IT IS NEVER TOO EARLY TO TELL THE PROLETARIAT THE TRUTH ABOUT ITS OWN CONDITION.

-LENIN

Incorporating THE RED FLAG

of the REVOLUTIONARY SOCIALIST LEAGUE, AFFILIATED to the BUREAU for the FOURTH INTERNATIONAL ORGAN

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LONDON, MAY, 1938.

ONE PENNY

" PEACE ALLIANCE" CAPTURES THE CO-OPS

Popular Front in Disguise

STALINISTS SUPPORT IMPERIALIST WAR

A MOVEMENT in favour of a United Peace Alliance of the Labour movement with all "who care for Peace and Demois sweeping the working-class movement, particularly its co-operative sections. During the Easter week-end at Brighton the Co-operative Party capitulated to Popular Frontism and passed on the proposal for the sympathetic consideration of the National the proposal for the sympathetic consideration of the National Executive. At Gloucester emergency resolutions in favour of the Peace Alliance were passed at the annual meetings of both the Mixed Co-operative Guilds and the Men's Guilds. In the case of the Mixed Guilds, the motion was passed without dissent; at the Men's Guild meeting a small group of revolutionaries refused the interesting and constituted a small platform's request for a unanimous decision and constituted a small

platform's request for a unanimous decision and constituted a small but vigorous minority.

Since the Peace Alliance plan was put forward in Reynolds News of March 20th, it has been given the gupport of many responsible people in the labour and co-operative movement. Such is the fear of war in the minds of the workers, that this pernicious and dangerous scheme has been seized upon as a way out of the present difficulties, despite the experience the movement has of such alliances in the past.

The Peace Alliance, as put forward

The domestic policy of the Peace

The Peace Alliance, as put forward by Reynolds, states that the present international crisis has been brought about by the intrigues and machinations of the "Cliveden Set"; only by Labour's taking a lead and bringing into being such an alliance of friends of democracy including the Liberals. of democracy, including the Liberals "intelligent Conservatives," can hope to remedy the position. ety years after the Communist Ninety years after the Communist Manifesto, a well-informed member of the workers' movement can still talk of wars being the work of a clique—just as if war and capitalist crisis were the result of the whims of individuals. It was pointed out to the Men's Guild Conference, that wars are the inevitable result of capitalism, and the so-called "Cliveden set" represented a section of the ruling class whose capitalist interests compel them to adopt one form of diplomatic manoeuvres, while Mr. Eden represents other capitalist interests who desire a slightly different policy.

CONCESSIONS DEMANDED FROM LABOUR

FROM LABOUR

The workers are not told this. They are doped with this nonsensical idea that it is all the fault of Mr. Chamberlain, while Messrs. Eden, Churchill, Lloyd George, etc., are progressive democrats with whom they should ally themselves to preserve peace. This policy is not new; it is as old as the class struggle. The Liberals have always sought the alliance of the workers, who by their courage and resolution bring about victory, only to be robbed by the Liberals, who always arrogate to themselves the fruits of victory and turn against their erstwhile allies. The working class cannot prevent the petty-bourgeois democrats from behaving like this, but they can take precaution and safeguard themselves by maintaining their own independent class organisations and policy.

It is here that the Peace Alliance seeks character. The Peace Alliance seeks

The domestic policy of the Peace Alliance will be a programme which "every man and woman of goodwill can accept." It will include vigorous measures to prevent profiteering, full trade unice presenting. measures to prevent profiteering, full trade union recognition in the prose-cution of the rearmament pro-gramme, slums to be swept away (because they cannot be made gasproof), road and water services to be expanded, derelict land to be culti-vated, the storage, production and distribution of food supplies to be distribution of food supplies to be undertaken, a complete scheme of air-raid precautions to be operated and a planned attack to be made on malnutrition. So in order to attract the "progressive elements" Labour must fling overboard the last vestiges of its policy in favour of a policy of preparation for war in the interests of British Imperialism of British Imperialism.

BIG CAPITAL RULES. NOT PARLIAMENT

The advocates of this proposal imagine that if they can overturn the Chamberlain Government and replace it by the adherents of the Alliance they can then control the international policy of British Imperialism. Nothing could be further from the truth

Parliament represents but a section and by no means the most important section, of the state machine, and the bourgeois democratic state is an instrument for the preservation of instrument for the preservation of capitalism and the suppression of the working class. War will come when it suits the interests of the dominant class. Mr. Eden and the peace-loving democrats will support

MAY DAY MANIFESTO

THE ENEMY IS AT HOME

SEE PAGE 2

that war, and the working class, if it allows itself to be duped by this kind of propaganda, will be itself lined up in support of that war.

