GREEK PATRIOTS SENTENCED BY FASCISTS CHURCHILL GIVES FULL SUPPORT

THE GREEK REACTIONARIES HAVE LAUNCHED A CAMPAIGN OF REPRISAL FOR THE STRIKE IN THE GREEK MIDDLE EAST FORCES. SCORES OF MILITANTS, THE MOST ACTIVE SOCIALISTS AND DEMOCRATS, ARE BEING SENTENCED TO DEATH AND IMPRISONED.

GERMANY-WHAT NEXT Behind The Generals' Revolt BV TED GRANT

TWOPENCE

ORGAN OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST

PARTY, FOURTH INTERNATIONAL.

AUGUST, 1944.

THE RECENT EVENTS IN GERMANY HAVE RAISED WIDESPREAD HOPE AND INTEREST IN THE WORKING CLASS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. THE SEEMINGLY SOLID FRONT WHICH HITLER PRESENTED TO THE WORLD HAS BEEN BROKEN BY A CONSPIRACY OF GERMAN JUNKERS' AND GENERALS.

According to the reports, former ardent supporters of Hitler have at-tempted to assassinate him. And the Nazis have retaliated in their usual gangster terrorist fashion, by placing all power in the hands of the hated Gestapo and S.S. Chief Himmler.

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Whether there was a genuine plot to murder Hitler or not (it seems cer-tain there was) makes no difference to the significance of these events in Germany. They reveal a tremendous split within the German ruling class, which is opening the way to the outbreak of a genuine workers revolution in Ger-many and Europe.

"Germany is not only Germany; it is the heart of Europe", Trotsky warned before Hitler came to power. But now these words assume added gravity and urgency. For events in Germany may decide not only the future of Europe but the future of the future of Europe but the future of the entire world.

Hitler has had nothing better as a means of rallying the German people behind him than the threats of the Allies. Stalin included to dismember Germany. But as the defeats have piled up on all fronts and the misery of the German masses has reached new intensity, the opposition of the Ger-man workers has been growing. The military shock has led to a re-viral of the underground movement on formidable lines. Reports from the capitalist press in the last four months have indicated strikes in Hamburg, Berlin, Cologne, Essen and other cities. Movements of revolt among the students and other sections of the

middle class have led to executions. Mutinies have been reported among the soldiers and sailors--all these are symptoms of the coming storm.

The laws of revolution apply to all countries and to all peoples. The Ger-man nation is no different from any other. Those who sought to find a new system of society in Germany and new system of society in Germany and Italy because of the victory of totali-tarianism, have been refuted by events. The military defeats have led to a breaking down of the psychological inertia of the masses, and the move-ment for the overthrow of the hated regime has gathered strength. Lenin, in his analysis of present day society, laid down four conditions for the outbreak of the social revolution. These have been summarised by Trotsky as follows

"The basic conditions for the victory of the proletarian revolution have been established by historical experience and clarified theoreti-cally. (1) The bourgeols impasse and the resulting confusion of the ruling class; (2) the sharp dissatis-faction and the striving towards decisive changes in the ranks of the petty bourgeoisie without whose support the big bourgeoisie cannot maintain itself; (3) the conscious-ness of the intolerable situation and readiness for revolutionary actions in the ranks of the proletariat; (4) A clear programme and a firm leadership of the proletarian vanguard--these are the four conditions for Continued on back page.

CAPITALIST BARBARIS

From the American press we learn that among souvenirs which U.S. Servicement have sent back from the South Pacific there have been Japan-ese soldiers' skulls. One case is reported of how the wife of estimate is eleving the sold a soldier is allowing her child-ren to play with a skull of a Japanese soldier. Congressman Francis Walter



representative of Pennsylvania presented Franklin D. Roosevelt with a letter-opener made from the forearm of a Japanese soldier, and apologised for so small a part of the Jap's anatomy. Imagine the headlines in the

British and American press if a Japanese member of the Diet were to present the bone in the form of an ornament, of an Am-erican soldier to the Emperor? Imagine the outcry if piotures appeared in the German press of a German girl looking affection-ately at the skull of a British soldier which her boy friend had sent her as a souvenir? Yet this taking place on the Allied

side What righteous Christian indignation would be aroused if these things were done by the Japanese or Germans. These atrocities are an indication of what bestiality capitalism is cap-

able of, in its period of decline. This is the result of the horrible polson of chauvinism and race Only the destruction of the capitalist system can put an end to such barbarism.

Already out of 22 soldiers from the 1st Greek Brigade on trial, 14 have been sentenced to death; and 4 remain to be tried; 3 seamen have received life sentences; 6 have received 20 years

This frenzied revenge receives the full support of British imperialism. Gen. Sir Bernard Paget, C-in-C. Middle East, incites and supports this political repression, under the "nonpolitical" screen of "concern for main-taining military discipline." At the court martial he replied to defendants who were pleading on political grounds:

"I am a soldier and do not know

flagrantly reactionary violation of de-mocracy. No matter that the **over-whelming majority** of the armed forces demonstrated their opposition to the vicious regime of the emigre Greek Government! Considering it undiplo-matic to proclaim openly that the rule of the reactionary **minority** must be upheld, the imperialist "democrats" achieves the same result under another achieve the same result under another slogan: "No' politics! Military dis-cipline must be upheld!"

cipline must be upheld!" At the Lebanon Conference last month, where representatives of the resistance organisations discussed with the Cairo politicians about forming a Government of "national unity", Papandreou (the Prime Min-ister) gave a verbal promise that the strikers would be amnestied. On this basis the E.A.M. representatives agreed to join the Government (it will be remembered that the strike was a protest against the exclusion of EAM from the Cairo Government.) Now this promise is cynically broken. It is quite clear why it was made in

It is quite clear why it was made in the first place. Papandreou demanded as a condition of collaboration, that the representatives of EAM should issue a statement condemning the strike. To the stars cheme these strike: To their eternal shame these "leaders", Stalinists and Liberals, did so in the most belly-crawling terms. They spat in the faces of the soldiers who had courageously demonstrated in their favour. Their hands strengthened hatred systematically dissemen-ated by the capitalists of all countries, so that they can reap the benefits of pitting the work-ers of the world against each the Market Link area in the reactionaries launched an offensive. The butchery of the strike leaders began and is now in full swing. Simultaneously EDES, the Monarchist organisation which enjoys the support of the reactionary Greek exiles and the British Govern-

By David James

ment, attacked EAM in Greece, in spite of having opened peace negoti-ations on the basis of the Lebanon Conference. This was the reward that the treacherous leaders of EAM gained for selling out their supporters: when the reactionaries had made sufficient

what you are talking about." This, in a trial which is political in inspiration, origin and aim! In such a cowardly way the servants of British immerialism attempt to cover up their i Front' in order to keep the masses quiet with promises of "unity against fascism" and so forth. Then they were able to attack the defenceless, betrayed soldiers and sailors, with all the resources of British imperialism and its military chiefs behind them. Moreover, they refused to give any of the important ministries in the new Government, notably those of war and foreign affairs, to EAM represent-

"Hope for at least a large measure of Greek unity has not been aban-doned despite the continued refusal of certain National Liberation Front (E.A.M.) elements to Join the Papandreou Government and last week's clash between an E.A.M. band and the forces of Col. Zervas. The main obstacle to complete

unity seems to be the intransigeant attitude adopted by certain E.A.M. leaders of secondary rank like M. Claras, who are unwilling to re-nounce their independence of action to any higher authority.

The three leading figures of the E.A.M. . . . took a prominent part Continued on page 4.

CUDDODT ADDEA **ISSUES VITAL TO THE** ORGANISED MOVEMENT

The appeal against the conviction of the four comrades sentenced in Newcastle will probably be heard on August 20th.

Although it may mean the extension of sentence, since it lies within the discretion of the judges to count sentence from date of appeal, the comrades are going forward with the appeal because of the vital issues involved for the working class movement.

The appeal will be based upon two strike is an illegal strike. The Tyne fundamental issues.

First, was the Tyne Apprentices' strike an illegal strike? The Trade Disputes Act of 1927 was introduced to stave off the possibility legally, of another general strike—apart from the attempts to emasculate the trade. unions which were secondary functions of the Trade Disputes Act. But here it is now used in a strike of a few thousand lads. Even if we accept the statements of the labour leaders that 1A(a) will end after the war-which we do not-on the basis of the Tyng conviction almost any strike would be illegal under the Trade Dis-This is particularly the putes Act. case if "national service" is maintained, as it will be, years after the war

Before the war and during it, several larger strikes have taken place in Britain, and from the point of view of "coercion" their impact was greater by far. In 1939 and 1940 the engineering and shipbuilding apprentices struck work in almost every important centre in Britain against military conscription and demanded special guarantees for themselves. The strike sugceeded in forcing some concessions -though not all. But the situation in the country was different at that time. The workers were not in the angry mood they are in today.

