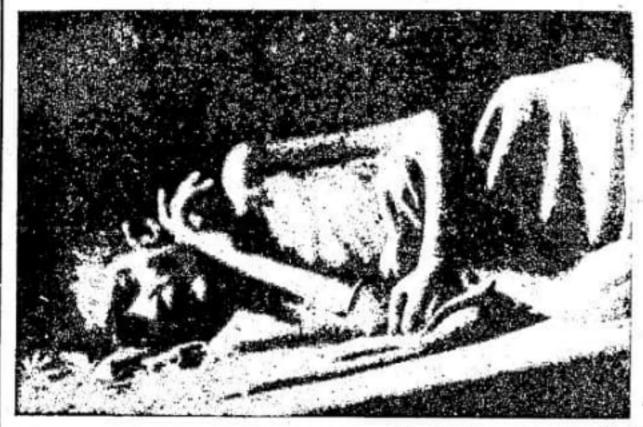
NEW BIGGER FAMINE

BEODER

VOL. 'VI. NO. 35. SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1946.

ls. 3.





(Above) : Scenes from the 1943" famine in Bengal.

FOOD FOR ALLP

"The plain question before India is: Are we to enter a period of permanent famine by leaving the toiling peasantry—which forms the backbone of our people—in the enslaving grip of the rapacious feudal landlords, usurers and the moneyed-hoarders; or are we to radically reorganise land relations on a democratic basis, so that the liberated peasantry with the help of a people's government developing industries, may be able to organise the production and distribution of food on a co-operative basis and by modern methods—banishing famine for ever and ensuring food for all—[From Communist election pamphlet, "FOOD FOR ALL," by G. Adhikaril.

(See Article: Pages 6-7)



(Above) : A Punjabi Kisan-self-reliant and hardworking.



(Above?: Ricefields in Tamilnad-peasants at work.

[Photos: Madanjeet].

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Election Supplement

Campaigns In U.P., Bengal, Bihar

CALCUTTA STUDENTS' DEMONSTRATION GROWS INTO BIG TIDE OF HINDU-MUSLIM, ANTI-IMPERIALIST UNITY

By wire from Nikhil Chakravarty. Calcutta, Feb. 14.

Monday, February 11th, a meeting of Calcutta students was jointly called by the All-Bengal Muslim Students' League (A.B.M.S.L.) and the Bengal Provincial Students' Federation (in which Communists and others work together) to demand the release of Capt. Abdul Rashid of the L.N.A. and other political prisoners.

boys, on their way to the meet- smashing-up of military trucks ing, was lathi-charged by the Police at Dalhousie Square and 12 arrests were made on the

This roused the indignation of all at the meeting, which was held at Wellington Square. Students, both Hindu and Muslim, protested against it.

The League leader, Mr. SUH-RAWARDY who attended the meeting spoke: "Today the great desire of my life is fulfilled, that Hindu and Muslim students have stood united under the banners of the Congress and the Muslim League." And he urged them to rouse the whole of Calcutta against Police bru-

5000 Strong March

The students then marched in a procession, 5,000 strong, through different streets. It was a unique spectacle of Congress and League flags flutter-ing together in the hands of young, boys-and Hindus and Muslims together—shouting slo-gans like "Police zoolum bandh karo," "Congress League ek

The Police had made elaborate precautions and were parading the streets with teargas squads, machine-guns and lathis. They were out to provoke a clash although the students were maintaining com-plete discipline and peace. When they reached Dalhousie Square by Clive Street, the Police blocked the way, but the students' pressure pushed them back.

The people of the locality,

which is the centre of the business world, poured on to the streets to see the heroic stud-dents defying the Police, with by 8 o'clock all vehicular traffic the Congress and League flags stopped as huge crowds pic-in their hands. The students ketted at street corners. Fury squatted down on the road.

of armed Gurkha Police ap- the growing tension, peace peared. At first the Police squads of the League, Congress, Officer approached BHATTACHARYYA, Secretary of the Bengal Provin- ling the streets. cial Students' Federation, who 'But Police provocation was on told him that the processionists the increase all the time and demanded the right of passage , firing was opened in North Cal-

peacefully. cutta, killing one person.

Annada then addressed the By one o'clock a huge crowdstudents and exhorted them to of 25,000 belonging to all secremain calm so that the stu- tions of the people-students, dent leaders might discuss their workers, bhadralogs and women next plan of action.

"Go Or I'll Smash You" -Police Attack

About this time, Mr. MO-HAMMED OSMAN, Secretary of the Calcutta City League, came there and while addressing the gathering and greeting Hindu-Muslim unity, a Police sergeant rushed forward and arrested him. The notorious Deputy Commissioner of Police, Shamsud-Doha, shouted at the

tacked the peaceful for nearly one hour. Over 100 spoke. students were wounded including practically all the leaders Hindu-Muslim unity and the of the Bengal Provincial Students' Federation (BPSF) and All-Bengal Muslim Students' League (A.B.M.S.L.). Twenty Twenty were arrested.

The brutality of the Police roused great indignation all over the city and enraged crowds collected at street corners. Trams and buses were stopped in certain routes by passengers themselves and peacefully picketted by the crowd.

In two places Police indiscri-minafely used tearwas and also · opened fire, which infuriated the

A procession of Muslim school people all the more. Cases of were also reported. By mid-night the whole city was burn-ing with rage against the Police.

Congress-League Leaders Last Minute Volte Face

Meanwhile, top leaders of the Muslim League contacted the Congress and Communist leaders and after prolonged discussion, a joint statement was issued condemning Police action and calling a meeting of citi-zens the next day at one o'clock. But the Congress leaders

refused to sign on behalf of their organisation and did so only in their individual capa-They wanted it to be approved by Sit. SARAT BOSE and to get his signature and so.

together with LAL MEAH and other Muslim League leaders, . they went to see Sarat Babu. At the joint discussion it had

When Annada in moving words narrated the previous day's incident and how young Muslim boys had braved the Police, there was spontaneous applause.

After the students' meeting, the meeting convened by the leaders met at the same place with Mr. Suhrawardy in the chair. Maulana AKRAM KHAN, Remain Aloof: Result President of the Bengal League spoke: "I might be old in age, but today I shall not only not lag behind, but will lead you."
ABUL HASHIM, Secretary of
the Bengal Provincial League

"I can clearly visualise the day, which is not far distant, when British Imperialism will crumble like a house of cards in a new Plassey or Panipat. Yesterday's tragedy has been turned from a curse to a blessing since it has brought Hindus and Muslims together. Through greater unity in the whole country we shall build our Azad Hind Fouz. Don't bother about arms. If we unite, weapons will fall from the sky."

The Communist leader, SOM-NATH LAHIRI, said:

it back to Satish Babu.

Despite teargas, the crowd be-haved peacefully. When they returned to Wellington Square, both Suhrawardy and Satish Das Gupta exhorted the people to maintain peace and not to fall a prey to Police provocation.

Top Congress Leazers

Most conspicuous and painful throughout these otherwise inspiring incidents was the absence of Bengal's top Con-gress leaders, Sjts. Sarat Bose and Suren Ghose, President of the Bengal Provincial Congress Committee.

Though both of them were signatories to the joint state-ment calling for the meeting, both kept themselves absent on some excuse. It was most sur-prising to find Bengal's top Congress bosses deliberately holding themselves aloof from a demonstration, where thousands of our Muslim brothers, shoulder to shoulder with their Hindu brethren, were jointly defying the Imperialist Police.

The absence of guidance and direction from top leaders left the people to themselves all over "If leaders last night took the city. The result was that six hours to come together, it their fury took spontaneous did not take six minutes for forms of mass anger and this the common people, both gave a chance to rowdy ele-

their lesson from the mighty united upsurge and come forward actively and jointly to es-tablish peace and discipline, the Governor's game of calling in the Military would have been foiled and the city brought back to normal in no time. .

But instead of doing that, Sjts. Sarat Bose and Suren Ghose have only issued a state-ment in which there is not a single reference to the mighty united Hindu-Muslim demonstration, nor of the heroic stand by the students.

While admitting that "there is no excuse or justification whatsoever for Police action," they did not boldly pin the responsibility for the whole bloodshed on the Police, nor did they demand the withdrawal of the Military. Their only call was "Rally round the banner of the Congress."

The Provincial Secretariat of the Communist Party came out on Tuesday night with a statement condemning Military ex-cesses, exposing Casey's broadcast as the beginning of an attempt to ban civil liberties and appealing to the people to maintain peace by not falling a prey agent-provocateurs rowdies.

But the disunity and inaction of our leaders left the people at the mercy of Government vio-lence and already on Wednesday, the Government scored its first victory by not only calling in the Military, but by also banning all meetings and proces-sions in Calcutta. The harvest of united Hindu-Muslim stand, sanctified by the blood of the youth, is being scotched by disgraceful squabbling of party leaders at the top.

(Continued from page 11.) Cost Of Staff On S. I. R.

Average cost In 1945 per head per mensem-138 Officers Rs. 952

261 Upper Subordinates above Rs. 250 Rs. 452 11,934 Subordinates "below Rs. 250 Rs.

36,228 Inferior Staff This includes the Dearness Allowance paid to the staff. Nearly 75 per cent of the staff get an average per head of only Rs. 15 as basic wage. It is these live issues that are

under dispute. If the Railway Board and the Government of India are so sure of their case, why are they afraid of Adjudication?

It is unfortunate that the Muslim League and the Congress spokesmen could not unite on such a vital issue. Mr. Nau-man of the Muslim League, in the name of defending the exclusive rights of the Muslim employees, gave a free hand to the Railway Board. The Congress spokesman, Prof. Ranga, for fear of committing his par-ty to the fundamental of 'no reand rifles and Police lorries pat- trenchment', was mild in his rolling with sergeants brandish- criticism of the Railway Board. Sir Edward Benthall ruled the

> But Railwaymen, whether Muslim or Hindu, Anglo-Indian

> pay, there would be serious conable to prove to the public that the Railway authorities are guilty of extracting illicit labour in all departments to a very large extent.

> The united call of all Railwaymen should be: 'Appoint Adjudicator, or Face Strike Ballet', to force the Railway Board to put the matter before the public for their verdict. Sd. M. KALYANASUNDARAM

> President, S.I. Railway Labour Union and Vice-President, A.I.R.F. Golden Rock, 2-2-46.

POLICE FIRING AND BRUTALITY

been decided to call a hartal, which included the stoppage of all vehicular traffic. So the Communists approached the Tram and Bus Union workers for giving a call for strike. But a couple of hours past midnight, information came that at Sarat Babu's house, the Congress and League leaders had decided against the hartal.

locality, Tricolour-League-Red Flags Mingle

against military lorries continu-Meanwhile, a fresh contingent ed and many were attacked. In ANNADA Communists, and students tried General to pacify the people by patrol-

also-collected at Wellington Square.

It was an unforgettable scene, where scores of Tri-colour, League and Red Flags mingled together. In some cases flags were found knotted to one another. And continu-ous shouts of "Hindu-Mus-lim ek ho." "Congress League ek ho", "Down with British Imperialism" rent the sky.

Thunderous Cheers For United Struggle

students tives of different student bodies Thunderous applause punctuated every reference to freedom struggle. A Muslim student, ZAHIRUDDIN said: "Th Beitish Government by

making discrimination against Abdul Rashid, who was de-fended by the League, schemed to keep Hindus and Muslims apart. We stand here united today to confound the British calculations. By set-tling the question of Hindu-stan and Pakistan ourselves, we will drive the British out by our united movement. By our blood we will wipe off this shame."

in the face of the Police. We picture. ask the Congress and League a united movement."

the arrested and the continuation of the joint campaign till all the I.N.A. men had been set free. Other leaders, belonging to the Congress, also spoke.

League-Gardhiite Leaders At The Head

procession started with Mr. Suhrawardy and SATISH DAS GUPTA, the leader of the Gandhi-ites in the Bengal Congress, at the head. Many League, Communist and Congress lead-ers were seen in the procession.

It was a memorable eventthis procession with Congress, League, Communist and Khaksar flags. As it proceeded, thousands joined it and soon it swelled to over two lakhs. Deafening cries of "Congress League ek he," "Down with British Raj," "Stop Police zoolum" drew the entire people of whole localities into the procession as it went.

Meanwhile, the Government, ing revolvers. Armoured cars Sir Educated at such a mighty popu-were also seen at places. The House. lar upsurge, withdrew the ban whole attitude of the Military But on entry into Dalhousie Square. and Police was menacingly pro-Muslim But they were still out to pro- vocative. Firing and disturb- or Indian, Depressed Class or voke clashes. When the pro- ances have been reported but Caste Hindu, clerks or workers, cession having left Dalhousie the full report for Wednesday is are determined as one man to Square was passing peacefully not yet available.

along Bow Bazar Street, one Leaders in this crisis confess I warm the Rallway Board that Police lorry tried to break it inthat the situation has gone out if the workers worked accordstudents: "Either you go away or I will smash you." Annada retorted amidst cheers: "You ing, over which Mr. AZIZUR can never smash us."

Square was passing peacefully not yet available.

The students held a meetalong Bow Bazar Street, one Leaders in this crisis confess I warm the Railway Board that the situation has gone out if the workers worked accordance of their hands but for that they ing to their designations and themselves are largely responsations.

This infurited Struggle

Square was passing peacefully not yet available.

Leaders in this crisis confess I warm the Railway Board that the situation has gone out if the workers worked accordance to two by throwing teargas a of their hands but for that they ing to their designations and themselves are largely responsations.

This infurited Struggle

Square was passing peacefully not yet available.

I warm the Railway Board that the situation has gone out if the workers worked accordance to two by throwing teargas a confidence of their hands but for that they ing to their designations and themselves are largely responsations.

This infurited Struggle

they kept calm, while Suhra- are proving ineffective because sequences. If the Unions take wardy went with Satish Babu the Congress leaders are not yet up an independent and imparto the Governor and the Police energetic. Commissioner to protest against such provocation. They returned and the procession once again went through Dalhouise

Police, women from houses on both sides showered buckets of water to neutralise its effect.

in water and gave it to Satish then gave it to Suhrawardy time they are doing this." Sahib, who after using it gave If only the leaders had taken

Hindu and Muslim, to unite ments also to come into the

Trucks were burnt by scores; leaders to take the pledge to- trams at Kalighat were burnt; day that they will not cam- the Kalighat Post Office was paign separately and against raided; European shops and each other for the release of hotels on Chowringhee were the Azad Hind Fouz, but will stoned and Europeans and get all of them freed through Anglo-Indians were roughly Anglo-Indians were roughly handled.

