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TWOPENCE.

N. WEST AERO STRIKE Convenor Resigns from C.P.

By TOM BURNS

ABOUT 1,000 AERO WORKERS OF A LARGE FACTORY CAME OUT ON STRIKE ON MONDAY, 2ND AUGUST, AND 15,000 OTHER WORKERS VOTED TO COME OUT IN SYMPATHY WITH THEIR COLLEAGUES ON THE FOLLOWING FRIDAY.

The strike was caused by the attacks of the Management on time taken for two operations on the main-bearing section, which meant a total reduction of 90 minutes. Following closely on the refusal of this powerful Company to meet a two and a half year old agreement to pay male rate to girls for doing the job, the factory is seething with unrest.

Repercussions have been felt inside the ranks of the Shop Stewards Committee. The stewards who remained loyal to their class gave a splendid lead. A. McElroy, Convenor of the Factory and prominent member of the Communist Party, publicly broke from the C.P. at a mass meeting of the workers because he opposed its strike-breaking policy.

After two years operation of an agreement, the Management of the Block attempted to distort it into giving him the right to cut down the times on two operations. It was certain that if he got away with this, the method would have been applied throughout. The official reason was: that extra time had been given in the past because of shortage of tools. The workers refute this tale and say that sufficient tools were available at the time. Actually, the agreement was arrived at on the basis of: Reasonable time for an operation—more production.

The strikers met daily and discussed the latest position. Due to the lies of the capitalist press in describing the dispute, press men were chased out of the building.

The majority of the members of the shop stewards committee were Stalinist and carried out a vicious and silent campaign to isolate the strikers from workers in other blocks. In every dispute which has taken place in the factory since the Soviet Union entered

committee, headed off this militant move into a third conference. Let it be understood that this bureaucratic decision was taken when the workers had been away on holidays, so the workers were not in the least consulted. The 21 days strike notice was to relapse 2 days after the holidays.

The shop stewards committee did not take an open stand on the strike in the early stages. The Stalinists hoped by such a manoeuvre, to slide out of further exposure. But on the Thursday, 5th August, despite the presence of C.P. spokesmen, 15,000 workers voted for strike action in support of the strikers. It was correctly expressed by the factory convenor that the minority of blocks who did not favour strike action, would have certainly followed the others out on the street later. In face of this fine spirit, the shop stewards' committee, fearing the spread of this dispute, issue a statement on Friday morning, 6th August, calling upon the workers to resume work. A minority of the shop stewards on the committee opposed.

The attitude adopted by the factory Convenor, A. McElroy had been hardened during the process of the struggle. Although a well known member of the Communist Party he came out this morning and opposed the party line. He tabled a motion asking for financial support for the strikers but got defeated. This comrade then announced his resignation from the Communist Party.

When the shop stewards committee decision was made known to strikers' meeting at noon in the same day, it was booted. Craigie Hill, the popular convenor of the block on strike said it

AID THE ITALIAN REVOLUTION

Land to the Peasants!
Factories to Workers!

BY TED GRANT

THE FALL OF MUSSOLINI POSES MANY QUESTIONS BEFORE THE WORKERS OF ITALY AND THE WORLD. WHAT SORT OF REVOLUTION IS BEGINNING IN THE ITALIAN PENINSULA? WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THE BADOGLIO REGIME? IS THE REVOLUTION IN ITALY A "DEMOCRATIC" ONE AND WHAT ARE THE PERSPECTIVES FOR THE REVOLUTION? ALL THESE QUESTIONS IMMEDIATELY SPRING TO THE MIND OF SOCIALIST WORKERS.

The events of the past fortnight have been the means of elucidating what is taking place, in spite of the trickle of news which is allowed to leave Italy. Within twenty-four hours of the news of the resignation of Mussolini, the workers in Italy had razed the Fascist Party to its foundations. It was not safe to appear in the streets with a black shirt or any other Fascist emblems. Thus the masses demonstrated their hatred of fascism. In spite of the persecutions of Badoglio and the Italian capitalists, the fall of Mussolini was the signal for an upsurge on the part of the working class. Instinctively the workers have begun to take the first steps of the revolution—the Socialist Revolution. Workers' Committees—i.e., Soviets—have sprung up in the Northern industrial cities overnight. Beginning with Brescia, the arsenal city, the workers have seized arms and founded an armed workers' militia. In various cities the soldiers have



the first steps of the revolution—the Workers' Committees—i.e., Soviets—have sprung up in the Northern industrial cities overnight. Beginning with Brescia, the arsenal city, the workers have seized arms and founded an armed workers' militia. In various cities the soldiers have refused to fire on the workers, and in Milan they have sent their delegates of the Soviets, where also, significantly enough, they peasants of the surrounding district are also represented.

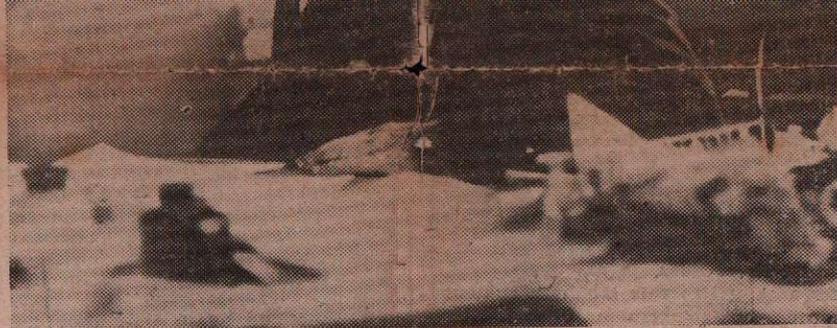
All these moves indicate that unconsciously, and unclearly perhaps, but nevertheless decisively, the workers have taken the road of the Socialist revolution. In Russia the revolution began in a similar fashion. The contradictions of Czarism had reached an unbearable pitch and fearing revolution from the masses, certain strata of the ruling class attempted a 'palace revolution' from above to prevent revolution from below, a conspiracy which was indicated by the murder of Rasputin by certain members of the nobility attached to the Czarist court. In the same way the ruling classes in Italy had become convinced of the uselessness of fascism as a repressive means of keeping the masses under control and of duping them; feeling the tremors of the revolution which have been shaking Italy they also have attempted to save themselves by a 'palace revolution'. The difference between Italy and Russia lies, in the

fact that the palace revolution has been carried out in Italy. But this does not alter anything fundamental, but merely gives events a different direction and a different form.

The idea of the Italian ruling class was to dispense with the inflated and exploded demagogue whom they used as a mask and resort to a plain military dictatorship, with rule by the army and with the King as a figure-head.

Badoglio's record and that of his backers indicates: that, in essence, there is no real difference between him and Mussolini. The same forces that supported and financed Mussolini are still in control in Italy today. The monarchy, the Church, the landowners and capitalists are behind Badoglio. Badoglio himself revealed his position when he said, in an interview with the French journalist, Andre Rabache:

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"GO FORWARD—I AM SURE OF THE VICTORY OF THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL."

Leon Trotsky

Three years ago, on the 20th of this month, Leon Trotsky, the most brilliant and heroic of the great Marxists, was brutally assassinated at the hands of the paid hireling of Stalin. When Trotsky died, the working class lost its greatest brain. For in Trotsky's brain was concentrated all the theoretical discoveries of 90 years of Marxism; together with the lessons learnt from the participation in, and practical experience of, the great revolutionary events of the 20th century.

Trotsky linked his fate with the working class when he was but a youth of 19 years of age. For more than 40 years he was one of the few outstanding figures who, with pen, speech and in action attempted to teach the majority of the workers and toilers of the world, that the solution to the world crisis of mankind was the world socialist revolution.

Trotsky personified the idea of world socialist revolution. No outstanding world political event escaped analysis from his pen. In Britain, Germany, Spain, China and America, always he was there: explaining, urging, warning, the workers of all lands that the class programme, the programme of the socialist revolution, alone could lead out of the impasse and gain them victory in their striving for a better life.

No Marxist is equipped for the coming battles without having assimilated the powerful ideas and lessons of the class struggle as portrayed in the voluminous writings of Trotsky. A creative, scientific thinker, an outstanding writer and speaker, and an inspiring, optimistic organiser and leader of men, who in the days of the blackest political and social reaction kept the banner of international socialism aloft in the air: these were the principal characteristics of Comrade Trotsky.

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Even as a youth, Trotsky was already acknowledged as an outstanding Marxist writer, and coming theoretician. In his early twenties he developed the theory of permanent revolution: the most brilliant contribution to Marxism for more than a generation. The Russian Revolution, which did not stop at the capitalist stage but immediately passed over to the Socialist Revolution, its permanent character, was in itself sufficient demonstration of Trotsky's genius in the field of Marxian theory.

Together with Lenin, he led the Russian working class and peasants to victory over the reaction and the establishment of the Soviet Union.

It was Trotsky who built up and led the Red Army during the heroic period. "Could anyone point out to me another man who could organise an almost model army in a year? We have such a man," said Lenin to Maxim Gorky, speaking of Trotsky. Let the paid Stalinist pen prostitutes and hacks falsify history and spin their web of lies around the October Revolution; let them falsify the history of the Red Army, they will fail to wipe out Trotsky's imperishable role in history, as its creator and organiser.

In the training of the early cadres of international Bolshevism and the building of the Communist International, Trotsky was here too, responsible for a large measure of directive and leadership. The majority of theses and resolutions of the first four congresses of the Communist International were written by Trotsky in collaboration with Lenin.

In the long run, history is determined by the development of the means of production and the social conflict which arises around the means of life. "Great men" do not determine the fate of Humanity apart from the social process. But "great men" certainly are personally important and decisive

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The majority of the members of the shop stewards committee were Stalinist and carried out a vicious and silent campaign to isolate the strikers from workers in other blocks. In every dispute which has taken place in the factory since the Soviet Union entered the war, and there have been many, the workers have had to contend with two main reactionary forces—the employers and the Stalinist shop stewards. This has naturally resulted in a growth of opposition to the tactics of the so-called "Communist" Party.