Following the precedent set by Judge Cassels in Newcastle, every

apprentices attempted to "coerce" the Government to obtain exemption of all apprentices from the Pit Ballot Scheme; this can be applied with equal justice to any strike attempting to alter a decision of an Arbitration Tribunal, since the award of the tribunal is legally binding on the workers. This applies to transfers or any other matter coming within the jurisdiction of National Service Officers.

What it is intended to establish is that if the Government enforces certain conditions on the workers, the workers have a legitimate right to strike to enforce their demands-even though the action can be interpreted by the ruling class as "coercing" the government.

The Trade Disputes Act was designed also to make a general strike illegal. This is specifically emphasised in Section 8, Clause 2:

"A strike or lock-out shall not be deemed to be calculated to coerce the Government unless such coercion ought reasonably to be expected as a consequence thereof.'

Could the strike of the apprentices, apart from the intentions of the lads, be reasonably expected to coerce the Government? Can any single strike be reasonably expected to coerce the Government? On these points there will be given a ruling on which every

(Continued on page 4)



ARIZONA WAR WORKER WRITES HER NAVY BOYFRIEND A THANK - YOU NOTE FOR THE JAP SCULL HE SENT HER

--- Reproduced from "Life" Magazine.

WARNING

ALL COMRADES AND SYMPATHISERS ARE WARNED THAT WHEN THEY ARE VISITED AND INTERROGATED BY THE C.I.D., APART FROM PRODUCING THEIR NATIONAL IDENTITY CARDS AND GIVING THEIR NAMES AND ADDRESSES, THEY ARE NOT OBLIGED TO ANSWER QUESTIONS RELATING TO THEIR POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS OR SYMPATHIES. THEY ARE NOT OBLIGED TO SAY WHETHER OR NOT THEY ARE MEMBERS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST. PARTY, HOW MUCH MONEY THEY SUBSCRIBE TO ITS FUNDS OR TO GIVE ANY DETAILS OF THEIR POLITICAL ACTIVITY.

THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST PARTY, BRITISH SECTION OF THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL, IS A LEGAL ORGANISATION, MEMBERSHIP OF WHICH HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE A PUNISHABLE CRIME !

ANY COMRADE WHOM THE POLICE ATTEMPT TO INTIMIDATE SHOULD REFUSE TO GIVE ANY INFORMATION WHATEVER AND SHOULD INFORM THE POLICE THAT THEY WISH TO GET IN TOUCH WITH THEIR LEGAL ADVISERS.

BY SID BIDWELL

N.U.R. CONFERENCE

reveals that the organisation now has nection with the correct time to fight over 400,000 members and that the for a new programme. In other words total assets of the Union have in- they wish to maintain the present parcreased to £3.304.000. These formidable figures show the potential power waymen in a strait-jacket for nearly which could be exercised by the rail- five years. way workers if they had a fighting leadership and policy.

At the Union's Annual General Meeting which occupied a fortnight at by 53 votes to 19 calling for an end to Edinburgh in July, there was no mis-taking the militant mood of the rank and file as reflected in the speeches and attitude of the 80 delegates assembled. But the feeling of the and Allowances "consistent with workers catered for by the Union has present day requirements" but did rot yet to translate itself into an indus- say what they considered "consistent trial and political programme cal- with present day requirements" culated to lift the railwaymen from Needless to say, rail workers are not their well known deplorably low economic level. When this takes place leaders forward or out.

The presidential address of reactionary F. Burrows attacked those who criticise the Labour members of the Cabinet. He suggested we might leave it to our opponents and concentrate our criticism on Tories and Liberais This couldn't be answered better than it was in a letter published a few days afterwards in the columns of the Union's journal the "Railway Review". It said: "I, for one, never miss an the Allied forces on the military sucopportunity of criticising Tories and Liberals; indeed I have done so for 40 years; yet when Labour members be-have exactly like these, we can hardly utter defeat of Fascism and Nazism expect our opponents to criticise them, throughout the world. and criticism of Labour members becomest criticism of Tories and Liberals."

Although the delegates gave a good ecception to the arguments of Will Ballantine and J. Ferguson (Labour Councillor) for the end of the electoral truce, the resolution was defeated by 17 votes to 57 — however a sizeable minority. By this decision the delegates displayed an inconsistency, because they unanimously carried a

The Annual Report of the N.U.R. | motion striking out the words "after liamentary coalition while ending the industrial truce which has kept rail-

> And again they displayed symptoms of uneasiness about the effect of the electoral truce upon the life of the Labour Party, by passing a resolution the truce in By-Elections.

Conference carried a resolution askambiguous when preparing their de-The resolution enabled the mands. it will result in pushing the present delegates to make known their disgust leaders forward or out. press their solidarity with their forces brothers. The rulng-class has utterly faled to drive a wedge between the worker and his class brother in the armed forces.

> The Public Session on July 6th was devoted to a discussion on the War. A resolution was carried which had the elements of progress in it and got away from the customary jargon of reactionary and Stalinist inspired sources. It congratulated all ranks of

> Despite the fact that the resolution means support of the war and other deliberations meant support for the capitalist politicians who lead it, the wording of the resolution indicates that the delegates have no deep seated illusions about the role of British impearialism in the war. We wholeheartedly agree with the aspiration of defeating Fascism and Nazism throughout the world but point out it

Continued on page 4.

AUGUST, 1944.



WELSH MINER **ON HORNER**

To the Editor, "Socialist Appeal".

Dea Comrade,

Arthur Horner, the President of the South Wales Miners' Federation was speaking in Tonypandy on Sunday, July 9th. As reported in the "South Wales Echo," he said, "the country under conditions of great stress had made many concessions to the miners. The Executive Council believed they were entitled to come to the miners and say, 'You have got a tolerable position, you have got a reasonable claim to say that your work is being appreciated'."

Here Horner is trying to gull the miners into believing that he and his Council got us these "tolerable" conditions-whereas, in fact the "great stress" he refers to was the wonderful solidarity of 100,000 Welsh miners in striking against the original terms of the Porter Award. It was this action which forced the "country" (i.e. the

Statistic difference of the second of the second in the S.M. delivered his orders in the second in the S.M. delivered his orders in the second in the S.M. delivered his orders in the second in the S.M. delivered his orders in the second in the second in the second in the second in the S.M. delivered his orders in the second in the second in the second in the S.M. delivered his orders in the second in the second in the second in the S.M. delivered his orders in the second in the second in the second in the S.M. delivered his orders in the second in the second in the S.M. delivered his orders in the second in the second in the second in the S.M. delivered his orders in the second in the second in the S.M. delivered his orders in the second in the second in the S.M. delivered his orders in the second in the second in the second in the S.M. delivered his orders in the second in the second in the second in the second in the S.M. delivered his orders in the second in the S.M. delivered his orders in the second in the se

"country" now appreciates our work. If this is true, there doesn't seem' to be any reason for the continued exist-ence of the host of full time officials in the M.F.G.B. who are supposed to fight to maintain and improve our conditions.

The "South Wales Echo" of July 9, states that: "coal production has been falling at the average rate of more than 9 million tons a year during the than 9 million tons a year during the war period." I would suggest that Horner and the patriotic gang like him on the M.F.G.B. have now a good chance of serving the "country" they shout so much about by going to work at the coal face at least one day a week (on a Sunday!) to make up for this loss of production. They should have plenty of time for this now that the "country" is looking after our interests. interests.

I will ask Horner one question. He says the 'country' appreciates our efforts. Then why is it that Regula-tion 1A(a) which, in my opinion is directed chiefly against us miners, is forced upon us?

> Yours fraternally, Ernie Harris.

CONDITIONS-Leader sentenced to 6 months the great mind of one of Britain's than give him this 24s. 6d. with one

By J. Deane

command given by a superior officer, and (2) using insubordinate language to a superior officer.

DRIVER WILLIAMS'

CASE

During the Field General Court Martial it became clear as a pike-staff that Williams was framed for political

reasons. As a socialist worker he said he objected to being tried by a court

composed of officers who were not con-

cerned with so-called justice but with its opposite; he would participate under protest. He conducted his own

detence and proved clearly that he was

not guilty on either charge.

In the last issue of the "Socialist to frame the leader—Driver Williams. Appeal" a letter from a soldier's wife was published. This letter outlined hard for an officer. In addition to Merthyr. the treatment dealt her husband at the the charge of overstaying his leave seven days they framed, a charge of two counts, (1) disobeying a lawfu hands of the military authorities.

Since this letter was published more interesting facts have reached us. These facts illustrate clearly the atti-tude of the officer caste to the slightest suggestion of democratic demands.

Her husband, Driver J. Williams, R.E., had over-stayed his leave by seven days in order to look after his baby daughter whilst his wife was in hospital giving birth. Although he made every legal effort possible to have his leave extended he was arrested and held in a military detention compound.