Suhrawardy demanded en- The Police taking advantage quiry into the firing, release of of all this opened indiscriminate fire and used teargas and lathis brutally. Casualties in-clude more than 20 killed and over 200 injured on Tuesday.

Case Calls in allitary

Governor Casey, obviously taking advantage of the top Congress leaders' non-partici-Governor Casey, After the meeting, a huge pation, broadcast insolently in the evening

" The lesson to be learnt for the second time within a few months is that political processions, however well intentioned, prove nothing. They inevitably lead to public disturbances and casualties. I hope very much that this second costly experience will have its lesson for those responsible for demonstrations in November and now."

And he handed over the city to the Military.

On Wednesday, the situation continued grave with the Military taking up positions at street corners with open tommy guns and rifles and Police lorries pat-

umber of times. themselves are largely respon-This infuriated the crowd, but sible. The Congress peace squads

Even at this hour, they do not agree to joint All-Party Squads which alone could save the situation.

Cot.gress, League and Com-When teargas was used by the munist squads are, however, patrolling the streets.
But it has been noticed that

when appeals are made saying I witnessed an interesting that the leaders have urged scene: a League volunteer peace, in some places people soaked the green League flag were found to remark cynically: were found to remark cynically: "That is just part of the tactics Babs. He wiped his own face, of the leaders : it is not the first

All INA Men

MADRAS STUDENTS' DEMONSTRATION

From K. Muthia.

· February 14.

Madras City today witnessed a unique demonstration. Students of all colleges abstained from their classes to protest against Police firing in Calcutta and to demand the release of Rashid Ali and all other I.N.A. personnel.

Indian Students' Congress and the starting place, but they did the Muslim Students' Federa- not try any of their tricks. tion, gathered at the Presiden- The procession ended at Pagcy College Maidan at noon.

Tricolour, League, Red and All- Resolutions—demanding the India Students' Federation release of Rashid All and other

shouted by the Students' Con- struggle against British Im-gress (ISC) boys, Madras Stu- perialism—were passed. dents' Organisation (MSO) boys. In the evening at People's intervened and gave the follow- Park, a public meeting was held

ban. Perk, defying the Police ning of our struggle. He appealed to the students to carry
The processionists carried the forward the unity achieved.

ing compromise slogans. "Re- under the auspices of the Mad-lease Rashid Ali, and the INA ras Committee of the Commun-"Down with British ist Party attended by over a Imperialism": "Hindu-Muslim ek thousand. SOMASUNDARAM, ho": "Bhai bhai nahin laren- General Secretary of the Madge": "Students' unity zinda- ras Tramway and Electric Supbad": which were readily ac- ply Workers' Union, presided, cepted by Muslim students and Resolutions condemning Police a large section of ISC students, firing in Calcutta and demand-

except a few who dropped out of ing the release of all INA perthe procession.

lords and the officials. behind their Sabha is having its to correct its earlier report. effect on the zemindars. After But neither Amrita Bezar the above incident, one zemin- Patrika nor any of the other dar came to the Kisan Sabha Congress papers has thought it Office and promised in writing necessary so far to publish the that he would exempt the ki- truth ! sans from this year's rent and reduce the rent by one-fourth from next year. More zemin-

to face the worst from the land- the Amelia Bazar Patrika con-lords and the officials. tradicting its report, giving the The firm stand of the kisans actual result and requesting it

primary election also, these same Congress papers have ac-

thers elsewhere is not only for munist bettle is carried on these their own just demands, but for days by the Congress press, Not our food as well, in the coming only is truth consciously sub-days of hunger. It is their pressed but lies are equally de-toil that produces the food for liberately manufactured and the rest of us in the land. spread.

In Bengal Congress Press: Anti-Communism Above Truth

HE results of the voting by the Calcutta Port Trust workers to decide which Union really represents them as well as of the primary elec-The zemindars are resorting tions for the Bengal Railway

Labour seat were reported in last week's People's Age.

In the former, the RED FLAG Union secured 10,485 votes as against 9,000 for HUMAYUN KABIR'S rival Union; in the latter, among the 168 delegates elected to the Electoral College elected to the Electoral College (which will finally elect the M.L.A.) 93 are supporters of the Red Fiag candidate JYOTI BASU, as against 75 delegates of By the time kisans of the for Humayun Kabir.

press in Bengal has "reported" these results.

paper.

Kisan Sabha, HONNAPPA NAIK Kabir's Union had secured the In Assam, only recently Assa- and D. V. SINGH, exhorted majority of votes! The Officiat-

FTER holding meetings in A large number of people their respective colleges in lined both sides of the streets the morning, 5,000 stu- and lustily cheered the long dents belonging to all organisa- procession carrying the Mustions, the Madras Students' Or- lim League, Congress and Companisation (affiliated to the All- munist flags together. Police India Students' Federation), the contingents were kept ready at

After the meeting, about 4,000 ing was hold, presided over by students formed themselves in- Mr. Raza Khan. He said, "Stu-to a procession and began to dents of all parties have shown march through Triplicane, today how unitedly we can kick march through Triplicane, today how unitedly we can kick Mount Road and Chindadripet out British Imperialism." and to hold another meeting at Peo- added that this was the begin-

Flars and shouted the slogans. INA men; condemning Police "Release Rashid Ali", "Hindu firing in Calcutta; protesting Muslim ek ho." "Down with posinet victimisation of RAMA-imperialism," "Down with Po- CHANDRAN, Secretary of the lice Raj" A number of girls Madras Students' Organisation also participated in the proces- and M. B. SRINIVASAN and sion. VEERA RAGHAVAN of Presi-The Students' Congress boys dency College for participating refused to participate in the in the January 26th demonstrative procession. procession because Muslim tions; protesting against hand-League students wanted to cuffing of Delhi political workshout Pakistan slorans also in ers; and expressing solidarity addition to "Jai Hind" slogans, with Popping students in their

sonnel were passed.

just demands and be prepared sent a letter on February 8 to

In the case of the Railway dars have promised to give such thally published the "news" an undertaking.

The fight of the kisans of fested the Red Flag!

North Kanara and their bro- This is how the anti-Com-

WAS interested in this con-nection to read Pendit

NEHRU'S recent speech at Goral-hour on February 15. Panditii said : "Today I was shown a

handbill which is being circulated by Muslim Leaguers and in which some sentences said to have been uttered or written by me, have been quoted. I am pained to think of the degradation of politics to such levels that sentences torn out of context should be used to exploit the sentiments of the masses. What will itmatter if a sent or two is captured by these means? How will it help in solving the gigantic problems that stare us, in the face "?

And here is how the Congress why does not Panditii also give a bit of this edvice to his own colleagues inside the Congress

-N. K. Krishnan

ALL-PARTIES' JOINT PROTEST AGAINST RATION-CUT Hunger March And Hartal

By wire from Ziaul Hag,

ALLAHABAD, Feb. 16.

When the Communist Party squads covered the mehallas in a week's campaign of gate meet-

ings, street-corner, meetings, the

common response of people was "What you say is correct. We

must protest, we should unite."
The local Congress and League
workers posed the question, "But
can we get together on this
issue?" Each Party wanted

the other to commit itself first,

each was afraid of receiving a

S the Ganga and the Jumna meet together, at the Sangham so have Hindus and Muslims united today in Allahabad, thus opening a new chapter in our common history," in these glowing words BISHAMBAR-NATH PANDEY, President of the City Congress Committee, congratulated the citizens of Allahabad for having organised a joint protest meeting and a joint hunger march against the Government's cut in ration.

It was one of the biggest All-Party joint demonstrations Allahabad has ever seen.

The hunger-march which had preceded the meeting was a unious assembly of banners. Tri-colours and the League flags, together with the striped banner of the Nationalist Mus-lims and the Red Flag of the Communist Party, made a medley of colours.

The best organised processions were of the workers of the Government and other presses, power electric water-works, the Fort. house, and banners and hundreds of Red Flags made a brave show, while onlookers smiled to see Ekka and Tonga horses marching alongside with Red Hammer and Sickle emblems flying.

The procession was a hunger march, and the majority of the demonstrators were industrial workers, petty shon-keepers and the town poor. Slogans raised were all unity slogans, the most popular being, "Roti ke leve ek ho", "Bhai bhai ek ho," "Hindu Muslim ek ho," "Dunia ke Mazdoor ek ho." But when the processionists passed a Government building or office, thundering shouts of "Hukkumat-i-Bartania barbad," and "Angrezi Sam-rajshahi ka nash ho," rent the air, Muslims and Hindus shouting with equal zeal.

Communist Party Takes Initiative

How had this unity been brought about, when only a few days before Subhas Jayanti demonstrators had threatened to burn down the Communist Party Office and blows had been freeween myal hanged groups hoisting the League and Congress flags on local schools?

It was the result of the initiative taken by the Communist Party in protesting against the reduction of existing ration from 12 chattaks to 8 and of the wheat quota to 2 chattaks and their demand for joint action by all parties.

RESTORE FULL RATION Demand of Allahabad Rally

RESOLUTION UNANIM-OUSLY PASSED AT THE ALL-PARTY MASS RALLY AT ALLAHABAD:

"This meeting of the citi-zens of Allahabad, convened under the joint auspices of all political parties, condemns emphatically the recent order of the Provincial Government reducing the total quantity of daily rations to eight chattaks per unit and limiting the quota of wheat to two chattaks.

"This meeting declares emphatically that a Government under which the people are starved has forfeited its moral right to rule.

"We demand that the full ration of 12 chattaks be restored and that the quota of wheat be raised to its original figure.

"This meeting congratu-lates the citizens of Allahabad on the grand demonstration that they have unitedly held today and calls upon all the political parties to continue this mutual cooperation till the aim is achieved."

On the 12th evening, a rally of 5,000 workers and others was organised in Mohammadali Park. Dr. Ahmad, the Com-munist leader, addressing the rally, once more declared that the Communist Party appealed to all, specially to the Congress

and the League, to come on a joint platform for saving the people from hunger and starvation.

Finally, the Congress and League leaders were induced to give a joint call for complete hartal, a joint procession and a joint meeting.

The hartal in the city on the 12th was one of the most complete ever seen. From early morning students and volunteers were out on the streets stopping all vehicles and putting up flags of all parties at the streetcrossings.

(Continued on Page 8, Col. 1.).

Watriot's Notebook

NEW DELHI BOSSES LATEST ANTI-COMMUNIST DISCRIMINATION

Permission Refused For Assamese And Kannada Party Organs

mission to bring out week-lies in Assamese and Kannada. As early as November 1945, given for the publication of a the Provincial Committee of our new weekly, Shillong Times. the Provincial Committee of our new weekly, Shillong Times.

on its election campaign.
Other parties—the Congress,
the League etc.—had any num-

ber of weeklies and dailies, Eng- is no newsprint! lish and Assamese, which were pouring out false anti-Communist propaganda, as has become usual these days.

The only party left to fight ut the elections in Assam withple, was ours.

the elections were over! And few months ago. now, on 24th January, comes The campaign first started in the answer from them that in Karwar taluk three months ago. view of the "difficult supply po- There the landlords were forestion of newsprint," our applied to yield.

the war.

mittee of our Party to bring out The zemindars are resorting a weekly in Kannada. Our Part to hooliganism to break the kity is putting up a candidate— san struggle. BALSINGH MASTER—for the On Januar

and weeklies of their own.

but a scandalous hoax for their news and rushed to the spot, anti-Communist discrimination, the goondas and the village In Karnatak, their favourites, Patel had fied. In Karnatak, their favourites, Patel had fied.

On the Calcutta Port Trust and to the bosses of the Conthe Royists, were given permistrated to the kisans gave the answer to Workers' voting, Amrita Bazar gress press? Or, is there one sion for a weekly last year. In this at a mass rally, held on Patrika, Ananda Bazar Patrika law for anti-Communist Con-Belgaum, a Congressman was February 4, attended by over and other Congress papers actively splashed the "news" that rest?

HE Government of India mia, mouthpiece of the business has refused our Party per- magnates of the province, was mission to bring out week- allowed to be converted into a daily. Permission has also been

permission to bring out a week- have recently been given per-ly paper to enable it to carry mission to start new weeklies and dailies.

And so on. But for the Communists, there them to stand firm behind their ing Secretary of the Port Trust

Meroie N. Kanara Kisan Struggle

Most inspiring reports are coming from Nosth Kanara of the great strugout a single organ of its own, gle which the kisans are wagto put its case before the peo- ing under the Red Flag, for ree, was ours.
The Government of India sat movement in North Kanara is tight on our application for of recent origin; the Kisan Sa-three and a half months—till bha was formed there only a

The District Conference of ed.

Last November, the Govern- at Thernamakki (Bhatkal tament also refused permission to luk, North Kanara), on Januthe Sylhet District Committee ary 6, and gave the call for non-of our Party to resume publica- payment of rent until the tion of their weekly organ, San- landlords agreed to reduce it hati, which had been suppress- substantially. The Conference ed in 1939 with the outbreak of was a mammoth kisan gathering attended by over 10,000.

Since the Conference, the ki-Similarly, under the excuse withheld payment of rent. The of "shortage of newsprint," the whole countryside is up in arms Government has refused peragainst the extortion of the mission to the Karnatak Comlandlords.

On January 31, an unarmed Bijapur (Karnatak) Muslim kisan procession which was Constituency.

As in Assam, in Karnatak, Jhanda ki jai," "Land to the we are left to fight the elections kisans" "Reduce rents," was without a single Kannada organ brutally attacked with lathis of our own-while the Congress and stones by the zemindars' and the League have numerous drunken hirelings accompanied Kannada and English dailies by a village Patel. Ten kisans

The Government's plea of By the time kisans of the shortage of newsprint is nothing neighbouring villages heard the

FEBRUARY 24, 1946

Mohan Kumaramangalam

UNO Security Council: Retrospect

True Import Of 'Anglo-Soviet' Battle

First Use Of Veto: Levant Issue

THE first meeting of the Security Council of UNO has now concluded; it will meet again on March 21. What are the conclusions to be drawn from this meeting?