It is worth while noting that for over two years, the claims of the women for the rate for the job, although this scheme operates in other factories, has been flouted by the management. But a genuine lead from a militant shop stewards committee backed by the solid mass of the workers could long ago have forced the management to adopt this payment, being part of a union agreement recognised by both sides. But simply because the shop stewards committee was directed by a false policy, which made all-out collaboration an outstanding issue with the management, this important demand of the workers was conveniently pushed aside as being too explosive. It was only when the workers' piece-work rates were being attacked that this gave the girls the possibility to force the issue themselves.

When the 25,000 workers voted to go out on strike to attain this demand in early July, the Stalinists utilising once again their majority on the S.S.

When the shop stewards committee decision was known to strikers' meeting at noon in the same day, it was booed. Craigie Hill, the popular convenor of the block on strike said it was a scandal and later called upon the workers to clear out the Stalinist Stewards from their positions. Bro. Cameron, convenor of another block, who was on the platform exposed the Communist Party for sabotaging the strike. He branded them as just agents of Stalin and bosses' stooges having nothing in common with the working class struggle. The meeting readily recognised these truths from their own experiences and loudly cheered. **Not one Stalinist on the platform defended himself.**

The whole issue of this strike was clouded by the present national enquiry being undertaken by the Government on the women's rates in the factory. The totally wrong position was taken by many who stated that the strike would harm the decisions of this enquiry. Others stated that such a show of strength is the only weapon which can wring concessions from the employers and the strike should have been characterised as an instalment of what was coming unless the women received equal pay for the job.

Bro. Cameron recommended that, as the decision of the Shop Stewards Committee is likely to confuse and divide the workers in other blocks, he would advise strikers to go back to work

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LOTHIAN MINERS DEFEND JAILED SONS

NESSIE LAWRIE

Bevin's reactionary proposal, for the drafting of boys of from 16 to 18 down the pit, and its cowardly approval by the miners' leaders, has been accepted by the boss class as a mandate for still greater repressive measures against the young miners of Britain. The offensive has begun in one of the 'quietest' areas in Scotland with the selection of miners between the ages of 18 and 20, and harsh sentences doubtless intended as a warning to the younger boys at the pit-head.

For failing to comply with an instruction from the National Service Officer to perform underground duties commencing on June 10th, two young surface workers employed by the Niddre and Benhar Coal Co. were each sentenced in the Edinburgh Sheriff Court on August 2nd to 30 days imprisonment without the option of a fine. Great indignation and resentment at such penalties was strongly expressed throughout the colliery district of Newcraighall and Niddrie. This resulted that evening in a protest meeting of about 200 miners held outside the pit-head baths, night shift workers of the Klondyke Pit refusing

to go down below despite the appeals of the president of the local union. Workers in the Woolmit Pit quickly followed the militant lead given by the Klondyke miners, and by Tuesday morning 1,500 miners had downed tools in support of the imprisoned youths. That the strike was 100% in support was evidenced by the fact that in one of the collieries only 13 safety men remained down below.

A hastily summoned meeting held on Tuesday afternoon found the hall crammed to capacity by 700 striking miners; 5 local officials with Robert Burnside organiser, and Alex Cameron secretary of the Mid and East Lothian Miners Association occupying the platform. The meeting was very lively; that the miners had a grievance was beyond dispute. Initial appeals by the miners' leaders for a resumption were of no avail. The miners had something to say and said it. "I'll be in debt to the government all my life," said one young miner sentenced to 30 days imprisonment with the option of a £5 fine and 3 months to pay the previous Friday, when recounting to

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DEFEND THE SOVIET UNION

The record of the Red Army in the past two years, which has piled one feat of arms upon another, has aroused the grudging admiration, if not to say, alarm of even the capitalist class throughout the world. The light-minded Hitler who imagined an easy passage to victory over the Soviet Union has learned his mistake.

After some of the most terrible and bloody battles and defeats in history, with the Red Army being driven back mile by mile and inch by inch, today the Red Army is advancing! Every class conscious worker will be filled with pride and joy at the victories of Orel and Byelgorod. This is a victory for our class, it is a victory for our army! What other army in the world could have survived the stupendous reverses without cracking up and disintegrating? What other army could have straightened up and advanced to the attack? Not one! A workers' army alone could do so, as the fathers of the present Red Army demonstrated

in the war against the interventionists in 1917 to 1920.

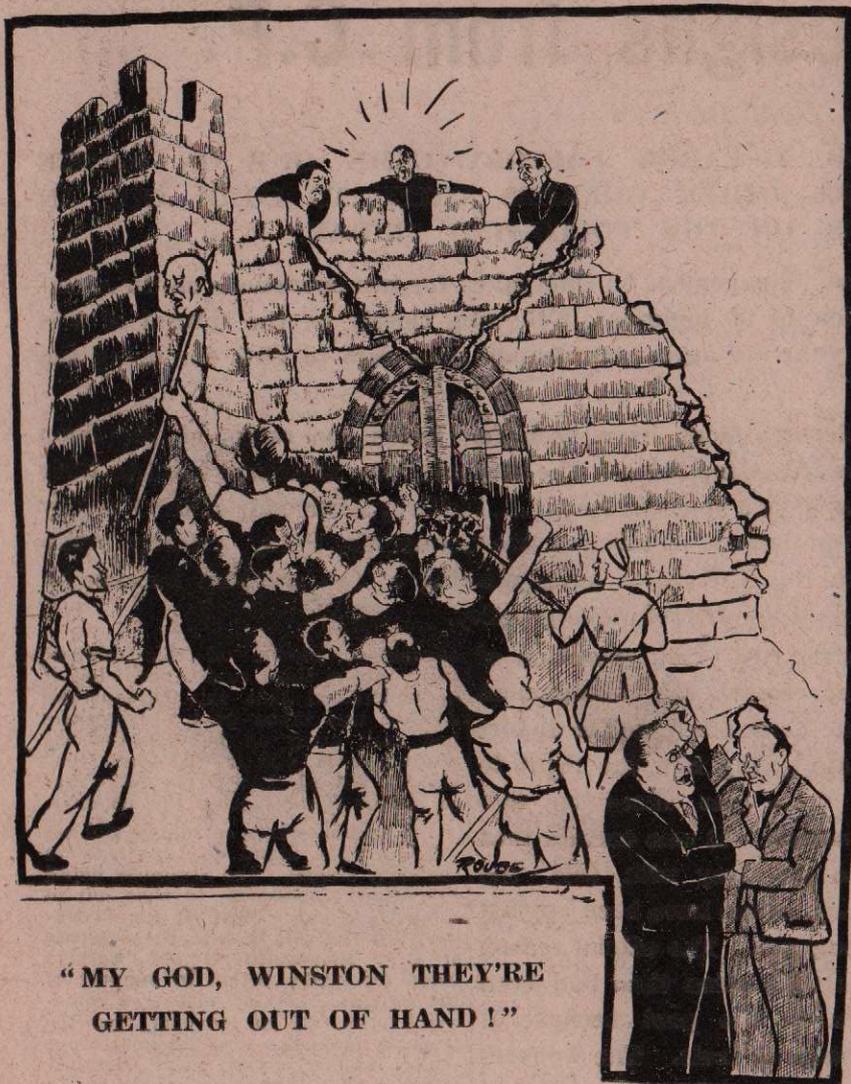
The main factor in the resistance of the Soviet Union lies in the magnificent morale of the rank and file soldiers and of the men, women and children behind the front. The workers and peasants of the Soviet Union saw clearly that the victory of the Nazi armies meant the return to capitalist and landlord slavery, in a particularly brutal and horrible form. They had overthrown the landlords and capitalists and once before had to defend their October revolution against the forces of foreign intervention. The Russian soldiers and workers have something to fight for, the greatest achievement of history: the collective ownership of the land, mines, banks, factories and railways. There are no big capitalists and landowners in Russia and that is the "secret" of the Russian resistance.

With these resources the Red Army has inflicted mortal wounds on the Nazi armies. Nothing in history can compare with this. Mighty Germany with the resources of the whole of Europe at its disposal, with the most efficient war machine in history has failed to break backward Russia.

The new advances of the Red Army will resound jubilantly in the hearts of

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The "Fortress" Crumbling from Within



"MY GOD, WINSTON THEY'RE GETTING OUT OF HAND!"

PENSIONERS TO LIVE LIKE PAUPERS

BY JIM HINCHCLIFFE

The most infamous and inhuman example of class legislation which it is possible for a capitalist Government to introduce and impose upon any section of the workers, is contained in the

Addition to widow and child	4/-
Existing Pension addition	2/-
Rent adjustment	1/3
Cost-of-living adjustment	5/9

We therefore receive the picture of 10/- plus 5/- plus 4/- plus 2/- plus

BOSSSES' AGENTS IN THE FACTORY

For several weeks a wave of indignation has swept the workers of key aircraft factory in the Merseyside area.

This particular factory is known throughout Merseyside as a stronghold of the Communist Party. In spite of this it is estimated that at least half of the workers employed here are non-Trade Unionists. Instances can be shown where workers who have applied for membership have had to wait up to eight weeks before receiving their membership cards. Those workers who are organised are split between two unions—the A.E.U. and the T.G. W.U.

Over a period of time, there has been a steadily rising feeling of unrest among the workers as a result of the mismanagement, chaos, and general anarchy of production existent in this factory.

The dissatisfaction of the workers made itself markedly clear when Sir Stafford Cripps visited the factory. The workers seeing an opportunity of stating their grievances to a responsible government minister, requested that Cripps should meet a deputation of shop-stewards in order that they be enabled to state their case. This request was refused. The only place where Cripps was prepared to meet was at the meeting of the Production Committee called that afternoon where the management would be present. The workers quite rightly regarded themselves as having been snubbed.

Militants throughout the factory took the lead in demanding a general "down tools" and thus confronting the Minister of Aircraft Production with the necessity of receiving the stewards before a resumption of work took place. This was, generally, the mood inside the factory.