STALINIST TREACHERY At the Conferences where these matters were discussed, very few co-operators understood the real issue-to them the alliance seemed a gen-uine and honest means of preserving peace. Ignorance on the part of such misguided workers is excusable. Revolutionaries can only combat it by explaining the correct position. But both at Gloucester and Brighton there were people whose conduct cannot be excused. To consciously mislead the workers, when one has the knowledge of the correct position, is to commit the despicable crime of class treachers. ery; of that crime we accuse the stalinists. The marxist analysis is known to these people. They know

(Cont. on page 2, cols. 4 & 5)

CAPITALIST OFFENSIVE IN FRANCE

BLUM-THOREZ SHACKLE MILITANCY

THE Popular Front Government in France has fallen; its end was as inglorious and treacherous as its life had been. The last few months have witnessed a duel between the hig capitalists and the workers in which the "socialist" and stalinist leaders have played the role of able seconds to the former. In the summer nave played the role of able seconds to the former. In the summer of 1936 the workers, not through the Popular Front, but by direct militant action, wrung from the capitalists far-reaching concessions—the 40 hour week, sliding scales of wages, holidays with pay, etc. The history of the Popular Front Governments has been the progressive withering away of these concessions, at first almost imperceptibly—for the capitalists had been deeply shaken by the great strikes—then, especially after Blum's notorious "pause" of last year, at an ever increasing rate as the capitalists regained conlast year, at an ever increasing rate as the capitalists regained confidence and realised that Blum, Thorez and Co. were hardly less anxious than they to check the workers' militancy.

anxious than they to check the bloody massacre by the Popular Front police at Clichy, the unparalleled armaments budget, the report of the Popular Front commission on production which in substance recommended giving up all the concessions, the use of the Gardes Mobiles for breaking strikes and evacuating factories (Transport, Goodhich), the speed up in the arms industries at the sacrifice of the 40 hour week — by these means did the Popular Front aid and abet the counter-offensive of the capitalists. By the beginning of this abet the counter-offensive of the capitalists. By the beginning of this year the capitalists felt strong enough to do without the aid and cover of the Popular Front; they determined to have a "strong government" of their own which would be able to use its strength more openly against the workers.

BLUM PRAISED BY FASCISTS

BY FASCISTS

The Socialist and Communist Parties did their best to assist and even to take part in this openly reactionary government. L'Humanité and le Populaire called loudly for a government of "National Union" which could the more easily dupe the workers into another war in defence of French imperialism. Certain sections of the Right even played with this idea, and M. de Kerillis, the erratic semi-fascist deputy, who later advanced the demand for a government of 5 or 6 strong men which would dissolve parliament for two years and liquidate the Trade Unions, showed his appreciation of Blum years and liquidate the Trade Unions, showed his appreciation of Blum when, in answer to the latter's appeal to the parties of the Right for National Union, he exclaimed with emotion: "Vous êtes un bon français!" (you are a fine Frenchman!). It is difficult to imagine a more damning testimonial for Blum, Thorez and their counter-revolutionary policy.

The majority of the Right, however, were determined to be rid of the vacillations of the Popular Front. During the month of Blum's second Government (13th March to 10th April), they launched a fresh attack on the franc and deliberately provoked the series of strikes in the metallurgical industries connected with the armament programme. Blum asked for special powers to deal with the financial situation. The reactionary armament programme. Blum asked for special powers to deal with the financial situation. The reactionary Senate refused. Blum yielded to the 200 families and resigned. His declaration on this occasion is of interest: "To have remained in power could have had but one purpose: the determination to oppose our plan to the Senate, to appeal to the working-class and republican forces. This was possible. We were in a favourable position. To have done so would have meant, I will not say to make the revolution, but at any rate to create a revolutionary situation, and to do so deliberately. We considered that it was not possible to create such a situation in the present state of France and of Europe, especially considering the gravity of the situation. Events of this kind would have been amplified in such a way that they would have provoked or advanced dangerous events in the world. France would have been masters to direct and lead it. It was a determination before which we more than hesitated, and I think that the General Council (of the Socialist Party) will understand me."

erai Council (of the Socialist Party) will understand me."

Thus in the face of fascist aggression in Austria and Spain, Blum considered it impossible to resist the onslaught of the semi-fascist reaction in France, even though he was in a "favourable position" to do so! One would be tempted to ask when these persons ("socialists" and "communists"!!!) will think it possible to resist the reaction, if one did not know that, in fact, they consider victory impossible. By this policy the workers, disarmed, must go down before fascism without striking a blow. To smooth the path of the reaction, Blum resigned his place to Daladier who for two years had been shielding and protecting the army officers implicated in the plots of the "cagoulards" —the French counterparts of Franco and his gang. And to confuse and weaken the workers still further, the "socialists" and stalinists voted Daladier the confidence and the extraordinary powers for which he asked. A more complete betrayal it would be impossible to conceive. for which he asked. A more complete betrayal it would be impossible to

But Blum, who kept calling for (Continued on page 4)

ARMS FOR SPAIN

WORKERS CAN STILL FORCE GOVERNMENT TO

RAISE ARMS BAN

But only by forming Councils of Action and bringing mass pressure to bear, in the Factories and in the Streets.