Important issues were brought up at the meeting; the situations in Greece, Indonesia and the Levant—all arising out of the presence and action of British troops in these countries. And on every issue the Security Council took no clear decision, on every issue the reactionary bloc led by Great Britain succeeded in preventing the Security Council from taking the obvious action necessary.

But this was not all. Even if democratic forces inside the Express: Security Council were not strong enough to force a decision, yet there is no doubt that the London meeting has served a useful purpose. It has helped to show clearly some of the danger-spots in today's world, and to warn that reaction is still strong and powerful, will fight hard to preserve its privileged position.

Reminder Of Spain/

Everyone knows that British Imperialism's policy of inter-vention in Greece and Indonesia if allowed to continue can Veto--its Value only lead to another world war.

But it was at this meeting of Thirdly, the first use of the the Security Council that a ma- veto (by the U.S.S.R. over the the Gouncil and the world that issue) has shown its importance. this was so. The Ukrainian Even the Bombay Sentinel, delegate, M. MANUILSKY, while which has in the past consistanswering the argument that ently criticised the Soviet for the Indonesian situation was a its insistence on the veto, wrote: local matter for the Dutch to "It is good that the Russian local matter for the Dutch to deal with, reminded his hearers of the experience of the League of Nations and said:

"Serious problems came up before the League, I think

THE STRIKE OF THE IN-

than any single event, it re-

It started on Monday, February 18,

with a dispute about bad food in

H.M.I.S. Talwar, a shore establish-

ment; one rating threw his food away,

immediately all followed his example and not only refused to eat the food

but also refused to work. A strike committee was set up and demands

were framed regarding better food,

the demand for the withdrawal of

By Tuesday the news had spread to

In Fort Barracks the men with great

enthusiasm declared a strike, pulled

down the Union Jack, and hoisted

Congress, League and Red Flags on

their flag-poles. They then formed a

procession and went towards Azad

Maidan. Slogans were shouted, the

demonstration was one of the most

bay joined the strike.

rule.

In Bombay

particularly of intervention in the Spanish War. The League decided that the affair was and security. But I must re-

Security everyone that there are two cil," forces in UNO-Bevin's reac- The fact is that the entire tionary bloc and the democratic meeting of the Security Counforces led by the Soviet.

"M. Manuilsky and M. Vyshinsky have also shown the world that they are not prepared to compromise on an ism and the colonial peoples. issue affecting the well-being of millions of people in the colonies....In other words what has been happening in the past two weeks at the meeting of the Security Council is this. It is a fight between Imperialism and the colonial peoples. The latter have champions in the Ukraine, the U.S.S.R. and Po-land." (Feb. 14).

jor power for the first time told U.S. resolution on the Levant

delegate exercised his veto, as otherwise the U. S. delegate's resolution, which practically gave a free hand to the French and British in these

From Our Correspondent

A leading striker in the Talwar

meanwhile contacted the Congress,

Meanwhile, on the ships in the har-

the Union Jack was hauled down and

All the naval ratings converged on

the Talwar which emerged as the

headquarters of the strike. Here at a

meeting at 4-30 p.m., the strike com-

mittee announced that the authorities

were prepared to consider the demand

mittee had handed over a list of food-

if their demand was fully met and

establishments; lastly, they made it

clear that they would not go to work

They then told the men that some

officers were threatening their crew

that their action in striking was

mutiny and would be treated as such;

the strike committee warned these

officers that no victimisation would

The authorities are trying to crush

be tolerated by the strikers.

if the same food was given to all the

Demands Formulated

the Tricolour hoisted.

INDIAN NAVY MEN'S STRIKE

DIAN NAVAL RAT- meanwhile contacted the Congress,
League and Communist parties, asked
INGS IN BOMBAY IS A for their help and with the three flags

flects the unity of our entire bour also the strike broke out. On

people against Imperialist the flagable of the Navy, Nerbadda,

resettlement, pay and most significant, for better food and that the strike com-

Indian troops from Indonesia and the articles they demanded; they said

release of INA men and all political that they would eat inside their messes

all ships and barracks and the entire R.I.N. ratings, not only in the 'Talwar,'

Indian personnel in the Navy in Bom- but also on the ships and in the other

Popular Parties Contacted until their other demands were met.

militant I have seen in Bombay; the strike by repression, twenty rat-

though now and then passers-by were ings have been arrested. But the

assaulted, this was mainly directed at strike still continues (Wednesday,

the English Army and Naval officers Feb. 19)-the enthusiasm and morale

and the over-enthusiasm was quickly of the ratings is very high. They are

controlled by a deputation from the completely determined to secure their

Talwar strike committee. One naval demands; and though they come from officer tried to stop the demonstra- different parts of India, belong to or

tion by using a revolver but the de- sympathise with different political

monetrators fearlessly wreated the parties, they are absolutely united berevolver from him and forced him to hind the strike committee and their

HISTORIC EVENT-far more drove in a lorry round the city.

adopted by the Council."

So also the now permanently not within its competence, anti-Soviet Bombay Chronicle that it was local and did not wrote that "it (the veto) was in threaten international peace our opinion used in a good and security. But I must re- cause" though of course it had mind that only two years lates though of course it had my, trained by the British, and its usual fling earlier when it it is well-known that the preter the world was plunged wrote that the Soviet sponsorinto the most terrible war ship of the Yugoslav complaint and people had to pay for this against the reactionary Polish troops in Italy "may be, is a Secondly, the meeting of the part of the Anglo-Russian again a British satellite, which also possesses a partly-mechanism of the preter that the Security Council has shown struggle in the Security Council also possesses a partly-mechanism of t

cil did turn into an Anglo-Rus-Here is the reaction of the sian battle; but what the Chre-correspondent of the Indian nicle has to realise is what the correspondent of the Indian Express wrote—that the Anglo-Russian battle was at the same time a battle between Imperial-

British Plo's

The last issue to come up before the Security Council was the question of the withdrawal of British and French troops in the Levant-raised by the Le-

vant States themselves. The demand for their withdrawal was supported by the Soviet and Poland only-and when the U.S. resolution, allowing British and French troops to remain was passed, the Soviet exercised its vete and therefore prevented the prestige of a UNO decision being used to justify a plainly reactionary move.

In fact, the British troops in Syria and Lebanon (rather than the French of whom few are left) are there for a very specific purpose. At present the entire belt of Middle-Eastern States is under British domina-

Iraq has plenty of British troops and a 35,000-strong army, trained by the British, and sent boss of Iraq, General Nurie Said, is virtually a British

nised army of 16,000, called the "Arab Legion", which is not only officered by the British but even paid for by them.

Then come Palestine and Egypt where there are large numbers of British troops.

War Danger

If in addition to all these, the British are also able to keep their armed forces in Syria and Lebanon, they will be able to control the entire Middle East, restrict the growth of the democratic movement and bring considerable pressure to bear on all these various States (who with Ibn Saud's Saudi Arabia and

the Yemen from the Arab League) to do as they wish. This is the real reason why

the British are anxious about their troops being in the Levant. The presence of their troops in the Middle East means that the entire Arab World is in their grip, doing what they wish them to do. It means a safe base for anti-Soviet intrigue and later perhaps an anti-So-viet war which will certainly develop into a global war. Already it is reported that Nu-

rie Sald, on Iraq's behalf, has signed a mutual assistance pact with Turkey-which is manifestly one more move on the part of the British to consolidate an anti-Soviet, anti-demo-cratic blee in the Middle and Near East.

Call To The Peoples

The question of the presence of British troops in the Levant is, therefore, not a mere affair between the two countries. It is one of the key danger-spots in today's world where the British -buttressed by U. S. approvalare trying to suppress the de-mocratic forces and consolidate reaction.

This is why the Soviet faced with a majority for the U.S. proposal of a free hand for the British, used its veto—a veto that is a call to all democratic forces to rally behind the just demand of the Levantine peoples for the withdrawal of British troops. February 18.

SUNDAY, February 17, was INDONESIA'S NA-TIONAL DAY-the day that marks six months since the Indonesian Republic was founded. Six months is a long time in the life of a young Republic, defending its new-won freedom against the duplicity and arms of the British Imperialists, oldest and most cunning of all Imperialist intriguers.

All of us therefore, will heartily join with the British Communist Daily Worker's call (editorial of February 17):

"All honest democrats ignoring the decision of the Security Coun- Story Of Their Deeds Republic."

Australian Testimony

Pathan Seamen who returned to India their gate-passes. on January 25. Soldiers of freedom, they had returned after eighteen months' hard struggle against Imperialism in the East. They were the Indian seamen who had struck work in Sydney (Australia) on October 26, refusing to go to Indonesia.

They were strong determined-lookme they showed me their 'credentials' -not the ordinary shipping company's certificate, but the 'certificate' of the low-fighters.

(New South Wales Branch),-

54, Day Street, SYDNEY,

This is to certify that SULTAN (donkeyman) was one of who gave invaluable service to the out a photograph—of H. C. CAMP-struggle for national Independence BELL, the Treasurer of the Indian of the Indonesian people by refusing to take Dutch ships to Java which had been declared black by "How can we ever forget him?" the Indian Seamen in Australia will He is like our own brother."

riotic bodies in India to give him back to India and our people."

A PAGE OF GLORY

Interview With Pathan Seamen Who Rallied To Indonesia's Call

Sd - I, B. Smith,

Branch Secretary, Seamen's Union of Australia. C. H. Campbell,

in Australia.

'Acting Secretary, New South Wales Trade Union and Labour Council.

General Secretary, Australian Communist Party."

first six months' existence and S. S. Pahud, a Dutch ship; but when get cancellation of this false slander pledge themselves to intensify the asked to proceed to Java, they refus- and their re-employment on trade fight against Imperialist intervention, ed to obey orders and left the ship; union terms. seeking to destroy the Indonesian later on they were discharged as deserters.

them with all sorts of consequences; sturdy frames. I must have stared a On this day too it is right and pro- they stopped their wages and confin- bit too hard for one asked me bluntly per that we should greet the 124 ed them to the docks by cancelling why I was staring at him.

reached the town-and immediately many wrinkles on your face and you the Indian Seamen's Union in Aus- look old? tralia sent their representatives to help the strikers. Later on the Australian Trade Unionists took complete charge of these strikers-arranged for inside these ships. I will tell you." their lodging and food and fought ing seamen; and as soon as they saw their case before the Indian (1) High Commissioner at Canberra.

Simultaneously, hundreds of meetings were held backing their demands Rs. 21 and Rs. 40 per month. They movement, given to their Indian fel- (they told me that the Australian work eight hours a day-in the most worker is very anti-Dutch); and in intense heat and all of them are in the end the Dutch authorities were the hardest and lowest jobs ; coal-Here is the text of the 'Certificate.' compelled to pay their arrears of men, firemen, greasers, donkeymen, "Seamen's Union of Australia, wages and the entire cost of their cic. Their officers, of course, are Brilodging and food.

New Bond Among Indians

I asked them who had organised the 135 Indian Seamen in Sydney this; and immediately they pulled

the Indonesian Seamen's Union here they exclaimed. "He was so hospitand by the Australian Trade Union able and sincere and you know that Movement. This heroic stand of we Pathans never forget our friends, luctantly. They were so sure, so

the Indian Seamen's Union in but 'Campbellbhai' would not give Union, part of a united Indian demoway. He fought doggedly for us and cratic movement. We ask all Trade Unions and pat- finally he won; this was how we got

any help in which, he may stand They were proud of what they had done-rightly, for they added yet another chapter to the history of India's freedom movement; by their action, more than any other section of our people, they have told the Indonesians that India sympathises with the Indo-Treasurer, Indian Seamen's Union nesian struggle for independence.

They were prouder still of what their Australian comrades had doneof their solidarity and their support which alone enabled them to win their victory. But now they are facing a hard life. The Dutch Company has classed them as 'deserters' and they cannot get employment on any ship.

It is up to their people now to carry cil, will greet the young Indonesian At the time when they went on on the battle fought by 'Campbell-People's Government, celebrating its strike, they were working on the bhai' and the Australian workers and

> But this is not all. I was struck by their faces, the many wrinkles, the The Company authorities threatened look of age in spite of their strong

> I asked him: "How is it that though Somehow the report of the strike you have a strong body, you have so

He smiled bitterly and answered: "You would like to know conditions And here is his story.

'We'll Change All This'

The basic wage fluctuates between tish or European and my friend said: "They behave just like the District Magistrate " !

"But all this we shall change," he told me confidently. " After all, we won our battle in Australia. We must apply that lesson here too. If all seamen stand together and build a strong union, we can improve our conditions. That our victory taught us and that lesson we shall not forget,"

I parted company with them refearless and I felt that if they wen go down in Australian Labour his- "The Dutch Company," they went their battle in India, as they wen it tory. He was also one of the plo- on, "harassed us terribly. They re- in Australia, they would be the best neer members in the building of fused to pay for our passages back, builders of a mighty Indian Seamen's

-Sibtey Hassan

PAGE FOUR

run away.

* Mailed Fist Of Wavell's Raj * Common People's Heroism * Lesson Of Countrywide Upsurge

For the second time within the last four months, the citizens of Calcutta have been given a bloodbath under Casey's regime. Section 144 has been introduced; Military rule was clamped over the city.

He atrocious manner in which the Military authorities ran riot in Calcutta is vividly described by our Calcutta correspondent on pages 2 and 6-7 of this issue. Nearly 50 have been killed and over 450 seriously injured.

It is the Casey regime that bears the responsibility for this shedding of Indian blood, for all the brutalities and destruction that Calcutta passed through. As during the last November events, it is the Police who deliberately provoked the whole clash by blocking a peaceful student pro-cession on its way to Dalhousie Square and brutally attacking it for nearly an hour.

cession was one of the might- ed them and marched them iest united Hindu-Muslim de- handcuffed into jail. monstrations Calcutta has ever seen and they wanted to crush the Police opened fire on a proit. All flags were there in that test demonstration. League. procession-Congress, Communist—brought together by the mass indignation spreading all over the country against Back the I.N.A. trials.