However, this proposal was watered down to one of merely refusing to send workers' representatives to the Production Committee meeting to meet Cripps in company with the bosses. It was arranged for Cripps to make a speech to the workers that afternoon in the works canteen, but some of the more conscious shop-stewards led a boycott of this, which proved highly successful and developed in part, to a demonstration of protest.

The factory convenor, Tommy Ward, a well-known C.P.er on Merseyside, later denied in a statement to the local press that the hostility of the workers had been directed against

Cripps, stating that any boomer that had taken place had been directed against the managerial representatives

prominently erected at the rear of the platform. To date (seven weeks later) Mr. Booth remains in control.

The meeting agreed that Cripps be asked to make a return visit to the factory in order that he could have another opportunity to meet the shop-stewards, and to this end a resolution was passed. Ward concluded the meeting with an eulogy of Production Committees, in spite of the fact that through the refusal of the stewards to attend the Production Committee meeting during Cripps's visit, the workers had clearly expressed their lack of confidence in such committees. It is interesting to note that a few weeks later the Birthday Honours list announced the award of the B.E.M. to Brother Ward.

However, events were developing. The management started the attack. A new list of hours to be worked weekly was proposed, which, in effect, increased the working week from 46½ to 51 hours, Sunday work to take place at the management's discretion. (The loss of Sunday work means a loss of from 20/- to 30/-). The management complained that, as things stood, the average hours worked, fell below the 46½ hours set. The management ignored the fact that over half of the employees are women, and that a majority of these are married, or with similar responsibilities. Under such circumstances it was surprising that the average of the hours worked was even as high as it was.

It was while this proposal was being debated by the workers, that the shop-stewards, without any consultation with the rank-and-file, signed the new agreement with the management.

So great was the resentment of the workers that the stewards felt constrained to call a meeting for the following Saturday. Unfortunately the meeting was called for knocking off time, and this coupled with the fact that the damage was already done, only the foremost militants in the factory attended.

Ward addressed a stormy meeting and commenced by stating that he was not prepared to have anything more to do with the workers. He announced his resignation as convenor. It was also made known that most of the A.E.U. shop-stewards who had signed the agreement were now prepared to resign in view of the hostility of the workers. In reply to a question from the floor as to who had given the stewards the authority to sign the new agreement, the reply given was that no authorisation was required since the stewards, by virtue of their office,

in the absence of any organised opposition, the new schedule of hours has come into operation.

BEHIND DEMOCRATIC PHRASES—

What the Bosses are Preparing for To-morrow

This interview reported below is taken from the August issue of *The Christian Socialist*. It was claimed that the interview took place with "one of the chief in the owners organisation of one of our greatest industries."

The vicious Nazi-like psychology of the representative of big business is bared: imperialist outlook; hatred of the workers, of organised labour; the preparations which are being made to deal with the miners—"A. J. Cook"—in violent terms; even the Essential Works Order, the Capitalist Charter, is condemned because it gives the worker too much security. The petty reforms of Beveridge & Co., are too strong even for this Christian Captain of Industry; and since this is the authentic voice of the ruling class, it gives a clear picture of the preparations for reaction and fascism which big business is preparing behind the pious programme of Christian democratic phrases.

There is no doubt about the authenticity of the material here.

LET THE WORKERS TAKE NOTE

On.....I met Mr. X, one of the most powerful industrialists in the country. He was a pious, devout Christian, very much concerned at the indifference to the Christian faith in this country.

He said it was imperative that we should learn from our experience since the last war. The two major causes of disaster had been the competition of Germany and Japan and the refusal of the workers to accept a reduction in pay, the latter, he thought, being the major cause of the present war. We must make sure, he said, that never again shall Germany and Japan become a menace to us. Since Japan could undermine our export trade because of the lower standard of living there, Mr. X felt that the only thing to do was to exterminate the Japanese to a man. When I protested that one cannot do this in cold blood he snapped "Why not?" A surgeon friend of his had told him a day or two previously how it was quite possible to get rid of the Japanese and Germans without actually exterminating them now. He compared Germany to a young tiger which people like to regard as a pet but which, when it realised its strength, would snatch the meat for itself and kill those who fed it. As for the other menace, the demands of the workers, he said that his industry was the only industry which was preparing to deal with the disturbances which are expected after this war. A machine was being built up to act as a safety valve or as a means of crushing the power of the workers to act as they acted in the great strikes. Never again, said Mr. X., can we allow such a man as A. J. C. to manipulate the workers with such

arbitration committees. The Christian way was to deal with quarrels by methods of conciliation, quite obviously ignoring the fact that real power rests with the owners and that they were bound to get the advantage in any act of conciliation.

Workers and trade union people, he said, cannot speak on industry without expressing political views. The owners, on the other hand, has no concern with politics only with the problems of industry.

Mr. X. vehemently condemned State control on the grounds that it leads to either regimentation or lax discipline, and in both cases results in a decline in output. He also spoke strongly against the Essential Works Order saying that this had given the workers too much security in their jobs which had resulted in a deplorable lack of discipline, a problem which must take priority over all other problems in post-war reconstruction.

The Beveridge Report Mr. X. condemned as being irreligious because it is too much concerned with man's "three score years and ten." It may have been that he wished it to apply to the next world! He also expressed feelings of profound annoyance with such people as Sir William Beveridge, Dr. Hugh Dalton and the Archbishop of Canterbury who were trying to interfere with matters they knew nothing about. The only people who understood the problems of industry were, quite obviously, said Mr. X., the owners, because they had generations of experience in industry.

Mr. X felt that interference by countries with a higher standard in the affairs of countries with a lower standard of living was clearly justified

is possible for a capitalist Government of the Labour Party in the face of the following legislation to introduce and impose upon any section of the workers, is contained in the proposals and allowances as applied by the Old Age and Widows' Pensions Act.

The miserly concessions granted under the War Pensions scheme to the widows whose husbands are killed on war service, appear as the hall mark of generosity compared with the literally starvation allowances granted to the widows whose husbands are killed in civil life. The disgraceful treatment meted out to the Old Age Pensioners will be dealt with in a separate article, but nowhere is the class character of the present system brought out so clearly as in the cruel and diabolical "slow starvation" methods of British Imperialism when applied to these workers.

An examination of the treatment which these women and children receive, result in the emergence of one main and glaring conclusion, that the Government leaves no channels unexplored which can deprive the workers of a few pence each week. Impossible though it is for a "War" widow to exist on the meagre allowances which are granted to her, the "Civilian" widow is forced to exist on even less. Let a few of the rates which are granted however, speak for themselves, in each case the rent allowance having been already deducted:—

	"Civilian" Widow	"War" Widow
Widow and 1 child (aged under 5)	25/-	28/2
Widow and 2 children (aged 7 & 11)	31/-	36/8
An example of the allowances for children are as follows:		
1st Child (11-14 yrs.)	7/3	9/6
2nd Child (8-11 yrs.)	6/9	8/6
3rd Child (5-8 yrs.)	6/3	7/6

The widow whose husband has been killed on war service receives the meagre total of 25/6 for her three children. The widow whose husband was killed in civil life, who is in precisely the same position, is granted the almost inhuman pittance of 20/6 per week for her three children.

The husband may have served in the Army, but was discharged and later died, he may have been a miner or a factory worker who died through some disease caused through his work conditions, all victims of the war as much as the worker-soldiers, but nevertheless he leaves a widow and children condemned to live on a sum each week which doesn't even equal the cost of a half-bottle of wine to the capitalist! Such is the despicable and mean CLASS attitude of our rulers, whose generosity is limited only to members of their own class.

The basic pension remains at 10s. per week, the remainder being made up of various additional allowances. If we take as our example, a widow with one child under 5 years of age, with no other financial resources, and paying a rent of 6s. per week, we find the following state of affairs existing:—

Basic Rate for widow	10/-
Basic Rate for child	5/-

Rent adjustment 1/3
Cost-of-living adjustment 5/9
CLASS PARTIES

We therefore receive the picture of 10/- plus 5/- plus 4/- plus 2/- plus 1/3d. plus 5/9d. equals 31/-, out of which rent of 6/- has to be paid. This incidentally, is only if the widow has no other resources, the scandalous Means Test can make this pittance even smaller in many cases.

This is the cold and contemptuous fashion in which the Government assesses the worth of the workers, carefully working it out to a fraction of a penny, dividing it into small sums so as to enable a cut when the cost-of-living shows the slightest drop, and compelling them to a veritable beggar's existence, drab and monotonous, dependent upon the goodwill and generosity of friends and relatives.

The "Civilian" widow is entitled to the same award as that of the "War" widow, and both of them in turn, are entitled to an adequate allowance both for themselves and for their children, that the reward of the widow and children of a man who has made the supreme sacrifice—his life—is to exist on a sum which is small change to the capitalist, and upon which it is impossible to live, constitutes a smashing indictment of the existing class society which treats human life as just so many exploitable objects.

The attitude of the Labour M.P.s towards this question is in reality no better than that adopted by the Tories. Everybody in the House of Commons is unanimous in wanting a "Square Deal" for the Widows and Old Age Pensioners. M.P. after M.P., Tory, Labour and "Communist", vociferously demand increased pensions and allowances—and then accept the Government proposals! Mr. Daggar, Labour M.P. was moved to exclaim in the House of Commons recently that,

"... a contradiction between criticism and performance is not only indefensible, but it tends to lower the prestige of Parliament and support the view that politics is a dirty game and that those who play it are either fools or hypocrites or both." Quite right Mr. Daggar! The Labour politicians who reserve their "Socialism" for Sunday and occasional House of Commons speeches, and who in actual practice ally themselves to these infamous pieces of class legislation, are guilty of betraying the working class interests which they are supposed to represent. If the Labour leaders were really concerned in defending the interests of the workers, they would break this criminal coalition with the capitalists and fight to implement a programme which really represents the interests of the masses of the people.

