third; and are not likely to be regained in the future. Moneys, which at one time came into Britain from capitalist investment abroad, and from the use of British ships by foreign capitalists, will no longer come into this country. The results will mean a terrible crisis for Britain at the end of the war—a crisis which the capitalists will try to throw on the backs of the workers.

Every serious worker must think out the problems that will face us in the period that lies ahead; and to think them out to the end.

The post-war period will not be a period of class collaboration and peace, as it is pictured by the Labour leaders.

PREPARE FOR THE COMING CLASS BATTLES

The task of serious and thoughtful socialist and communist workers is to explain this to our fellow workers and to prepare them to unite our forces in a great struggle to destroy capitalism.

In building up a false portrait of the future of Britain while the capitalist system remains, the Labour leaders help the capitalists to confuse the workers, to undermine their class consciousness, to destroy their socialist aspirations. They prepare the way for the reaction.

We Trotskyists will not be a party to this deception. We will tell the workers the truth and organise the most conscious of them into a revolutionary party whose aim is destruction of this horrible system and the introduction of a socialist and communist system of society.

LABOUR PARTY POSTPONES STRUGGLE FOR SOCIALISM

To solve the present crisis, the most far-reaching anti-capitalist steps must be taken. Measures in the direction of socialist or communist society must be introduced. It is said by the Labour leaders in their General Election Statement that socialism is the only cure to the evils and ills of capitalism. But instead of fighting for socialism, they pushed it off into the dim and distant future. "Socialism cannot come as a result of a week-end revolution", they say, therefore, as "practical minded people" we will forget about socialism and pursue a policy of capitalist reforms.

In their new programme upon which they will go to the General Election, the Labour leaders announce radical sounding steps. But an examination of this programme shows that it demands even less than the last Labour Party Conference demanded: it is even less radical than their watery Election

ANARCHISTS SENTENCED

Attack on Freedom of Speech

Broad Defence Committee Needed

Three anarchists—Comrades Richards, Hewetson and Sansom—have been sentenced to nine months imprisonment. A fourth—Comrade Bernery, who was tried with them, was released on a legal technicality. The five were charged with "being in possession, or control of documents, the dissemination of which would be likely to cause disaffection among persons in the services". The charges were brought as a result of the publication of an article in "War Commentary", and of a leaflet appealing to members of the armed forces not to allow themselves to be disarmed or to be used for counter revolutionary purposes, and references to Workers' and Soldiers' Councils.

We must point out that, in using legal machinery, in 'recognising' the court, these comrades were acting in direct contradiction to all expressed anarchist principles. However, the main feature of this case is not the exposure of the weakness of the Anarchist position, but in the fact that this prosecution is a test case. The Government is feeling its way, testing how far it can go in preventing the workers in overalls from forging political unity with their class brothers in uniform, a unity vitally necessary in our common struggle against imperialism and a unity which a capitalist government rightly fears.

This is a warning to the working class.

If these sentences are allowed to pass without mass protests from organised labour it will be the signal for further action. This is a warning to all publishers, editors and printers of left wing literature. Every class conscious worker must protest against these sentences, and give support to the Freedom Press Defence Committee in making known the facts of the case.

It must be stated that the Anarchists have weakened the effective defence of the case and of workers' freedom of speech. The "Freedom Press Defence Committee" in the London area, which claims to be a "broad representative committee" has excluded from participation in its body, the Revolutionary Communist Party. There can be only one reason for the decision to exclude the Trotskyists—fear of our political ideas and influence. For the same reason as the National Council of Civil Liberties exclude any political tendency which might embarrass its policy, so the London "Freedom Press Defence Committee" has set itself the course of maintaining a closed circle, instead of a genuine broad defence committee.

The Glasgow "Freedom Press Defence Committee" which was formed on as broad a basis as possible, has disassociated itself from the policy of the London Committee and has issued the following statement to the "Socialist Appeal":

"Whilst not conversant with all the outs and ins of the London situation, we consider it to be a matter of public right that no body willing to work on the Committee (such as the R.C.P.) should be excluded. Once within the Committee such bodies would be equally subject to the jurisdiction of the whole Committee as any of the others."

The I.L.P. have expressed their agreement to excluding the Trotskyists from the Committee. To date the Anarchists have not seen fit to reply to our letters asking them to state their position.

If the Committee is to be effective in gaining the widest support it will have to shed its sectarian outlook and organise on the widest possible basis in the ranks of the working class.

SUPPORT London Transport Workers

On May Day three thousand London tram and trolley bus workers came out on strike following the introduction of summer schedules.