There is nothing the Im-perialists dread in this councutta a bloodbath.

The Imperialist Game

In his insolent broadcast of February 12, Casey declared:

for the second time within a few months—is that political processions prove nothing. They inevitably lead to publie disturbance and casual-

This is the bureaucracy's plan for our country for the coming the Bureaucratic offensive is a period. Panicky at the anti- political leadership that will British hatred and ferment that strengthen this, unity and guide is sweeping all over the land and direct this spontaneous upand drawing Hindus and Mus- surge among the common peo-lims together in its current, the ple into an organised movement. bureaucrats are out to crush all civil libertles and political life in the country.

That is the portent of the Calcutta events.

The bureaucrats have shown

their hand not only in Calcutta. They showed it in Delhi and at Meerut also.

In Delhi, the procession that was organised on February 11, in protest against the sentence on the I.N.A. officer, Rashid Ali, was a perfectly peaceful one; but because it was threatening to grow into a mighty joint Hindu-Muslim movement, the bureaucrats the very next day swooped down on 100 Muslim -League workers and three Com-

PEOPLES AGE

ORGAN OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA

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In Andhra

COMMUNIST TOPS PRIMARY ELECTION

By wire from Bezwada.

Feb. 19. Primary elections for the Scheduled Caste seat in East Kistna Constituency (Andhra) took place on the 14th instant. The counting finished today, Guntur Bapaniah (Communist) polled 11,041 votes, the three Congress candidates, Kurumaih, Pentalah and Shreeramulu together polled about 5,300 and the Scheduled Caste Federation candidate, Prakasarao, polled 740 votes. polled 740 votes. (Full story next week).

They did this because the pro- munist leaders of Delhi, arrest-

For the same reason in Meerut,

THE common people are not try more than all flags flying days are long past when they stories.

together; they know that could be cowed down by tear— The common man in Calcutta spells the end of their rule. gas, lathis and bayonets. All —of all parties and political That is why they gave Cal—over the country—Madras, Bom—views, Hindus and Muslims alike,

echoed these ignoble words in his statement of February 13.

What the common man in Calcutta thought of the Congress leaders' attitude is revealed in our correspondent's despatches.

It is this which was fully exploited by Casey to hand over Calcutta to the tender mercies of the Military. No wonder The Statesman, mouthpiece of the Clive Street Barra Sahibs, could write editorials that the real troublemakers were the Communists and the Leaguers; and that the Congress had nothing to do with it all.

Does the Congress leadership regard this as a tribute to the foremost patriotic organisation in the land?

Let Them Learn From The Common Man

They could have learnt the real lesson of these events if they had gone round the streets of Calcutta during those days and seen the common citizens, Hindus and Muslims, Congresstogether The Only Way To Fight It minded, League-minded and Communists, in action together. They can still learn it if they go round the Calcutta hospitals, taking this bureaucratic meet the victims of the Police insolence lying down. The bullets and listen to their

over the country—Madras, Bom- views, Hindus and Muslims alike, bay, Guntur, Benares, Dacca, —fought for the common de-Delhi—joint all-party protest mocratic liberties of all, for the

By N. K. Krishnan

CONTRACTOR DE LA CONTRA

demonstrations and hartals have release of all I.N.A. men, against taken place against the Calcutta Casey's Police and the Military. firing and for the release of all the I.N.A. men.

What is needed to beat back

Unless the leaders of the Congress and the League, League Leaders Too the two major political ortry, stand together and jointly

But this is not the lead that is coming from them today. For them the war for freedom has fighting the other and the Com- editorially on February 15 : munists to a finish, each looking towards the British rulers for favour and ald against the other.

Bengal Congress Leaders' Attitude

The cold-blooded attitude which the top-leadership of the Bengal Congress and their press took during the Calcutta de-monstrations has been described by our correspondent in his despatches.

mammoth joint Hindu-Muslim I.N.A. men. demonstration and left it leaderless and unorganised; not only failed to place the responsibility for the whole blood-bath four-square where it belongson the Casey regime; not only refused to attend the All-Parties meeting convened on February 14th, to control and guide the situation; but they dubbed the whole events as "mob hooligan-ism" and instigated by "bad characters"—just what Casey himself had done in his broad-

The Congress President too monkey?

The top Congress leaders' attitude only shows that they would rather leave the common people to face the Police and the Military and let the bureaucracy get away with it, than join hands with their brother-parties to defend the common rights of all.

can be no united, organised group, out of its factional hat-Hindu-Muslim fighting back red of the Suhrawardy group, against the bureaucratic offen- took up the same attitude of counterpart on the League the Congress leaders. The influential Muslim League daily, Manshoor of Delhi, coming from the headquarters of the Alltoday degenerated into each India Muslim League, writes

"The Muslim League has never resorted to lawlessness. . . Captain Rashid was sentenced because Muslims had not shown unnecessary anger and vehemence during the case. Was it not an invitation to the Muslims to demonstrate their strength? .We advise the Government not to put the Muslims to a test, otherwise the consequences will be dangerous."

For the Manshoor, the lesson of Calcutta is not the glorious Blinded by factional anti-joint Hindu-Muslim front its Communist and anti-League citizens put up in defence of prejudices, the Congress leaders the common democratic liberties not only kept aloof from the of all, for the release of all

> It only wants to use the incident to make a partisan plea to the Government and say: 'If only you behave with us and treat us as gentlemen, we on our part shall not make trouble for you'!

When the Congress and the League leaderships want to play such a game, it is the British who will gain over us all and drown every joint peoples' demonstration in blood. Are we thus going to offer ourselves willingly as cats for the British

THE CALCUTTA **EVENTS**

T Calcutta last week, the British Imperialists threw off their mask of f 'conciliation' for a few days and showed their teeth. We have had a glimpse of the devilish Imperialist plan to rule India through blood

On the one hand, there is endless talk of a 'peaceful transfer of power'; on the other, they use Milltary terror to crush every united challenge against the British for a cause common to all.

Military Terror

At Calcutta, they made the change from Police repression to revengeful Military terror. Governor Casey called in the Military on the second day of the demonstrations, and gave them the green-light to commit all possible atrockties : to loot, murder and humiliate the spirit of the people and not merely fire on unarmed demonstrators.

But Calcutta was only a foretaste of what is to come. The I.N.A. release demonstrations have been their special target so far as the only united anti-Imperialist demonstrations of all classes and all parties,

Casey has made it clear that he will crush any anti-Imperialist 'political demonstration' with Military terror and clamped down on Calcutta Section 144, which still continues.

It is understood that the Army has drawn up detailed plans for the Imperialist 'defence' of every town, city and district with blood and bullets. The bulk of the British troops are not being demobbed. All plans are ready to make another Indonesia out of India.

United Resistance

They thought last November's blood-bath would crush Calcutta's spirit. But the heroic spirit, resourcefulness and abandon of the common man upset all their calculations.

Rapid-firing tommy-guns did not turn back the people, even for a moment. Thousands rushed to the scenes of firing and not away from them. The spirit of the common man was expressed in the words of the workermartyr who lay in a pool of blood and said : " Don't worry about me ! Drive

them out first !" Above all, Calcutta has proved what we were being taught to forget : against Imperialism we are all one.

The Muslim masses, who have not had a major clash with Imperialism since the 1920 days, have learnt that their Hindu brothers won't fail them when the British draw blood. Bengali Hindus, proud of their long record of clashes with Imperialism, had believed that Muslims would only fight Hindus and not the British.' Today, they have opened their eyes in wonder.

Choice Before The Leaders

As against the heroic unity of the masses, the conduct of the top Congress and League leaders stood out in sharp contrast. The insane jealousy of each for the other led them to try and make party capital out of the upheaval and turn it against each other.

Now after the event, Maulana Azad has affirmed his faith in a 'peaceful transfer of power' and banned all anti-Imperialist demonstrations. He has let the Police and the Military off with a few mild words. His latest statement virtually warns Congressmen not to participate in any anti-Imperialist demonstration not called by the Congress.

Mr. Jinnah has not disowned the demonstration, but still has illusions that the British will 'play fair' with him because he pleads he cannot control the Muslim masses any more.

But there were other leaders who did not let the masses down and have got together to earry the battle forward. A Defence Committee has been formed with representatives of the Communist Party and 'unofficial' representatives of the Congress and the Muslim League to fight for the following demands :

*(I) Release Captain Rashid Ali and all I.N.A. men.

*(2) An immediate impartial inquiry and punishment of those guilty of Police and Military atrochties.

*(3) Release of all those arrested and full compensation to victims of Police and Military violence.

The masses have made up their minds and the leaders, will have to choose to lead them or betray them. Imperialism has given its final challenge to all Indian parties to close ranks or be grushed separately.

The choice before the leaders is this, Either they lead united, disciplined demonstrations of all the people against Imperialism to seize power; or Imperialism drowns all revolutionary actical of the masses in blood and

JUSTICE FOR THE ARMED **FORCES**

HE strike of the 5,000 Indain Navy men in Bombay shows that the anti-Imperialist upsurge that is sweeping our country is now spreading far and wide into the ranks of the armed services.

These strikes mark the total refusal of Indian servicemen to tolerate the had treatment that has been meted out to them. They show that Indian servicemen like the rest of our people are determined to win justice for

And everyone of our people will sympathise with and support their cause. The Semands of the strikers are almost the same as those of the strikers in the Indian Air Force during the past month.

Better food, better treatment, proper and adequate provisions for resettlement after demobilisation, the same pay as that given to British ratingsthese are some of their demands,

Every honest Indian will support them, whatever the party to which he may belong. . 1

For everyone knows that the conditions of our brothers in the Navy need radical improvement. The food is often uneatable, treatment is very bad, pay is meagre, racial discrimination the order of the day and resettlement schemes non-existent.

In addition the strikers have also demanded the release of political prisoners and the INA men and the withdrawal of Indian troops from Indonesia. These demands also will command all India's support for they have become the banner slogans of our entire National Movement in the last few months.

The inclusion of these demands also marks the identification of servicemen with their civilian brothers in the battle for Indian freedom.

The increasing strikes have forced the Government to offer an explanation and to justify their policy. A Government spokesman told the Central Assembly that everything was being enquired into.

None can accept the word of this Government that everything possible is being done; they have said the same on every occasion when faced with a crisis and on every occasion, as is inevitable with an alien Government, they have failed India.

We demand that a non-official enquiry committee be set up to look into... the conditions of the men in the LAF., the R.I.N., and the Indian Army and that its recommendations be carried out.

We appeal to all political leaders and parties to support this demand; particularly we appeal to the leaders of the Congress and the League in the Central Assembly to press this demand home and force the Government to do justice to the hundreds and thousands of our brothers in the armed forces.

CAWNPORE WORKERS LEAD BATTLE

Congress Leaders Ally With Millowners And Police To Break General Strike

All Organizations Join

-Except Congress

The Communistics Campore liarater Stalin, greenier Trade to the Provious called a wardness mily on Sandar, researched mily on Sandar, researc

indigeness contents the benders of the bonders and one the benders of the Monders death of th

when Arguments Fuiled.

Threats Against Workers

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in different departments.

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As some as the Generalization of the state of the remanigation in the state of the remaining of the state of the

Atherton Wart Mill vorkette by Mill, the Police were calireiting the Police and the biamagement to physically held the posted in each departthem back in the evening tee ment and near every line. The
conservations indees tried to held a
mention near the nell pate, heterring to the victimized workent, they have been thrown set. The mile police of the timeed out of helds as well."

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Mistrins firenk Strike

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ARTICLE ON

FOOD CRISIS

See Pages 8-9

Cin-lety Workers' Indignation: addressing a Their Reso.ve

IN CALCUTTA

Military Raj To Crush Anti-Imperialist Upsurge

With the imposition of a Military regime in Calture with many for the control of the control of

Indicates it to find authorise free from all freegres lend-periodics, for Congress leaders based the greater morroral to of feermal thus not only book along from our of the midral-act intered blacks. Modify grati-temperialist demonstrations, but (Continued on page 9, est. 4.)

League Pags. Let the blood of our marriers and this 'entity for all time to owner.'
This is the spirit that pervalued Colorate's number Bends.
Congress Leader's Dule It.
All "Hoesliganisms"

For what did we find among the leaderst Congress too leaders, with the one constitute of \$1. Artific DAS GUPTA. Side not spen days to come to the masting at wellington State, thought the first opening to Congress to provide the control of the constitution of the constitution

The list is reaugh to show one h-next sugarint that the store that

feetich from all Gregores land-ers kept away and only ex-beted the people in mount to sally reand the Greetens from-ner. A young blooding student

END THIS REGIME OF Forge All - Parties' Unity

O people can tolerate for long a Government which produces a catastrophic famine like the Bengal famine every three years.

No people can tolerate for long a Government which lets loose a reign of repression every four years to maintain itself in power.

But Casey and Wavell seem to think otherwise.

Governor Casey has just staged almost another Jallianwalla Bagh in the streets of Calcutia. "Political processions," he boasts, "prove nothing." He is determined to put them down

with military might and expects that the political parties would support him in this!

More Serious Than Bengal Famine?

Viceroy Wavell has just announced that India is on the verge of another disastrous famine like the Bengal famine of 1943. He says that our rice and wheat crops have fallen short by a big margin, and there is no hope of importing food because there is, simultaneously, "a world shortage." He has announced a cut in rations.

cellent Food Department—which has done 'fine work' during the to Rs. 100 per maund. It led to last two years and of which he now assumes main responsibility—would pull India through if the political leaders 'cooperate' with him!

But the common people are no longer prepared to tolerate a regime of Caseys and Wavells. They are rising in determined resistance against Casey's repression. They are opposing everywhere with hartals and strikes the cut in ration. They are determined to end this Government and terror.

ously rising would be developerumbling citadels of bureau-cratic power, leading to the setting up of real people's Governments of unity and freedom and ensuring food to the people—or is it going to. be disrupted by factional rivalries and the power politics of parties?

In the latter case, we would get weak disunited Ministries in the grip of the bureaucracy, incapable of tackling either the hoarder or the corrupt official, leading the country into another

disastrous famine. There is not

the slightest doubt that the situation we face today is more catastro-

The expected deficit, which Wavell himself admitted in his broadcast, is three million tons for 1946. Non-official estimates place it at four million tons and even higher (Times of India, Feb. 12 and M. R. Masani in the Central Assembly). All agree that the shortage will not be

lower than three million tons. This is double the 1943 deficit -which was a normal deficit estimated at 1-1|2 million tons, by the Central Food Advisory Committee in September 1943.