The workers, in pressing for adequate allowances and pensions, the abolishing of the notorious Means Test, must agitate for the breaking of the coalition with the class which imposes such oppressive legislation, which attempts to deprive the workers of even the bare necessities of life, as being the next essential step forward in the solving of the problems which face the working class.

later denied in a statement to the local press that the hostility of the workers had been directed against Cripps, stating that any boozing that had taken place had been directed against the managerial representatives that had appeared with Cripps. However, there can be no doubt that the workers, to a man, identified—quite correctly—Cripps with the management, it is hardly likely that the cry of "Turncoat" should be directed against the bosses.

As a sequel to this incident, a mass meeting of workers was hurriedly called for the following Saturday. It was called at very short notice, and out of a possible attendance of ten thousand, only just over a hundred turned up, although in spite of this, the workers had already demonstrated the fact that they were by no means indifferent to the issues involved.

At the meeting most of the talking was done by Ward, who playing for safety, launched his attack at the General Manager, Mr. Booth, who, he claimed, was responsible for all the trouble in the factory. By just removing this one man all the problems would be solved, and the factory would be one happy family. To this end, the slogan "Booth Must Go" had been

LANARK MINERS FINED

At Hamilton Sheriff Court on Thursday, 29th July, 196 miners from Priory Colliery, Lanarkshire, were fined £1 (40 were fined 10/-) for a so-called illegal strike on June 10th. The General Manager, Mr. A. M. Ritchie, who was charged for locking the men out when they returned to work on June 19th, seems likely to slip out of the case in the traditional boss class style on technical grounds. The case is put back to October 4th.

The miners have suffered a defeat in allowing their case to be handled by a lawyer supplied well on hand by the union leadership. Instead of being forced to listen to a lawyer pleading for leniency, the militant spirit which the miners showed throughout the and taken into the courtroom. The union officials, well know Stalinists, must be taken to task for pushing and allowing such a policy to be pursued by their lawyer.

The strike, it may be recalled, was caused by the refusal of the management to concede 'heat' money to the night shift, although the day and back shifts were getting it. After a month of fruitless negotiations the 800 miners realised that the owners had an eye to finally withdrawing this money completely and were thus forced to safeguard themselves with strike action. Before negotiations had time to begin on the 19th June, the boss promptly locked out the miners, thus breaking a union agreement. He then tried to apply reduced wages.

The colliery is now controlled by the Ministry of Fuel and Power. Due to the stupid previous mis-management, the pit is practically unworkable. Miners relate that, when the lockout started, machinery was dismantled and

no labour was being built up to act as a safety valve or as a means of crushing the power of the workers to act as they acted in the great strikes. Never again, said Mr. X., can we allow such a man as A. J. Cook to sway the workers with such slogans as "Not an hour on the day, not a penny off our pay." It was not realised by the other members of this machine that it was, in fact, a machine to deal with the menace of disturbance from the workers after the war. Another interesting statement at this point was that during the last strike Mr. X. calculated exactly how long the strike would last. He told the late — that it would last for thirteen days more which he claimed to have established scientifically by graphs which he had drawn and his forecast was almost exactly true. The significance of this remark was that Mr. X. obviously felt that strikes could never shake the power of the owners.

He said, that the workers should not approach the owners with demands; they should always come with requests. He felt it was un-Christian to have absence of any organised opposition, the new schedule of hours has come into operation. It is certain that the next few weeks will see an intensification of the struggle which is at present taking place, and until the factory rank-and-file can throw up an alternate leadership to the Stalinist and patriotic elements they must prepare themselves for new betrayals. The managements have shown time and again that they are only prepared to increase production at the expense of the workers. The management of this factory with the ink hardly dry on their new agreement, have already shown their intention of "tightening-up" drastically while the going is good, by a new series of regulations directed against the workers' conditions. In the absence of a militant opposition such things will continue. The factory militants, if they are to prevail, must organise a campaign for 100 per cent trade union membership and for the election of new militant stewards on a fighting programme.

L.D.

CORRESPONDENCE

FROM PTE. SAM GOLD

Dear Comrade,

It may interest you to know that when I last was on leave, I addressed a public meeting from the I.L.P. platform. This was on Sunday, 16th May. I gave a fairly accurate socialist analysis of the war and the consequences thereof. My identity as a soldier and former comrade was made known by the chairman. What I said was reported by three representatives of the state and it was later on sent to the N.C. (Northern Command) who in turn put me under close arrest.

I have been awaiting trial for the past 13 days and it is extremely probable that it will be a court martial. This is a specimen of democracy in the army.

I very much appreciated your previous issue of "Socialist Appeal", especially the article dealing with the bureaucracy. I wonder how that compares with Comrade Lenin's position on "Officials" of the state. In **State and Revolution** he says that some Bolsheviks who were advocating 9,000 roubles per annum for municipal officials instead of 6,000 are committing an unpardonable error. These are not his exact words, but it was to that effect. What are the measures to prevent corruption? That any official elected be liable to recall at any moment, that their wages should be on a par with the average wages of the working class.

I am pleased to hear that your Fourth International demonstration met with an enthusiastic welcome. It shows that political consciousness in this country is on the upgrade.

Even though we have our differences, as the situation becomes more and more acute, as the class struggle crystallises, we will be forced by force of social events to combine in a common struggle.

Yours fraternally, Sam Gold.

were, quite obviously, said Mr. X., the owners, because they had generations of experience in industry.

Mr. X. felt that interference by countries with a higher standard in the affairs of countries with a lower standard of living was clearly justified since it would result in raising the standard of living in the latter and therefore would be to the advantage of all. He compared countries with a low standard of living to a dog hanging on to one's trousers, the situation calling for immediate and drastic action. Mr. X. had little confidence that the work of the International Labour Office would prove adequate and felt that more direct and positive interference was called for. Mr. X. ended by telling me of his long arguments about eternity with an atheist trade union leader. At this point he became most pious and was obviously perturbed that the Trade Unions were concerned with material things and not the eternal realities. As I listened to Mr. X. I really felt that I could see the Swastika on his sleeve.

E. W. B.

A DOCKER ON WHO MUSSOLINI REPRESENTED

Liverpool.

Socialist Appeal,

Dear Comrade,

It is now clear for all to see that dictators are not self-appointed. The fall of Mussolini establishes this. We were told that he dominated the Royal Family, the church and the people. Now we are told that the King and the Army have thrown him overboard. How does this come about, if as they say, he dominated and controlled the state?

The fact is Mussolini was the representative of the King and the ruling classes and he governed only by their consent. The masses, betrayed by former socialists, were disillusioned, unorganised and consequently, unable to offer any effective resistance. This enabled the Italian ruling classes to impose upon the Italian workers, the slave system called Fascism. But the strains of a major war have brought it crashing down. Unable to prevent the corruption that was rife and give the workers even a small portion of the bread and clothing available, Fascism as represented by Mussolini collapsed. The overthrow of Mussolini is a belated attempt by the Italian ruling classes to prevent the workers taking control of the state machine.

But left to themselves the Italian ruling class know of only one way to maintain power: the method they have used for 20 years—the black jack and castor oil. Italian capitalism is doomed. For the workers of Italy we can do no better than repeat the slogan created by Lenin: PEACE, BREAD and LAND!

Jack Reddington,

SOCIALIST APPEAL

ORGAN OF WORKERS'
INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE
FOURTH INTERNATIONAL.

EDITOR: E. Grant
BUSINESS MANAGER: M. Orton.

61, Northdown Street,
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EDITORIAL

An Anti-Labour Coalition

The Cabinet is shortly to issue an ultimatum to civil servants instructing them to leave their union if they affiliate to the T.U.C.; or else lose their jobs!

In this dictatorial action the coalition demonstrates its class bias in its crass nakedness. Churchill, the classic exponent of "democracy," 1943 brand, exposes his yellow fangs dripping with the anti-labour venom which he bared in 1926-27, and for which he will be eternally hated by the organised working class.

As the result of the defeat of the General strike—1926—the right to affiliate to the T.U.C. was denied to the Civil Servants when the infamous Trades Disputes Act was passed in 1927. At that time the capitalists were riding high. All the legal steps to shatter the unification of the workers were enacted. Wedges, legal and otherwise, were driven between the various categories of workers to shatter their class solidarity.

The only stable jobs were Government jobs. If the civil servants did not do as big business dictated, there were thousands of qualified unemployed to take their places. Government employees were browbeaten and cowed.

But in line with the new upsurge among the workers, and as a splendid reflection of that upsurge, the civil servants are fighting back. They are seeking to re-establish the democratic rights which were filched from them and to link themselves to the mass industrial organisations of the working class: their only means of maintaining and improving their conditions which have been sadly undermined in the course of the war.

For many, many months their union officials have been all too patiently trying to get agreement with the Government to allow them to affiliate. By the democratic vote of the overwhelming majority of members of all the various unions catering for Government employees they registered their desire to be linked up with other organised workers. The Government manœvred and evaded; negotiations were shown to be fruitless. At last the civil servants

Nazis Murder Trotskyists

Through underground channels the terrible news has reached America that three of our comrades in occupied Belgium have just been shot by a Nazi firing squad.

The fallen comrades are Renery, Van Belle and Lemmens, members of the Revolutionary Socialist Party Belgium Section of the Fourth International. They died fighting against Nazi oppression and for the only way out for the workers of that ruined continent—the Socialist United States of Europe.

Be sure that we shall avenge their death. Not upon the heads of the German proletariat, but side by side with them against the exploiters of all lands.

A further report has reached England that five of our German comrades who have been in concentration camp since 1936 have recently been executed by the Gestapo in Germany.

In face of the growing spirit of resistance and rising tide of revolution in Germany, the Nazis are apparently attempting to destroy the revolutionary leadership in advance. But the bestial actions of Hitler will be unable to stop the revolution. Out of the ranks of the German proletariat in hundreds, in thousands, a new leadership will be created in the coming days.

Nazism in Germany is doomed. The coming period is the period of the Fourth International.

LABOUR AND SOUTHERN IRELAND

BY BRIAN AHERNE

The recent General Election in Eire has not removed but merely confirmed the instability of political relations in Southern Ireland.