UNITY

But not with Duchesses, Baronets and Deans; they will sabotage any real Militancy. Unity of British Workers with French Workers

To Help The Spanish Workers.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES

REARMAMENT AND THE WORKERS

We Must Resist At The Point Of Production

THE British Imperialists, through the National Government, reacted quickly to Hitler's invasion of Austria, at least in one direction. The recent appeal to the employers (for formality's sake) and the Trade Unions to co-operate with the State in speeding-up armaments production by "sacrifices all round" is a clever manoeuve staged at the right moments are round as a clevel manoeuver staged at the right moment, when anti-Fassist (anti-Hitler) feeling is strong among the masses. The British capitalists. while continuing their international intrigues (one side of the War preparations) keep their eyes sharply on the other. They need preparations) keep their eyes sharply on the other. They need more weapons to defend their Empire, and they need a docile patriotic working class mobilised behind their imperialist banner. They aim in these discussions to enlist the services of the Trade Union Leaders in this "democratic and peace-loving" objective.

militants this hesitation on the part the T.U. Bureaucrats may seem rprising. The whole outlook of the surprising. The whole outlook of the reformist leadership makes it inevitable that at every critical stage they will line up behind their masters. History has demonstrated this quite and in particular the events of the last two years. The Harworth dispute and its settlement, Parkhead Forge, Rolls Royce, the Barrow and London A.E.U. attacks on the left. London A.E.U. attacks on the left. the Aircraft strikers, the betrayal of the London busmen, the Scottish and Home Counties transport men, the engineering apprentices' settlement, all reveal a steady process, whereby the leadership has sought to crush the militancy at the point of production. The last T.U. Congress gave, at wear official blessing to this as it were, official blessing to this development. With the usual "democratic" and craft reservations the Trade Union leaders showed themelves stout champions of the Em-

However, the rank-and-file, some what removed from the councils of the masters, have expressed a stub-born reluctance to abandon the struggle in the factories and although the high peak of 1937 militancy has not been maintained, the industrial field is simmering with unrest.

From the Government's point view, the rate of curbing the 'troub making' militancy is too slow. They more production and they know serious class problems will arise need more production and they know that serious class problems will arise out of this process. The workers' power to interfere with "National Unity" must be broken. The class struggle must be kept out of the workshops, thousands of unskilled workshops, thousands of unskilled workers must be brought in (cheap potential blackleg labour). Rules and bans on overtime, piece work, speed-up, etc., must be swept aside, and the Shop organisations reduced to "Whitley Councils." In other words, the co-operation of the T.U. leaders is sought in breaking down all our hard won T.U. rights and conditions, and for the regimentation of the organised working class as an the organised working class as an auxiliary wing of the British State

STALINIST REACTION

The general process of class collaboration practised by the Labour leaders has continually tended to reduce the Trade Union Movement to this position. Fortunately for the future of our class the reformist leadership has not yet accomplished its last historic task, and the movement still remains an organised working-class expression, although bound by hundreds of ties to the employers and their state. It is because bound by hundreds of ties to the em-ployers and their state. It is because the T.U. bureaucracy rests upon the rank-and-file that they are at this stage raising some objections to the Government's arms appeals. While quite prepared themselves to get the workers to make guns, bombs, etc., and even to use them in defence of the Empire, they must consider the four million worker members, who often display an irritating hostility to capitalist persuasion. Their task the days of national stress 'the reis greatly assisted by the role of the

At present the talks are still general and the Chairman of the T.U.C. has hastened to issue a statement denying, as yet, any Trade Union undertaking to co-operate. To many open betrayal of the Labour bureau-crats, move left to the Communist crats, move left to the Communist Party, which they believe revolutionary, and get from it a policy just as class collaborationist and "left-patriotic" as that of the Labour leaders. The result of stalinism is to divert class militancy into non-class anti-fascist liberalism. It leads to the weakening of the strugleads to the weakening of the strug-gle. and strengthening of the hold of the T.U. bureaucracy over the rank and file. British workers should take a warning from France. The Popular Front, now exposing itself as a method of chaining the workers to capitalism, while their fighting power is gradually broken, calls for more armaments, sacrifices from the

> SELL "FIGHT" and help build THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL

vorkers, and denounces strikes and demonstrations as provocation. Popular Front in action is nothing Popular Front in action is nothing less than class collaboration and class betrayal with left-wing trappings. Although they cannot get the People's Front yet in Britain, the British stalinism) and their harmful effect particularly on the industrial field. In this lies the chief reason why the T.U. leaders are able to prevent or break up militant actions of the break up militant action