The conditions in this Compound were to quote his wife **equal to those** in a concentration camp". There were three hundred men in detention await-ing trial, and like so many cattle, were surrounded by coil upon coil of barbed

anger belonged not to the soldiers' lack of discipline, but to the officers in charge, who had imposed these terrible conditions. The men got together and elected a committee of six to make representations to the Commanding Officer. The Staff Sergeant in charge agreed to support the men. The Commanding Officer refused to see the committee who were told to see the officer of the day. He refused to see the entire committee but would see their leader. This officer tried all the tricks and threats at his disposal to smash what amounted to a serious demonstration against conditions. The temper of the men, their committee, and its leader, was such that nothing would prevent them making their thoroughly justifiable demands. The officer agreed to accept their demands and put them before the Colonel

LED PROTEST

AGAINST CONDITIONS

As the days passed the anger of the men in detention grew. This spread widely amongst the soldiers in the large

SOLDIERS PROTEST CIVIL DEFENCE WORKERS CONDITIONS It all happened some two and a half | clear allowance for wife and children

> great administrators to form a reserve of highly mobile rescue men to go to the help of any area that was unable to cope with heavy air raids. This highly mobile rescue service was given the high-sounding title of Civil Defence Reserve, and each region was to have its Regional Column of the Civil Defence Reserve organised into units posted at strategic points throughout the various regions.

The men in this service have numerous grievances. But the greatest obstacle in the way of a C.D.R. man in making his grievances known is the cloud of obscurity hanging over the Civil Defence Reserve. The service is Civil Defence Reserve. The service is the most efficient civil defence organis ation in Britain, equipped to deal with any kind of air-raid incident, first aid, years's service and 7s. 0d. after three rescue-heavy and light, gas, and de-molition, capable of dealing with the largest air-raids ever experienced in Britain; yet it remains unknown. Ask your Warden what the initials C.D.R. mean! Tell him they mean Civil De-fence Reserve, and he'll be none the wiser; officially he doesn't know it exists.

Killed in

France

hand and take it back with the other. Moreover, from the legal standpoint, the Civil Defence Reserve is NOT an INDUSTRY, but a service.

No trade rates are paid, so drivers and experienced building workers do not receive special pay. In so far as experienced building workers are not practising their trade, there is a case for not paying them a trade rate, but here is no reason at all why the driver should not be paid a special rate, especially as he is doing additional technical tasks. The only differences in pay are for different ranks: group officers, instructors, party leaders and

deputy party leaders. Service pay has recently been introduced: 1s. 6d. after one year's service, 3s. 6d. after two vear's service. The Civil Defence Reserve provides

no distinctive uniform, wearing the usual civil defence blue of the local civil defence. So the men, when out of camp, are often confused with the local services; this frequently leads to them being denied canteen facilities provided for the services. Officially, men of the C.D.R. are not allowed to

use such canteens, but the voluntary workers serving in them serve the

To sum-up, the men feel very hardhit because, as civilians, they find they are denied the attendant privileges of other service men but are burdened with the disadvantages of being civilians. disadvantages far too numerous to account for here. In several cases I have known a C.D.R. man to be orse off financially than his soldier-

What of a remedy? As a service, the Civil Defence Reserve is certainly unique. It should maintain its civil status as a Crown Service, be paid a special rate for its continuous hours of duty with no reference to cost of board and lodging, and canteen facilities should be provided at special rates in every town and village by the W.V.S. which is one of the civil defence ser-vice subsidiary bodies. Where a man is practising any trade in the C.D.R. he should be paid the trade union rate

The key to the remedy is-EVERY C.D.R. MAN IN HIS UNION!

B.I.S.A.K.T.A Second-Round

In our July issue we reported the first round of the inner-union struggle which is now taking place within the Ebbw Vale section of BISAKTA. The officials of Ebbw Vale No. 2 Branch were recently removed from office by the Executive for "insubordination" but, as we reported then, the newly elected officials were determined to continue the militant policy of the Branch. They have done so, and as a consequence, the management of Richard Thomas's have refused to recognise these elected officials on the

WORKERS RALLY To Detence of Imprisoned **Trotskyists**

Resolutions and money have been coming in towards the Defence Fund. As an example at the meeting of the Rugby and District Trades Council on a motion from the N.U.G.M.W. the following resolution was carried:

"That this Trades Council, bearing in mind the struggle of the Lab-our movement against the Trade Disputes Act, and being a conscious part of that struggle, condemns vigorously the arrest and persecution of the four Trotskyists under a clause of this Act. This Trades Council demands their unconditional release.'

Resolutions of solidarity and financial contributions have recently come in from the following organisations: Ford's Toolroom, Trafford Park.

Aylesbury No. 2 A.E.U.

Park Division Labour Party, Sheffield.

Amalgamated Society of Woodcutting Machinists, Plymouth. Leeds Anti Labour Laws Victims'

Defence Committee. N.U.D.A.W., Romford Agents Group (C.I.S.)

A.E.U., Hoddesdon, 116, HE.

Clerical and Administrative Workers Union, S.E. London General Branch.

A.E.U. Stratford 4th.

Norwich Anti-Labour Laws Victims' Defence Committee

A.E.U. Hampton Branch No 111/HE Amersham Branch National Union

of Agricultural Workers. A.E.U. Chiswick No. 2.

A.E.U. New Moston.

A.E.U. Meltham, Huddersfield.

A.E.U. Llannelly Branch.

T.&G.W.U. (7/133 Wire-workers Branch), Edinburgh.

Southall Anti-Labour Laws Victims' Defence Committee.

Workers at Aluminium Plant and Vessel Co., London.

Glasgow Anti-Labour Laws Victims' Defence Committee.

Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers, Cricklewood.

N.A.S. of Operative House & Ship Painters and Decorators, Hetchen Branch.

Slough Labour Party. National Painters Society, Southend Branch.

A.E.U. Alloa Branch.

Holloway Women's Co-op Guild. Whitehough Youth Hostel.

Bentley Branch, Yorkshire Mine-workers Association. Cove Stoke Branch, A.E.U.

Coventry. A.E.U. Hackbridge Branch 131 HE. A.E.U. 6EE, Enfield Lock. Edmonton Trades Councillors.

National Amalgamated Union of Life Assurance Workers, Hackney Branch. Am. Soc. of Woodworkers, Tilbury

Branch. Am .Soc. of Woodworkers, Harlesder

Coventry A.E.U. Debate

Recenty a debate took place in a Coventry A.E.U. Branch between the Revolutionary Communist Party and the Deputy Mayor, Alderman Hodgkinson, also Secretary of the Coventry Labour Party, on Post-War Policy. Without doubt it proved to be the most interesting and exciting A.E.U. meeting yet held.

In this war the leadership has committed the same crime against the working class, indeed much worse, is the role being played by this leadership; This base treachery is revealed in their willingness to shackle the workers in the interests of capitalism. It was Bevin, Attlee, Morrison and company who brought in the E.W.O., E.P.A. and now the reactionary 1A(a) against the workers. The speaker called for an immediate ending of the Coalition; the taking of power by the labour and trade union leadership on the basis of a Socialist programme. He added that the Labour leaders would rapidly expose themselves to every worker and that finally the workers would turn to the R.C.P. as the only party capable of leading them to the revolutionary that the workers would not accept the to the R.C.P. as the only party capable overthrow. The speaker received a tremendous ovation demonstrating the less policy of the Labour leadership mood of the workers.

Alderman Hodgkinson then stated the case for the Labour Party- He skipped over the whole record of treachery and deceit on the part of victory of British "Démocracy"

Continued at foot of next column. campaign of slander.

camp outside, and they, despite all regulations to the contrary, revealed their sympathy with the men in detention. This produced a very serious problem for the officers. The possibility of a serious protest against the

conditions inside the Compounds as well as those outside, couldn't be handled very easily. Either they had to grant the men's demands and thus suffer defeat, or, prevent organised expression and smash the contact with the main body of soldiers outside. It was this latter course that they adop ted. Firstly they separated the mili-

On behaif of the R.C.P. the branch arrest the leader of the committee; president ied the debate. He gave a forbidding anyone to talk or communi-survey of the development of the cate with him. Secondly, they placed Second International and its role in the first Imperialist world war. barrier upon barrier of barbed wire them off so that no one could see in

or out. But even these efforts were not quite successful-the men com-municated with the soldiers outside and sang the Red Flag and the Internationale-and so it became necessary

(Continued from previous Column.)

and then vote in a majority Labour He accused the Government. . class.

Speakers attacked Alderman Hodgkinson on his defence of the Labour bureaucracy. Dealing with the future struggles of the working class, one speaker said that the army would be plans of the ruling class or the hope-

It was due to the Labour bureaucrats' fear of the workers that Regulation 1A(a)—the most reactionary antiunion act ever passed-was introduced.