The party of De Valera, Fianna Fail, although still numerically the largest single party in the Dail is left in a position to form only a minority Gov-

DETROIT MASSACRE

Police, Politicians and Press all share in guilt of Anti-Negro Pogrom

BY PHILIP BLAKE

The recent report of rioting in the Negro quarter of New York was played down in the British Press after being held up for a number of days by the American censorship.

It is claimed that there was no racial clash in the rioting, but that the police had to deal with a "Negro mob" which was "out of hand".

How the Yankee police act in such riots, their vicious anti-negro slant, is clearly exposed in the following report of the anti-negro riot in Detroit, taken from the Socialist Workers' Party press—"The Militant" of July 3rd.—Ed.

"Freedom from fear"—we've heard a lot about that in recent months. The pictures in the papers showed that it was something very much absent in Detroit last week.

On Tuesday, June 22, while the anti-Negro riot was still going on in Detroit, there was a strike aboard the ship, "City of Detroit", by white members of the deck and engine departments. The pickets weren't out longer than five minutes before the Negro longshoremen walked out in sympathy. Several tons of butter and perishable cargo were on the Detroit docks. The grievance—concerning overtime pay—was settled in a short time and the men went back to work. The fact that the longshoremen went on a sympathy strike caused much favourable comment among the white workers. They had been given added proof of the necessity for solidarity between workers of both races.

The official report of the Detroit Police Department admits that 15 of the 24 Negroes killed were shot by the police. None of the whites who died were killed by the police. The report listed 227 seriously injured. Of these 135 were whites, not counting the police and one soldier. Only 7 of these, according to the police, were injured by other whites or by unknown assailants; thus at most 7 whites were severely injured by the police. Here is how the police accounted for the 73 seriously injured Negroes: 36 beaten by whites; 11 shot by "unknowns"; one shot by another Negro; 4 wounded by stray bullets; 4 wounded by police "while looting stores"; 7 wounded by police "who were attempting to enforce order"; 6 "injured otherwise by police" and one "accidentally wounded by police."

It is generally agreed that a firm stand by the police could have checked the outbreaks at the very beginning. In those few cases where individual police showed they meant business, the hoodlums retreated. But apparently the police didn't think it would do

ideas on which segregation is based. Three sailors defended a Negro from a roving band of whites in front of the City Hall, and when a white hoodlum asked what business it was of theirs, one of the sailors answered: "Plenty! There was a coloured guy in our outfit and he saved a couple of lives. Besides you guy are stirring up something that we're trying to stop."

In the midst of the violence on June 21, the local Negro weekly, Michigan Chronicle, received the following phone call: "We had plenty trouble today, and this is not the last of it. This is the Klan calling, just to give you a warning that we will drive every nigger out of Detroit."

There were many evidences that the rioting against the Negroes did not lack organisation. One physician watching from the Professional Bldg. told the press: "These white hoodlums had a car loaded with bricks and iron bars, parked at the curb, where they were going for supplies. Their leaders could be seen directing them, pulling Negroes from cars and beating them mercilessly."

But federal, state and city authorities don't appear to be much interested in determining what caused and who aggravated the Detroit tragedy. Despite the evidence contained in newspaper photographs and despite eyewitness accounts reporting organised leadership of the hoodlum bands, John S. Bugas, head of the F.B.I. in Detroit, pooh-poohed the whole business—and, incidentally, showed how unconcerned he was about it—by saying: "Do you think that 200 kids, boys between the ages of 14 and 18, who stopped a street car, pulled off Negroes and pummeled them, were acting on orders? I don't."

Despite a lot of strange talk on the part of Governor H. F. Kelly and Mayor Jeffries at the beginning of the

week, they had cooled down in a few days. Said Kelly on June 23: "Now our job is to see that those who took part in the rioting are punished and to find out what the causes were and who was responsible. Every effort will be made to bring them to the bar of justice so that such things will never again happen in Michigan." He then appointed a committee to report to him on these questions.

The governor's "fact-finding" committee was composed of four men; two of them were the heads of the city and state police who had played such a criminal role in the rioting; the other two were the county prosecutor and the state attorney. It is not surprising therefore that the committee did not recommend further investigation.

The committee report, issued on June 25, said: "We find no evidence of any plan or plans or any inspiration coming from enemy influence or any other organised influence which brought about the recent rioting. Because of this conclusion by your committee or because of the lack of information as to planning or inspired enemy influence it is the consensus of your committee that no grand jury be called at this time." The governor immediately announced that he would not call for a grand jury investigation.

With neither state, city or federal authorities wanting to see an investigation, it was natural that a reactionary like Representative Dies should step forward and announce that his committee will "investigate." Dies thinks the trouble is that the Negro people are being "coddled" too much. It is easy to imagine what he will "discover."

If the workers of Detroit want an honest investigation of the causes of the rioting, it looks as though they'll have to organise it themselves through their own labour organisations.

Defend the Soviet Union

Continued from Page 1.

the whole world. But where will the advances lead? The price the workers of Russia have had to pay is grim and ominous. Five million dead and perhaps another ten million wounded according to sober estimates. Five or ten million civilians perished from

stabbing the Red Army in the back. A purely military victory could not solve the problems of the Soviet Union. Russia would emerge from the conflict weak and exhausted. Meanwhile, Britain and America watched Russia and Germany batter one another to pieces with satisfaction.

them to annulate. By the democratic vote, the majority of members of all the various unions catering for Government employees they registered their desire to be linked up with other organised workers. The Government manœvred and evaded; negotiations were shown to be fruitless. At last, the civil servants decided to force the hands of the Government. They proposed to affiliate without the consent of their employer; and in spite of the vicious statute which discriminated against them.

The proposed Cabinet ultimatum is a threat, not only to the Government employees but to the whole of the organised working class. It must be met. It must be thrown back in their teeth. Reaction must be defeated.

This self-same Cabinet claims to be waging a holy war for democracy. But the lie is given to its hollow slogans and promises to the workers . . . for . . . "after the war," by the vicious anti-democratic stand which it is taking on this democratic issue.

In this Cabinet are members of the Labour Party and Trade Union movement. These "leaders" of the working class have made major concessions to the capitalist class. They have sacrificed one after another, the established rights of the working class. But the Tories, Churchill at their head, refuse to make a single concession to the working class.

It is a good sign that the civil servants are turning to the Labour movement. This is what the boss class fear. If the Labour and Trade Union movement allow the Tories to defeat them on this issue they will lose their growing support which is of great and promising significance for Labour's future.

The Cabinet cry out in horror that they are being blackmailed. But it is the Tory Cabinet who are blackmailing Labour.

It is time the workers called the Tory bluff. The Government could not operate their threat to sack the civil servants, if a determined stand was made by the Government employees and the Trade Union movement.

The record of the T.U. leadership is sufficiently well-known to leave no doubt that they will capitulate to the Tories rather than conduct a genuine struggle. But the support for this progressive step by the civil servants is widespread in the ranks of organised Labour.

This support must be mobilised to defeat the Tory blackmail.

GLASGOW MEETING

SUNDAY, 22ND AUGUST,
at 7 p.m.

THE ITALIAN REVOLUTION AND THE
TASKS OF THE BRITISH WORKERS

Speaker: JOCK HASTON
MASONIC HALLS,

WEST REGENT STREET, GLASGOW.

has not moved but merely confirmed the instability of political relations in Southern Ireland.

The party of De Valera, Fianna Fail, although still numerically the largest single party in the Dail is left in a position to form only a minority Government.

FIANNA FAIL

Fianna Fail is the party of the Irish "native" capitalists, those petty exploiters carefully nurtured, by De Valera through the erection and development of Irish pocket industries. It was, therefore, in no position to effect any improvement in the ever worsening plight of the masses, brought on by the effects of the imperialist war on Eire's economy. The only temporary alleviation it could offer the masses was—immigration!

The constant stream of Irish workers to provide cheap labour for the war machine of British Imperialism is pleasing alike to the British bosses—since the immigrants come necessarily under "Work or Starve" conditions—and to their Irish prototypes—since in this way they can temporarily rid themselves of the most militant sections of the Irish proletariat. Fianna Fail attempted, in their election campaign, to portray as "justice" this policy of immigration.

This, together with its complete inability to tackle the desperate problems of the rampant Black Market, the mal-distribution and chronic shortages of the basic commodities of the masses (even potatoes), gives an understanding of how it was impossible for Fianna Fail to emerge unscathed from the Polls.

The question thus arises: why did De Valera not use his former majority in the Dail to extend the lease of life of his party, in this way avoiding an election in which he was certain to lose seats?

To pose the question is to answer it. The longer Fianna Fail displayed their helplessness in face of the crisis, the more compromised they would become in the eyes of the Irish masses.

The propertied classes, unable to divert the discontent of the masses, must suppress it. To this are dedicated the infamous "Death Courts" (trial the military court-martial for political offences) and the equally notorious anti-Trade Union Bill. But these repressive measures have not as yet been used extensively. This is partly because the crisis, although grave, has not yet driven the impoverished masses along the road of revolution, but, more important, because De Valera did not wish to use them fully until he had demonstrated that he had the confidence of the electorate. So Fianna Fail decided to cut their losses by going to the polls as soon as their five-year term had expired.

FINE GAEL

The other party of the Irish property owners, Fine Gael (the political instrument of the large ranchers and landlords with Cosgrave as its titular head) receded still further into the background.

The official policy of Fine Gael, as indeed of all political tendencies in Eire, is pro-Neutrality. But few have any doubt as to the complete tie-up of Fine Gael with British imperialism,

Continued on page 4.

It is generally agreed that a firm stand by the police could have checked the outbreaks at the very beginning. In those few cases where individual police showed they meant business, the hoodlums retreated. But apparently the police didn't think it would do any harm to let a little blood flow.

One of the white hoodlums was loudly bragging that every time the police stopped him, they would walk him down a block and then tell him to go home.