This 'normal' deficit was Wavell promises that his ex- enough to send rice prices skyrocketting from Rs. 6 per maund hoarding on the largest scale resulting in mass starvation within three months and mass deaths within six months after the harvest.

> The war in 1943 cut off imports. The bankrupt Imperialist Government, afraid to rely upon the people, could not get hold of even the minimum stocks needed for rationing key towns except through the hoarders. That is how hoarding became possible and profitable. In 1946, "world food short-

The question is whether this age " would create a similar movement that is spontane- situation, in which if we allow the bureaucratic Government to ed into a joint assault on the remain in the Centre and Provinces, the same grim tale of hoarding and starvation and death would be repeated.

> Prices are already jumping up even beyond the very high level at which they were stab-ilised in 1944-45. Gandhiji, writing in the Harij quotes Babu Rajendra Prasad as saying that the rice prices in Bihar shot up 200% as soon as reports about the coming famine appeared. This is no

The Guilty Men

How has this situation come phic than in the Bengal fa- about?' In the course of the mine of 1943, which took a recent food debate in the Centoll of 35 lakbs of Indian lives. tral Assembly, J. P. Srivastava,

the Food Show-Boy of Wavell, serve of one million tons and ernment never went in a real boasted that had he resigned import half a million tons every way to get hold of the fallow left the food situation in per- tion. fect order for his successor. But

chelas might continue to prattle, the fact remains that Indian famines are not due to natural calamities or to "acts of God."

hiding some plain facts:

a state of chronic famine pected rice from Siam (Times last two years of war, it some-by 200 years of British Imperial- of India—January 17th). how muddled through. ist rule, which created and Now Wavell in his broadcast First, the 1944 crop was a bolstered up parasitic landlord- (February 16th) sings quite a bumper one, which acted as a sism and strangled India's in- different tune and says that we check on hoarding. Secondly, dustrial development.

six months ago, he would have year against current consump- lands, belonging both to itself

then came the cyclones in the plemented the recommendation, them with seeds, manure and South and the failure of the it would have imported in credit at the same time.

monsoon in other parts of the the last 27 months 2,750,000 Even the Final Report of the country leading to crop-failures, tons. Actually, it has im-and, says Srivastava, "I cannot ported during the period only legislate for monsoons and 1,700,000 tons, i.e. one million cyclones." Despite what the Amerys might Central Assembly). This is alhave said and what their Indian ready one third of the total Is There "World Food deficit with which we are faced today.

In the middle of January, Srivastava was making optimistic ernment of India in the last two Those who talk of natural statements to the press saying years, after the Bengal famine, calamities and acts of God are that "India had been promised shows how blind and criminal substantial imports of wheat" and hand-to-mouth have been India has been reduced to from Australia and he also ex- its food measures. During these

may not expect any substantial imports though not up to the

and to the landlords, and let the If the Government had im- kisans cultivate them supplying

Famine Enquiry Commission has to admit that "the results achieved by this campaign have not been spectacular."

Shortage?"

The above record of the Gov-

First, the 1944 crop was a

CUT IN RATIONS WITHOUT POPULAR MINISTRIES!

encouraged high prices and led A Food Plan That to profiteering by capitalists and merchants on the one hand Remains On Pape and to starvation and lowering

gory Committee, and the Fa- vinces would be enabled to con- cludes: mine Enquiry Committee. It serve their surplus grain and "T sion for food grain reserves nor the deficit Provinces. has it taken steps to make This basic plan remained for hoarding of grain impossible, the most part on paper. The That is just the reason why the Central Government was never

must be squarely placed on the same guilty men on whose hands lies the blood of the 35 lakh victims of the Bengal famine.

Blindness And Bankruptcy

It was pointed out by a correspondent of the Times of India that on the eve of the outbreak of the Bengal famine, the New Delhi men did not know even har, the Government sought to the elementary facts about the procure grain through the trad-Indian food situation. Today er-hoarders themselves: The re-on the eye of the second disaster sult was the fiasco of the partial New Delhi seemed to have been rationing scheme in the U.P. and equally blind.

In January, J. P. Srivastava tioning in Bihar. was yet making complacent . statements deficit caused by failures in Bombay and Madras was roughly 2 per cent and it Orissa. should not be difficult to meet Ther it from the resources of the ful procurement only in the country (Tribune report, with Bombay Province and in some the Lahore date-line of Jan. 18). parts of Madras.

Within a few weeks of this, New Delhi was already scream- last two years was that the main ing that we shall soon have to towns and the labour force en-

time placed the basic food facts ficit Provinces was left at the of India before the public. That mercy of the hoarder-profiteers. Committee first found out that Malabar was for months on India now had a 'normal' de- short ration. ficit of 1-1|2-million tons a year -even when there was no crop- Report was the increase of food failure.

In the period of war, the imports due to "world shortage full requirements were made Imperialists financed the of food grains." If this is so, then available to India. The British

Remains On Paper

of living standards for the building a central reserve, the This is not so much because toiler, on the other. It was the Gregory Committee had recom- of the much talked of "world hoarder thus bred by the cor- mended a basic food plan for shortage of food-grains." In

has not made adequate provi- despatch the assigned quotas to

The responsibility of this the Punjab and Sind to properly adopt procurement schemes.

> chose to join hands to make for India. profits at the expense of the poor people of their own Provinces and of the people of the deficit Provinces, rather than fall in with the basic plan by introducing strict procure-ment and all-round rationing.

Similarly in the U.P. and Biimperfect and inadequate ra-

In Bengal too, the procurethat the ment was sabotaged by corrupt ing people could it be realised. erop- officials and notorious profiteers. Adras We get the same picture in

There was partially success-

The net achievement of the face the biggest famine in our gaged in key production in the history.

The Food Grains' Policy Committee, known as the Gregory The toiling population in the Committee, had for the first rural areas in most of the detime placed the hosts food facts floit Provinces was left at the

Another item of the Gregory grain production. A big noise It had, therefore, recommend- was made of the Grow More ed that the Government of India Food Campaign, but very little dent—Journal of the All-India should build a permanent re- indeed was achieved. The Gov- Students' Federation.]

war by inflation, by printing the crime of not having import- Government was keen on keepcreasing production and developing Indian industry. This

available to India.

Today, with the war over, both the American and British Labour Imperialists have little Apart from the imports and food-grain to spare for India.

hoarder thus bred by the cormended a basic food plan for shortage of food-grains." In rupt Government who manuthe whole country.

factured the havor of the Bengal famine.

The Provincial Governments were to procure food grains discording to the Eastern Economist,—the "carry over" were to procure food grains discording to the Eastern Economist,—the "carry over" stocks of grain held by the world's chief exporters—the United States, Canada, Austraplus foodgrain stock, to check lia and Argentina—are one bilgulating Indian industries re-hoarding and blackmarketting lion bushels. This is over and above the annual yield of these mented the recommendations of at control prices. mented the recommendations of at control prices. countries. Shipping space is its own Committees—the Gre- In this way the surplus Pro- also available. The journal con-

"The position is not altogether hopeless on the basis of world stocks and crops only if we had a world basic plan" for basic distribution. (Feb. 1.) famine appeared. This is no doubt an indication of what is just the reason why the Central Government was never and there. America's and Britain's disaster like the Bengal famine, landlord-ridden Provinces like Labour Imperialists want to use their food stocks as a political weapon to get a grip over the The landlords and trader- Far East and Europe, respectional to see the first see that is why they have cials of the Punjab and Sind at present-little grain to spare

> Thus, with no hope of imports from abroad, with no grip over internal resources, thanks to the bankrupt policy of the Government of India, and a crop fallure involving a deficit of three million

AISF Conference

(Continued from Page 10.) Only under a free Government

run in the interests of the toil-S. A. DANGE, Vice-President of the All-India Trade Union Congress, gave his impressions of the World Youth Conference (which he had attended as a visitor). There are many countries, he said, which are staunch

friends of Indian Freedom.
The rally concluded with Satpal Dang telling the vast audience what the AISF had pledged to do in service of the country and the students. It can be summed up in one slogan which became the most popular in the Conference, which rocked Guntur station next day as the delegates left and which travelled with them to the far cor-

ners of our country : OUR SLOGAN: "UNITE!

ALLAHABAD RALLY

(Continued from Page 3.) and appealed to the crowd to Some ugly incidents were pre-follow him to the park. vented through Communist ini- This behaviour was naturally tiative. In front of the Com- enough, not appreciated by the munist Party Office, some boys League leader who in a public tried to stop a Sub-Inspector of meeting again demanded an Police from riding a cycle and apology.

deflated his tyre. The Sub- A similar incident took place
Inspector getting panicky at when a huge procession reached
the shouts and jeers, snatched the Town Ration Office. a League Flag from someone. The mammoth meeting in the threw it away and hit out at evening was presided over by the crowd with a lathi. The in- Dr. TARACHAND of the Allahfurlated crowd snatched the abad University. Speaker after lathic from his bond and about a backer to be leader. him to a nearby hotel.

leader, NAZIR AHMED, de- won from the British.
manded the withdrawal of the Pandit SUNDERLAL, speakPolice and an apology for the ing at the end, movingly referinsult to the League Flag. red to the Khilafat Days and

The crowd had, meanwhile, said : swelled to 3,000 and was shouting, "apologise," and getting worked up. At this juncture, Bishambharnath Pandey came there and addressing the people praised them for their unity and forbearance. Then strangely enough he appealed to them to forgive the Police on the plea, "Police hamare bhai hain,"

lathi from his hand and chased speaker-top leaders of the · League, Congress, Communists In a few minutes, armed Po- and Nationalist Muslims-stresslice and the city Kotwal arriv- ed the necessity of unity and ed and the situation became expressed the hope that very serious. Dr. AHMED who was soon the seeming differences of in the office, rushed down and opinion among various parties he together with the League would be settled and freedom

"India and Europe are two Continents. Would - slave Europe be better than a Europe with sovereign inde-pendent States? Provided we unite to turn the British out of our fair land, what does it matter, if we have two or ten different divisions of the

HUNGER AND TERROR Provisional Central Govt.

To Get More Imports • To Smash The Blackmarket • To Increase Food Production

Food Dictator's 'Moves'

The "Soldier Viceroy" with a flourish announced that he is donning the toga of a Food Ration Cut: Only Step Dictator for India to lead her out They Can Think Of ! of this grim situation! What measures does he propose to

rigsT, he has sent out an "Indian" Food Delegation to the The normal ration of 1-lb. per World Food Board to plead for head per day is to be cut to 12- goondas and the owners' dalals India's case for an import food oz., i.e., by 25 per cent, while the to break the one-day protest ration of heavy manual work- general strike organised by the couptable Srivastava. It is clut- ers is to be cut down from 1½- Communist-led Mazdoor Sabha tered with experts-Indian and lbs. to 1-lb., i.e., by 33 1|3 per British. Political parties were cent. invited to send delegates. The Thi one delegate.

can such a delegation command means they have never dian" delegation to UNO?

tish circles. Obviously this bo- of cutting the existing ration, gus delegation is going to bring putting the people and work-India neither credit nor food. ers on a starvation ration.

ferent Provinces together, es- ment would be able to turn the no all-parties' Government can pecially of the Punjab, Sind, the corner by effecting such a cut be formed on the issue of food United Provinces and Bihar, in and that it would get more alone. order to bring these Provinces stocks in the time thus gained? in line as far as procurement There is no guarantee whatsoand rationing are concerned ever. It is quite likely that such We have had such Conferences a Government may retreat even before and they have produced more against the offensive of no results.

political power:

This is enough to show how candidates." futile his move is towards the has political leaders.

the famine is the cut in ration!

This shows the utter bank-Congress has rightly declined ruptcy of the Imperialist food The Muslim League has sent in administration, how they have Why This Disruption ? been working on a narrow What respect and authority hand-to-mouth margin, outside? What sanctions has able to get sufficient stocks, betions. The underlying reason
ferent from the so-called "Inhoarders and blackmarketeers titude is the fact that the themselves.

for the "world food shortage" rationing. They cannot think as he did in his broadcast, then of extending production, nor of one can imagine what success effective ways of getting more it is going to attain with Bri- imports. They can only think

the hoarders who would

tons staring in the face, In- me in my food administration the Communists and the Muslim question. Such Governments, threatened countries, dia faces a grim famine situa- without raising the question of League and ended up by declar- both at the Centre and in the Such a Governments. ing: "Vote for the Congress

> They had no shame to slander the very flags that had throughout the day flown side by side with theirs.

At ALIGARH, the same story was repeated.

The only 'practical' step At CAWNPORE, came the Wavell has taken to avert biggest shame of all when the Congress leaders actually mobilised the Police, professional against the ration-cut, (See full story on pages 6-7 of this is-

This situation does not arise just because the parties are opposed to each other in the elections. The underlying reason of the leadership of both the anything more than Britain's no plans of extending procurepuppet delegation. And when ment, of getting more extensive
Wavell himself pleads the case control of stocks—or extending British. That comes out the clearly in the attitude taken up by GANDHIJI and Mr. JINNAH to the food issue.

Gandhiji is right when he demands an all-parties' responsible Government at the Centre as the pre-condition for Wavell's SECOND measure is What is the guarantee that the effective prevention of the to call the Governors of the dif- such an incompetent Govern- impending famine. But to-day

An effective all-parties' Government at the Centre having real power can be formed only when the main parties make a joint front for the final bid for freedom and are agreed to confront the British with a common plan of a Constituent Assembly based on adult suffrage and the unconditional self-determination of every natural national unit.

Today no all-parties' unity for food on an all-India plane is possible and can be effective unless it is simultaneously a - United Front for the final fight That is just the reason why on the basis of freedom for all.

monstrations and hartals against to stampede him into it under The THIRD spectacular move of Wavell was to call in the cooperation of the leaders of the main political parties—the Congress and the Muslim League. But this measure is as bogus as the congress, the League and the other two.

It is true that both Gandhiii test against the cut.