The effects of this meeting and the "National durity" (i.e. unity of re-arb being fet all over Coventry. are being felt all over Coventry. actionary traitors) must go on. He Rumsurs are current that the L.P. was prepared to accept 1A(a) and any and the C.P. are uniting in a camother sacrifice in order to defeat paign to drive out the "Trotskyist German "Fascism" and achieve the menace". It is up to the rank and file of the LP, who know the Trot-(Capitalism). Get the war over first skyist position to fight against this brothers in uniform, make these de-

League thinking was revolutionary road for the youth. devoted young comrade and offer But he soon became disgusted our sympathies to his family.

With deep sorrow we announce with the class collaborationist

the death of Comrade Harvey Powls killed in France in the first "Communist" Party; he entered

landings. He was in the tank the ranks of the Trotskyists. corp. Only 19 years of age, his When Comrade Harvey was ex-

entry into the revolutionary com- pelled from the Communist

munist movement was similar to Party, the high lights of the C.P.

that of many youths all over the said he was their best member in country. Originally he was a the Birmingham Y.C.L. He was member of the Birmingham a member of the Birmingham

Labour League of Youth and a Branch of our party and its

delegate to the Birmingham secretary whem he was called up Borough Party. Despite his into the army. Like other revolu-

youth he impressed everyone with tionary workers, he went into the

his clarity of ideas and expres- armed forces when called up with

sion. Dissatisfied with the re-formism of the Labour Party, he joined the Young Communist tionary socialism with him. We

To this seemingly smooth evidence mandant is most persistent in remind-Williams but to everybody and anybody -there were five other men in the tent; and that Williams did not reply rudely, despite the harsh and aggres-sive manner used by the C.S.M. in delivering his orders, but replied calmly "Don't shout at me Sergeant Major." The signed statements of three other soldiers proved this clearly, apart from the verbal evidence brought before the court. The officer heard Williams make the remarks attributed by the C.S.M. although he was two yards away, but the five men inside the tent didn't hear such remarks! In evidence it was also shown that the tent flaps had been let down due to threatening weather in accordance with regulations! The complete proof of the frame-up was the evidence that the officer had had Williams in his tent the previous day and threatened to charge him with mutiny for the part he had played in obtaining better conditions for the men in the compounds. In summing up even the prosecution was forced to admit that Trotskyists of confusing the working if the evidence of the witnesses was accepted as correct the two charges against Williams must be dropped. The shallowness of the prosecution's case had been so sharply revealed that no further pretense could be made for "fair" conviction.

> Williams made a statement summing up his defence in which he showed the reasons for the frame-up and the general methods used by the officer caste against soldier militants who fight for their elementary rights. He ended his appeal by calling on his brother sold-iers to struggle for democratic rights; decent living conditions in camps and barracks; and a decent wage. out the reactionary officer caste-elec on of officers by the ranks. Establish military schools, at the expense of the State and under the control of the mions, for the training of workerflicers.

Workers everywhere, support your mands through your organisations.

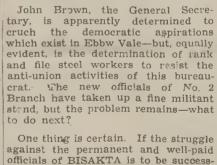
nourn the loss of a valiant and

instructions, they claim, of Head Office of BISAKTA.

for the prosecution, Williams produced ing the men that ALL leave is a signed statements showing that the pRIVILEGE; here we are, a civilian c.S.M. did not address his order to body, and leave is a privilege—never a and file steel workers to resist the right. Between these periods, in the anti-union activities of this bureaunormal way, each man is allowed up to crat. The new officials of No. 2 nine-hours' short leave each week; this Branch have taken up a fine militant nine-hours need not be granted in one stand, but the problem remains-what period, but may be split up at the commandant's discretion. At all other to do next?

times, the men are confined to the camp, not being allowed to leave the against the permanent and well-paid camp during the evenings when they officials of BISAKTA is to be successcamp during the evenings when they are free from normal camp duties for ful then the broadest layers of workers the rest of the day. But, as in the case of the armed forces, ALL leave beyond 12-hours was cancelled from the "constitutional" manoeuvering of Easter until the end of June. the bureaucracy. Already there exists

machinery, however inadequate, which On duty for several months without can be used to mobilise support. The Divisional Council, the Joint Commitcall-out, the men feel this confinement most sorely, especially when it is much greater than that experienced tee of the Ebbw Vale Branches of BISAKTA, and the Richard Thomas Works Committee. This latter comy any soldier in barracks in Britain nd it is certainly greater than sold mittee is representative of nearly all pected to be more on the alert than the unions in the steel works-with the Civil Defence Reserve, which is not called into action until the local civil defence service finds it cannot deal with an incident. For all this duty-time and incarceration, for putting in the deplorable exception of the A.E.U. Undoubtedly all this union machinery will be utilised in the struggle. In this way the workers in Ebbw Vale will realise through their own experiences the necessity to cleanse the union of wice as much duty time as the local its non-fighting bureaucracy and, at vil defence service, the Civil Defence the same time, they will be preparing Reserve pay remains the same. narried man posted to the Civil De solid bases of support for the future and even more difficult struggles fence Reserve is allowed the usual in-dustrial allowance of 24s. 6d. a week egainst the powerful Steel Bosses of for board and lodging, but the single Richard Thomas. man with no dependent relatives in the strict legal sense of the word must pay 24s. 6d. for the privilege of being incarcerated in a Civil Defence Reserve camp. The sore point with most of the single men who pay this 24s. 6d. a week is that they are paying for being confined to their place of duty. As the unit is allowed to spend only 14s, a week on food for each man, the



1st Branch Workers Northern Publishing Soc., Manchester. Soc. of Woodworkers, Brixton Am. 1st Branch.

Am. Soc. of Woodworkers, Watford

Am. Soc. of Woodworkers, Hayes Branch.

A.U.B.T.W., Croydon Branch. Am. Soc. of Woodworkers, Leyton Branch.

Am. Soc. of Woodworkers, Bermondsey Branch.

Am. Union of Life Assurance Work-ers, London N.W. Victoria. Enfield Lock Gauge Room Shop Com-

mittee.

Beasley French & Co. Ltd., Ashton Gate Works, Collection.

Southend Co-op Group. Comrades Club & Institute, Doncaster.

R.S.A.F. Shop Stewards Committee, Edmonton Branch, British Feder-ation of Young Co-operators. Hazeldene Club, Glasgow. National Union of Foundry Workers,

Paisley. Am. Soc. of Woodworkers, Harlsden. Glasgow Defence Committee.

National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers, Holloway C.I.S. Agents Branch.

National Union of Agricultural Workers, Princes Risborough, Bucks.

National Am. Soc. Operative House and Ship Painters and Decorators, Torquay Branch.

Basbury asd District Trades Council. A.E.U. Ponders End.

A.E.U. Luton Central 154 L.E. Branch.

Nottingham Quarterly Shop Stew-

ards Meeting. A.E.U. Dudley No. 1, A.E.U. Ponders End, No. 1.

A collection taken at the Annual Conference of the C.I.S. Agents Branch of the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers amounted to £4 and was sent to the Defence Committee

Further aid has been received for the Defence Committee from our South African contrades who have sent this week £60 in addition to the £85 already received. This makes a total of £115 from our South African contrades. The class solidarity of our South African comrades is warmly appreciated in this country.

pays the rent of his employer's premses merely because the conditions of duty compet him to live there; no such parallel exists in local civil defence. Why not make the married man a



AUGUST. 1944.

SOCIALIST APPEAL



Organ of the Revolutionary Communist Party, British Section of the Fourth International. 256 HARROW ROAD, LONDON, W.2 Phone: CUN 2526. EDITOR: E. Grant.

BUSINESS MANAGER: J. Graham.

EDITORIAL The Army of the Revolution

The Red Army is on the Vistula. It is not so many months ago when it had to retreat to the Volga. It would be difficult to find a parallel transformation of annihilating defeats into annihilating victories in the history of war. The victories have been compared by the interview of the in to those of Napoleon. But even the military achievements of the and 'no-tax struggles among the Defense is a vital subject; during war-Great Corsican are dwarfed by comparison when all the circumstances are taken into account. The military commentators of the bourgeois press endeavour to console themselves that it is a result of the "Russian soul" and its devout love of "Holy Mother Russia". The serious representatives of the capitalists know better. The Stalinist scribes in Moscow have frantically left (now Halifer). The matrix is the prison gandhi then the started negotiations with Lord Inwin themselves to an attempt at an explanation on these lines; making partly fictitious and generally false references to Russia's military traditions. As a matter of historical record the armies of reactionary and feudal Czarism were ignominiously beaten wherever they faced a serious opponent. Even the victories of Napoleon were based on the fact that his regime had its origin in the Revolution. The counter-revolution which he installed was on the property basis established by the revolution. It is to this type of regime that he has given his name-Bonapartism. Despite its reactionary for power had begun. Tremendous features it represented a progressive step forward in comparison with the feudal and semi-feudal states which surrounded France. From the differences between these regimes Napoleon drew his strength.