The mayor, the governor and the commander of the armed forces in Detroit all joined in praising the press in the helpful and co-operative way in which they handled the rioting. The truth is that many of their stories were biased. The *Detroit News*, for example, dismissed the charges against the Ku Klux Klan by saying: "As to instigation by the Klan, we know that Negro hoodlums were aggressors just as often and quite as early in the proceedings as their white counterparts." That was the general line followed by most of the *Detroit papers*—to place equal responsibility on the white hoodlums and on the victims of these hoodlums. As for the murderous role played by the police, there was little comment of any kind on this question by the press.

No conflicts were reported in those neighbourhoods inhabited by both Negro and white. The fighting took place only in areas from which Negro tenants are excluded or in which they are segregated. What a powerful argument against restrictive housing and all other form of segregation!

There were also no outbreaks or conflicts within the factories of Detroit. The union officials and stewards took special steps to prevent any provocative acts on the part of their members. Many workers were heard to say that this was a terrible blow to the labour movement of Detroit. A number of others expressed the opinion that the union should have acted more positively to halt the rioting.

At Fort Custer, Michigan, members of a Negro quartermaster battalion tried to secure arms and trucks, but were arrested. The post commander explained, "The men had become restless over the disturbances in Detroit and wanted to go to assist their families." He added that they were being held "for investigation." An honest investigation should disclose only that these soldiers wanted to fight for democracy.

White members of the armed forces were also revolted by the lynch assaults. In some cases they sent letters and petitions to Detroit expressing their indignation. Sixty soldiers in Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, sent a letter to the mayor of Detroit asking: "Of what use is it if we defeat world fascism, only to find that while we paid with our lives for democracy, the fascist rule of the mob has been established at home?"

White sailors are segregated from Negroes in the Navy, but apparently there are quite a number who refuse to accept the "white supremacy"

the whole world. But where will the advances lead? The price the workers of Russia have had to pay is grim and ominous. Five million dead and perhaps another ten million wounded according to sober estimates. Five or ten million civilians perished from hunger, cold and privations and the brutalities of the Gestapo and S.S. executioners. Russia has been ruined and reduced to the verge of famine and starvation. She has stripped herself bare in the effort to survive.

But all over Occupied Europe, and indeed over the whole world the workers and peasants have been looking to Russia for a lead.

Had Stalin carried on the war as a revolutionary war, appealing constantly to the German workers and soldiers to overthrow Hitler and join with the Soviet workers and peasants and the workers of all Europe to set up a Socialist United States of Europe, the situation would be entirely different; had he done this, already the German workers and soldiers would have revolted, as they did in the last war.

But the degenerate nationalist and chauvinist appeals of Stalinism, their shameful threats to the German people, their offer only of the prospect of a new and worse Versailles at the hands of the "Allies" if Germany loses the war, can exert no power of attraction. That is why, right up to now the Nazi armies have been maintained intact. But with the defeats which the Red Army is inflicting upon Germany even at the present time, a rare opportunity opens out for a Socialist appeal which could not fail to have a response among the German masses. The Red Army could shatter the whole basis of capitalism in Europe, and would be received as liberators by the workers of all Europe.

But this road is closed to Stalin and the bureaucracy. A victory for the workers of Europe would mean the end of Stalinism in Russia. The Russian workers and peasants faced with a Socialist Europe would soon overthrow the bureaucracy and restore the workers' democracy of Lenin and Trotsky in the Soviet Union. That is why Stalin does not wish to see a Socialist Europe but a capitalist Europe after the war. He regards with dread and foreboding the revolutions which are developing in Europe. Thus the policy of Stalinism is weakening the Soviet Union and

A party military victory solve the problems of the Soviet Union. Russia would emerge from the conflict weak and exhausted. Meanwhile, Britain and America have watched Russia and Germany batter one another to pieces with satisfaction. Little affected by the terrible ruin of Europe, the capitalists have planned from the beginning to intervene in Europe and occupy it for a number of years, crushing their rivals and reducing it almost to the status of a colonial appendage.

Because of Stalin's counter-revolutionary policy, they have temporarily allowed themselves the luxury of an agreement with the Soviet Union. They understand clearly that Stalin fears revolution in Europe as much as they do. But at the same time such alliances can only be temporary because of the fundamental difference between the capitalist countries and Russia, which in spite of all the attempts of Stalin to conciliate them, remains a basic antagonism—capitalist property relations as opposed to collective ownership.

In spite of the degenerate bureaucracy, Russia remains a workers' state and already behind the scenes the differences are sharpening over the frontiers which Russia is to have in Europe. Stalin is demanding the Baltic States, former Eastern Poland, Bessarabia and probably bases in Finland or Finland itself. The imperialists wish to allow the Soviet Union as little as possible. Even if we assume that Stalin succeeds in getting these bases and the frontier he desires, this could not save the gains of the October revolution. If capitalism continues in Europe, a weakened Russia would be dependent on Britain and America even for food. British and American imperialism would prepare for active intervention against the Soviet Union. They would systematically assist those forces working for the restoration of capitalism in Russia. Within a short interval Russia, Europe and the world would be involved in yet another world war.

There is only one way in which the workers of Britain and Europe can assist the heroic workers' state. Without the overthrow of capitalism in Europe the conquests of the October Revolution will have been in vain. We must fight for a Socialist Europe and a Socialist Britain, united together with the Soviet Union and extending to a socialist world.

ROLLS ROYCE PROFITS

5/8/43.

The full report of Rolls-Royce, Ltd., aero engine makers, etc., for 1942 states that after provision for taxation profits were £558,415 (£514,472); brought in, £44,092 (£41,547). As previously announced, the dividend is maintained at 20 per cent.; transfer

to income-tax reserve, £325,000 (£285,000); carry forward, £48,324. The chairman states in his review that the increase in profit is mainly due to the elimination of special depreciation on certain fixed assets. It should be realised that with E.P.T. at 100 per cent. the profit in any year bears little relationship to turnover.

LABOUR IN IRELAND

Continued from page 1.

and what the real attitude of Cosgrave is towards the question of neutrality, the Irish ports, etc. This tacit political support for British imperialism merely reflects the economic dependence of the Irish ranchers on the disposal of their produce on the British markets.

Precisely because it is the party of the rural aristocracy, Fine Gael's support amongst the agricultural proletariat and small farmers has petered out. As regards the urban workers, they can have no fondness for the party which openly sponsored the Blue-shirt (fascist) movement.

But it is above all the exposure of Fine Gael as the agent of British imperialism in Eire (an exposure which has been helped by the frank statements of extreme right-wingers such as Dillon—now no longer in the official party) that has compromised it for ever in the eyes of the Irish masses. Henceforth, Fine Gael can only rise to power on British Bayonets.

Despite the usual lavish spate of propaganda and demagoguery the latest Fascist organisation . . . collapsed miserably, failing to win a single seat. However this by no means indicates the eclipse of fascism in Irish politics. Should no solution to the crisis by the mass party of the workers be found, the despair of the masses will inevitably turn the swing to the left into a swing to the right. All the factors for an extra-parliamentary struggle between the forces of the Left and Right exist, and are maturing and cannot be eradicated from Eirian-economy. The fascists, perhaps under a new guise, will return to the attack.

The most significant gains in the elections were, as expected, made by the Labour Party, which increased its representation from 8 to 17 seats, and more than doubled its previous vote. This is an under-reflection of the actual leftward swing in Eire.

The absence of some 200,000 Irish workers in England (the youngest and most militant section of the proletariat), the fact that although it gained 15 per cent of the vote it only secured 12 per cent of the seats in the Dail, are mitigating circumstances which must be taken into account.

However, even when this is done, it is obvious that had the Labour Party been armed with a genuine fighting programme it would have vastly increased its poll. It is only in the light of the reformist milk-and-water policies of the Party amidst a seething mass of discontent, alongside the deplorable fact that the Labour Party stood four-square for a Coalition Government with the capitalists thus disgusting many militants, that we can understand why the highest percentage of abstention occurred amongst the urban workers.

In addition the general line of retreat of the Labour Party in the face of the bosses' offensive (capitulation to the Trade Union Bill, etc.) did not imbue the proletariat with confidence.

AID THE ITALIAN REVOLUTION

Continued from page 1.

"I am an Italian, before anything else. I am proud to have made my King an Emperor. I am grateful to the Duce for everything he has done to facilitate the military task he entrusted to me. Mussolini is a great man. It is time that was recognised in London and Paris. Tell your readers this; it is your first duty. For myself, I will serve Mussolini right to the end, for Mussolini serves His Majesty."

This interview took place in his special train between Naples and Rome, when he returned from the Abyssinian campaign newly entitled the Duke of Addis Ababa.

Later in Tripoli, Badoglio told the same reporter:

"All your journalists' questions on Franco-Italian relations forget a factor of prime importance: you have much too many communists in your country. France's neighbours, in Africa as in Europe, above all, protect themselves from that poison. . . Let us give thanks to Heaven, and to the farsightedness of His Majesty that there is amongst us, a man who has protected Italy against the corrupting revolution . . ."

If you follow us, the four principal powers of Europe will at last recognise the truth: that of a civilisation founded on capitalism, on intellectual worth, and the necessary social privileges of the ruling classes."

The same irresistible pressure of the masses, the same crisis which caused the fall of Mussolini, is continuing in Italy today. With the difference that now the safety valve has burst. The Badoglio Government cannot solve any of the problems which face Italy. It is, and can only be, a reactionary stop-gap government. Already it is compelled to announce the bankruptcy of Italy—a legacy bequeathed by Mussolini, and the necessity for a further increase in the price of goods. The measures announced can only mean a tremendous inflation and a worsening of the already intolerable standards of the masses, reduced to below subsistence level by 20 years of Fascism. It is clear that the awakening masses will not stand for this long. The Badoglio Government will reveal itself as completely incapable of coping with the position.

The situation that is developing in Italy is similar to that after the February Revolution in Russia. The masses are just becoming conscious of

their power. With a strong revolutionary socialist party and a strong leadership, the Italian workers would become conscious of their strivings and would move to take power into their own hands. This alone could solve the problems of Italian society. In Russia in 1917 the Bolsheviks solved the problem posed by history by leading the Russian workers to a victorious conclusion of the revolution, by overthrowing the corrupt ruling class and organising society on a new foundation.