CLASS COLLABORATION

CLASS COLLABORATION
A good illustration of the two betraying tendencies (reformism and
stalinism) and their harrmful effect
on the working class movement is
shown in the present attitude of the T.U. chiefs to the Government's request. From a general survey of their documents and speeches, the following position appears: the need for a national effort is recognised but criti-cisms are made of the Government's foreign policy as being anti-collective security—League of Nations—bloc of peace-loving powers. In some of the left-wing unions (miners and enginlett-wing unions (miners and engin-eers) appear demands for a change of foreign policy and for Arms for Spain. Presumably, they are the conditions upon which the left will co-operate. We would illustrate the co-operate. We would illustrate the official attitude by quoting from the remarks of the Secretary of a small leftish Union to his members: "...We are British subjects as well as Trade are British subjects as well as Trade Unionists, and we are as much concerned about the well-being of our country as we are for our democratic institutions; if either is threatened by any outside force, whether it be fascism or anything else, we can be relied upon to stand up to the would be aggressor. This may involve a relaxation in our Trade Union rules and practices as it did during the last war . . . Restrictions of this charac-

"Every effort should be made to get the remaining peace-loving countries together." Good Labour jingoism together." Good Labour jingoism plus People's Front phrases; of a class outlook, no trace! Hold must be maintained over the rank-and-file, and their inherent hostility to any surrender of existing gains led into paths.

That this sham opposition is put across the rank-and-file without pro-voking revolt is understandable. It would be idle to deny that during the last two years the class militancy of the workers has been canalised into anti-fascist. democratic patriotism. Independent action in the factories is slowed down, and the great mass stand bewildered wondering why the great campaigns for the 40 hour week, the Youth Charter, Arms for Spain, support for the Chinese peo ple and the peace-loving bloc, meet in effect with one result—nil. They also see the Chamberlain Government and the employers flouting with ease the democratic demands on the poli-tical and industrial fields. The abandonment of the road of class struggle by the so-called revolution-aries and the left-wingers produces a paralysis, while the drive towards

Whatever manoeuvres take place it is certain that the T.U. leaders will find the necessary formula to take the workers into "co-operation" on

For the workers his will mean sharp worsening of conditions by means of dilution, dislocation of production, rising prices and scarcity of duction, rising prices and scarcity of comforts. The speeding up process and the increasing rate of exploitation will cause strain and hardship. All these tendencies will extend throughout the industrial field, provoking widespread revolt and struggle. The only solution provided for us by the British imperialists and their class collaborationist allies is: their class collaborationist allies the hell of another war. At this late hour the workers must make their choice rapidly. Can we stand against the flood of war propaganda and thus delay war by maintaining the class struggle? We urge the absolute ne-cessity for an implacable and irre-concilable campaign on the only road

for the British workers:

1) Opposition to Imperialist War.

2) No co-operation with the state or the employers on re-armament; complete opposition to any concessions in the fac-

tories and work-places.
For the carrying forward of a struggle for increased wages and better conditions, for one hundred per cent Trade Union-ism, and the day to day de-

manas.

For the linking up of all workers through the Trades Councils and Shop organisations, so that the separate issues which

that the separate issues which tend to merge into a few issues common to all the workers can be met by a united front of organised strength. For the allying of the economic struggles with the political struggle, since the position will inevitably produce the necessity for the workers to consider the question of the fight against the Capitalist State.

We warn the workers that the situation is critical. War preparations and propaganda sweep ahead. Remember the slogan of Liebknecht: "The enemy is at home." Revolutionaries and militants must unite, and prepare for the task of leading the working-class against the British militage in the properser of thich the working-class against the British ruling class, in the process of which struggle the Labour bureaucrats and their stalinist allies must be over-thrown and driven out of the working class movement.

A. FRANCIS,

YOUTH and the REVOLUTION

The Education of Labour Youth

MBUED with the same missionary zeal as Pollitt, Dutt. and Gollan, those staunch disciples of Lenin, Comrade Ted Willis, who at the Manchester Conference of the Labour League of Youth gave such a convincing display of democratic fervour (see "Fight," April, 1938), is anxious that none of his flock shall forsake the straight and narrow path of stallinism. Determined to secure "orthodoxy" at Determined to secure "orthodoxy" at the date of the death of Liebknecht and Luxemburg, along with that of of Youth gave such a convincing dis-play of democratic fervour (see "Fight," April, 1938), is anxious that none of his flock shall forsake the straight and narrow path of stalinism. Determined to secure "orthodoxy" at all costs, he now issues the suggestion that the recognised channel of educa-tion for the L.O.Y. shall be Marx House. We believe that this sugges-tion if excitations would be the large of the control of the large of the House. We believe that this sugges-tion, if carried out, would bring La-bour youth even more completely un-der the domination of the political line of the Communist Party.

We are experiencing daily the dis-astrous results of stalinist distortion Labour youth must refuse to be turned into regimented automata of the accepted C.P. pattern. They must demand democratically conmust demand democratically con-trolled non-factional socialist educa-tion, insofar as this is obtainable. The nearest approach to such an ideal is, we believe, to be found in the National Council of Labour Colleges, a body which does not as yet suffer from the disadvantage of hav-ing to conform to the latest "turn" of a particular party.

