

THE Communist

An Organ of the Third (Communist) International

(PUBLISHED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF GREAT BRITAIN)

No. 111

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th, 1922.

[Registered at the G.P.O.
as a Newspaper]

TWOPENCE



THE DEAD AT WHITEHAVEN

BIG BUSINESS to the SPIRIT OF HUMANITY: Yes, yes! But think of the money it would cost!

Call Birds of the Counter Revolution

By A. SIFFLEET

"You smell this business with a sense as cold,

As is a dead man's nose."—Win. Tale.

THESE had been hard words it is true, but to Cardiff the Fascisti came, they saw and they conquered. They were nice young fellows. They all held Trade Union cards, and after a little heart-to-heart talk with N.U.R. and Transport Workers' officials, they withdrew their threat against trade union life and property on their return to Italy. Those Italian workers who welcomed British trade union action at Cardiff did not know their Fascisti. Our sane trade union officials recognised them as the honourable young fellows they are and allowed them to go on their blacklegging way rejoicing.

* * *

The Fascisti are the patriotic riff-raff of Italy. They were armed by the royal army. They are officered by the propertied class. With the connivance of the Government they have shot up and ravaged all Italy. Co-operative stores, trade union quarters and people's houses have been burned down. Workers' organisations have been broken up, leaders banished, and propaganda carried on by the revolver. Since 1920, by sheer terror, they have reduced the Italian Agrarian Workers' Organisation from 800,000 to 100,000. Genoa, Milan, Ancona, Leghorn, Parma, Brescia and Bari have all suffered at their hands. In the Italian Chamber they have drawn the revolver on Communist Deputies. Now, for the moment, they have demobilised, but are keeping themselves ready for the "next great battle"—the General Election.

Such are the choice blackguards, who, chased by Naples dockers aboard the *Accame*, came to Cardiff, saw the British Trade Union officials, and agreed to abandon their evil ways in exchange for a cargo of blackleg coal.

The Fascisti are the true legitimate children of the Italian Socialist Party. In 1920 the sun of revolution rose in Italy. The city and agricultural workers struck, they captured the factories, and everywhere dominated the situation. The Italian Government was paralysed, not daring even to resort to force. It was then that Turati, D'Aragona, Modigliani and Co., with their timidity and fear, and their hatred of the workers' revolution, made their treacherous pact with Labour's enemies. The bourgeoisie took heart, organised the Fascisti, and set up their reign of terror, aimed especially at the lives and homes of revolutionary

workers. Only by promptness and firmness did Russia escape a similar fate.

These reformists, during the recent strike, shut themselves up in the Parliament House at Rome—spending the nights on sofas instead of returning to their hotels. During the Fascisti revolver threats in the Chamber, these reformists "refrained from any open statement of their opinions." Now, as everyone expected, they have announced their complete severance from the Communists and have formally offered to collaborate with other parties for "the good of the whole nation." Their task is accomplished. They have demoralised and disarmed the proletariat; and isolated the Communists to the full fury of the bourgeois-led mob.

From the situation in Italy and in other countries, two facts emerge. 1. In its death throes Capitalism (especially if it cannot rely on its army) will try to cauterise the revolution by sheer terror. 2. This attempt is made possible by the political cowardice of the reformists who procrastinate and demoralise the masses whom they influence. The revolutionary crisis uproots these pretenders and flings them into the bourgeoisie where they temperamentally belong.

This terror is the inevitable frenzy of capitalism to escape its doom. It is sustained by class-conscious bourgeoisie operating upon the proletarian scourings of the system. Their villainy is winked and connived at by the State. They are the State.

In America this terror is systematised. The State Constabulary, aided by private armies of thugs, are frankly terrorist. Their horses are trained not to turn aside, but to ride down the crowd, to bite and to kick in action. Here is a sample of their methods. Mrs. Fannie Sellins was an organiser for the United Mine Workers of America, and, by her splendid work for the steel-workers, had gained the hatred of the employers in the Black Valley district. On August 26th, 1919, she was visiting some pickets, when a dozen deputy sheriffs, led by a mine official, rushed up shooting. One man fell mortally wounded. Mrs. Sellins began to plead with the deputies not to club the prostrate man. Then:—

"The mine official snatched a club and felled the woman to the ground.

She rose and tried to drag herself towards the gate. A deputy shouted: 'Kill that ———!'

Three shots were fired, each taking effect.

She fell to the ground, and the deputy cried, 'Give her another!'

One of the deputies, standing over the

motionless body, held his gun down, and fired into the body."

She was thrown into a waiting motor with the body of an old miner. Before she was placed in the truck, a deputy took a cudgel and crushed in her skull before the eyes of a throng of men, women and children who stood powerless before the armed men. He then picked up the woman's hat, placed it on his head, danced a step, and said to the crowd: "I'm Mrs. Sellins now."

The guilty men were openly named in the papers. Nobody was punished.

* * *

And what of Britain, the home of the Black-and-Tans? Already the staid *Sunday Observer* says, in reference to the general strike in Milan: "We can well understand Milan being ready to welcome the Fascisti—or anyone else." The National Citizens' Union, that politically vicious section of the tax-ridden middle-class, says: "In the uncertain future if any such unhappy necessity arose, you would find the N.C.U. more powerful even than the Fascisti in Italy in its ability to break any strike organised to the detriment of the ordinary law-abiding citizen." The British Legion has 1,870 branches. Ostensibly the Legion exists to maintain pensions, and get work for ex-service men. Numbers of poor, needy wretches, naturally gather about the Legion. Other men are of the type who in many climes have exposed their bodies to bullets for their exploiters—and proud of it. There are also evil-jowled, top-hatted ones, whose unfailing remedy for strikers is to "put them up against the wall." Major-Generals and Colonels have the organisation well in hand. Beer, billiards, prayer, and the National Anthem keep the men ready till wanted.

Then there is the latest Home Office demand for legislation to enlist a large body of Special Constables. These will be equipped similar to the regular police. A different type from the pantomime war-Special will be enlisted. The bully, the canteen scrounger, the Black-and-Tan at a loose end! Thus grows our Fascisti under our nose.

Given a crisis here, it is easy to imagine our Webbs and Hendersons crumpling up like their Italian counterparts. They too, are of the type to spend their nights on sofas in the House of Commons. They will hasten to assure the Government of their loyalty and agree to work with anyone for "the good of the nation." Their attitude to Communists no one doubts—I know not the man!

If the last few years have one plain lesson, it is this: The reformist is the call-bird of the counter-revolution.

Coatbridge Workers Snub Arthur Henderson

A SPECIAL meeting of the Coatbridge and Airdrie Trades Council and Labour Party was held on Thursday, August 31st, to hear the report of the delegate to the Labour Party Conference in Edinburgh last June.

Not the least important part of the proceedings was a two hours' debate arising out of the new amendments to the Labour Party Constitution which, as is pretty well known now, were aimed at the isolation of the Communist Party. The result of the debate was a complete victory for the C.P. and a direct snub to Mr. Henderson and the middle-class leaders of the Labour Party who are seeking by their present policy to disrupt the working class movement.