The parallel with the Soviet Union today is immediately apparent. Stalin the Russian (caricature) Bonaparte is surrounded by a scinvillating array of brilliantly talented Marshals, dressed with decorations of diamonds and gold and magnificently attired right risk. down to the gold braid and buttons. These Marshals, like those of Bonapartist France, come from the depths of the people, although they have raised themselves above them. So in France, Napoleon referred to a Government of all the talents.

Today, the Marshals are the dominating force in control of Russia. But their victories and the source of their strength lie not in themselves but in the almost inexhaustible resources given them by the fact that their power is based on a victorious revolution. In relation to the surrounding capitalist environment the progressiveness of the Soviet collective economy bears the same relationship as that of Napoleonic France to the rest of Europe. In the merciless test of war, the advantages given by collective ownership of the means of production over those of private ownership have been demonstrated beyond possibility of refutation.

This is the most decisive lesson for the masses which has come out of the war. .

GANDHI CAPITULATES BY M. NAIDU

a gigantic sell out. They are attempt-Imperialism.

still prisons; with the masses facing the lution of August 1942. epidemics and destitution stalking the negotiations. He gave an exclusive tee. April 11th, 1942.) country, Gandhi, the shrewdest repre-interview to Stuart Gelder. He in-sentative of the Indian hourgeoisie, **x** dicated that the 'proposa's he was Gelder reports that crawling for a few crumbs from the Imperialists. The story is familiar and follows identically with it. previous sell outs. The story is familiar gress raised in 1942. It seems now

forces discontent resulted in minor mutinies, culminating in the refusal of a Gharwali regiment to shoot the masses in Peshawai.

the initial stages were conducted by British Imperialism called off the struggle.

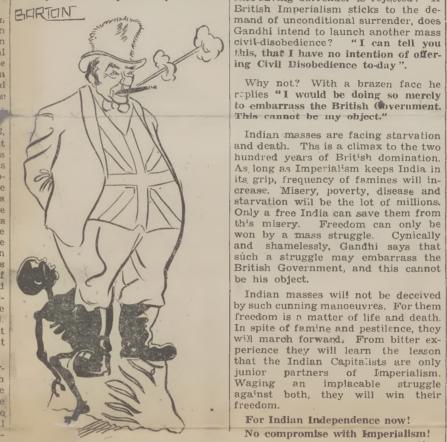
OF & SUMMER STREET s on the cards today. In August 1942, the Congress asked the British to quit India. The resolution said that it was no longer possible to keep the masses in check. Once again it was proclaimed that the last bitter struggle sacrifices were demanded from the masses. United and solid, the workers and the peasants marched into the battle. With Gandhi confined in the peaceful atmosphere of Aga Khan Palace, they stormed the nerve centres of Imperialist power. Thousands of them were shot, machine gunned and combed from the air. But their inflexible determination to destroy the British domination was not crushed. Ever since they have carried out successful partial offensives at great

Faced with a second famine, following closely on the one last year, which took a toll of 5,000,000, the voice of the Indian masses is still, Gandhi once again beats a retreat. As soon as he came out of prison, he asked Wavell for an interview. Knowing the spine-

The Indian capitalists are preparing lessness of the Indian capitalists and stage is to reduce that responsibility their fear of a mass struggle, Wavell to a farce and nullity, and to make it ing a deal with blood stained British abrupty brushed him aside and refused perfectly clear that India is not going an interview. He demanded a shameto be free in any way and her Govern-With thousands of militant fighters less surrender, and unconditional with-till in concentration camps and drawal of the famous Quit India resoment is not going to function as a free and independent Government

perils of a second famine; with Gandhi then started his indirect (Resolution of the Working Commit-Gelder reports that Ganchi agrees Indian Armies". ("News Chronicle," hat he is prepared to accept similar 11.7.44.) Unable to bear the misery any proposals to these of the sham longer, the Indian masses revolted in "independence" offered by Cripps.

perialism, this arch "pacifist" offers in return, Indian support for the War. When he was asked if he would advise ment carrying a war against Japan with operations on the Indian soil, he replied, "Yes". He is a pacifist only peasantry. In the ranks of the armed time it is all-important and covers when it involves a struggle of the masses against imperialism.





War Pensions are in the news again. As the wounded return from the battle front and the killed are buried, so the

TASKS OF MILITANT Trade Unionists

3

In an article in our last issue certain breakaway and semi-syndicalist tendencies in the Trade Upions are analysed. These tendencies, while only embracing a minority of workers, were shown to be directly due to the sell-out of trade union bureaucrats; and several small and active minorities have been and still are, propagating the ideas of breakaways, red trade unions, or pure shop committee organisations. The role of the Shop Committees and ad hoc committees will be dealt with in this article.

The necessity of turning the unions into fighting organs of the working class, independent of the boss class and going forward on a policy of decent conditions and wages, workers' control, equal pay and un-Suppose even this shameless, but compromising opposition to monopoly face-saving surrender is rejected? If capital, is indicated by the conditions British Imperialism sticks to the de-mand of unconditional surrender, does would be lagging far behind the dynamics of the class struggle in this, that I have no intention of offer-ing Civil Disobedience to-day". Committees.

The Shop and Yard Committees first became of importance in World War I, but in World War II these committees have become a universal form throughout the plants in Great Britain. The Committees were formed and have become organs of struggle, partly be-cause of the failure of the union machines in both wars to fight in the workers interests, and partly 'as a reflection of the forces which drive the working class to bring up the question of control at every stage of the struggle. The shop committees are historically a higher form of organisation than the trade unions. They will be the means whereby the working class will assert its own rule in the factories in the stormy period Indian masses will not be deceived ahead, when the working class will by such cunning manoeuvres. For them throw up committees elected for parfreedom is a matter of life and death. ticular struggles, and in fact every sort In spite of famine and pestilence, they of fighting committee in defending will march forward. From bitter ex- itself against the attacks of the bosses. While it is necessary for all militants that the Indian Capitalists are only to understand this special significance junior partners of Imperialism. of the shop committees, it is also implacable struggle necessary to see where the shop committees and the unions interlink. To abandon the unions is to give up the task of educating the rank and file trade unionists

THE BASIS OF THE SHOP COMMITTEE

Shop and yard committees are always constituted by the most selfsacrificing and class conscious union militants. Before a shop committee can be set up anywhere it is necessary that the overwhelming majority of the workers in the plant have already be-come conscious of the necessity for trade union organisation. The "union consciousness" of the workers is the first and most elementary step in working class organisation. It is no accident that the demand for trade union recognition is the first demand of any factory workers seeking organ-isation against the boss. Without that recognition forced from the employers, a real shop committee cannot be set up. From the beginning of the existence of any shop committee its struggle is seen to link directly with the trade union struggle against the boss class as a whole. Conversely, a factory with 20% union organisation cannot have a strong shop committee because the basis of a successful struggle-the "trade union consciousness" of the workers-is lacking. The syndicalist elements, by advocating support only for the shop committees. and rejecting propaganda and organisation for the trade unions, are attempting to side-track these elementary facts, and in so doing are weakening the struggles and the organisation of the shop committees themselves.

This is the second time the Red Army is marching on Warsaw! But what a profound difference between the aims and methods of happiness and silent bitterness is penethe Red Army under Stalin and the Red Army under Lenin and trating even the consciousness of our Trotsky!Lenin and Trotsky issued declarations appealing to the that comes from a comfortable life, our Polish workers and peasants to overthrow their ruling classes, and, representatives in with the aid of the Red Army inaugurate a Soviet Republic. The Stalinist regime issues declarations guaranteeing maintenance of the "independence" of Poland's social system, i.e. capitalism. been killed in battle, to the wives World imperialism regarded the possibility of the Red Army gapturing Warsaw in 1920 as the death knell for European capitalism. They were right. Lenin intended marching on into for life. Germany to assist the rebellious working class to install a Soviet regime.

If Britain, France, and other countries did not go to war against the weak Red Army in 1920, it was because they feared an internationalist Socialist appeal by the Bolsheviks to the working class of those countries and the response it would have obtained. Today, they can look with uneasiness to the march on Warsaw: but do not see a direct threat to world capitalism at any rate as long as Stalin is in control of the situation. Far from appealing to the Stalin is in control of the situation. Far from appealing to the German working class and to the Polish, Stalin through the Moscow Maybe so. Sir Womersley! But the radio is appealing to the Generals . . . to organise a coup d'état and install a new regime on the lines of the Reich of the ultra-reactionary and conservative Bismarck!