THE STALINIST SCHOOL OF HOOLIGANISM

SCHOOL OF HOOLIGANISM
So devoid of any political basis has
the Young Communist League become that at the present time the
only way it has of combatting the
much-hated "trotskyists" is by
hooliganism of the most debased
character. Incapable of engaging in
serious political discussion with us.
they can only resort to seizing and
tearing up our literature, manhandling our open-air speakers, and in ling our open-air speakers, and in general adopting tactics which differ very little from those of the fascists. As examples we cite the following

incidents A young man wearing the Y.C.L. badge was handed a leaflet issued by the R.S.L. on the occasion of a recent

and Luxemburg, along with that of Lenin's death, as "Dates to be Re-membered" by the young commun-

At the fascist rally in Battersea on April 4th, R.S.L. youth were ac-tive with their anti-jascist slogans and literature. To prevent the wide-spread dissemination of trotskyist spread dissemination of trotskyist literature among the large crowd in the streets, a gang of young stalinists (we use the word "gang" with intent) made a violent attack upon one of our comrades, tearing up a quantity of our papers.

quantity of our papers.

The Y.C.L. together with some adult C.P. members, are making determined efforts to drive the R.S.L. platform from Hyde Park. We will mention as an instance that at the meeting on the afternoon of Sunday, April 10th, they adopted the tactic of gradually closing in through the crowd, keeping up a steady chorus of threats, insults and inanities.

When will these people realise that When will these people realise that hooliganism has nothing in common with serious political argument, and that the use of such methods tends to demoralise the workers' movement? In fairness it must be said, however, that there exists in the ranks of the Y.C.L. itself a growing section which feels only disgust at and condemnation of these tactics. These elements will be among those who, grouped once more under the banner of revolutionary socialism. ed once more under the revolutionary socialism, banner of revolutionary socialism, will form the new vanguard of the young workers, which it is our task to build. The banner can only be that of the Fourth International.

IVOR CRESWELL.

"PEACE ALLIANCE" CAPTURES THE CO-OP

that a Peace Alliance will not be progressive but a reactionary step, but they are prepared to sacrifice the working-class in the interests Soviet foreign policy

If one doubts this, witness their actions at the Men's Guild Conference, on the Peace Alliance resolution. They were responsible for moving the closure of discussion to stifle the revolutionary point of view and on other occasions it was demonstrated over and over again that the C.P. had capitulated to Brit-ish Imperialism. We all know how of ish Imperialism. We all know how of recent years they have been uncritical and subservient lackeys of the Labour Party and worked for a Labour Government. Now, however, they reject resolutions in favour of a Labour Government because it might conflict with the Peace Alliance proposals. Furthermore, when faced with a pro-Zionist resolution on Palestine, which blatantly supported British Imperial interests, although all the implications of the resolution were pointed out to them, the stallnists dared not speak against the stalinists dared not speak against and voted in favour of the motion. It is therefore clear that the advocates of the Peace Alliance are at the same time supporters of British Imperialism.

THE POLICY OF THE

R.S.L. Revolutionaries, however, have to face facts, and the fact is that this pernicious propaganda is sweeping the movement. We cannot passively the movement. We cannot passively allow the working-class to be jockey allow the working-class to be jockeyed into war by class traitors and chauvinists. We must fight this line of alliance with peace lovers and democrats in every co-operative and trade union organisation with which we have contact. We can fight only by a concrete working-class policy and this the R.S.L. offers us. We must tell the workers, in the words of James Connolly: "The Labour movement is like no other movement. its strength lies in its being like no other movement. It is never so strong as when it stands alone."

If we do this we can say to the lovers of Peace and Democracy: "So gentlemen, you want to stop war—then look at the Russian Revolution. There a people stopped a war. They fought the enemy in their own country."

JOE PAWSEY.

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The Enemy Is At Home

MAY DAY MANIFESTO

REVOLUTIONARY SOCIALIST LEAGUE

TO-DAY all over the world the working-class celebrates the workers' day. Here in Britain we can still do it openly and peacefully; in Spain to-day and in China, many workers will be in action against our common enemies, not with meetings, leaflets and shouting of slogans, but with machine-guns, rifles and bombs. In Italy and Germany the celebration will be secret. Our comrades marching in sham parades will silently mutter the socialist watchwords or will meet in twos and threes at home to recall the triumphs of the past and pledge solidarity for the future. In Moscow the Red Army and the workers will parade in Red Square, but the ghastly series of trials and the murder of the men of October will overshadow all minds. Yet wherever the ideas of socialism have penetrated, that is to say all over the civilized world, in Europe and the Far East, in India, and Africa and America, North and South, there class-conscious workers will be found to-day, taking stock of themselves as battalions of the international proletariat, renewing their pledges and efforts to organise the great

masses under the banner of international socialism.