It is true that both Gandhiii test against the cut.

In the various cover of the food crisis. He towns of the U.P. In Cawn—would rather co-operate with pore, Allahabad, Lucknow, etc. Wavell's food administration as there have been spontaneous it exists, and send his men to united demonstrations, joined join the bogus food delegation by the Congress, the League and than have anything to do with the communist Party to pro- this interim Government at the ... Centre.

and Mr. Jinnah have responded to the Viceroy's invitation formally and in their own way. Wavell refers to this grandiloquently in his broadcast as 'a lead' given by Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Jinnah in that matter, which must be followed.

Does this mean that the two leaders have agreed to support Wavell's food administration irrespective of their party politics? Certainly not.

GANDHIJI, while commend
determination test against the cut.

Obviously people have no continued to the present bureautration of the present to the present the threat of non-co-operation on the food issue" and asks, means which can be trusted to the present the threat of non-co-operation on the food issue" and asks, means which can be trusted to the present the threat of non-co-operation on the food issue" and asks, means which can be trusted to the present the threat of non-co-operation on the food issue" and asks, means which can be trusted to the present the threat of non-co-operation on the food issue" and asks, means which can be trusted to the present the threat of non-co-operation on the food issue. The determination of the British, drives him to the present the threat of non-co-operation on the food issue. The determination of the British, drives him to the great urge for length of just co-operating with a present the threat of non-co-operation on the food issue. The determination of the British, drives him to the British, drives him to the great mass upsection of Wavell.

This sectarian blindness of the League leadership will lead neither to the saving of lakhs of Muslim peasants from the jaws of the coming famine nor will it lead them to a free Pakistan in a free India.

Congressmen who nurse the illusion of forming a Government at the Centre without a just and democratic settlement with the Muslims must realise that such a Government would only turn out to be a trap.

politics", he only means: Help meeting, poured venom against to effectively solve the food

Provinces, would be in the unenviable position of the present bureaucratic Governments.

They would be faced with a worsened food situation and a situation of food riots under the disruptive slogans of "Down with Rationing", "Hold your Crop" and "Loot the Godowns." These slogans are already being raised by some disruptive elements in the present hungermarches.

Slogans Of A United Movement

The united protest movement which is rising spontaneously against the cut in ration is being divided and disrupted. The only way this can be checked is to build a united movement for food and freedom by raising the following slogans which must unite all:

 The 'present bureaucratic Governments at the Centre and in the Provinces which are dispensing hunger and terror must go. Our people will not be able to meet the threat of famine until they are replaced by popular interim Governments both at the Centre and in the Provinces, wielding real power.

. A Provisional Government of Hindu-Muslim unity at the Centre with real power can be achieved only by forging Hindu-Muslim joint front to convene a Constituent Assembly based on adult suffrage and guaranteeing self-determination to every National unit.

Such a Government alone would enable us to send a worthy deputation and get imports by aligning with the democratic forces standing for equitable distribution of available world faminefood stocks among

Such a Government alone would enable us to end the grip of hunger, stop repression and establish democratic liberties to develop our final strug-gle for complete independence and democracy.

 Such a settlement at the Centre would make it possible to form Provincial Ministries which will have real power to scrap the present corrupt bureaucratic food administration, punish corrupt officials, smash the blackmarket, give fallow land to the kisan and food at reasonable price to the townsman.

The central slogan about the cut in rations should be: "Postpone the cut till popular Ministries are in office.'

It is the responsibility of the leaders of all parties to join bands to build a common campaign to avert the famine on these slogans.

Unity for food can now be forged only on the basis of unity for freedom. Such a common movement built now will be the guarantee that the Ministries that will come into existence will be real people's ministries and be able to take effective measures against hoarders and corrupt officials and work out an all-India plan to avert famine.

The drift and disruption which we see today in the spontaneous food campaign the surest way leave the strings in the hands of the criminal bureaucracy which was responsible for the tragedy of 1943, and to pave the way for another and a bigger disaster in 1946. It must NOT be.

by G. Adhikari

hoarders of these Provinces are spreads. not likely to be made to yield Protest Movement unless the united might of the people of these Provinces is Against Ration-Cut roused against them. The Gov-

GANDHIJI, while commend-ing the fight against hoarding, blackmarketting and recom-mending equitable food distri-bution and increase of food pro-duction, says quite rightly that only an all-parties' responsible Government at the Centre can effectively avert famine.

hand, does not want food to be in the interests of election party made an excuse to drag him politics.
into a Central Government At LUCKNOW, at the meeting

The landlords and trader- more active as famine-panic

ernors who have been appearing there is a terrific wave of pothem so long are not likely to pular indignation against this dhiji's offer to Wavell to form
compel them to accept either cut in ration. Especially inprocurement or all-round ratense is the tempo of public deernment at the Centre is a trap It is true that both Gandhiji test against the cut.

action in the great mass upation of Wavell, surge welling up against the cut in ration.

But unfortunately this united mass movement is being disrupted and canalised into factional power-politics. Elsewhere in this issue we

publish stories of such mass MR. JINNAH, on the other demonstrations being disrupted

without previous political set- held at the end of the mamtlement. He merely says to moth procession (at least half Wavell: I am willing to co-ope- of which consisted of workers rate with you to avert famine; under Communist influence and you tell me what you want me League-minded Muslims). Con- It would be an Interim Gov-to do. gress leaders, Pantii. Guptaji ernment without real power When Wavell says, "Food and others turned it into a sec- which will have to face Muslim must NOT be a matter of party tarian Congress electioneering opposition and will not be able

MILITARY RAJ IN CALCUTTA

Shyamaprosad's Nationalist, for which the sight of the Congress and League leaders together is naturally enough a haunting nightmare, was seared and wrote on February 15:

"Whose was this brilliant idea of tangling—without authority— the Congress Flag with the Green League Flag? Who again conceived the brilliant idea of bringing over Mr. Satish Das Gupta, to lend his weight to this suspicious alliance, while other Congress leaders were (as they are even now) ignored? What is the role of the so-called Communist, Party of India

ignored? What is the role of the so-called Communist. Party of India in all this—the Party whose atock has drouped to zero of late?"

The attitude of the Congress leadership has been fully exploited by the bureaucracy for their disruptive game. Thus, The Statesman, the mouthpiece of the Burra Sahebs, editorially wrote on Fabruary 14:

mottriplece of the Burra Sancos, edi-torially wrote on February 14:

"Congress, we believe, had little to do with the preparations. For most of the demonstrations and also the resulting hooliganism.... came from League or Communists or both. Which was more active, we do not know, but we have again heard it said that Communists, aware that they are fading out of the political picture, have made vigorous efforts to show that they are not."

The Statesman also added: "We re-

The Statesman also added: "We recognise the moderation and good sense of some of the appeals, especially the Congress President's."

As a sequel to this attitude of the Congress leadership, when Suhrawardy called a meeting of the leaders of all parties on the 14th, no too Congress leader from Maulana Azad, Sarat Bose and Suren Ghose downward, turned up. Only Sta. J. C. GUPTA, and K. P. CHATTOPADH-YAY came. Spt. Satish Das Gupta acknowledged the invitation, but said he was detained by some other work. he was detained by some other work.
From that meeting, because it was called by Subrawardy, Narimuddin's group inside the League also kept

Continued from Page 7.)
remarked in moving words:
"Even when we face British bullets, the Congress leaders cannot recognise the League as an ally and they dub everything as hooliganism!"
The yellow columniat "Homa" in Hindustan Standard, mouthpiece of Sarat Babu, wrote oil February 14: "Goondaral has forced in Military Raj and between the two innocent people suffer." It added, "The Congress completely dissociates itself from the mob violence which has been called in by anti-Congress elements."

Shyamaprosad's Nationalist, for which the sight of the Congress and League leaders together is naturally enough a haunting nightmare, was scared and wrote on February 15: "Whose was this brilliant idea of tangling—without authority—the Congress Flag with the Green League Flag? Who again conceived the brilliant idea of bringing over Mr. Satish Das Gupta, to lend his weight to this suspicious alligner without other constant and coming last battle against the British, weight to this suspicious alligner without authority—the coming last battle against the British, weight to this suspicious alligner without authority—the coming last battle against the British,

RELIEF Committee's APPEAL

CALCUTTA, Feb. 17. At the All-Parties' meeting which met at Mr. H. S. Suhrawardy's place on February 14 (from which both the Congress leadership and both the Congress leadership and the Nazimuddin group abstained) it was decided to form a Calcutta Firing Relief and Legal Defence Committee with Suhrawardy as Chairman; Chaudhury Moazzem Hossain (Muslim League) and Bhupesh Gupta (Communist), as Joint Secretaries; K. P. Chattopadhyay, J. C. Gupta (Congress), Maulvi Abul Hashim, Abdul Jabbar Waihidi, Habibullah Bahar (Muslim League), Snehsngsu Acharyva, Somnath Lahiri and Panchugopal Bhaduri (Communists) as members. Congressmen, Leaguers and Communists are thus Leaguers and Communists are thus together in this Committee.
The Committee appeals to all patriots in the country to contribute what they can to the worthy cause they are taking up.
Donations may be sent to:

The Chairman, Calcutta Firing and Legal Defence

40, Theatre Road, CALCUTTA.

UNITE! FIGHT!

India's Youth In The Midst Of Battles

T was a conference in the midst of battle. The delegates from Calcutta brought with them the atmosphere of those heroic days-Nov. 21 and 22. Nay, they brought with them even the scars of that courageous battle in which students defied Police terror. Tumultuous cheers from the gathering of 30,000 at the 9th All-India Students' Federation (AISF) Conference (Jan. 20) at Guntur (Andhra), greeted ARUN SEN when he was introduced by our Gene-ral Secretary in these words:

"During the demonstration of Calcutta students on the 21st November, Arun was struck by a Police lathi and fell with the cry "Down with Police zoolum"! A Police sergeant could not tolerate such a spirit of defiance and shot him in the abdomen. Seriously wounded, Arun was in hospital for 37 days. Though he has still not recovered, he has come to greet the conference in the name of the Calcutta martyrs.

There were delegates fresh from similar brave battles in other cities—students who had faced Police lathi charges in Lahore and Lucknow; student; yet on ball from Lucknow and Travancore; students from Gwallor who had led a massive procession in defiance of the Police,

two days after 200 had been in-jured as a result of firing on a a workers' demonstration. The spirit of this heroic upsurge among students every-where and the experience of

unity between all sections of students forged in struggle left their bold imprint on the Conference. They coloured every every and resolution. They filled all the delegates with a new courage, gave them new confidence as to how students can unite and prepared them for fresh battles. Three days after the Confer-

ence ended—on January 23— delegates who had come from Bombay faced brutal Police terror, together with their comrades in the Students' Congress (SC), while celebrating Subhas

Delegates who had come from Madras were in the forefront of a united demonstration, on January 24 (in which the Students' Congress too participated), to protest against Police firing in Bombay. When tear-gas squads and armed Police were brought to stop them as in Calcutta they squatted on the streets un-daunted and finally forced the Police cordon to give way.

It was indeed a Conference in the midst of battle, glorifying the courage and unity students had already shown, inspiring them to new deeds of heroism in the fight for freedom.

Inauguration

The Conference was inaugurated by Sjt. SATYEN MAZUM-DAR, an ex-terrorist, who had just been released after 12 years in jail. His speech recalled the militant traditions of the terrorist youth, the great struggle of the Indian students in 1937 . to repatriate the Andamans prisoners and praised the new united upsurge of students recently seen. Two thousand two bundred and eighteen delegates, fraternal delegates and visitors from all over India attended the Conference, of whom 571 were delegates representing the A.I. S.F. membership of 60.598 students. Everyone of them was inspired by the new struggles of our people that were breaking out but they were also keenly aware of the terrible danger facing our country as a result of the growing bitterness be-. tween our major parties.

Resist Imperialist Intrigues

Moving the political resolution, SATPAL DANG-who was re-elected General Secretary of the AISF-said:

workers, peasants and students. But example : we must remember that Imperialism is hatching a devilish planbased on the disunity of our great parties to perpetuate its rule.

"Imperialism hopes that the elections will only intensify the rivalries between our parties and prevent them from presenting a united demand to the British in the 'Con-

suppressing its opponents. Just by winning the elections no party will win freedom for India. So those who stab their

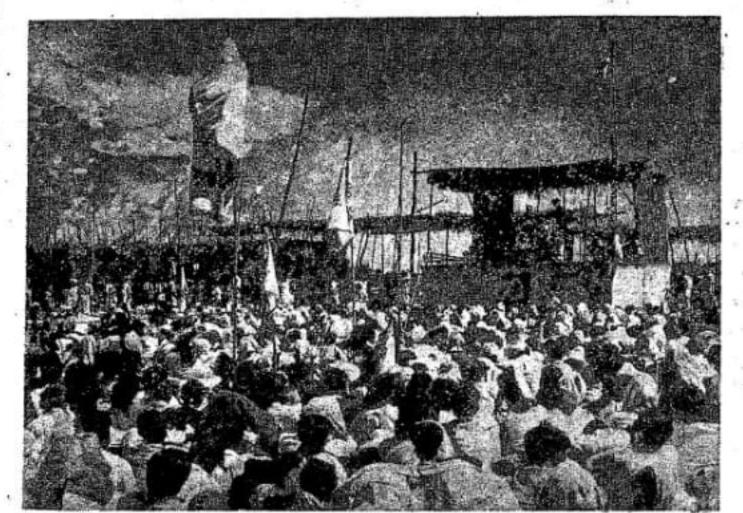
Warning Against

counted the story of how the recent elections in Agra led to a communal riot, how a Muslim mob attacked a hostel, how the belongings of four Muslim stutheir Hindu fellowburnt by hostellers.

Because he, as an SF worker,

For A Democratic Assembly stab the future of united student organisation inall youth, for they make im- cluding students of different possible that united struggle political views," said A. B. BAR-DHAN of Nagpur proposing the "Students' Unity" resolution : of 400 millions which alone will win freedom." Communal Riots

The grimness of the situation was driven home by GOPAL BAHADUR from Agra who redents staying in the hostel were



in typical rural surroundings, a view of the open rally at the AISF Conference.

stituent Assembly' which Wavell proposes to call after the election.