The Badoglio Government came to power at a peculiar stage of the war. It represents an attempt on the part of the Italian capitalists to come to an agreement with the Allies and save something from the wreckage of the war. Badoglio himself and the whole of the Italian ruling class realise that the present regime cannot last long in face of the virtual collapse of the economic system in Italy, already foreshadowed by the drastic decrees which have been announced. These measures can only add fuel to the smouldering discontent of all the exploited. The peasants, the workers, the middle class, all already hopelessly ruined by Fascism, will find their conditions aggravated by the new impositions of the capitalists. Already the decrees have provoked panic among the middle class, who have commenced a run on the banks with the development of inflation which will wipe out their "savings."

That is why the Italian capitalists are preparing for some sort of deal with the Allied imperialists, if possible. **To save themselves from their own people they must have the backing of foreign bayonets—whether those of Hitler or those of the Allies is immaterial to them.** What they are attempting to do is to drive the best bargain they can in the interests of the ruling class. And since they see the writing on the wall for Hitler, they are endeavouring to do a deal with the Allies.

Caught between the hammer of the Allied Armies, and the anvil of German imperialism, the revolution in Italy is in danger of being crushed. But even so, Hitler and Churchill have regarded the movement of the masses with alarm and fear. Roosevelt's speech, Churchill's speech, Eisenhower's behaviour—the activities of AMGOT—all indicate their desire to save the ruling class in Italy and even the wretched monarchy from paying the historic penalty for their crimes.

POLICIES OF THE WORKING-CLASS PARTIES

On this background and the internal situation in Italy itself what the

come to a standstill until the nation's claims and urgent needs are satis-

Leon Trotsky

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factors in the historical process. Such a man was Leon Trotsky.

Marx and Engels were the creators of the scientific socialist method. Millions of men are now influenced one way or another by their work.

Lenin continued the scientific doctrine of Marx and Engels. He was the principal leader and creator of the Bolshevik Party and the October Russian Revolution. As leader of the first gigantic successful experiment in Socialist revolution his role in history has been clearly established and acknowledged by friend and foe.

The great contribution to mankind of Leon Trotsky was his analysis and explanation of the degeneration of the Russian Revolution, and the creation of the world party of Socialist revolution, the Fourth International, which is today the banner bearer of international socialism.

When the flow of revolution, which followed the first world imperialist war, was followed by the ebb of the tide and a series of defeats for the working class, the isolation of Russia gave rise to the gigantic bureaucracy. In the last years of Lenin's life and together with him, Trotsky, as Lenin's closest collaborator, conducted a struggle against the rising bureaucracy. When Lenin died and the bureaucratic-caucus in the Bolshevik Party led by Stalin introduced the theory of "Socialism in One Country" as a political rationalisation of its privileged position, and turn away from world socialism, Trotsky continued the struggle.

The degeneration heralded a period of reaction in Russia and political ineptitude and prostration before capitalist reaction in the international communist movement. The Old Guard of the Bolshevik Party were exiled, tortured, and debased, and finally physically annihilated. The history and tradition of the Bolshevik movement and the Russian Revolution were falsified to conform to the dictates of the privileged bureaucracy. Paid gangsters ranged the world to seek out and annihilate the last remaining link with Leninism. After 10 years of persecution and hounding, during which period his two sons and no less than seven secretaries were assassinated by agents of Stalin; Jacques Monard—alias Frank Jason, a paid assassin of the G.P.U. succeeded in carrying out his terrorist assignment.

But this dastardly crime, while it dealt a great blow to the world movement, failed to achieve its objective:

that is, the destruction of the ideas of world revolution. Jason's icepick shattered Trotsky's brain. But the ideas of Trotsky had been written down in thousands of words. They had been assimilated by thousands of men of every race and colour. They had already been crystallised in the programme and party of the Fourth International. Trotsky had done his work too well. He had already laid the foundations for the continuation of the ideas of Marx, Engels and Lenin through the Fourth International.

Stalinism grew and flourished only in a period of reaction. It was a reflection of the pessimism, lack of confidence in the programme of revolution and the ability of the working class to achieve their emancipation. But two decades of reaction are coming to a close. A new period—of revolution—is opening up before us. **We are entering the Trotskyist epoch—the epoch of world revolution!**

Trotsky once wrote to James Cannon, **"We work with the most correct and powerful ideas in the world, with inadequate numerical forces and material means. But correct ideas in the long run, always conquer and make available for themselves the necessary material means and forces."** The Trotskyist ideas are already in the process of becoming a material force.

The masses in Italy have already taken the road of revolution. Tomorrow it will be the rest of Europe. Instinctively in one country after another the masses will turn to the Trotskyist programme. Despite our numerical weakness, the Fourth International is stronger than the internationals were in the last war. In every Continent, in more than 30 countries there are parties and groups of the Fourth International.

In Britain the ideas of Trotsky are rapidly penetrating the most advanced and militant strata of the working class. The ideas of Trotsky which at one time appeared abstract and theoretical are impressing themselves on the consciousness of the workers in their daily lives.

The tribute of **Workers' International League** to the founder of our movement, is the building of the Trotskyist Party in Britain, which will lead to the final achievement of that society for which Trotsky devoted his whole life. Together with our collaborators throughout the world, we will erect the monument of World Socialist Revolution.

Long Live The Fourth International!

Trotsky Memorial Meeting Conway Hall Friday, Aug. 20, 7 p.m.

Off the Press:

I Stake My Life!

By LEON TROTSKY

together with

DEWEY REPORT OF INQUIRY INTO THE MOSCOW TRIALS

Price Sixpence.

AERO STRIKE

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and in co-operation with the workers in the factory, help to clear the Stalinists from the Shop Stewards movement.

The most important outcome of this dispute is the growing solidarity of the militant wing in the shop stewards committee. Many of the Stalinist stewards, who were leading militants of the working class until Russia entered the war, have seen in practice, that despite the tremendous concessions they have made to the employers, neither they nor the government fail to use this policy of concessions to launch further attacks against the workers.

Fundamentally solid class conscious militants, when the important test came in the factory, they stood with their fellow workers against the boss.

The workers must give full support to this growing militant bloc of stewards in the factory. They must drive out the bosses' agents from the shop stewards movement and build a militant and united shop stewards committee where there will be no room for Quislings in the ranks.

For only this kind of solidarity will win their demands.

Lanark Miners Strike

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the meeting the threat of a £5 fine for every day he refused to go below. The E.W.O. came in for wholesale condemnation, as a monstrous piece of class legislation, and repeated protests came from various parts of the hall against the practice of war-time offenders of the boss class, guilty of much graver offences being dealt with by modest fines or simple censure. The

In addition the general line of retreat of the Labour Party in the face of the bosses' offensive (capitulation to the Trade Union Bill, etc.) did not imbue the proletariat with confidence.

In the rural areas, as a concrete alternative to the Fine Gael, the small farmers, agricultural workers, have chosen the Clan Na Tabmhan (Small Farmers Party). This party has won rural seats in contesting its first election, and is of very recent origin. Obviously it has only come into the picture as a result of the failure of the Labour Party to frame an agricultural programme to suit the needs of the rural masses.

Like their elder brothers in England the Labour Party bureaucrats fear responsibility. In the Party's official organ, "The Torch", they boasted that the Labour Party was the only party which was going to the Polls pledged whole-heartedly to the idea of a Coalition Government! This trend, coming from bureaucratic reactionaries and Stalinist stooges, who recently penetrated the Party en masse, must be fought consistently if labour is to be brought to its feet on a fighting programme.

The Eirian workers cannot afford to allow their increased representation in the Dail to be misused in angling for a Coalition Government, but on the contrary, must exploit the Parliamentary tribune to the utmost to expose the utter bankruptcy and hopelessness of any tie-up with the present regime.

The increased representation must not be used to cover up the cracks in the Eiriann regime, but must be used to take the lead in stirring up a widespread agitation for the elimination of all its totalitarian features. Not to serve as a prop for the tottering property classes but to recognise and proclaim openly that the only way forward for the Irish masses is through labour fighting a fresh election on a genuine socialist programme which will include the following planks:—

1. Full nationalisation of Eiriann industry.
2. Confiscation of the large estates, their conversion into co-operative farms, with employment of agricultural workers at a living wage.
3. State assistance by means of credits, etc., to the small farmers.
4. An appeal to the Northern Irish Labour Party for unity on the basis of a joint struggle for the Irish Workers' Republic.

Naturally the advanced Irish workers have no confidence in the ability of the Labour Party to fulfil this programme. Like all reformist Labour Parties, the Labour Party of Eire is led by a conservative bureaucracy. But it is the mass party of the workers and until it has demonstrated its utter bankruptcy the Irish will not turn to the revolutionary alternative.

The Irish Trotskyists see in the pushing of the Labour Party to power only the opening of the door to a genuine proletarian party which is determined, having won the majority of workers and small farmers, to inaugurate a workers' state. To do this they will base themselves not only on a majority of the Irish workers, but also on an appeal to their British and European brothers for the struggle for the Socialist United States of Europe.

MEETING OF THE WORKING-CLASS PARTIES

On this background and the internal situation in Italy itself, what the workers of Italy and the international working class need is a clear understanding of the problems which face them and a clear solution. When we examine the programme of the workers' parties in Italy and their international counterparts, we see their criminal treachery and their incapacity to face up to the situation.

The Italian Socialist Party has issued a Manifesto in which they have correctly called for the overthrow of Badoglio and the King by a general strike and have castigated the "Liberal" editors in Italy who have been agitating against a change of the present Government. But this is what they say:

"We are of the opinion that the Fascist monarchy deserves to have unconditional surrender imposed upon it as demanded by the Allies. We appeal to the democratic powers, to conduct peace negotiations with delegates of the Italian people on the basis of the Atlantic Charter."