When the letter from Henderson advising that the new rule be incorporated in the local constitution came before the political executive, they had before them the decision of the C.P. executive to withdraw all oppositional candidates and to accept clause (a) of the new amendments.

The political executive decided to ascertain from Henderson if the action of the C.P. met with the requirements of the new amendments, and they received the following reply from Egerton Wake on behalf of Henderson.

"I have to say that the fact that the executive of the Communist Party have announced that they have agreed to with-

draw their candidates from constituencies where Labour is contesting, has no bearing upon the new rule, nor has it any effect upon the position with regard to the Communist Party and the Labour Party."

The chairman of the Council explained that all members of the Communist Party who were trade union delegates to the Council were prepared to accept the constitution of the Labour Party and the political executive had accepted this assurance. Nevertheless they had decided to write Mr. Henderson since they knew, despite Mr. Henderson's disclaimer at Edinburgh, that it was intended to expel the Communists from their ranks.

This letter from Mr. Wake showed that the interpretation of the Communists was right. He (the chairman) held that the Labour Party should not be divided and the best workers prevented from taking part in the movement.

An amendment that the question be remitted back only received three votes against the motion "that the Council accept as delegates all who are prepared to accept the constitution of the Labour Party," which became the finding of the meeting.

No doubt Henderson and Co. will return to the attack, but the Coatbridge workers will have something to say before they allow their best fighters to be isolated from them.

That Damned Armchair!

Away with your armchair philosophy, away carper and slacker.

We have work to do and no time for your quibbling.

Our men and women struggle, fight, aye, die

While you talk.

On your haunches you sit eternally midst a welter of argumentation.

You place yourself on a pedestal of books.

For by so doing you avoid contact, you avoid application.

You can do no wrong.

From your pedestal you can roundly criticise.

For in making nothing, no mistakes are made.

Away with you—higgler, you are contemptible.

We shall burn your armchair.

We shall give you a bench.

W. S.

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The SOUTHPORT CONGRESS

By ELLEN C. WILKINSON

SOUTHPORT is a nice town for a Congress. The Lady Mayor was very kind and let us play bowls, and tennis, and golf, and listen to a good band all free of charge.

She also, I believe, gave a reception to the delegates.

The unemployed representatives made a nice, polite, speech to the Congress—so we took a collection for them. Somebody lost all his money in a wallet—so we took a collection for him. The papers said that 39 miners had been entombed in Whitehaven—so we took a collection for them. We were told that people were starving in Russia—so we took a collection for them. We gave gold brooches to the International delegates and silver toilet sets to their ladies. Hearing some miners were likely to be executed in South Africa, we sent a resolution to Smuts to tell him he shouldn't. The heart of Congress was in the right place!

Writing at the close of Congress, when every constructive proposal has been wrecked or burked, it would be easy to speak of it in scalding words of bitterness and despair. But what's the good of that? The work of the Party and of the R.I.L.U. has borne some fruit this week, and it is not the role of the Communist to turn from this great working-class gathering with angry contempt.

The Group Meeting

On the eve of Congress the Communists held a meeting with certain left wing delegates to consider policy. This proved to be exceedingly useful, especially on the Report of the General Council, which is usually slipped through page after page. Next year, the problem of the T.U.C. should be tackled earlier, so that comrades with influence in their unions can get resolutions on the agenda which will give opportunity for the expression of the revolutionary view-point, in place of some of the appalling platitudes which appear year after year.

The Engineers' Lockout

Laurence (A.E.U. and a prominent member of the R.I.L.U.) on the Report raised the question of the handling of the Engineers' Lock-out. He accused the General Council of wasting time on futile negotiations, when they had the means in their hands of ending the dispute by withdrawing labour from the public utility services.

John Hill (Boilermakers) who replied for the General Council, said that this course had been considered but had been rejected as impracticable—the responsibility for which rejection did not rest on the Council but on the leaders of certain of the unions concerned. Kelly (Workers' Union) apparently fitted this cap to the head of the General Labourers' Unions, and he declared that the only effect of such a course would have been to throw more labourers out of work. He hinted mysteriously that the General Council were not responsible for the lengthy negotiations, "and it would be unwise to say who was." Congress was even more mystified by Brownlie's "s'hush, s'hush" speech, which he ended by saying that much had happened during the dispute which had better be forgotten. The skeleton therefore remained in the cupboard. But Laurence had at least caused the chains to rattle.

The Blackleg Coal

Pollitt asked what had been done to prevent coal being sent to defeat the American miners, in view of Herbert Smith's speech in America that the British miners would do all in their power to help. Smith admitted the speech, and said that the matter had been referred to the Miners' International Committee, who had replied that as only British coal was going to U.S.A., the M.F.G.B. had better make up its own mind. The E.C. had, therefore, decided that as British miners were hungry, and some American miners were blacklegging, £10,000 should be sent to the strikers, and as much coal as was ordered to the masters.

Unemployment

The debate on unemployment was one of the most disappointing features of Congress.

Halstead, of the National Organisation of the Unemployed, was given half an hour to state his case. He loaded Congress with compliments and gratitude for being allowed to come at all, and spent the rest of the time going over the familiar facts of the unemployment situation with a request for support for the National Programme. He did not emphasise the demand for affiliation, which was understood to be one of the main reasons for his coming. To do Halstead justice, he was placed at a disadvantage, in that his turn came earlier than had been at first arranged, but surely a challenge should have been flung at Congress, by the man who came direct from the heart of the Unemployed Organisation.

Most of the subsequent speeches from the floor were concerned with the recitation of the all too familiar horrors. Gwilym Richards, a comrade from South Wales, who had been appointed by the group to speak on the question, made the only effective contribution. "Unemployment," he said, "produces three types, the bloody rebel, the slimy slave, and the man without the guts to be a rebel, and too fine to be a slave. He commits suicide. You had a Council of Action to stop war on Russia. Why not a Council of Action to stop the war on our children."

Brownlie's Brain-wave

Mr. Brownlie had a brain-wave, and suggested that unemployment might be solved by the taxpayers subsidising the employers, so that the rate of exchange wouldn't matter! The other comedian was Cusack, of the Constructional Operatives, who said that the Government were so concerned with Mesopotamia that they had no time for the "mess-up-at-ome-ere."

The General Council

Amid the welter of resolutions that could only be of use if Labour were in power, there were some important resolutions dealing with the internal organisation of the movement, born out of the experience of the recent failures.

Of these the most momentous was that in the name of the General Council, which proposed that unions should keep the Council informed of the progress of disputes, the Council not intervening if there was a possibility of settlement. If, however, the unions found it necessary to seek the help of the Council, and a strike or lock-out occurred, the Council should organise financial and other support, and for this purpose should have power to raise funds by levy.

That the General Council should have advanced even so far is a proof of the enormous amount of work put in by the left wing movement in the country during the last year. Swales (A.E.U.), moved the resolution in a useful speech in which he said that the unions had been calling upon the General Council for help which they had been denied the power to give. In the struggles that were surely coming, the same failures would result, unless wider powers were given to the Central body. It was futile to grumble about expense. If the Council could save the big unions even one week's strike pay, it would be worth it.