Churchill and other capitalist politicians have openly expressed their delight at the process of reactionary change taking place in the Soviet Union in which the degeneration of the regime is being speeded up under the influence of the war. They are staking everything on the idea that the smashing of the revolutionary uprisings abroad, together with the internal developments and changes in the Soviet Union will lead to the overthrow of collective and a wife 35s., and on the surface, ownership and the restoration of capitalism in Russia. Their calculations are shrewd enough. But they are overlooking one "trifle"! Hitler too, thought he was fighting against Stalin and that a wife, who receives 2/6 a week more, has a LIVE husband, with rifle the bureaucracy. He has found he is fighting a Revolution. The miscalculation will cost him his head.

The Russian people have made three revolutions; a Fourth, a political revolution, can be expected with the march of events. Whatever vicissitudes the Soviet Union may go through, it is not Marshals and Generals who will have the last say. As in other cannot! countries the last word will rest with the masses. Having defended countries the last word will rest with the masses. Having defended the heritage of October they will overthrow the usurpers and restore its regime of proletarian democracy. On a new and higher level, together with the workers of Europe they will organise a Soviet United States of Europe.

steady accumulation of human un-Parliament have discussed and argued upon the miserable pennies which are grudgingly given to the parents whose sons have supreme sacrifice, and to the soldiers who are returning, injured and maimed

The Tory dominated Government through its Pensions Minister, Sir W Womersley, boasts of its generous in-creases—a 6d. here, a shilling there, and in one case, as much as 3/6! Not. hey claim, that the people who receive these apparently generous in-creases really want them. In arguing gainst a flat-rate pension for the parits who have lost a son in the war.

"They do not measure their grief easly and disgusting pensions which

are granted in the terms of pounds, shillings and pence, can in their turn be the cause of an immeasurable amount of grief!

The essence of the method which is dopted by the Government when dealing with any pension problem.-in this case it is War pensions--is illu-strated remarkably well in relation to ie different treatment which is meted out to the widow, and a wife of a soldier. A widow receives 32/6 a week such treatment appears senseless since the obligations are the same in both cases. It is only when we understand in hand and prepared to fight for her conditions, and that a widow is de-prived of such a weapon, that we get a glimpse of the CLASS attitude which underlies the granting of these few hillings. A wife can exert an uncomfortable pressure which the widow

HUSDAND KILLED-ALLOW-

1/6 per child, so that a widow and two vides us with a startling example of

hildren and is capable of work, she ceives, not 32/6 (after all, one can TOO generous!) but 26/8 per week the reduction being one of the gently persuasive'' measures which the caplists adopt to compel her to go to

We are thus presented with the lowing picture:

Allowances for the child of a-Live soldier - - - 12/6Dead soldier - - - 11/0100% injured - - - -7/6

Soldiers Wife's allowance 35/0 Soldiers Widow's allowance 32/6 (il under 49) 26/8

We can now see that even if the work ers do not measure their grief in terms of money, the ruling class certainly do, calculating it to the nearest penny, and then having the audacity to cover he whole despicable scheme with display of "christian benevolence" and "democratic" hypocrisy.

BOER WAR PENSIONER BETTER OFF!

Despite all this however, the most effective exposure can be made when we consider them in relation to the official cost-of-living figures, and are consequently able to obtain an idea of the real buying power of the pension. We discover for instance, that the Boer War pensioner received in 1933, a weekly sum of £2, and according to the official cost-of-living figures, t would be the equivalent today this £3. 6. 8d. In 1939, the World War I. pensioner received £1 17. 6d., the real value of which is equal to $\pounds 2$ 8. 9d., and today in 1944, the World War II. pensioner, totally disabled, receives £2. 10. 0d.

In short, the position can be sum narised as follows:

Boer War Pensioner, 1933 £3 6 World War I Pensioner, 1939 £2 8 9

World War H Pensioner, 1944

In contrast to the NOMINAL sums which give the APPEARANCE of in creases, these figures give the REAL purchasing power of the money as it is valued today. They illustrate vividly

BROTHER-CAN YOU SPARE A LIMB?

For Indian Independence now!

No compromise with Imperialism!

during the pendency of the War.'

What is Gandhi's Mne now? Stuart

that "the Viceroy would remain and have complete control with the Com-

mander-in-Chief of the British and

For these favours from British Im-

Congress to participate in a Govern-

Indian masses are facing starvation

There is not only the financial aspect of this question however, for what of the wounded who return and who have to be fitted up with new artificial limbs, maybe eyes, legs or arms-or some of each? They will get their usual fifty shillings to live upon, and then be fitted up with these "replacements" and then for the rest of their lives left to pay the price which the present gen-erations will forever carry as the re-ward of imperialistic butchery and rule. It is a subject which is delicately, dropped by the ruling class as one of the more gruesome results of the war. "The method of providing artifi-

cial eyes", reported Sir lan Frazer, "is to send a trayful to a hospital, where the surgeon will pick one he likes the look of, and it will be ordered . . . The pieces will be sent down, and they will be more or less But "more or less' right is not enough. Artificial eyes ought not

to come off the peg . . . " But for people with money, the position is different, as he further reports

"anybody who can afford it, in this country, does not get a Ministry of Pensions eye: he orders one of his war has developed since the days of the own, and gets it individually made." In discussing replacements for the wer part of the anatomy, he states:

'What I hear ábout artificial legs is that they are very good. They are easy things to substitute . . . But with artificial hands, that is not the case . . . In other countries there are new materials and designs, not hitherto incorporated in the hands that are made here . . . Nor is it true that a hand suitable for men Nor is it who can see is suitable for men who cannot see. I have ten men who have lost both their hands and their

eyes..." This however, is a great improve

(Continued in next Column.) in need.

(Continued on page 4.)

more or less' satisfactory and will then be able to take his turn at the Labour Exchange queues without being Perhaps this is at a disadvantage. Perhaps this is the reason for the decrease in the pension—a person without a leg or arm has less body to look after, and there-Boer War!

It is almost impossible to properly xpress in words and statistics, the overwhelming amount of suffering and anguish that is the result of this in-human attitude which the Government adopts towards the welfare of the working masses. Let those who char-acterise these words as "hopeless ex-aggerations" of the truth, live under the conditions they impose—let them experience the continual poverty which the lot of the workers throughout their entire lives!

Every human being is entitled to the minimum of work or full mainten-auce, and full and ample allowances should be paid to all those who have **14** , ment from the last war, when, accord- **15** 10 0 ing to Mr. Charleton, M.P. for Leeds lost their breadwinner—whether a hus-

those who lost limbs had to go into the organised workers must press the forests and cut crutches for through every Labour and Trade Union themselves . . . "

SOCIALIST APPEAL

SUPPORT GERMAN WORKERS

(Continued from page 1).

the victory of the proletarian revolution. The main reason for the de-feats of many revolutions is rooted in the fact that these four conditions rarely attain the necessary degree of maturity at one and the same time. In history, war has not infrequently been the mother of re-volution precisely because it rocks the superannuated regimes to their PIRCE and hastons the growth of revolu-tionary indignation among the op-pressed classes."

'War and the World Revolution.' Feeling the hot breath of revolu-tion and dreading its consequences, faced with inevitable military defeat, the German ruling class is seeking some way out of the impasse. The coming revolution has announced itself by preducing a suli in the ranks of

by producing a split in the ranks of the ruling class. The Russian Revol-ution of February 1917 was fore-shadowed by the murder of Rusputin two months earlier. He was killed by members of the Court nobility in an endeavour to save Czarism. But despite the fact that he was murdered, the Czar, under whose influence he had been, continued his policy. But the effect of the assassination was en-tirely unexpected by the perpetrators. The fissures and quarrels between the ruling class at the top, produced a ferment and excitement at the bottom. The murder, which was intended to save the regime in Russia, acted as a mighty impulse in galvanising the masses into activity for its overthrow.

In Germany the ruling class, the Junkers and capitalists, generals and bishops had ghad y Lander coatrol of the state over to Hitler. Now they are quaking in their shoes as they consider the revenge the masses might wreak upon them for their crimes. Their sinister mascot Hitler, is turning into a bad-luck charm. They are at-tempting to rid themselves of what is becoming a millstone round their necks. Thus has come about the conspiracy of the generals. Their per-spectives are clear. In the best event, they would bargain with the Allies. In they would bargain with the Antes. In the worst event, if the German masses got out of hand, they would surrender to the Allied capitalists, seeking the protection of the Allied armies against their own working class. That the Allies would respond to such overtures they have near in Italy.

they have seen in Italy. From Stalin they have received systematic encouragement. Was it not Stalin who first supported and recognised the regime of the Fascist gangster Badoglio in Italy; they are sure that he would come to some like gangster Badoglio in Italy; they are sure that he would come to some like agreement with a German Badoglio. Stalin's activities have given them no cause for fear. Far from appealing to the German masses on a socialist basis to overthrow Hitter and establish a Socialist Germany, he has organised the "Free German" Committee in Moscow which is predominantly com-

members as General von Seydlitz, Lt. General Edler von Daniel, Major Gen-eral Garl Noss, and and Lt. Count von Einseidel.

ectives quite clear

any repetition of the events of 1918. We must avoid all anarchy and un-

disciplined behaviour . . . " The traditions on which they make their appeals to the German people are those of "Bismarck's Germany", the Germany of the Kaiser" Stalin has underlined this by the appeals on the Moscow radio during the crisis when they proclaimed that the fate of Germany should be decided by the generals uniting to throw out the Nazis!