At this moment of danger, and despite the defeats of recent years, the Revolutionary Socialist League affirms its unquenchable faith in the courage, the resource and the devotion to the cause of millions of workers in every country. The Spanish workers and country. The Spanish workers and peasants have written pages which self-air or for the U.S.S.R., a workers' shall fight for the U.S.S.R., a workers' self-air or for any other workers' its unquenchable faith in the courage, the resource and the devotion to the cause of millions of workers in every country. The Spanish workers and peasants have written pages which will live forever in the history of the class-struggle. In France, in China, in Palestine, the United States, the Gold Coast and Trinidad, the masses have shown their willingness to fight, their audacity in attack, their tenacity in action. The march of Hitler into Austria has stirred the British working class, and British workers pour out to demonstrations in thousands, eager to help bar the way to Fascism, to help revolutionary Spain, to counter the steady slide of imperialism to war.

And what is the lead offered in the And what is the lead offered in the face of this militancy, strong already and, infuitely stronger in potential power? The workers are being sheppower? The workers are being shepherded into a struggle not for workers' power, nor for socialism, but to uphold the rotting system of monopoly capitalism and the outworn fraud of parliamentary democracy. Fight for capitalism! Fight to patch and mend a system which drove us into the last war, and now, not a generation after, is frantically demanding assistance from the workers in its suicidal preparation for the next? Why fight for capitalism which cannot even guarantee employment, which Why fight for capitalism which cannot even guarantee employment, which keeps millions of colonials in slavery and steadily-increasing poverty, and thus destroys the possibility of providing adequate utilisation of the industries of Europe? To fight for capitalism is to help to perpetuate the chaos, disorder and bankruptcy of the last twenty-five years; and it is the same with parliamentary democracy. same with parliamentary democracy. In this time of crisis the workers will endure capitalism and parliamentary democracy as long as they must, but when they move into action it must be to destroy, not to maintain them.

must be to destroy, not to maintain them.

But there is another, still more dreadful, crime, which is being prepared in the name of the workers' movement. Once more we are being asked, by capitalists and workers' parties alike, to fight in another imperialist war in the sacred name of democracy. Must British workers go again to their destruction, for Chamberlain and John Simon, the Bank of England and the Bishops, the whole greedy, corrupt, and deceitful gang? We will gladly take the guns they give us, but it will not be to shoot down perhaps German workers, perhaps Italian; it will be to use them, at the correct moment, against those who grind and sweat and deceive the workers here. Are we going to shoot down our German or Italian or Japanese comrades because their movement has temporarily suffered defeat? If they were our comrades when they celebrated May Day openly with us, they are doubly so now. To our comrades abroad, wherever they are, we send revolutionary greetines. We

Britain or for any other workers state, or for the national independence of a colonial country. For capitalism

never.

How comes it that to-day, after all that the last war taught us, after years of the intensive propagation of Lenin's teachings, after the repeated failures of the League of Nations as an "instrument of peace." how comes it that there are working-class parties which still urge workers to destroy themselves in the service of the League?

national of Citrine, Bevin, Attlee and Morrison, Blum, Jouhaux, Prieto and Negrin, seeks as in 1914 to do the work of its capitalist masters. The Labour parliamentarians and Trans-Labour parliamentarians and Trans-port House have no horizon beyond capitalism which gives them pleasant and profitable lives and even allows them sometimes to play at being min-insters of the Crown. They are tied to capitalism and, as in 1914, they do in the Labour Movement the work which capitalism could never do for itself

But infinitely more dangerous is the But infinitely more dangerous is the Third International. It is the servant of the Russian bureaucracy and Stal-in, who are now destroying the old revolutionaries in Russia, even those who for years supported Stalin. Stalin, like Citrine and Bevin, anxious only to keep on terms with capitalism has abandoned the revolution and in return for a paper alliance against Fasc-ism is prepared to deceive the workers with phrases, shackle their struggles, and bluff them into capitalist war behind their capitalist masters.

But the workers may ask: "Must not the U.S.S.R. be defended. Must not the U.S.S.R. be defended. Must we not help to save Spain from Fasc-ism?" We must. But we shall do that not by Popular Fronts or Peace Alliances. We shall do that by unit-ing the workers for vigorous action and carrying on a mass struggle, on the national and international front, in wer-time as in peace.

the national and international front, in war-time as in peace.

That is our task to-day, comrades. Arms for Spain. Demand that the Government restore its right to buy arms to the Spanish Government, but arms to the Spanish Government, but do not depend on the Duchess of Atholl, the Dean of Winchester or any parliamentary coalition. Back the de-mand with a one-day general strike in the armament industries, build your workers' councils to oppose any war whether blessed by the League of Nations or not, draw ever more work

We have faith in the workers. Leadership only is wanted, not the leadership of a few individuals, but that of a revolutionary party; a lead celebrated May Day openly with us, that of a revolutionary party; a lead-tender and the party of the party of

next May Day — the building of a revolutionary party on firm principles. Not that we must await the party before taking action. The leading workers in taking correct and vigorous class-action will thereby expose the weak and treacherous and facilitate the building of the property of th ate the building of the new party.