Shinwell, whose speeches throughout Congress made one wonder how he can be regarded so complacently by the I.L.P., as one of their "good lads," declared that the resolution did not go far enough. The Council should ignore democracy when necessary. It had become a dangerous platitude to say that we must stand by other unions lest all should go down. The trade union movement should have the foresight to anticipate and counter the moves of the employers in the wages struggle.

The applause received by these speeches made one hope that after all the lesson of the recent tragedies had been learned. But, alas! there came the dismal procession of the general secretaries. Cross (Cotton), wailed that many, many years ago, some such resolution had been defeated by Congress. Frank Hodges implored Congress to be very, very careful where it was going. The miners certainly could not let the General Council know when they con-

templated action. It might leak out to the public. Seeing that the miners have to give three months' notice to the employers, this seemed rather rich. Cramp, and Bevin and Clynes produced further excuses.

The R.I.L.U. Weighs In

Pollitt said that the weakness of the last two years had been the lack of central organisation to co-ordinate the activities of the various unions engaged in disputes. Every executive examined every strike not from the point of view of class, but of what they could get out of it for their members, even if the settlement were dangerous to other unions engaged in the struggle. In the engineering lock-out 47 unions looked at the affair from 47 selfish points of view. He wanted to give the Council more power, not because he believed in the particular individuals then on the platform, but because it was a step dictated by necessity. There would be people on the Council some day who would use the power for what they were there for, to destroy capitalism. They could only do that when the whole of the industrial forces were fighting under a common banner. If the General secretaries who were saying that this scheme would not be approved by their members would popularise it in their unions, central leadership could be obtained in six months.

John Jagger (Distributive Workers), said that he feared to give too much power to the General Council, for it might use it to go back instead of forward, and become an amateur arbitration court. But, even if blunders were committed at first, the principle was sound, and by no other means could a serious attempt to stop the retreat be made.

When Winter Comes

After a hot debate, during which it became clear that the resolution would be hopelessly defeated, the previous question was carried by a huge majority. By the same means, the resolution dealing with a Trade Union Clearing House, the amalgamation of clearing trades, the Disputes Committee were got rid of, the only one of this kind being passed was a resolution calling for a report upon trade union organisation!

As the delegates came out of the Congress Hall from these debates, they were met with the "All Power" placard, "When Winter Comes." All the preparations made by this Congress for the new struggles on which we are entering this autumn, struggles which will now be fought by jealous unions with empty coffers and disheartened members, is—another report! How long, Frank Hodges, how long. But we hope you will enjoy yourself on the American Delegation.

On With The Work

The details of the debates on the other resolutions have been reported day by day in the *Herald*, whose new editor, Hamilton Fyfe, was introduced to Congress, and who got through a very difficult situation with an unaffected charm, which made him a favourite with the delegates, who cheered Lansbury to the echo.

The main interest to Communists is the position of the General Council. Undoubtedly it has been the propaganda of the R.I.L.U. and the Party nuclei, with their slogan of "More Power to the General Council," which caused the pressure which produced the official resolution. The Council itself was not united on it. One general secretary of a great union asked the two representatives of his union on the Council whether to support it or not. He was told to oppose. Our line of action is clear. Technically the resolution was not defeated, but a better one must be produced next year, and all the means of propaganda at our disposal must be used to get support beforehand from the rank-and-file.

We must also concentrate on the personnel of the Council. The secretary has been removed by the resolution on age limits, a result not perhaps entirely unconnected with an article which appeared in the *COMMUNIST* some months ago. The more open corruption in the bartering of

(Continued on Page 6)

The European Crisis

By KARL RADEK

WHAT is now happening in Europe may be characterised as the death agonies of the Treaty of Versailles. Economic necessity is the cause of the Treaty's breakdown. The victors had decided to treat the wounds which the war inflicted upon Western capitalism at the expense of Germany, Austria, Bulgaria, Turkey and Russia. This attempt could not be realised, not only because of the frightful havoc caused to Central and Eastern Europe as a result of this policy, but also for another reason which the leaders of the victorious capitalist nations do not seem to have understood, in spite of all the economic sermons they have been so good to deliver to us, to the effect that the world forms a single economic unit. Germany was one of the greatest export markets for England and the United States. Both are now compelled to look on, since a plundered Germany can no longer buy their products. Lloyd George realised this even before the Treaty of Versailles was signed. In a memorandum which ex-Prime Minister Nitti has published in his book, "Peaceless Europe," he warned the Allies of the baleful results which would follow the burdening of Germany with an absurdly enormous debt.

But in spite of the fact that he realised that the Treaty of Versailles would plunge capitalism into chaos, he nevertheless signed the Treaty and has not yet found the courage to demand its revision. His defence of Germany has always been within the limits of the Treaty. This proves not only imbecility on his part, but also that the conflicts within the Entente have blinded him to the ABC of capitalism—namely, that a ruined man is a bad customer.

Lloyd George has been fighting France for many years already. Were we to adopt the tone in which the English official press comments on the French policy, we would bring down upon ourselves severe notes of protest. And this fight has gone beyond mere word-conflicts; the canon's voice is also heard. The so-called Turko-Greek war is nothing else than an Anglo-French war. The English Government is openly furnishing the Greeks with arms and money, and accuses France of doing the same with the Angora Republic. But England cannot afford an open break with France even if the break should not bring about an immediate war on a world scale. America's position towards France and England is not yet clearly defined. America supports on the one hand, England's policy towards Germany, and on the other hand, France's policy towards Russia. The simple fact that in Washington, America did not support England's declaration against the use of submarines in warfare, proves that America has not definitely given up its anti-English policy, and is willing to play up France against England. An old English publicist wrote recently in the *Fortnightly Review* that Napoleon had never brought about such a military hegemony on the Continent as did the Bloc National. Against Napoleon, England found Allies in Russia and Germany. The

simple German believed he was fighting for the liberation of his fatherland, when he was actually playing the game of English imperialism against French imperialism. To-day, England herself has destroyed Germany's military power and could not use it as a weapon against France, even if it should now be needed. Imprisoned in the iron circle of French, Polish and Czechoslovakian armies, Germany, even if she be allowed to make open preparations for war, could never fight France, except with the support of Russia. But England, hopelessly entangled in the contradiction of her

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European and her Asiatic policies, thought it in her interest to keep Russia a weak power. She feared that she might meet in a strong Russia an enemy to her robber policy against the interests and the life of the Mahammedan people. England's plans were not fully successful, for Russia was not so naive as to believe, like the Germans, that no other motive than the reestablishment of peace actuated England, and was unwilling to become the tool of England. Russia's attitude towards the world crisis is that of an independent great power, concerned primarily with its own interests, which are also the interests of the international working class.

The dissolution of the Entente places England, France and Germany before this question: what next? France may proceed with the occupation of the Ruhr without the support of England. Germany, disappointed in its expectation of English support, may sell out to France and save herself from dismemberment, by agreeing to combine the Ruhr coal with the Alsacian and French ores. This idea is not so new among the German industrialists. They ex-

pect in this way to save their mining industry, and hope that their talent for organisation may give them a decisive influence on French industries. In any case, the possession of the Ruhr valley would give to France an unparalleled industrial position among the victorious countries of Europe.