The latest reports from Germany indicate that the Nazis have emerged victorious in their struggle with the army clique. This is symbolised by the introduction of the Hitler salute to replace that of the traditional army salute. No doubt Hitler imagines he has scored another June 30th and settled account decisively with his in-ternal enemies. Not for him the inglorious collapse of his erstwhile teacher Mursolini! But this time will not be the same as the last. The violence of June 30th confirmed his grip on the power; the violence of July 1944 marks the beginning of the end of Nazism. Metaphysiciaus imagine that the same act, if repeated successfully, will have the same result. Not so! Hitler succeeded in stabilising his regime in its first phase by his purge because it was directed against the middle class opposition while the work-ers remained quiescent spectators, their organisations having been destroyed

But the revolt of the Generals reveal to the mass of the workers and sold-iers the utter desperation of the situation. Far from crushing the resistance to the regime, the sparks of opposition will be fanned into revolucliques within the ruling class are ertain. But this is the least important question. The dazed masses have received a shock which will lead to

posed of reactionary military elements, and the "League of German Officers" man radio speaks of groups of Ger-which boasts such figures among its mans gathering on the streets excitedly of the revolution in Germany depends the derman revolution in Germany depends of the revolution in Germany depends of the revolution in Germany depends of the revolution in Germany depends round the radios in shops and newspaper kiosks. Without a doubt the entire population is now discussing the meating of the putson. Is the fac-Major Herbert Socsslin, writing in 'Freie Deautschland' made their ob-be openly-voicing their opposition to be openly voicing their opposition to the hated regime while the Gestapo We must avert at all costs informers remain silent, not daring to intervene.

All these years in face of insuperable obstacles small underground groups and organisations have struggled against the Nazis and upheld the ideas of Marxism. Now their time is com-The underground organisations ing. The underground organisations will gain a mass basis and mass sup-port in the coming months. The mighty traditions of the German workers will result in mass organis-ations springing up as if from under the ground itself, as in Italy. The German workers will be reinforced by support from millions of foreign work-ers in Germany. Already bonds of ers in Germany. Already bonds of sympathy have secretly been estabished between German workers work ing side by side with French, Belgian, Russian and other European workers united by mutual hatred and solid arity against Nazi foremen. We will see factory committees and soviets all over Germany which will unite all the oppressed of whatever race or nation-ality in Germany.

The British capitalists are preparing or this. Churchill stated bluntly in the House of Commons that a Communist Germany is a possibility. But, he explained, the Germans could not escape from the responsibility for the crimes of the Nazis simply by "em-bracing the Communist faith." The Stalinist traitors published this state-ment in the **Daily Worker** without comment! By their silence they endorse Churchill's statement and this is in line with the policy of Stalin who is preparing to aid Churchill and Roosevelt to drown the German revolution in blood.

The Stalinists know no bounds in their hate incitement against the German workers in its worst form, and even racialism of the Hitler stamp. For example William Rust writes in the Daily Worker on July 2nd

"We are not dealing with the German people as they were when they rose in 1918. The present generation has been poisoned and brutalised by 11 years of Nazi rule. Millions of the youth behave worse than beasts and the entire nation

must take responsibility for the crimes committed in its name."

But socialists and communists (not n name but in deed) know how to characterise this appeal to the basest instincts of racial chauvinism. The British workers must see that they

of the revolution in Germany depends in large measure on the attitude adopted by the British workers and soldiers. Once Hitler has gone the lleged aim of the European war in fighting fascism " will have dis-appeared, but the Allied imperialists will try and occupy Germany long after the conclusion of the war. Whether they succeed or not will be determined by the attitude of the British working lass. One thing we know: the appeal o fraternise which the German socialto fraternise which the German social-ist workers made to the army of occu-pation in Germany after the last war received a favourable response. The sons of the British Tonumies in this war are far more class conscious than their fathers in the last. The response today will be even more favourable. Military events are giving place to plitical events. The working class of he world will have the last say. The avanced workers must prepare and ind get caught by surprise by con-ing events. To the building of the party -the most indispensable condition aid down by Lenin, the ad-vanced workers must dedicate their vanced workers must dedicate their efforts. A party, basing itself on the tested ideas of Marx. Lenin and Trot-kby, further enriched by the experi-cless of the defeats of the workers in the past decades. Such a party is the Fourth International. It is weak today but aim become a

ughty instrument of the socialist

British workers! Prepare to support the German Revolution! Rally round the banner of the Fourth Inter-national! Join the Revolutionary Communist Party!



(Continued from page 1)

annot be accomplished under the eadership of the Fascist-stained Allied mperialists. Its final defeat lies in he ability of the workers "throughout he world" to deal with their native apitalists and end the breeding and of Fascism

A few more militant delegates at the conference would make a great difference. Despite years of persistent en-deavour, the Stalinists handicapped by their policy, have failed to entrench themselves in the N.U.R.

The left-ward swing in the Union seeking its expression in many ways, will become a force in remoulding the policy and leadership a lot quicker when the militants in the industry get together, thoroughly clear their minds about what is to be done, work out a common policy, and fight that policy in a nationally co-ordinated manner.

Tasks of T.U. Militants

(Continued from page 3) THE MILITANT STEWARDS MUST MAKE THEIR VOICES HEARD IN THE UNIONS

If the shop stewards in particular areas where discontent is rife, turn their backs on the trade union and proclaim breakaways, or advise or encourage the workers not to pay their union dues, they will be rendering a great disservice to the working class by their default from their elementary duties to the workers. In effect such a policy means to abandon the rank and file trade unionists. It means giving up the struggle against the trade union bosses and allowing them to continue to dictate to and delude the rank and file without opposition. It is the job of the class conscious militants to be in the unions fighting, exposing the bureaucrats before the members and patiently explaining and organising against the bureaucrats.

We say that no matter how painfully the rule of the bureaucrats has been not the employers. felt by the militants, they must not felt by the militants, they must not The second point at issue is the separate themselves from the great definition of "furthering" a strike. mass of the union organised workers. On the contrary, the shop stewards and shop committees should encourage all workers who are discontented to appeal it will be argued that this intergo into the union branches to express their feelings and give them organised expression.

of the compass through the factories and the branches. The unions have socialism inscribed in their constitutions—let them really fight for socialism! If the militants of the syndicalist type feel that they cannot defeat the union bureaucrats how can they expect to defeat a much stronger enemy—the boss class? And that this struggle has been successful in the past is an encouraging lesson from the history of the Clyde Workers' Committee in World War I and even in this war. 'The Clyde Workers' Committee made its voice heard in the unions to such an extent that they isolated the union bureaucrats completely, and became the chief voice representing both the shop committees and the unions. The combination of "legal" work through the official machines and "illegal" work of the shop committees, must be studied and applied skilfully and tesaciously by the class conscious workers.

The militants in this period have a clear duty to draw upon the lessons of the past and to propagate them to the masses of the workers in the unions.

At the present time there is no basic conflict between the shop committees and the trade unions. The two are interdependend and interlinker. But in structure. spite of the high percentage of union organisation at the present stage, neither the shop committees nor the periods of exceptional upsurge in the labour movement, the great majority,

Support the Imprisoned **Comrades**

AUGUST, 1944.

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worker capable of understanding the issues at stake, will see the significbe ance. Here will established whether the Trade Disputes Act covered only a general strike or any and every isolated strike.

It will also be argued that during workers coming under war. Essential Work Order are employed by the Government, and as such the Government becomes their employer. Bevin has advanced repeated claims that in fact all workers are employed by the State. This is one of the excuses advanced by the labour leaders for their capitulation to the capitalist class. As such, any decision of the Government which arouses discontent among the workers, becomes a dispute between workers and employer. the workers wish to take action against their conditions-the employer can lay the responsibility at the door of the Government. Yet, if the workers hold the Government responsible, they cynically disclaim Government responsibility and argue that they are

Judge Cassels ruled that propaganda preceding a strike constitutes "furtherance" of a strike. In the pretation of "furtherance" can lead to grave consequences for the working class and that this places in the hands Attack the union bosses at all points of the ruling class a ", dapen" which cannot go unchallenged.

According to the Newcastle decision, if a committee of Shop Stewards issues leaflets about a particular grievance which ultimately results in strike, they can be convicted solely upon the evidence of issuing leaflets The results of this decision are far eaching under the new Regulation 1A(a). For the same "offence" under the new regulation, any shop steward or worker can be sentenced to five years penal servitude. In effect this means not only an attempt to prevent strike action, the only effective weapon of the working class; it is an attempt to prevent the issuance of propaganda about a grievance.