" In this Assembly the majority of the Indian people will have no voice since the vote is so limited,

"On the contrary, the loyal allies of Imperialism—the nominees of the Princes-will be there in large

"With their help and relying on the disunity of our political parties . Imperialism hopes to impose on us a British-made constitution,

"Our resolution demands that every party must resist the imposition of a British-made constitution.

our unity. We have seen how all remained in the SF. in Calcutta, in Chittagong, in Gwalier all parties fought toenemy. Through these strugthe desire will grow to come voted for the League. to an agreement among our the final united struggle for liberation. . . ."

The resolution on "Elections" also underlined how our disunity was playing into the hands of the enemy. ANNADASHANKAR Moving it, BHATTA-"In the last few months we have CHARYA, General Secretary of issues d seen the most heroic struggles of the Bengal SF, gave this ferences.

> of our political parties actually coming to blows and then appealing to the Police for protectionall in the name of freedom !

votes of the people but not by could be achieved.

wanted this fight to stop he was beaten unconscious by some fanatical students. "What will remain of our struggle against the British," he asked, "if we do not stop this mad fight among ourselves?"

PHANI BORRA, Secretary of the Assam SF, supporting the resolution, gave some inspiring examples to show—in contrast -that the policy of the AISF (of allowing its members to vote according to their choice) kept students of different views united despite the election-battle.

In Sibsagar, the Congress sup-"Let every party strengthen porters inside the SF campaign-the struggles of the people ed for the Congress candidate, which are breaking out, for while Ahom students supported through them lies the hope of the Ahom Sabha candidate—yet

He gave other such instances and pointed out that among the gether against the common delegates from Assam to this conference were students who gles people will see the had worked for the Congress strength that lies in unity and and a Muslim student who had

parties so that we may launch For A United Fighting Front

Keeping students together in a united fighting front—that has always been the main aim of the AISF and it was so at this Conference too. The AISF had always wanted united action with the SC on all common issues despite our other dif-

Though the SC leaders had "We have seen the shomeful spec- flatly refused in the past, the tacle in Mymensingh and elsewhere actual events of the last three months'-when students of all sections had stood together on every issue that shook the stu-dent world—gave the delegates the confidence that this was the "Let every party seek the way along with students' unity

ed to blind loyalty to the pro-gramme and leadership of any political organisation, however great, and seeking to crush all other sections of students and student organisations will do incalculable harm to the student movement in India."

Students' Charter Of Rights

It is at such a stage-after discussing our role as fighters for freedom-that most student conferences practically end. The delegates to this AISF Conference, however, were equally serious about their role as future builders of a free India as doctors, teachers, engineers, scientists. A long and most useful discussion took place on "The Students' Charter of Fundamental Rights."

The introduction to the Charter showed how the foreign Government has put the Imperialist stamp on our education in a hundred ways and how "India under Imperialist domination has nothing to offer us except a black future of unemployment."

The Charter criticised the serious defects in the Sargent Scheme as well as the Educational Plans of Provincial Governments and outlined the fundamental demands of students in a free India. It also called student organisations to fight for immediate measures to check the sharp decline in our educational standards.

As many as ELEVEN amendments came in. They were brought forward by research scholars, engineering students

GREETINGS

AM GLAD TO NOTE THAT THE ALL-INDIA STUDENTS'
FEDERATION HAS RECOGNISED THE RIGHT OF FREE
DISCUSSIONS AMONG STUDENTS OF DIVERSE POINTS VIEW AND FREEDOM TO VOTE ACCORDING TO THEIR OWN CONSCIENCE AND CONNECTIONS."

This is what Dr. H. J. BHABHA, F.R.S., Director of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research and one of the most bril-liant Indian scientists wrote in

Students' Movement

"The AISF aims at a single

"Naturally such an organisation

will not blindly support any single

political party, but will decide its

policy in a democratic way with

every section having the fullest right to put forward its own policy.

What is the alternative? If you

exclude any section because of its

political views you will split up the

student movement into as many

"This Conference firmly be-

lieves that attempts to build

students' organisations pledg-

parts as there are parties."

The resolution declared:

the course of his message to the 9th A.I.S.F. Conference.

The Conference was greeted by eminent poets, intellectuals, scientists, professors and teachers from all over India. Many Congress and League leaders also sent their messages wishing the Conference every success. Here are a few names :-

Poets, Intellectuals,

Scientists And Professors

Josh Malihabadi, the greatest living Urdu Poet; Yashpal, one of the greatest Hindi short story writers; poet Vallathol of Kerala; Dr. Tarachand of the Allahabad University, an authority on Indian history; Prof. Gyanehand of Patna; Prof. Kosambi of Poona; Prof. D. P. Mukherji of Lucknow; Principals Donde and Teja Singh of Bombay; Prof. T. Sen. Principals Bombay; Prof. T. Sen; Principal P. K. Bose of Calcutta; Mrinal Kanti Bose, President All-India Trade Union Congress; Mr. Vivekananda Mukherji (Edi-tor, "Jugantar" Calcutta): Dr. Dhiren Sen (Associate Editor— Amrita Bazar Patrika); Prof. Wadia and Pratapgiri of Bom-bay; Adisheshiah of Madras; Mr. Brelvi (Editor—Bombay Chronicle).

Congress-League'I crders

Rajaji, Dr. Rajan, Syed Mah-mud, Sri Prakash; the Presi-dent of the All-India States Muslim League; Mr. G. M. Syed; Prdf. R. K. Chakravarty, the Secretary of the Bengal Medi-cal Relief Co-ordination Com-mittee; and Munitar Pauliana mittee; and Mumtaz Daultana, General Secretary of the Punjab Muslim League.

Friends Abroad

Major-General Aung San, President Burma National Con-gress; D. N. Pritt; Rajani Palme Dutt; the World Federation of Democratic Youth ; Prof. J. B. S. Haldane; Youth Organisations of Liberated North China, Ceylon, Cyprus and Czeshoslovakia; World Youth Council.

ILYA EHRENBURG — THE FAMOUS SOVIET WRITER IN A MESSAGE SAID — "MY HEART IS WITH YOU WISH THE INDIAN YOUTH EVERY LUCK IN THEIR FIGHT FOR FREEDOM."

and others, helping to make the Charter more specific and forceful.

It was a document the whole Conference felt proud of; it spoke as much of the earnestness with which the AISF regards our duty as future nation-builders, as of the wide ex-perience of educational prob-lems gained by the AISF in its last year's work.

Other educational resolutions passed by the Conference dealt with demands of teachers, of engineering, science, medical and commerce students.

The Conference adopted resolutions on the INA and Indonesia; greeted the workers' and peasants' struggles and the World Federation of Democratic Youth and demanded the release of the 110 arrested students in Calcutta, the immediate reopening of the Agricultural College, Cawnpore, and the withdrawal of expulsion orders, etc., on students.

Rousing Slogan For Youth

6,000 visitors-apart Daily from the delegates-attended the sessions and on the 20th January, 30,000 came to the open rally. They were students, intellectuals and common people, workers and kisans,

The President of the Conference-Prof. K. P. CHATTOPAD-HYAY. Head of the Anthropology Dept., Calcutta University and a Congress leader-described what a national system of education should really mean, (Continued on Page 8, Col. 5.)

Bombay Primary Elections For Railway Labour Seats

COMMUNISTS TOP POLL

As Many Representatives As Congress And Royists Together Rly, Authorities Interference Against Red Flag

The results of the primary elections for the Railway Labour seats in the Bombay Legislative Assembly have given a resounding victory to the Communist representatives. The Congress, Communists and Royists were the three political groups contesting. The Communists have secured almost as many representatives as the Congress and the Royists put together. And this when the whole might of the Congress dailies and leaders was pitted against the Communist Party.

The membership of the learnt it from their own strugfour Unions in this proyince, the G.I. Railwaymen's Union, the B.B. & C.I.
Railwaymen's Union, the B.B.
& C.I. Railway Employees'
Union (Royist), and the M. S.
M. Railway Employees' Union,
had among themselves to elect
ists got 59 and the Communication of the Royists got 59 and the Royists got 59 and the Communication of the Royists got 50 and had among themselves to elect 73 representatives to form an Electoral College.

The primary elections for this were held on February 8. Out of 73 representatives elected, the Communists have the support of 35, the Congress of 23 and the Royists of 14. One is independent.

two members to represent them in the Legislative Assembly.

These elections, notably on the G.I.P. Railway, were a test of working class unity. The Union here was entitled to send 24 representatives out of the After struggles extending four hours before the elections, over eight years, the Union has been built up into a united organisation where the Communists, Congressmen and Royists work together.

Against the grave peril of SCF voters to support, mass retrenchment facing the orders from Babasaheb (Am-Indian Railway workers, it is bedkar)" only the Royist candi-of paramount importance that dates. preserved unity and carried forward in the Legislative Assembly. The Union tried its best for this. But Sjt. Khedgikar, President of the Union (Congressman), and the Congress bosses who backed him, foiled these efforts.

Disruption Of Workers' Unity From Congress Side

For them the issue of unemployment and unity to fight it was not very important. The Union's proposal was to allot eight seats each to the three groups working in the Union. The Standing Committee of the Union, by 10 votes to 2, had approved of this suggestion. The Managing Committee of the Union confirmed this decision.

But Sit. Khedgikar, the Pre-sident of the Union, flouted it and put up 18 rival candi-dates in the name of the Con-

It is interesting to-note that it was Sjt. Khedgikar who, only eight months ago, had said when he returned from the Confer-ence of World Trade Unions: "One thing I learnt while ab-road. It is that the working class must march unitedly in one direction, irrespective of political differences. They must

march under their Red Flag."
To-day Sjt. Khedgikar has
forgotten this lesson, taught to him by the workers abroad. But the workers of the G.I.P. had

Results At A Glance

The primary elections for the two seats for Railway Labour in the Bombay Legislative Assembly were held on Feb. 8. The following table shows the position of the various parties in 'the Electoral College. These seventy-three will elect two members to represent them in the Legislative Assembly. Com. Cong. Royist

GIP Rly. men's		
Union 10	8	6 1
*BRC1 Rly, men's		
Union 16	2	-
BBCI · Riy.		0.00
Employees Union 3	3	8
MSM Rly.		
Employees' Union	10	- 1
	-	77
Total 30	23	14
*One Independent l	hag been	cleeted.

name of the Congress and in Murdabad." the Congress candidates were elected; 55 per cent of those ers. those put up by the Royists (on the Union ticket) and 90 per cent of those put up by the Communists on the Union ticket).

This College would next elect Dr. Ambedkar's Support To Royists

The apparent success of the Royists has to be seen- in the background of their eleventh hour 'scoop' at disruption.

they got Dr. Ambedkar, the leader of the Scheduled Castes' Federation (SCF), to issue instructions to the Bombay Pro-vincial SCF calling upon the upon the "under

ists to create some disruption in near the booth. He forced the

In the B.B. & C.I. Railway-men's Union, Sjt. Khedgikar got only two representatives elected as against 18 for the Communists. One is independent.

these days, preceded by a cam- the Communist representative, paign of calumnies against the put up by the Union, by a comCommunists.

an average 60 votes, the Roy-ists got 59 and the Communists 76. Only 50 per cent of with the Flag of the Union in in processions.

worst to prevent the workers ment offensive. from exercising their vote. At Sawda about 50 voters (gang-men) were not granted leave. Workers Rally Behind Red At Kalyan (Chola Power House) the officials had to be forced to grant leave to the workers at 1 p.m. They just did not issue the Through the election, the circular till Parab, the Union workers have firmly expressed candidate, intervened.

Some officers even tried to out that Parab was not standing on the Union ticket, and the Congress.

that he was a Communist, etc.

The 'scoop' did help the Roy- election propaganda to be done Union representatives to leave the place. He got the order of the candidates' boxes changed to confuse the workers (and there were more than 40 boxes.)

But this game was smashed The elections were, as is usual by the workers who returned

On the polling day itself some On the B.B. & C.I., the officials of Khedgikar's supporters, feel- of the Dohad workshop preing themselves secure at the vented a number of workers Parel booth, raised the slogan from coming to the booth. At "G.I.P. Railwaymen's Union Ahmedabad, a hired band tried to attack the Red Flag voters in the page of the Congress. in the name of the Congress. The workers foiled their game by simply coming to the booth

The Congress claim for the Officials Take A Hand sown the seeds of disruption in the largest united Railway Union in the province—the G.I.P. Some Railway officials, as at time when the Railway Board Kalyan, Sawda, etc., did their is preparing for its retrench-

Flag Lead

themselves in favour of the Red Flag and its policy of united confuse the workers by putting first warning against attempts struggle. It has been their at disruption in the name of It will serve working-class interests best if The Returning Officer at Kal- this warning is taken seriously yan refused to allow normal by all concerned.

Railway Workers' Battle Against Mass Dismissals

AIRF VICE-PRESIDENT GIVES THE LIE TO NEW DELHI BOSSES

M. Kalyansundaram's Statement On Central Assembly Debate

[Railway workers all over the country are fighting back the predatory move of the Railway Board to retrench more than three lakh men and cut the wages and Dearness Allowance of the rest. The All-India Railwaymen's Federation (AIRF) has put forward concrete proposals to avert this retrenchment, improve Railway travelling conditions in the country and the lot of the Railway workers.

News has come from Delhi (February 13) that negotiations between the A.I.R.F. and the Railway Boardon this issue have finally broken down. The A.I.R.F. has now asked the Government to appoint an Adjudi-cator before March 1. Failing adjudication, the A.I. R.F. will proceed to take a ballot for strike of Railway workers all over the country (to be complete before April 25) on the following issues: revision of scales of pay; retrenchment; hours of employment and leave rules; adequate dearness allowance.

The issue came up for discussion before the Central Assembly recently. Here we give an important statement on the Assembly debate issued to the press, by M. Kalijanasundaram, President, of the South Indian Railway Labour Union (the biggest and most powerful Union on the Railways) and Vice-President of the A.I.R.F.]

ETRENCHMENT on the Railways was the subject of an adjournment motion which was discussed in the Central Assembly on the second day of its session. Although it is a matter for gratification to all Railwaymen that their countrywide agitation has received the attention of the Assembly, the fate of the motion has caused widespread disappointment and dissatisfaction.

wages were only tacked on to the present bureaucracy decided to employ was not a retrenchment. justifiable issue which could be decided by Arbitration, and the AIR.F. are not merely sugtherefore, it was not a mat-ter worth the Labour Department's intervention."