Unified behind revolutionary leadership the workers will be invincible.
We have allies. By powerful action
we shall win large sections of the
middle-class; win them and keep them.
There are the millions of workers in
other countries, the hundreds of millions of colonial workers eager to help
in the overthrow of the common
enemy. Everywhere the new internationalists are busy seeking to create
their basis. Already in France, in
Belgium, in Indo-China, in America
parties for the Fourth International
are active in the workers' movement. Unified behind revolutionary leadare active in the workers'
We point to the only road.

Let us therefore on this May Day pledge ourselves to militant struggle let us assure our comrades, wherever they are, that we shall strive always to deepen and never to moderate the class-struggle. We can conquer if we will it. The sense of solidarity, nat-ional and international, the consciousional and international, the conscious-ness of power, the will to victory, these things the workers of all coun-tries need. With them victory can still be ours. But they can come only by the workers actively participating in the building of an organised lead-ership, the building of the Fourth International.

The Central Committee,

The Revolutionary Socialist League For The Fourth International

"BUT WE SHALL RISE AGAIN"

A narrative history of Chartism By REGINALD GROVES

(Secker & Warburg. 6/-)

"But Britain is so different. Our Englishman is so staid, so conservative. We have no revolutionary heritage." How often do we hear this ingenious propaganda of our capitalist historians, mouthed by those who would call themselves socialists in an attempt, to justify the methods of ref. attempt to justify the methods of reformism as against those of revolutionary socialism. For nearly a hundred years the heritage of Chartism -- of years the heritage of Chartism — of class struggle, general strike and insurrection — has lain obscured in the dark vaults of the bourgeois conspirators. Armed with the searchlight of Marxism and the ability to dig deeply for his facts Groves has unearthed a proletarian treasure, and given back to the English workers the revolutionary heritage which is theirs. In simple marrative form the fight for the Charter comes to life again. Thousands of ragged proletarians shouting "Bread or revolution" and armed with pikes and muskets fighting the police and soldiers. Lord Campbell writing to his brother: "This may be the last time I write to you before the Republic is established." Queen Victoria hurrying off to the Isle of Wight lest the rabble send her further. The Duke for his facts Groves has unearthed hurrying off to the Isle of Wight lest the rabble send her further. The Duke of Wellington waiting with thousands of troops and heavy artillery for the final assault. This is no mere demand for universal franchise. It is the struggle for power, class against class. Mass arrests; many sentenced to transportation for life; shooting, per-secution, hunger and death, but still secution, hunger and death, but still the Chartists sing "The conflict for freedom is gathering nigh: We live to secure it or gloriously die." This book gives more than historical facts, it gives emotional inspiration to the dispirited and weary dispirited and weary.

We can learn also how the "Pop-ular Front" helped to kill the fighting spirit of Chartism. Criticising Ernst Jones, one of its most advanced and Jones, one of its most advanced and popular leaders Marx wrote: "I have broken with Ernest Jones. Despite my repeated warnings and although I predicted to him exactly what has happened — namely that he would ruin himself and disorganise the Chartist Party — he involved himself in attempts to come to an agreement with the bourgeois radicals. Now he is a ruined man but the damage he is a ruined man but the damage has done the English proletarint

There is so much in this book that relevant to the struggle to-day that it demands a place on every socialist's bookshelf. If you can't afford it, your

STALINIST CORRUPTION **EXPOSED**

Labour Councillor Awarded £200

ON March 25th last this item of news appeared in one London evening newspaper, The Star-

"£200 FOR LIBEL
"DAMAGES FOR BETHNAL GREEN COUNCILLOR

"Damages of £200 were awarded in the King's Bench Division to-day by Mr. Justice Charles to Mr. Samuel Elsbury, of Columbia Road, E., for what his lordship described as "a cruel libel."

"Mr. Elsbury sued Messrs. Lawrence and Wishart, Ltd., Panton Street, W.C., and Tom Bell, of the same address, as publishers and author of a short history of the British Communist Party.

"He complained that defendants had wrongly stated that he was expelled from the Communist Party, and that a trade union of which he was an official had collapsed because of his opportunist and careerist attitude.

"Mr. Elsbury said he resigned from the Communist Party in 1929 and was now a member of the Labour Party, which he represented on Bethnal Green Council.

"For defendants it was stated that the book had been withdrawn, and that Mr. Elsbury was offered £100 and an apology."

On the following day the Daily Herald printed a small paragraph concerning the case in one of its editions. Apart from this the press preved an interesting silence. The fact that the trial was a political one in which the Communist Party was heing arraigned on the most serious

fact that the trial was a political one in which the Communist Party was being arraigned on the most serious charges, and in the only form possible because a party cannot be sued as such, had suddenly become a matter of no importance to the British press of all shades of opinion. Was the case overlooked by accident? It is singular that a case of decided working-class and general interest, nationally and internationally, should be so treated. Of this we shall leave the reader to judge.

