

AGAINST COLONIAL OPPRESSION

For the Complete Independence of India!

The International Secretariat of the League Against Imperialism has, on behalf of the Executive Committee, the General Council and all affiliated organisations of the League Against Imperialism, addressed an **Open Letter** to the 44th Session of the Indian National Congress, which is meeting in **Lahore**, to all delegates to the Congress and to the revolutionary working and peasant masses of India. The letter states:

The Lahore Session of the Indian National Congress takes place at a momentous period in the rapidly developing struggle of the vast majority of the Indian people against ruthless British imperialism. A gigantic mass movement headed by the Indian proletariat and poor peasantry is already in action against imperialism.

The brutal actions of the **British Labour Government**, their vicious prosecution of the courageous prisoners at **Meerut**, their imprisonment of hundreds of revolutionary fighters all over India, their daily prosecutions of newspapers for sedition in order to suppress the real facts, their shooting down of striking **Bombay** workers, their murder of the hunger strikers, can only be interpreted as bloody and futile attempts to stop the tremendous anti-imperialist wave which is so rapidly surging up in India.

The British imperialists, anxious to rivet still more firmly the chains upon the Indian people, find allies in the Indian bourgeoisie, the landlords and employers of labour who openly support the British domination. The British imperialists also find allies in those elements who today dominate the Indian National Congress itself, and make of it a bulwark against the demand of the Indian masses for action to end British misrule in India.

We call upon all genuine anti-imperialist delegates to the Congress to fight for the complete exposure and elimination from the Indian National Congress of those elements who endeavour consistently to impede the action of the Indian masses by

compromises with British imperialism, i. e., Dominion Status, Round Table Conference, etc. All honest fighters against imperialism must come out openly and resolutely for the demand for complete national independence, for the withdrawal of the British mercenary army, for the freedom of action of all economic, political and labour organisations, for genuine support of every mass action against the exploiting class, white or native, for a propaganda and organisational drive for mass revolutionary action against imperialism.

The Indian people must be prepared to wage an implacable war against this Labour Government, they must be prepared to drive out of their ranks all those who support this Imperialist Government indirectly or directly.

As the agents of British imperialism still dominate the Congress, and as the economic and political interests of the broad masses of workers and peasants, who constitute the heart of the anti-imperialist movement, are not reflected in the Congress Programme, it is clear that the Congress cannot be regarded as an instrument for prosecuting an uncompromising struggle against imperialism.

It is necessary for all the sincere anti-imperialist elements and organisations in the country — especially all those organisations that have already joined the League — to unite and coordinate their efforts by forming an **All-India Anti-Imperialist League** or Federation with the minimum object laid down in the Statutes of the International League Against Imperialism, namely, **the organising and carrying on of a determined mass struggle for the full independence of the country.**