Misleading The Public

ssatisfaction. This reply may befit a clever Both the Labour Member, Dr. lawyer but it certainly does not Ambedkar, and the War Trans- a responsible Administrator. If port Member, Sir Edward Ben- the Labour Member wants facts, thal, tried to hoodwink the pub- I would once agan invite his lie and the members of the attention to the 16-point resolu-House. Dr. Ambedkar said: tion of the A.I.R.F.

Labour Member and the War Transport Member as a 'fundamental demand, which is not a 'justifiable issue' for Adjudica-tion. Sir Edward Benthall says that the 16 points put forward by the Federation had been adopted, or, in any case, were receiving the most careful attention.

I do not know if this is meant for public consumption. But no Railwayman or, as a matter of fact, anyone who has any knowledge of Railway services, can accept this as correct.

Sir Edward Benthall wanted

the House to believe that only men who were employed in war work had been discharged but he kept silent about the number of regular Railwaymen who had. been retrenched on many Rail-ways. The total number dis-charged on the S. I. Railway alone comes to more than 2,000 and only half of them belong to the categories described by Sir Edward Benthall as war

Both the AIR.F. and its affiduced. Hours of work and liated Unions are aware that the fundamental demand not want to tackle the so-call-How many men a department ed 'fundamental demand' about

> gestions for the future, but they also expose the present attitude

> of the Railway Administrations towards their staff.

Retrenchment Not Necessary

The Federation believes that se. Dr. Ambedkar said: tion of the A.I.R.F. no retrenchment is necessary, "The fundamental demand The fight for security of ser- that there are no surplus men put forward was that not a vice by the Railway worker has employed on the Railways. This single workman should be re- been characterised both by the is so because even the present

Kolar Gold Miners' Strike

Continues

Starving Workers Give Cash To Communist Party Fighting Fund 15,000 March 7 Miles For Rally

WENTY-THOUSAND MIN-ERS of the Kolar Gold Field (Mysore State) have been on strike since January 17. Their demand is extremely reasonable—a minimum wage of fourteen annas a day for every underground worker. The British bosses of the mines, backed by the Indian State Administration, refused this and offered eleven annas a day in-

The miners are continuing their fight with grim determi-nation. On January 17, a complete hartal was organised by the people in sympathy with the miners. Students, traders, merchants, workers, including jutka drivers, all co-operated and stopped work.

Protest Rally Against Attack On P. H. O.

The dastardly attack on the Communist Party headquarters at Bombay has roused the miners. On January 25, groups of them thronged to the Union Office and demanded the condemnation of hooliganism. This manifested itself in their spontaneous demand for official condemnation of the attack at the meeting of 5,000 workers on January 26, where the workers' leaders VASAN and GOVIN-DAN spoke.

Though the workers had been on strike for several days and were undergoing severe hardships, that did not stop them from paying their mite to make up for the losses suffered by the Communist Party. A hundred and ninety-five rupees and a wrist watch were collected on the spot. A wrist watch, a timepiece and a fancy clock were promised.

Mass March To Hear Red Flag Leader

The Mysore Government had banned Ramamurti, the Tamilnad Communist leader, from addressing a meeting of the strikers on January 21 at Kolar Gold Fields. Therefore, 15,900 workers-including 1,000 women marched seven miles to Boothasuram in British Chittoor district on January 30 to hear Ramamurti. The funds collected were presented to him. Rama-murti exhorted the workers to stand firm until their demands were conceded.

The workers are determined to continue the fight to a finish. Public interest and sympathy for them is growing. The local press is taking keen interest and the demand for justice to the workers is on the increase.

Hours of Employment Regulations, which themselves require a lot of improvement, are not being adhered to fully. They have remained on paper. Thus, many of the departments are understaffed, which leads to extraction of unpaid labour. Leave rules, defectives as they are, do not allow the staff to avail themselves even of the little leave to their credit.

A careful examination will show that the method by which figures of the temporary staff were arrived at were altogether wrong; practical needs do not warrant any retrenchment, there is enough work to absorb all temporary hands.

With regard to the scales of pay also, there is much discontent amongst all sections of the employees. The pub'ic will be surprised to know that there on Rs. 8 to Rs. 12 per measem on the S.I. Railway. Here are the facts which speak for them-

(Continued on page 2, col. 5.)

ANDHRA CONFERENCE LEADERS INTERNED ON FALSE CHARGES

Police Torture Campaign Against Prajamandal Workers

Bezwada, Feb. 12.

During the last week, the autocratic Government of the Nizam of Hyderabad launched a widespread offensive against the Andhra Conference, the premier political organisation of the State. The Conference (Praja Mandal of the Andhras in Hyderabad) is the undisputed leader of the 90 lakhs of Andhra people in Hyderabad-who altogether cover more than half the area of the State. Its membership is over a lakh.

THE offensive reached its the peasantry and a terror to maximum intensity last corrupt officials.

week. A number of leaders of the Andhra Conference Police Terror have been interned in their vil-

Among them are: *(1) B. ELLA REDDY, the General Secretary of the Andhra Conference, and one of the foremost leaders of the State;

*(2) A. PRABHAKAR RAO, leader of Karim Nagar district, and a member of the Working

Committee of the Andhra Conference.

*(3) N. SANKASIAH, Secretary of Peddapalli Taluk Committee of Karim Nagar district; *(4) MURALIDHAR, Taluk organiser of Peddapalli Andhra Conference.

Inspired By Landlords And Corrupt Officials

The State Government charged them with attempting to obstruct it in its work of procuring foodgrains from the pea-sants and has asked them to remain in their villages and not to issue any statement or make any speech criticising the food policy of the Government.

The Andhra Conference has never opposed the Nizam Government's policy of procuring surplus food grain from the peasants through its monopoly. grain levy scheme.

But it has always insisted that Government's order of exemptions to poor peasants must be strictly enforced and that the stocks from big feudal landlords who own thounds and lakhs of acres should be commandeered.

The truth is that the internments have come because the local corrupt officials, big land-lords and blackmarketeers, ap-prehending that the growing, strength of the Andhra Conference would put an end to their own exploitation of the people, brought pressure on the Nizam's .Government to put through these internments; na-turally the Nizam's Govern-ment, one of the most autocra-tic Governments in Princely Intic Governments in Princely In-dia, was only too pleased to have an excuse to attack the spearhead of the democratic movement in Hyderabad.

Began Six Months Ago

During the last six months the Government and its local officials had launched a big campaign of repression. First it began in one or two taluks and now it has spread to eight districts of Telangana, where the Andhra Conference is work-

Cases today are proceeding in courts against nearly 200 persons, most of whom are important leaders and local workers of the Andhra Conference. Internees, including the latest, now number eight, of whom one died in internment due to lack of proper treatment for T.B.

Those interned include B. ELLA REDDY, the present General Secretary and Presidentelect of the coming 13th Session of the Andhra Conference; A. RAMACHANDRA REDDY, hero of the Jangam anti-feudal struggles; A. PRABHAKAR RAO, the undisputed leader of Karim Nagar district, looked upon as their best friend by masses of

ing on a reign of terror and mocratic upsurge inside Hyde-violence against the workers of rabad. the Andhra Conference. Many have been tortured in the most barbaric manner. Recently some workers of the Andhra Conference were arrested in connection with the struggle against Vishnu Deshmukh of Jangam taluk, an oppressive zemindar. The police poured urine into

them severely.

In Nallagonda town, Andhra Conference workers were beaten in the streets and for one and a half months, a regular terror campaign was conduct-ed. Worst of all has been the beating-up and maltreatment of D. SUBBA RAO, the Secretary, of the Nallagonda District Committee of the Andhra Conference (see below).

their mouths, threw chilly

powder into their eyes and beat

The attack on the workers of the Andhra Conference is an index of the growing fear of the

strongest people's organisation in the State; with a mem-bership of over a lakh, it has 150 whole-time workers and a budget of one lakh rupees. It has conducted mighty antilandlord struggles— against illegal taxation and 'zigari'

(forced labour). It has been the inspirer and leader of a big campaign against corrupt officials and blackmarketeers.

The Andhra Conference is confident that it can fight back this repression, and it looks to its brothers outside Hyderabad for help in its just cause. Particularly, the Andhra Conference looks to the Praja Mandals in other States and the All-India States' Peoples' Conference and its President, Pandit Nehru, to take up its cause and defend the people's movement in the biggest Princely State in India, one of the strongholds of British Imperialism.

The Case Of Sjt.Subba Rao

For the last year, D. SUB-BA RAO, Secretary of the Nal-lagonda District Committee of the Andhra Conference and member of its Working Com-mittee, has been in jail, in connection with a case launched against him by an oppressive zemindar, one Vishnu Deshmukh of Jangam taluk. Along with other colleagues of his, he has not been allowed bail, but has been kept in jail.

Not long ago two High Court legs were l Judges—the Hon. Mr. Kamar another week. Hassan and the Hon. Nawab 'This is how Hasheem Ali Khan-visited the Hyderabad Central Jail to inspect it. As usual, accompanied has been by the Jail Suprintendent, they pression.

V. V. Sastry

went round the prisoners, for-mally asking if there was anything wrong.

No one said anything- the Superintendent's presence si-lenced them—until the visitors reached D. Subba Rao. He immediately complained that 70 prisoners were crammed together in a block meant for merely 38 people and that though the matter had been brought to the notice of the Jail Superinten-dent, he had done nothing.

Treatment After **Judges Visit**

The Judges left but the Superintendent remained and that same day, Subba Rao was put into solitary confinement. And

here is the treatment that he is reported to have been given:

The Jamedar asked him threateningly why he had complained to the Judges and receiving no reply, ordered the warders Mohammed Kasim and another to heet him another, to beat him.
 He was put in chains. His

clothes except the dhoti and shirt were taken away, he was left with no shawl for the night. He was kept like this for a week, allowed no bath, no

facilities of any sort.

Even after this week, his legs were kept in fetters for

This is how the Hyderabad Government treats its prisoners -political prisoners whose crime has been that they fought op-



Funeral procession of victims of Gwalier Police firing.

Victory For All-Parties' Joint Action In Gwalior

BIRLA MILL WORKERS WIN ALL DEMANDS

Impartial Enquiry Committee On Police Firing

THE UNPRECEDENTED WAVE OF POPULAR DEMONSTRAtions that followed the 12th January firing on unarmed strikers of the Birla-owned J. C. Mills in Gwalior and the mighty all-party unity that the people forged to back up the workers' demands, have scored resounding victories so far. THE STRIKE HAD BEEN LED BY THE RED FLAG. THE Birlas, hand in glove with the most notorious elements in the State administration, wanted to make it an opportunity to iso-

had to be released and warrants against, the rest summarily

est victories of a united people, the workers.

January 12 last, Mr. Powar, the Minister for Army and Police ordered firing on a mass of un- had to be disowned even by his of the Gwalior Government,

the opposite.

Owned J. C. Mills, Gwalior. As At this stage, Mr. Mandelia, a result it is estimated about 17 Birla's Manager, who had conmunist leaders of the workers were killed and many wounded. spired with Mr. Powar for the had to be released and many wounded.

He thought he would drown against. the rest summarily the workers' struggle in blood. withdrawn, but the workers What he however succeeded in have also secured all their dewas rousing, as nothing else mands on the Birlas. A Comercial parties of the people in the has been appointed. The high ranking officers responsible for the firing have been "sent on leave," out of the State.

It has been one of the mightiest victories of a united people, the workers. the workers' struggle in blood.

An All-Parties' Committee of It will be remembered that on Action was formed which anuary 12 last. Mr. Powar, held mammoth demonstrations throughout the State.

In the end, Mr. Powar's action

Meanwhile, the All-Parties' pletely impartial enquiry."

Committee demanded the immediate settlement of the workers' demands. Talks for settleMobits and others remarked. ers' demands. Talks for settle- Mohite and others responsible cratic movement in the State.

What really happened was quite armed strikers of the Birla
the opposite

"Don't think that this is just a matter that concerns you and the workers. Today it has become the united demand of the entire people of Gwalior. We shall rest only when we have forced these demands through."

And the people did force the demands through.

On January 21, the Industrial Court gave its decision in favour of a Bonus and Dearness Allowance to the workers, which had been their just demand. The 27 workers of the Spinning Department who had been provo-catively dismissed should be taken back. All those workers who were wounded in the firing should be reinstated. There should be no victimisation; and a Housing Committee should be appointed with two representatives each of the Mazdoor Sabha, the Owners and the Government and one Housing Expert. Such were the recommenda-tions of the court.

Assurance has also been given that working hours would be reduced from 10 to 9, and that an Enquiry Commission will go into the problem of standardisation of wages, secret wage cuts, bonus, dearness allowance, etc. The workers will have their representatives on this Com-

But the people would not rest on their oars. An impartial Committee to enquire into the firing and immediate suspension of Mr. Powar and his collaborators in the crime was also their demand.

And news has come that they have won this demand also. The State authorities have been forced to appoint a Committee of eight, four nominees of the Government and four members suggested by the All-Parties' Committee of Action.

An Official Communique has colleagues of the Council of also been issued emphasizing the Maharaja's "determination

ment were opened between the for the firing have been sent Commerce Minister and other out of the State on compulsory Government officials, on the one leave pending the results of

No Nationalist paper with the sig-nificant exception, of course of the Birla-owned dallies (and a handful of professional anti-Communist jour-nals) supported the Birlas and the State authorities.

spired with Mr. Powar for the firing, started to put up obstacles. But even the Government officials had to pull him up. Mr. Abdul Rashid, President of the All-Parties' Committee of Action, spoke for the people of the State when he warned Mr. Mandelia:

"Don't think that this is

And Dr. Atal, specially deputed by Pandit Nehru to enquire into the matter, found time on Subhas Day to deprecate "attempts at Hindu-Muslim unity in this State"! This, when one of the mightiest demonstrations of Hindu-Muslim unity had forced the State bureaucracy to come down!

But the people's movement in Gwelior has passed beyond the stage of disruption by such gentlemen.