The ripening changes in the European politics have a deep, practical interest for Soviet Russia. France's advance upon the Ruhr, and the participation of Poland in an attack upon Germany would bring a change in the European situation equally important to that resulting from a Franco-German agreement. France would become the greatest economic power in Europe, and constitute an even greater danger to its imperialistic enemies than it does to-day; it would then become a power disposing of immense economic resources.

The coming events in Central Europe require from Russia a clear and calm estimate of the possible consequences, and combinations of power that may follow. We have proposed to our neighbours a restriction of armaments, only to receive from Poland the ridiculous answer that this was a task for the League of Nations. The Baltic nations are protracting the negotiations under various excuses. The agreement reached before Genoa for a temporary armistice is coming to an end. We have no idea of the intentions of our neighbours. Citizen Marshall Pilsudski invited Comrade Litvinov to a friendly talk, but this meeting was a pure sham to calm Polish public opinion. But even if we accept the friendly tendencies of our western neighbours, we must not forget,—first that they are dependent upon London and Paris, secondly that Soviet Russia is an Asiatic as well as a European power. Asia is affected by the decision on the Rhein question. Our army must remain war-ready whether partially demobilised or not. And not only the army, but all Russia must be prepared for all events. The question of crops and industrial work is not only one of stomach, but also a question of the maintenance of the Republic and its international position. It is possible that madness may again take hold of Europe. Woe to him who falls unprepared into the hands of the mad ones! We must call the attention of the masses to the international situation so that we may be ready politically for any eventuality.

It is also possible that a compromise may again be reached, but this compromise will be rotten to the core, and will not endure. A new storm menaces Europe. It is quite possible that it is not preachers' sermons and diplomatic notes only that will play a role in the attempt to kill the Treaty of Versailles. A whole period of diplomatic attempts to settle the question of the Treaty is behind us. All these attempts, Washington and Genoa as well as the Hague, have proved to be fiascos of bourgeois pacifism. It is quite possible that the capitalist rulers of Europe may look to cavalry, infantry and artillery rather than to Adam Smith for a solution of the problem. We must make sure that we can answer this sort of argumentation too.



The French Worker



The Italian Worker



The German Worker

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A Weekly Organ of the Third (Communist) International

Official Organ of the Communist Party of Great Britain

16 King Street, Covent Garden

London, W.C.2

Telephone . Gerrard 877

"The Communist" can be sent to any reader direct from this office at the prepaid, post-paid rate of 3/3 per quarter, or pro rata.

Terms for quantities: 1/4 for 13, post paid, sale or return; monthly account. All communications to:—Circulation Manager, "The Communist," 16, King Street, W.C. 2.

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BEHIND GREEK AND TURK

THE armies of Greece—that hapless nation, whose peasantry die for "the great and glorious fatherland," while its bourgeoisie keeps in the safe seclusion of London and Marseilles—are again breaking their own records.

The recoil has been felt in Downing Street and Mr. Lloyd George has held an emergency Cabinet Council to discover ways and means to "safeguard the lives of the Christians" in and about Smyrna. Meanwhile, the "Iron Duke" has entered the port, and British marines are guarding the "Christians" at the gas works and the National Bank! The latter, of course, belongs to British capital. True, there is not much British capital invested in the undertakings in Asia Minor, but what there is can be found mainly around Smyrna.

What makes matters serious is that of the rivalries in the Near and Middle East, the oldest and keenest one is that between France and Britain.

The Turks believe that the British are actively assisting the Greeks and the Greeks are sure that there are French staff officers with the Turks.

This means that somewhere in the panic cross-firing may begin.

Possibly, a Turk may shoot a British marine—his companions, retaliating, may kill a man who, if he is not French, is wearing a French uniform. That is the kind of mess that may land the lot of us into that war which the fervently "patriotic" Greek bourgeoisie (who, for commercial reasons, masquerade as British and French subjects) would see with small sorrow, if any.

These pests will move heaven and earth to embroil Britain in the trouble.

They are in at the back of nearly all the intrigue that is going on in Downing Street. They have, for the last half century, been enormously influential at the Court, and now that there are so many Russian exiles moving about in that quarter, their capacity for mischief has been enormously increased.

The high finance of heavy engineering capitalism in this country—whose credits have been derived from the profits of gigantic transactions in sugar, corn and cotton in Egypt, the Balkans and the whole Near and Middle East—is determined to develop and exploit all these Eastern areas, as it is already exploiting Egypt and India.

The high finance embodied in the Bank of Paris and its dependent credit houses (heavily involved in the Balkan and Turkish railways, even during the German ascendancy), is resolved (now that it has knocked out the Deutsche Bank), to extend its conquest of the East.

It is all powerful in the French Foreign Office. Through the Jew houses of Vienna, Constantinople and Salonika it has been for many long years the bitter enemy of the Greek bourgeoisie:

To-day they snarl at each other over the unlimbered gun batteries and levelled bayonets of Turk and Greek.

To-morrow they may send forward line after line of blue-clad French and khaki clothed British to fight and fall—choked in blood, suffocated by gas, riddled by shrapnel (which they, the

bloody bandits, will sell at their customary 12½ per cent. profit)—for what?

For barley—to make cheap beer; for corn to hold famine-smitten millions to merciless ransom; for silk—to garb the harlots of Paris; for cotton—to advantage the Gradgrind rascals of Manchester and Liverpool; for wine and currants—to load their groaning dinner tables; for all the things for which the dumb driven millions are sent to rip up each other's bellies and blow out each other's brains!

THE DEAD AT WHITEHAVEN

FORTY miners met their death in an under-sea tomb at Whitehaven, Cumberland. The details of the terrible accident have been spread far and wide through the columns of the Press.

An explosion occurred, killing some men outright. Others were buried under heavy debris. Escape for those who still lived was cut off by a fall of rock which blocked the passage way.

So died forty British miners.

The dramatic manner of their dying provided plenty of good copy for the newspaper men, marked by a display of maudlin sentiment worthy of the great traditions of the British capitalist press.

It is interesting and instructive to compare the language used by the parasitic humbugs who run our organs of public opinion, concerning the coal miner dead, with that employed concerning him living.

Alive, as often as not, he is represented as a sort of vampire sucking blood from the rest of the community in the form of absurdly high wages; or alternatively, as a British Bill Sikes, striking maliciously for the love of the thing, and employing his all too long periods of leisure in orgies of bestial gluttony. *Punch*, the narrowest and meanest expression of all that is narrow and mean in the England of to-day, is the most characteristic example of this spirit in current journalism.

But dead—in an accident—the same miner becomes a hero.

"These miners died in the course of their duty, and no better can be said of any human departure," commented a *Morning Post* leader writer on the Haig Pit disaster. The smug effrontery of that comment leaves one speechless. It is a duty, mark you, for some poor devils to dig in the bowels of the earth, at imminent risk of losing their lives; just as it is for others to sweep roads; or clean railway engines; or lay bricks; or do any other of the multifarious jobs by which the workers scrape together a bare living.

A duty to whom? To the community? Then by whom was it ordained that these particular poor devils should perform this particular duty? Who determined that Lord Lonsdale, the owner of the Haig Pit, should be what he is, and John Kirkpatrick, coalminer, who was brought up dead, what he is?