The tram depots affected were: New Cross, Camberwell, Clapham, Streatham, Norwood, Wandsworth, Thornton Heath, Holloway, Abbey Wood, and Brixton, and the trolley bus depots at Holloway and Wandsworth.

Bromley bus branch of the Transport

services, to a point that owing to the satisfactory condition of the war, we are unable to carry out our duties to the travelling public. To illustrate this, Tram Service No. 66 and Bus Service No. 53 have been completely withdrawn on Sundays and Tram Service No. 72 and Bus Service No. 21 have been curtailed. No extra trams have been placed on the road to carry the people that would normally ride on these vehicles at a time when many more

In a German Prison Camp

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Food got scarce, particularly during the last few months, when transport was in a chaotic state. But the German working class was living on practically the same diet as the prisoners—bread, potatoes and soup. They got the same quantity of bread and potatoes, and they drew their soup from the same kitchen as we did. Anyone who asserts that the German class was living well, while the prisoners starved, is a liar. I passed by the shop of Max Fushs, the butcher, twice a day for two months, and never once saw fresh meat in it: only dull grey lengths of sausage, and sometimes very little of that.

What about the general health of prisoners? When my particular batch arrived at Camp IVB, Muhlberg on Elbe, in September last, we remarked that we had seldom seen a fitter looking body of men than the prisoners who were already established there. They were sun tanned, their bodies were strong, and they played football and went swimming every day. There were no "living skeletons" among them.

Since that time, of course, German rations have gone down and down; but each cut in prisoners' rations was paralleled by a cut in civilian rations. And the civilians had no Red Cross parcels. Very often during the last few months the prisoners did not have them either because of the hopeless state of German transport. But that in itself did not create any "living skeletons". It was chiefly German political prisoners in concentration camps who were reduced to that state, for they had no "protecting power", and no agreement that they should get the same rations as the German army. To be sure, there were signs of undernourishment, chiefly manifest in the swelling up of legs and arms, the first degree of Beri-beri caused by Vitamin "B" deficiency. But that was only seen in a small minority of men, and those of whom I had any knowledge myself were quickly sent to a Stalag hospital for treatment.

The British Press has made much of "German brutality". But most of the cases they cite occurred in concentration camps. The torturers were Nazis; and the victims were German political prisoners. Undoubtedly, there have been cases of brutality against British and other P.O.W.'s. But they have been exceptional. The rule has been one of normal, decent treatment. In fact, in the big Stalags one would go for weeks on end without having any dealings with a guard, except when one of them wanted to barter a loaf for cigarettes or chocolate. And in any case, the guards during the last six months were made up of either poor, feeble, old men, or of young fellows who had been smashed up on

working class, far from being cowed and beaten, will soon be gathering its strength for a resumption of the class struggle. The German workers have seen glad to see the end of Hitler's regime. But they have no illusions about the rule of Anglo-American imperialism. They are fully conscious of the role of "Big Capital" on an international scale. The present period is one of waiting and watching.

In the coming struggles the German working class will play its part. Of that I have no doubt. After close contact with them I am confident that they will live up to and travel beyond the great traditions and triumphs of their past.

Italian Workers Take Action

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there is tremendous opposition within the Stalinist party to the official line of class collaboration, while the Trotskyists are growing rapidly, even in the small towns of the predominantly agrarian South of Italy. There can be no doubt that the workers of the North will have begun to turn away from the old leaders and throw up their revolutionary leadership, which will quickly be hardened on contact with the Fourth Internationalists in the rest of Italy. All the conditions exist for a revolutionary movement embracing the whole country, with the proletariat of the North leading the peasants and agricultural labourers in the formation of Soviets and the fight for Soviet power.

But this will not happen overnight. The Socialist and Stalinist parties will still continue to have the support of the masses: they are in fact the only really mass parties in Italy today. This support will take the form of pressure on the leadership to break their coalition with the capitalist and landlord parties and take the whole power into their own hands, to carry out a Socialist programme. While our Italian party does not sow the illusion that these parties, even though they break the coalition, can conduct a revolutionary struggle, it supports this demand: **End the coalition with the bourgeois parties within the Committee of National Liberation; for a Socialist-Communist government!**

The masses will learn in the experience of struggling for such a government that these parties are afraid to fight for Socialism, and that only a government based on workers' committees, led by the party of the Fourth International, can solve their problems, seriously attack the capitalists and landlords and foreign imperialism, and bring into being a Socialist Italy.

It is necessary to be prepared in advance. Generals Alexander and Mark Clark are entering Italy for the same purpose as Scobie in Greece.