As if the "aims" of the Allies had anything to do with "democracy" or anything else except the struggle for profits, for markets, for raw materials and spheres of influence. And as though Wall Street and the City of London did not back Mussolini and Italian fascism right up to their clash of interests in the war.

Mussolini broke with Churchill and Roosevelt, and not the reverse. Roosevelt's and Churchill's speeches demonstrated that they are prepared to do a deal with the House of Savoy and Badoglio, or possibly Umberto or Grandi or some similar combination tomorrow, if it suits their interests. Thus the Italian Socialist Party attempts to differentiate between Tweedledum and Tweedledee—between the Allied capitalists and the Italian. No programme of demands for the workers and peasants of Italy—just a vague demand for democratic rights and liberties. What will the "unconditional surrender" mean for the Italian masses? It would mean nothing short of a military dictatorship with the same gang of capitalists in control; it would mean the bleeding of the Italian masses not only by Italian capitalism but by Allied capitalism as well. Thus the Italian Socialists prepare a new debacle for the Italian workers and peasants.

The policy of Stalinism in Italy would seem incredible were it not for the crimes they have already committed in China, Germany, France and Spain against the Socialist Revolution. For they indignantly repudiate any suggestion that they stand for Socialism or the social revolution in Italy. The Marxian analysis of the class forces in Italy is deliberately abandoned; in place of the classes they place the Italian "nation", whose main job is to throw out not the Nazis—but the Germans. The "Daily Worker" says on August 10th:

"They (the Communists) are fighting in the ranks of the movement in the interests of the nation, and to see to it that the movement does not

Continued next column.

come to a standstill until the nation's claims and urgent needs are satisfied."

The same issue of the "Daily Worker" reports with satisfaction that the Italian parties from "conservative to communist" in Italy have agreed to the composition of a "Left Bourgeois" government if Badoglio should fall. **"The suggested government would have a Left Bourgeois character."**

Thus these traitors prepare for the Italian workers, the same fate as the workers suffered in France and Spain through the alliance with the capitalists in the so-called "Peoples' Front."

In Italy such a policy is particularly pernicious. It was the Liberals who smoothed the way for Mussolini to come to power in 1920-1922. The C.P. has not a word to say against the real culprits of fascism, the big capitalists and landowners, the generals and bankers, who placed Mussolini in power. Thus they prepare the way for a new and worse tyranny over the Italian masses by these same forces. In addition to that they picture the Allies as "democrats" and "liberators". This is tantamount to preparing the way for a stab in the back against the Italian workers and peasants. There is no crime too despicable for these contemptible lackeys!

The position of the British Labour leaders and the British Stalinists is just as bad, if not worse. All that the National Council of Labour can do, is to follow in the footsteps of their masters and screech: "unconditional surrender." Not a word about defending the interests of Socialism in Italy against any attack. The C.P. naturally screeches louder in the accents of chauvinism; repeating the same theme, in a more jingoistic and hysterical manner. And they too have not a word explaining the actions and meaning of the movement of the Italian working class and peasantry.

The I.L.P. has also failed at the first serious test of the revolution in Europe. While calling for the Socialist Revolution in Europe and for the British working class to rally to the support of the Italian workers and peasants, they do not understand the tasks clearly. Their position would obviously appeal to workers, when compared to the perfidy of the Stalinist and Labour organisations. But just because of this, it can be fatal for the Italian and British workers. Fenner Brockway writes in the "New Leader" of August 7th:

"There were two Italian Socialist Parties before the war—one affiliated to the Second International, the other (the Maximalists) to our International Centre. At the time of the split our section had a majority, but in emigration its resources were small compared with the influentially backed, more moderate section, and it is impossible to say which retained greater support in Italy itself. I think it likely that under present circumstances the breach will be healed; certainly the majority of Italian Socialists, who have a great revolutionary tradition, will regard any Popular Front as temporary, and will press on towards the full socialist revolution."

And further on, Brockway states:

"Just before the downfall of Mussolini I attended a gathering of Italian Socialists in London. They belonged to the Second International section, but, nevertheless, were outspoken in their criticism of Allied policy as already revealed in Sicily. They pointed out that whilst the Fascist Party and Fascist militia had been dissolved, there was no indication that the Fascist political and economic administration had been destroyed. Fascist mayors and officials remained in office, Fascist barons were still the lords of the peasants and Fascist industrialists still the bosses of factories and mines. At the same time, political activity by the people to end the regime was prohibited. Was dictatorship to continue under the Allies? they asked."

Thus, just at the moment when clarity is essential for the Italian and British workers, the I.L.P. confuses the issues. Brockway correctly warns: **"But the socialist revolution faces formidable odds. Within Italy it will be opposed by the remnants of the Fascists, the near-fascists, the Monarchists and the reactionary Catholics. It will also have to meet two external enemies—the Nazis and Allied Capitalism."** He then goes on to say that Allied and German imperialism are terrible dangers for the Italian revolution. True! And it is to the credit of the I.L.P. that they expose British imperialism. But just as dangerous to the Italian masses is the programme of Stalinism and reformism. Brockway's article and the "New Leader" does not contain one single word of warning against the counter-revolutionary role of Social Democracy and Stalinism. In spite of the tragic experience of his brother party P.O.U.M. in Spain, he advocates "unity" with the reformists! Not only that but he airily vouches for the good-will of the Italian Socialists, who will not stop at the Popular Front stage. As Brockway has referred to the Kerensky "Popular Front" period, perhaps it would not be out of place to remind him, that had Lenin followed such policies in Russia, there would have been no Russian Revolution and the Russian masses would have suffered the fate of the workers of Spain.

It would be the duty of any party claiming to be revolutionary socialist, to sharply differentiate its policy from that of reformism. Brockway characterises the role of the Allies correctly. The Italian Socialists appeal to these same Allies for support in setting up "democracy" in Italy, they call for unconditional surrender to these same Allies, they support Allied imperialism in the war. But this means nothing to Brockway. He still believes in collaboration in the same party with these Allied flunkies. If the Italian workers and peasants follow the advice of Brockway, they will have their necks broken by the counter revolution. At every crisis nationally and internationally the I.L.P. shows its true character. It is not a revolutionary but a Centrist, half-reformist

party. Tomorrow in the British revolution it will itself behave in the same way as it suggests to its brother parties. I.L.P. workers should seriously reconsider our criticism of their policy in the light of this crisis.

Only the programme of the Fourth International can stand the supreme test of the Revolution. Our programme says: No support for Allied imperialism in its intervention against the Italian revolution! Tomorrow the British and American capitalists will attempt to make a deal with Badoglio, or some other lesser known Badoglio. The Italian workers, soldiers and peasants can rely only on their own independent forces, their own strength; their own militias and their own Soviets in the struggle against the Italian capitalist class. Only by appealing to the class instincts of the Allied and German workers and soldiers can they receive any international support and solidarity. But to do this they must advance to take power into their own hands. The struggle in Italy must be waged round the demand for the rights of free speech, press and organisation unconditionally! For the overthrow of Badoglio and the King!

And those who organised, armed and financed fascism must not escape from the consequences of their crimes. The big landowners and capitalists put Mussolini in power—they must be expropriated! Never again must these gangsters have the opportunity to decide the fate of the workers and peasants. Land to the peasants! Factories to the workers! Peace to the peoples! For the international solidarity of the working class! Against all capitalists and their Governments! This must be the rallying programme of the Italian workers and peasants! Only thus can they conquer.

The workers have taken the first instinctive steps in this direction. But they did so in France and Spain and were then diverted by the Stalinists, the Socialists and the I.L.P.ists into the channels of the Peoples' Front. What the masses need above all is a revolutionary policy. That policy is provided only by the Fourth International.

Events will move quickly. It may be that the Italian revolution will be strangled by the imperialists from without and the traitors from within. But it is to the immortal glory of the Italian workers that they have begun. Europe and the world will never be the same again. Tomorrow it will be Hitler's turn or the turn of the Balkans. The European socialist revolution is on the order of the day. We salute the heroic workers, peasants and soldiers of Italy. The workers of Europe and Britain have a dress rehearsal for what is to come. All parties and programmes have been tested in the fire of revolution. Only the Fourth International has stood the test! Under its banner the workers of Europe and Britain will conquer and build a new world, the Socialist United States of Europe.

class legislation, and repeated protests came from various parts of the hall against the practice of war-time offenders of the boss class, guilty of much graver offences being dealt with by modest fines or simple censure. The policy of temporising and capitulation on the part of the union leadership met with severe criticism from the body of the hall, and there was evidence of a growing consciousness among the rank and file that the official T.U. leadership was the main instrument of government impositions and restrictions against militant action in the minefield and in industry. One miner comparing their own frustration with the confidence of their brothers in the armed forces, pointed out that the victories in North Africa had been achieved because we had men with the fighting spirit led by good generals. "We have the fighting spirit" he continued, then pointed to the platform party, "but where are the good generals!"

One may conclude from the capitalist press reports that the miners were easily persuaded to return to work, but on the contrary, the first vote taken on the issue, resulted in a vote of 235 to 154 in favour of continuing the strike, and it was only by playing on the 300 absentions and the pitiful admission on the part of the union leaders, that their hands were tied against further action, and that they were powerless under the E.W.O. that the miners finally decided to return to work, with the provision that the imprisoned youths be visited by miners' representatives, and every effort made to obtain their immediate release.

The young miners were released immediately on the undertaking that they would carry out the recent direction; this was a defeat for the miners. Even the concession of releasing them was not due to the union officials, but was in the main the result of the spontaneous action of the rank and file miners in taking strike action and so demonstrating their class solidarity with their young comrades in jail.

ON THE CASE OF JOE HALL

In our last issue of the "Socialist Appeal" we had a short report of the case of Cortonwood miners versus Joe Hall in the Courts.

One of our comrades has brought it to our notice that the tone of the article might be construed by the miners as "We told you so." If this impression has been created among any miners (which we trust is not the case) it is entirely due to hasty editing.

We are a hundred percent behind the miners against Joe Hall and the capitalist courts. Justice in such courts is always weighted on the side of the bosses and their lackeys.