To talk of duty in connection with the worker under the capitalist order is the veriest cant. He works for fodder, and the whip that drives him is the fear of hunger. The men who died in the dreary tomb beneath the sea were no heroes. They may have been martyrs; like the rest of their fellows they were certainly slaves.

The essence of their slavery was proclaimed long ago by Shelley:—

"Tis to work, and have such pay,
As just keeps life from day to day,
In your limbs, as in a cell.
For the tyrant's use to dwell.
'Tis to be a slave in soul,
And to have no strong control,
Over your own lives, but be,
All that others make of ye."

Forty miners of Whitehaven will lie in soon forgotten graves in a north country churchyard; forty unemployed miners will snatch an unexpected job thereby.

The hunt for dividends will still be the incentive of the capitalist owner; the need for bread the spur that drives the working miner to his dangerous trade.

One tenth of the scientific knowledge and ingenuity expended on modern military machines might make the mines of England as safe to work in as Hyde Park.

Sometime or other it will be done. Sometime—but not under Capitalism.

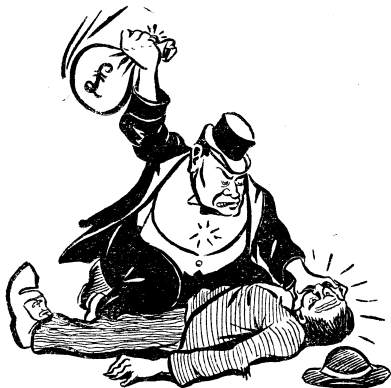


The American Worker



The British Worker — and — The Workers' International





The French Worker



The Italian Worker



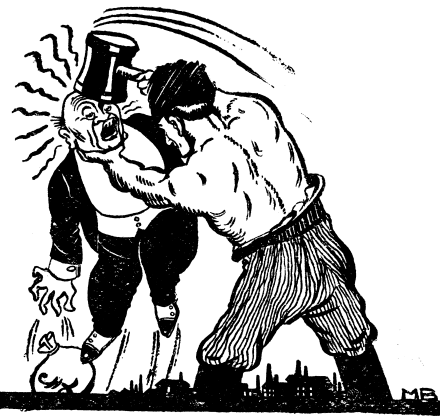
The German Worker



The American Worker



The British Worker — and — The Workers' International



COMMUNISM DEFENDED

By D. E. FISHER

[We reprint the appended letter written to a local newspaper by a member of the Richmond Branch, C.P., both as an appreciation of its worth and as an incitement to others to follow his excellent example.]

I HAVE been asked by the Richmond branch of the Communist Party of Great Britain to reply, on their behalf, to certain statements made by Councillor Frost at a recent meeting of the Richmond Town Council, when an application from the branch for permission to hold public meetings on the Little Green, Richmond, was being considered.

Councillor Frost, in opposing the Richmond C.P.G.B.'s application is quoted as follows: "The Conservative, the Liberal, and the Labour Party helped the country against Germany, but the Communist Party did nothing to help win the war; they did everything to make us lose the war. They had no thought for God or their country, and were without a soul."

Councillor Frost is perfectly correct in stating that "the Communist Party did nothing to help win the war"; he is absolutely wrong when he says that "they did everything to make us lose the war."

This will be quite evident to your readers when they are reminded that the Communist Party of Great Britain did not come into existence until some time after the signing of the Armistice. How a party which did not exist could do "everything to make us lose the war" must be left to Councillor Frost to explain.

In his sweeping remark, Councillor Frost was evidently speaking of the Communist Party as a party, and the one plain fact stated above, knocks the whole basis away from his argument at once.

Assuming that Councillor Frost intended to say that certain individuals who now belong to the C.P.G.B. did nothing to help win the war, he may be correct. But even on that assumption, where is his sense of logic in using this as a reason for refusing permission to the Communist Party alone to hold meetings on the Little Green, when it is remembered that two at least of the other political parties he mentions also include amongst their members individuals who took up a similar attitude during the war?

The Labour Party, for instance, is practically dominated to-day by the Independent Labour Party (I.L.P.), which, as a party, officially opposed the war from beginning to end. In the ranks of the "Free Liberals" may also be found individuals who adopted an anti-war policy.

Why then should the Communist Party alone be singled out for victimisation?

In my own branch of the C.P.G.B., the proportion of ex-service men to active opponents of the war is about ten to one, although all of them would now agree that the war was not fought for the objects so loudly proclaimed by the leaders of the

allied countries, i.e., to "save little Belgium," "destroy militarism," "end war for all time," "make the world safe for democracy," etc., etc., but was in reality a capitalist war, fought for capitalist ends. As one who so regarded it, and was of military age, the writer actively opposed the war from the beginning, is proud to have done so, and would do the same again under similar circumstances.

I should like to paraphrase Councillor Frost as follows:—"Many individuals in the Conservative and Liberal Parties did nothing to help win the war; they did everything to prolong it and to make as much money as possible out of it."

Councillor Frost then sweepingly brands all Communists as people who have no thought for God or their country, and are without a soul. Leave aside for one moment spiritual implications. Communists, we are told, have no thought for "their country."

One could dismiss this by stating that the majority of Communists being landless wage slaves, possess no country, or part thereof, and therefore do not need to occupy much time in thinking about it. But assuming Councillor Frost to mean that Communists have no feeling or affection for the land of their birth, I believe him to be wrong. The Communists of this country have such a regard for their native land that they wish to see it leading the way towards the new social order—Communism.

The Communist movement is an international movement. Communists are working for the time when, economically, socially, and ethically, the world shall be recognised as a single whole. They advocate the pooling of the economic resources of the earth to the interests of the whole of humanity. Nationally, the C.P.G.B. is striving, as a reference to its aims and objects will show, to make this a land really fit for heroes to live in, a land owned and managed communally, a community of social and economic equals, instead of a land of landlords and capitalist parasites on the one side and the mass of underfed, ill-educated, badly clothed and housed wage-slaves on the other. This being our aim, we claim to be the true patriots.

As for "God" and the "soul," these are for most Communists, merely words. We do not waste time over these metaphysical abstractions, but confine our attention for the present to the task of bettering the conditions of ordinary men, women and children living upon the earth. One world at a time is our motto in this connection. If after doing what we consider to be our duty in this world, at the close of life we find ourselves unexpectedly ushered into another, after a thorough investigation into the conditions of life prevailing amongst the inhabitants, we shall adapt our programme to the requirements of the new sphere of existence and go on working for the establishment of Communism.

(Continued from Page 3)

votes has been made more difficult by the resolution of the Distributive Workers, carried in the teeth of Thomas's opposition by a million and a half majority. But bargaining will still go on so long as millions of votes are cast by a handful of general secretaries.

The Standing Drinks Committee

In a snug hostelry near the Congress Hall the new Council was settled by the Standing Drinks Committee.

The rank-and-file should demand that this scandal should cease, and that nomination should be the prerogative of the delegate meetings of the unions, and the voting should be by the vote of the delegates present at Congress.

Comrades, there was fine stuff in Congress in spite of all. On the last day, we passed a resolution congratulating the agricultural workers, who made a great stand for trade unionism one hundred years ago in Tolpuddle, and were deported to Botany Bay.