Naturally, we have no illusions about the "justice" of capitalist court de cisions. The capitalist class will, if necessary, change their laws to suit their own interests. A ruling of yesterday can be reversed today if it can save their privileges. But the

working class must use every method at its disposal to retain its hard won position. If it can be established in law that the present decision violates even the laws promulgated by the ruling class, workers who may cherish any illusions will realise the need for a struggle not only against a particular law but against the whole capitalist

The struggle against the convictions is not confined to a legal fight. While it serves as a rallying point, the real unions embrace yet the majority of the working class. In the future, during of the working class. Only mass destruggle must be waged in the ranks cisions and mass action can change the legal fetters imposed upon the The widespread discontent with the whole of the working class, will workers. Once the tide of struggle upon the be drawn into the struggle with the among the working class rises, all workers who exist on an extremely creation of ad hoc, strike and shop these neactionary laws will be swept The fact that the trade union bureaucracy is ignoring this vitally important labour case points to the need to arouse the rank and file to the issues at stake. Not one executive of a national trade union has responded to an appeal for moral or financial aid. It rests upon the shoulders of the rank and file militants to demand of their leadership to rally to the campaign to defeat the infamous Trade Disputes Act and Regulation 1A(a). All their protestations against these reactionary acts are worthless if they do not conduct a struggle against their operation. An attack on one section of the working class is an attack on the entire working class. This is a lesson to be hammered home in every shop and Frank C. Hanighen, feature writer for La Follette's **Progressive**, writes in the victimised militants! They are serving sentences of imprisonment in the interests of the whole working



the Greeks now depends on whether the E.A.M. and the Greek Commun-ist Party can eliminate the handful of trouble-makers, like Claras, without these people carrying a large section of the rank-and-file with them.

On the broad issues there is now no disagreement between the first-rank leaders of the E.A.M. and the Communist Party, and the Papan-dreou Government."

The leaders of the Communist Party emerge as agents of reaction in the resistance movement. The second-line leaders, the "trouble-makers", express the revolutionary feelings of the masses who do not want any truck with the Cairo gang or their British imperialist backers.

revolt of the rank-and-file This forced the leaders of EAM to refuse to join the Papandreou Government. further dealings with the Cairo politic-ians would have irrevocably destroyed their prestige and they would find themselves without support from the masses. So they made a demonstrative break—only in order to prepare a fresh betrayal under a more "left" banner. A Government has now been set up

in Greece, of a Popular Front character. Reports from Cairo say that under the previous Premier, Tsouderos, 33% of the Greek armed forces were in prison; under "democrat" Papandreou, 89% of the Greek " democrat armed forces are in prison. Its programme includes (1) achieve-ment of unity among the guerrillas, (2) driving the Germans and Bulgars out of Greece (3) establishing a new Greek State on the principles of the Atlantic Charter and Teheran. The fact that this programme contains not a word about expropriation of the andlords and capitalists, together with its implicit support of Allied "democracy", brands it as another sell-out. Unless there is a determined break with the capitalist class, and ak with the capitalist class, and socialist programme, the Greek esses will only be delivered once into the arms of reaction. Un-

ago, and all of the step without full approval from those they represent lest this should further split the re-sistance movement and bring about Increased civil strife in Greece. The chance of real unity among prevent its development, strangle it. In Italy they supported Badoglio until mass pressure overthrew him, now they support the senile puppet Bonomi. In Jugoslavia, which is in many respects similar to Greece, the Stalinist Tito and his friends have succeeded temporarily in depriving the guerrilla movement of its revolutionary char-acter. An agreement has been reached with the Jugoslav politicians in Lon-don, who are no better than their Greek counterparts. The National Liberation Army, Philip Jordan re-ports in the "News Chronicle", has replaced the Red Front salute with the ordinary military salute—a sig-nificant detail! Churchill made plain

in his speech on Foreign Affairs how much the capitalists owe to the counter revolutionary actions of the Stalinists:

"We have proclaimed ourselves the strong supporters of Marshal Tito because of his heroic and massive struggle against the German armies . . . Marshal Tito has largely sunk his Communist aspect in his character as a Jugoslav patriot lead-He repeatedly proclaims he has er. no intention of reversing the property and social systems which pre-

vail in Serbia . . . " In the coming European revolution the picture will be different. Already ascism has been overthrown in Italy and the Nazi regime is on the verge of revolutionary collapse. Stalinism s fast losing the revolutionary veneer which enabled it to gain the leader-ship of revolutionary workers. The dissolution of the Comintern, the col-laboration of "communists" with the most despicable representatives of capitalism, and Stalin's friendship with the capitalist powers, are causing ad-vanced workers to look elsewhere for a revolutionary lead. They are begin-ning to turn to the Fourth International, the only organisation which has consistently fought against all capitulators and class collaborators. The emergence of a left wing leader ship in Greece, in opposition to the Stalinist capitulation, testifies to the the salinist capitulation, testifies to the vitality and will to revolt of the work-ing class and all the oppressed. To-morrow this will be seen all over tas well as German—they will the saliors in the Middle East. The alinists, of course, do their utmost to whitewash the Allies and defend apitalism, embellishing ft with all



low economic level, the general disgust of all grades with the existence of three unions for rail workers, offers great scope for the development of a militant leadership. The feeling for the recapturing of the Union for the members and the desire for freedom from the vice-like embrace of boss-ridden negotiating machinery in all its intricate stages, needs a common policy to fight upon within the Union.

OUR GREEK MARTYRS

The murderous hand of Hitlerism has struck once again at the Trotskyist movement in Europe. According to official dispatches of the reactionary Greek government-in-exile, 17 members of the Archeo-Marxists, among them Vite, the general secretary, have been executed by German occupation authorities in Athens. Four other Trotskyists, according to the same source, fell before a German firing squad in Salonika

The "crime" of these courageous revolutionary fighters was they took part in the struggle against the Nazi oppressors in Greece. Specifically, they were charged with conducting Communist agitation and being in illegal possession of arms.

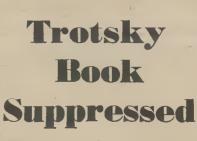
Vite was for some time secretary to Leon Trotsky when the "Old Man" lived in exile in France. He was also a member of the International Secretariat of the Fourth International. From emigration in France, he returned to Greece in 1941 or 1942 in order to participate in the reorganization of the Greek Trotskyist movement

This is not the first time the Nazi beast has sunk its bloody claws into the revolutionary socialist movement represented by Trotskyism. Only last year, through underground channels, word came of the execution of three of dur comrades before a Nazi firing squad in occupied Belgium. The fallen revolutionary fighters were comrades Renery, Van Belle and Lemmens, members of the Revolutionary Socialist Party, Belgian section of the Fourth International. Others have fallen in Holland and Norway.

Within Hitler's German stronghold itself, before the outbreak of the present war, the Trotskyists were hunted by the Gestapo and many were felled by the headman's axe.

With deepest sorrow we salute the memory of our fallen comrades, soldiers in the great battle for a socialist world. The Greek proletariat will avenge the foul murder of these heroic revolutionary fighters by sweeping away the Nazi despots. Their sacrifice will be vindicated in the coming Greek and European revolution which will project the entire Continent along the path of socialism.

committees, all leading up finally to aside the soviets. But such committees are organised for particular struggles and when the struggle dies down they usually collapse.



Frank C. Hanighen, feature writer the May 1 issue:

"Helen Lombard, who conducts a class. Washington column, distributed by the Bell Syndicate, and occasionally published by the Washington Evening Star, reveals a chapter of book suppression in this country, quite unknown to the mass of the intelligentsia. The book suppressed is Stalin, an Appraisal Of The Man and His Influence, by the late Leon Trotsky. It was printed by its publishers, Harper and Brothers, but withdrawn by them prior to public sale late in 1941. The publishers gave as the reason for withdrawal 'a concern for the work's adverse effect on international relations,' says Mrs. Lombard, and 'the Library of Congress, in compliance with the publisher's request, withdrew from public circulation the two copyright copies which had been deposited with it."

'But the Library of Congress is even chary of letting it go freely and with-out strings into the hands of members of Congress. 'When the book is de-livered in compliance with a Congressional demand,'' says Mrs. Lombard, 'the letter that accompanies it requests that it be returned to a particular official of the library and states that the State Department is interested in the matter.

..." 'One member of Congress was ask-ed not to let the book get out of his hands nor to permit it to be examined by any other person . . . State Depart-ment officials have made informal sug-gestions that any quotation from the book would be harmful to Soviet-American relations . . .

LEON TROTSKY Memorial MEETING CONWAY HALL RED LION SQUARE, MONDAY, AUGUST 21ST 7 p.m.

Speakers:---

TED GRANT MILLIE LEE **DAVID JAMES** AJIT ROY Chair: G. HEALY.

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