Review

Against the Red Sky, by H. R. Barbour (Daniels, 7/6)

A Tale of Revolution

A STIRRING tale of the British Revolution, which every branch library should possess. The curtain rises on Richard, an amorous young bourgeois, in Lady Merrivale's bedroom indulging in æsthetic chatter and other frivolity. The next morning up go the barricades in Covent Garden—in fact King Street. Richard drops his æsthetics, also a policeman, then some more, and strides through the revolution to the presidential chair of the Extraordinary Commission. The author concedes nothing to current literary prejudices—Wal. Meyer, Fred Preedy, and Bret Wilson, with his refreshing oaths sustain the proletarian spirit throughout. Jerry Pilgrim with his simple heroism, and single-minded Eileen Burke will appeal to rebels everywhere.

Some Communists may think that the revolution is accomplished too easily; that the fighting is too slight; the Whites too docile; and food too plentiful. They may wonder how the troops were swung over; how Fleet Street was dealt with; how patriotic suburban detachments were flattened out. They may long to have seen a close-up of a local Workers' Council in the stress.

However, a literature will surely grow up viewing the revolutionary crisis from different angles—before, during, and after. Such a literature, to which Barbour's book is a worthy contribution, will have great suggestive value. It will, for a few hours, at least, in imagination, jerk folk out of their accustomed grooves, tear them from their traditions, compel them to face a crisis and to decide, and to decide quickly, between the "Government" and the Workers—the Old and the New.

A. R. S.

THE COLLAPSE OF CAPITALISM

What the Papers say:—

Every few weeks, one of the newspapers, daily, evening, or Sunday, hazards a prophecy that trade is about to improve or, if it is very rash, states definitely, but without giving details, that "the trade revival" has arrived.

What are the facts?

We will let the capitalist press speak for itself.

Shipping.

"According to the latest statistics available, there were approximately 1,700,000 gross tons of British shipping laid up in the principal ports of the United Kingdom on July 1st last, compared with 1,300,000 gross tons on April 1st . . . it is computed that at the present time between 10,000,000 and 12,000,000 gross tons of the world's shipping out of a total of 62,000,000 are unemployed."—(*Journal of Commerce*, 21-7-22).

Shipbuilding.

"Those who were members of Lloyd's Committee knew perfectly well that for some time past they had not passed plans for ships to be built in this country. Last

week there were two. The week before none. The week before that two of 100 tons each. The shipbuilding trade of the country would come to an absolute standstill before very much longer, but he hoped things would improve."—Sir Wm. Turner, at the London General Shipowners' Society (*Compendium*, July).

Year's output capacity of U.K. Shipyards equals more than 3,000,000 tons.

New tonnage commenced in six months: To end of June, 1922, equals 89,885 tons.—(*Compendium*, July).

Coal.

"But for the American demand, July must have ranked as one of the worst months of the year for the coal trade . . . while it (the American demand) lasts, the business certainly promises to be brisk."—(*Compendium*, July).

"The trade with the States will fade away when the coal miners in America get back to work."—(*Journal of Commerce*, 17-8-22).

Cotton Industry.

"There has been rather more doing in Manchester, but it cannot be described as a revival . . . the export trade is not very

active . . . will trade improve soon or shall we presently be forced to that dreary expedient or short time? It didn't seem to do us any good last time, but it might be contended that we should have been even worse without it."—(*Manchester Guardian, Weekly*, 25-8-22).

Such reports are typical of almost every industry.

What will happen to Capitalism?

Mr. Frank Vanderlip, late President of the National City Bank of New York, says: "In my opinion, Europe is now on the very brink of the precipice and it is a question whether it is not too late to avert general ruin."—(*Observer*, 27-8-22).

Mr. Henry Bell, managing director of Lloyd's Bank, says:—

"We cannot afford not to ask our allies to pay us at any rate what we have to pay America."—(*Iron and Coal Trades Review*, 25-8-22).

Europe cannot pay its debts to Britain. Britain cannot afford to forgive these debts unless the U.S.A. forgives her. The U.S.A. refuses. Capitalism is, indeed, riding for a fall.

An Dail and The Day

THE Parliament of Southern Ireland—called “An Dail” by its friends and by its enemies denied that name—has met: and with its meeting begins a new political era in Ireland. The distinctions separating groups and parties can be no longer solely differences of relation to British rule. An Irish Government—no longer “Provisional”—exists and every group and party must seek justification for its existence in its attitude towards Irish parties and Irish problems.

The Free State machine-guns still rattle—the Republican rifles still crack—but the first Irish Government in the first hour of its existence is brought face to face with a strike of its postal workers—in opposition to a wage-cut—and meets them with the fiat that the strike is illegal and no sort of picketing can be tolerated in the course of a strike of State servants.

The Postal Workers’ Strike, the Government’s attitude thereto, and the decision to withdraw the censorship all together indicate that the new Government is so confident of winning out—that it can afford to give all its rivals full freedom to get ahead with their propaganda.

All this is favourable enough from a revolutionary working-class point of view—so much so that it is difficult to resist the temptation to over-rate it.

For the first time in Irish history, there is an opportunity to rally the entire peasant and labouring population behind a policy designed to serve their economic interest—without fear of complications from pro-national and anti-British traditionalism.

Whichever section is far-seeing enough to devise this policy is bound to win in the long run. It is therefore only a question who can produce the goods.

Up to the present neither section of the Dail has made any clear statement of policy. The Labour Party, upon whom the responsibility should normally fall, have done no more than demand that of the Government.

The De Valera section and the Republicans generally, stand in like case. It will not serve them to stand for ever on a programme in one word, even though that word be the blessed, blood-sanctified word, “Republic.”

Tradition, powerful though it be, is not all sufficient. The actual pressure of every-day reality transfuses and transforms the meaning of the oldest tradition, just so far as it raises concrete grievances clamouring for solution.

To Wolfe Tone and his United Irishmen a “Republic” meant the rule of the common people—the lower orders. As such it was resisted by all the vested interests. As such it was fought for by the peasants and proletarians who “rose in ’98.” If De Valera and the Republicans are worthy to succeed them, they must learn from them—and their fate.

The mass of the people can only be united behind a party when that party raises a clear issue favourable to the mass and hostile to the oppressor. When the British Government in 1914 felt themselves so strong that they would make no concession to the property-owners and bourgeoisie of Southern Ireland, they

created the conditions for a United Republican struggle against them and their rule.

Easter Week taught the British Government the folly of “giving too little and asking too much”—the folly of giving a show of Parliamentary Home Rule, while retaining all reality of economic control and following that up with a preposterous demand for the disposal of all the armed forces in Ireland in their cause and for their advantage.

After Easter Week they learned the lesson—hence the Free State and the large powers conceded in its constitution to native Irish capitalism; especially the power to develop at the expense of the peasant and proletarian mass.

Against the British Empire, State, and rule in Ireland, right up to the Treaty, a national slogan was all-sufficient as a rallying cry. Against the Free State and the rich graziers, substantial farmers, wealthy employers, and would-be wealthy middle-class men who have dug themselves in behind it—whose troops suppress the Postal Workers’ pickets to the tune of the “Soldiers’ Song” and with Connolly’s tricolour flying—something more is wanted.

In 1916, when all circumstances combined to create unity, the personal force of James Connolly and the organisation he had built up (combined with the divergence of interests of the various sections of the property-owning classes) made it likely that the proletariat would snatch power from the crisis.

Since 1916 the proletariat have receded and the capitalist interests have consolidated. Hence, the Free State, and hence the vacillation of the Irish Labour Party between the need to resist the Irish Bourgeoisie (whose instrument is the Free State) and the fear of confusion with the purely traditional and emotional conservatism which so far has dominated the Republican counsels. And hence too De Valera and his section and their fore-doomed endeavour to keep to a purely Republican issue, freed from all contamination with the economic claims of either bourgeoisie or proletariat.

To De Valera the lesson should be by now clear—Either with the proletariat against the Free State Bourgeoisie or with the Free State and its bourgeoisie against the proletariat.

Crude it may seem—sordid if you will—but life is like that; and history has no respect for fine dreams that take no account of concrete reality.

For the Labour Party the lesson is the same. Either with the proletariat and peasantry behind them attracted and united by a clear and well-defined programme, which will set forth in the concrete all that Tone, Lalor and Connolly adumbrated, and all that the masses have hoped for—either that, which will put them at the head of the Republican struggle (thus transformed into a Workers’ Republican struggle) with the Communist Party as their close allies and the Republican rank-and-file at their call,—either that, or the Labour Party will serve only to cumber the scene until time and the workers’ anger clears the road that leads to the end now plain in all men’s sight.

TRUTH WILL OUT

By Dick Gifford

“Out of the mouths of . . .”

WHAT is happening or what has happened?

Is the discovery of the ultra-violet ray synchronising with the penetration of it into the minds of people whom Oxford and Cambridge have turned out supposedly in “first-class” condition?

If not ultra-violet rays—what?

Day after day it is becoming evident that many of those who do not fare badly under our present social system are seeing some of its defects.

That class, of course, will never recognise as a class that the system has so many defects until those who suffer under it decide to sweep it away. But the fact remains that people in least expected positions are evincing doubts as to the common-sense or practicability of their positions while capitalism holds sway.

One should take careful note of the recent utterances of Mr. Justice Sherman.

For the information of all and sundry, it should be borne in mind that Mr. Justice Sherman is not a judge because he likes being one. Neither, it is safe to assume, is he a judge because he believes necessarily in justice. Very often being a judge and believing in justice are incompatible.

No! Mr. Justice Sherman is a judge because he has had opportunities which some of the working-class have not had. (For instance, it was not necessary for him to win scholarships to get a start.) Only a short while ago, one of his co-partners, Lord Justice Scrutton admitted that there were at least four of the most trusted judges who never took a prize in their school days.

Secondly, but not unimportantly, Mr. Justice Sherman is a judge because it gives him a snug income of about £5,000 per annum. He gets this for directing “twelve good men and true” to find persons guilty of “crimes,” not against humanity (the majority of such persons are Baronets, Knights, etc.), but against Society. Backed by a relentless constitution, Mr. Sherman then proceeds to hand out what he, and his class, believes to be deterrent measures.

Everyone who tolerates the Capitalist System without protesting would accept all this were he to say nothing about the idiocy of his position, but quite recently he admitted:—

“It is not for me, in talking about Christianity to offer spiritual advice to prisoners, but it is clear that some . . . crimes I have to deal with have emanated from people who glorify murder . . . I am not gifted with a subtle mind, but to me it is incomprehensible how any system of Christianity, or any system of morality, or any system of justice, can co-exist with such a belief.”

There is hardly a decent-thinking person in the land who disagrees with Mr. Justice Sherman, but it may be news to him that people from our class have been sent “below” for making the same statements as he has made.

Perhaps it was that they did not have the “legal mind.”

It might also interest Mr. Sherman to know that Christianity, morality, or justice cannot, and never will co-exist with the Capitalist system which inherently produces types which have to murder, generally by the slow processes of disease and starvation, to maintain their power. It is therefore unnecessary to develop a “subtle mind.”

It is surprising, of course, that a gentleman of Mr. Justice Sherman’s ability did not know these things before, particularly as there are hundreds of people in the working-class movement who have spent years preaching all this in the parks and on street corners.

Mr. Sherman omitted to state—perhaps it slipped his memory—that the recent war, which was glorified murder on a grandiose scale, was due to, and emanated from, the same type of people. But he is a busy man.

All the same, we thank him for his candid comments.

Reviews

No More War. By H. Young, Y.C.L., 1d.

A vigorous, clamant, and easily read little pamphlet, this, and, very properly, bearing traces of its youthful origin. The Great War and “The Next Great Last War,” Labourist sham internationalism and Communist *real* internationalism, are treated with fine freshness and brevity.

The Hope of the Future. By J. Stewart, Y.C.L., 2d.

Lacking the youthful fervour of the foregoing pamphlet, but equally valuable—a simple, clearly written statement, sprinkled with pointed verses, and fables to get the message over to the boy or girl who wants to know “what these meetings are all about.” Writing for young people is a slightly different matter to writing for grown-ups; yet Coms. Young and Stewart have tackled the problem well, and produced two fine pamphlets. Soak them well in, comrades! It all counts.

A. R. S.

The SEA WOLVES By F. Tanner

TO those disciples of Rip Van Winkle who still prate of the glories of private enterprise and worship at the shrine of boss-class "justice" and chivalry, the sordid story of greed and graft contained in the report of the Court of Inquiry into the sinking of the P. and O. liner "Egypt," should make instructive, if not particularly entertaining, reading.

It is now four months since the curtain rose upon the first act of the tragedy. One fine May morning there arrived a brief message to the effect that the "Egypt" had come into collision with a French vessel and sunk, 87 lives being lost. In the days which followed, the papers were kept busy with the first-hand experiences of survivors, which were as full of contradictions as first-hand experiences usually are. On one point, however, they were unanimous. All agreed that the appalling death roll was mainly due to the complete absence of any effective organisation for meeting such an emergency.

The burst of popular indignation which the disaster naturally provoked was skilfully directed by the gentlemen of the Press against the coloured portion of the crew. Wild tales were circulated of Lascars, armed to the teeth, forcing their way into the boats, trampling down women and children in their headlong flight, etc., etc., and for the space of a week or so the brutal and cowardly conduct of these ruffians (suitably contrasted with the chivalrous behaviour of British seamen under similar circumstances), constituted the favourite record of the super-patriotic gramophones of Fleet Street.

Unfortunately for the moral effect of these effusions, subsequent investigation showed the allegations on which they were based to be as devoid of foundation as reports of the murder of Lenin and Trotsky. According to the evidence given before the Court of Inquiry, not only did the Lascars carry no firearms, but "no apparent violence was used by them." They simply acted as undisciplined and down-trodden human beings invariably do when suddenly confronted with a situation of peril. The following extract from the findings of the Court makes this point perfectly clear:—

"The Court was informed that these men if properly led, discharge their duties with efficiency and a ready obedience to orders. If the European members of the crew had shown more alacrity in getting to their allotted boats, it is highly probable that the non-Europeans would have been kept under effective control and probably assisted instead of hindering the saving of life."

Still more significant is the implied admission that the source of the trouble lies in the passion for economy dominating the ultra-European minds of the ship-owners, the Great P. and O. Company being pronounced guilty of "failure to take proper and effective measures to ensure compliance with their regulations and ensure good discipline on the ship."

To have done these things would of course involved an investment in the far from profitable industry of life preservation.

In view, however, of the composition of the Court, it would have been utopian to expect anything more than a vote of censure at the expense of the owners—and that more in sorrow than in anger. True to the traditions of bourgeois "justice" it is the

Published in Bristol by unemployed and other workers when British Australian Campaign for recruits was opened.

Workers! Why Emigrate?

AUSTRALIA

where you are now asked to go

HAS 50,000 Unemployed

If these men cannot be guaranteed work at a living wage, how can you be guaranteed such work?

Australian workers, just as you, are faced with a united bosses' wage-cutting movement. Sixty-seven Trade Unions at Sydney have just been called into conference in order to organise resistance to that wage-cutting.

Workers of Bristol! Employed or Unemployed! you can only be guaranteed work in Australia at Blackleg Wages. This is proven by the fact that at this moment, when emigration to the Dominions is being pushed, wages in the Dominions are being cut.

If you go to Australia you will weaken the Trade Union fight for decent conditions for the workers out there. The bosses will triumph.

STAY AT HOME!

You fought to maintain this Country!

Demand now that this Country shall keep you!

Don't be forced by the bosses from your own land!

Some of Lysaght's men are returning from New South Wales, refusing to accept low wages. Others with their families are in a serious plight. Don't blackleg on the Australians. Make this land fit for heroes to live in! Workers! look before you leap! Always consult the Australian Trade Unions officially before you emigrate!

lesser criminals who are offered up as a sacrifice to appease the public wrath.

In spite of the admission of the ultimate responsibility of the Company, the Court finds that "the loss of life was mainly due to default on the part of the Master and Chief Officer, in failing to take proper measures to save life."

So the master loses his certificate for six months and the chief officer is severely censured. Taken literally, these sentences are by no means excessive; but their practical effect must be to condemn both men to the industrial scrap heap for a long time to come. It is extremely doubtful whether either of them will be employed again in his present capacity. Their pious employers can at least be relied upon to expiate their offence by depriving themselves in future of the services of two competent officers. Apart from which it is unlikely that they will be a Rolls Royce, a bottle of champagne or a fat cigar the worse off.

There is certainly nothing in this judgment to keep captains of industry awake o' nights. Nor will there be, until the victims of their "economies" decide to hold a Court of Inquiry of their own.

WAGES IN INDIA

In the *Times Trade Supplement* (10-6-22), the following statement occurred:—

"According to a London stockbroker who has been touring in the East, the time is propitious for enlisting the interest of home investors in prosperous industrial stocks in India."

Next week the same paper reported:—

"Although depressed trade has been felt throughout the world during the past two years, affecting practically every industry, textile machinery makers have been in the remarkably fortunate position of experiencing a very busy time even during the past eighteen months... shipments of textile machinery to India from the United Kingdom during the last few years have been on an extensive scale... it is likely that shipments will be maintained on a large scale for at least two or three years."

This, in fact, is the one export that is "booming."

Why? Well, look at the inducement offered by these:—

Maximum monthly wages (piece-work) paid to men in the cotton mills of:

Cawnpore:—

Blowing and Card Room, 48s.

Mule Room, 53s. 4d. Weaving Room, 60s.

Manuckjee Petit (Cotton) Mills, Bombay:

Card Room: Scutcher, 32s. 4d.; Grinder, 37s. 5d.; Drawer, 46s.; Slubber, 52s.; Rover, 55s.

Reeling Room: 30s.

Bundling Room: Presser, 48s.; Dresser, 38s. 4d.

Sizing Department: Winder, 40s. 10d.; Drawer, 93s.; Warper, 96s.

Weaving Room: Weaver, 144s.*; Jobber, 180s.*

*These wages are exceptional. Wages in this room range from 60s. to 144s. for weavers and 108s. to 180s. for jobbers.

The figures for Cawnpore are taken from page 214, and those for Bombay from pages 217 and 218 of the *Report of the Department of Statistics, India, 1922*. The quotations there given in rupees have been exchanged into English money at the prevailing rate of exchange of 1 rupee equals 1s. 4d. The figures are official and, probably, err on the side of generosity. We have, also, chosen the maximum rates.

The Indian may be able to live on such wages. Could you in Bolton, Blackburn, or Paisley?

ADVERTISEMENT RATES

PROPAGANDA ADVERTISEMENTS. (C.P. branches and kindred organisations):—Displayed, 5s. per inch, single column or pro rata. Classified (run on) 6d. per line (6 words) or part thereof.

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISEMENTS:—Displayed, 7s. 6d. per inch, single column or pro rata. Classified (run on), 9d. per line (6 words) or part thereof.

No advertisement will be inserted unless copy is received, together with cash in prepayment, by second post Monday for insertion in current week's issue.

All communications to Advertisement Department, "The Communist," 16, King Street, W.C.2.

MEETINGS

Communist Party Branches

BIRMINGHAM. Sundays, Bull Ring, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Bartons Arms, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Adderley Road, Salliey, 7.30 p.m. Fridays, Small Heath Park, 7.30 p.m. Tuesdays, Branch E.C., A.S.E. Club, Spicel Street. Intending members apply to T. Lowe, 27, Heath Mill Lane, Deritend.

CENTRAL JOINT COUNCIL, Minerva Cafe, Monday evening next, 8.15 p.m. T. A. Jackson on "Revolution." All welcome.

COVENTRY COMMUNIST CLUB AND INSTITUTE, 29, Much Park Street. Best beer, wines and spirits. First class concerts every Saturday and Sunday evenings. Unattached rebels and sympathisers heartily welcome. Also headquarters of local C.P. Branch. Meetings Sundays, Market Square, 7 p.m. Branch meetings Wednesday 7.30 p.m. Secretary, C. Taylor.

CROYDON. Wednesday, 7.30 p.m., Leslie Arms. Sunday, 8 p.m., Katherine Street, outside Town Hall. Prominent Speakers.

DOVER. Meetings every Sunday, Eythorne, 11 a.m. Dover Market Square, 7 p.m.

KENNINGTON. Meetings every Sunday evening outside Kennington Theatre, Kennington Park, 8 p.m. September 17th. Speaker: T. Irving.

NOTTINGHAM. Wm. Morris Institute, Heathcote Street. Meetings on market place every Sunday morning and evening. All varieties of rebel and educational literature on sale.

SOUTHEND. Sundays, Marine Parade, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Branch meetings, Fridays, 8 p.m., Labour Institute.

WOOLWICH. Sunday, September 17th, 7 p.m., Beresford Square. Speaker: E. Lake

ORGANISED COUNTRY RAMBLES (Leeds environs) Local comrades (both sexes) free invitation. See weekly announcement in *Leeds Weekly Citizen*.

Communist Party of Great Britain
(Stepney Branch)

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