Up to 1930 Sam Elsbury was a national figure in the British Labour movement. His left-wing activities in the Garment Workers' Union, of which he was an official, achieved in ternational prominence. His leadership of the famous Rego strike was well known; a strike of an unprecedented nature in which hundreds of girl clothing workers, in defiance of union officialdom, remained on strike for months, supported only by rank and file assistance from the workers. union officialdom, remained on strike for months, supported only by rank and file assistance from the workers of London together with gifts from all parts of the world, including Moscow. International Press Correspondence, the organ of the Third International, referred to the Rego strike with pride printing several several strike with pride, printing several special articles on the subject. The Minority Movement, likewise, issued literature upon it as an admirable example of militant left-wing activity. Sam Elsbury, during the whole peri-od of the strike, made no secret of the fact that he was a member of the Communist Party and upon its

the Communist Party and upon its central executive. The success of the Rego strike and particularly its re-actions in the clothing and other in-dustries, led to a state of intensive warfare between the officialdom of warfare between the officialdom of the Garment Union and its London section which supported Elsbury: a conflict which was typified by a car-toon in the Young Communist organ which represented the Union officials on their knees before an enthroned Boss whilst receiving his orders: "Elsbury must go!"

Boss whilst receiving his orders: "Elsbury must go!" Elsbury did go but with flying colours, taking with him the London Section of the Union which, with official Communist Party encouragement, became a left Union, the United Clothing Workers' Union.

A few short weeks after its formation, the largest clothing firm in London came to grips with the new Union. The Communist Party Executive urged Elsbury to call a strike Elsbury demurred as the lack of finances of the new organisation ren Elsbury demurred as the lack of fin-ances of the new organisation ren-dered the pulling out of 800 workers a risk he was not prepared to take. He owed an obvious duty to his membership, the vast majority of whom were ordinary trade unionists and not Communists.

The responsible Executive Members of the Communist Party thereupon, in the most unequivocal terms, promised financial support of the strike, with the definite promise of £400 to be made as a first instalment in the first week of the strike.

Upon these assurances the strike was called.

The promise made to Elsbury by the Communist Party head officials, of whom Tom Bell was one, was broken immediately after the strike broken immediately acted had commenced and Elsbury, in had commenced and their dasrighteous indignation at their das-tardly act which had caused nearly 800 workers to be thrown to defeat on the streets, resigned from the

Communist Party.

His resignation was countered in a most singular manner, one of which only a stalinist organisation

Elsbury was sent a letter from the Communist Party Executive anto-dating his expulsion from the day previous to his letter of resignation!

previous to his letter of resignation!

By this swindling stratagem the Communist Party saved its face before all enquiries from Britain and abroad. The announcement of his resignation would have resulted in exposure of their criminal disregard of working peoples' livelihoods. The announcement of his "expulsion" maintained their prestige whilst damning him in the minds of advanced workers.

Shortly afterwards, by means of physical violence on the part of C.P. members of the Union, he was expelled from the headquarters of the Union he had played such a large part in creating.

art in creating. Still a Communist in belief, and Still a Communist in belief, and with a natural distaste for pouring mud on the cause for which he had fought a life-time, Elsbury resigned from the struggle for a few years

and went into private life.

But the stalinist organisation was not satisfied with its victory and commenced a campaign of calumny as a means of safeguarding its reputation in the affair. The Daily Worker made references to "Elsbury, the Social-Fascist." Communist Party members resorted to dark hints of Flabury, "betraul of the Day members resorted to dark hints of Elsbury's "betrayal of the Rego strike." blandly ignoring the Third International's wide-spread congratulations on its victory. Friends and comrades of a life-time became estranged. His brother, a founding member of the British Communist Party, was expelled on a charge of arrears of contributions and without

why didn't Elsbury reply? The capitalist press at the time would have welcomed his exposures of Communist Party chicanery and would have paid well for the privilege. The answer has already been stated. He could have done this only at the expense of the movement to which he had given his best years. Despite his treatment he still believed that the Third International was sound at heart, that Stalin's leadership of the U.S.S.R. was a revolutionary workers' leadership. revolutionary workers' leadership.
(His position recalls forcibly the dilemma of the Moscow Trial victims). It was a case of one man against the Communist Party maagainst the Communist Party ma-chine. After years of inaction he joined the Labour Party and was elected to the Bethnal Green Council. Then came disillusionment with the Third International after its an-

(Cont. on page 4, col. 3)

THE COLONIAL QUESTION

FERMENT IN INDIA

The Peasants on the March

N A RECENT DEBATE in the Bombay Legislative Assembly, the Conservative Oppositionists demanded an explanation from the Congress Government for spending public money on the Haripura Session of the Indian National Congress. The Finance Minister, a staunch Congressman, ed the expenditure on the grounds that the Haripura Congress had saved India from a revolution. We revolutionary socialists, had not to wait till this year's Session to point out this obvious truth. But what we are concerned with is this very "revolution" which made Gandhi, and his "left-wing allies," Nehru and Bose order the Congress Ministries of Behar and the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh back to office under

Incidentally, Behar and the United Incidentally, Benar and the United Provinces, with a combined population of nearly eighty million, are the two provinces where landlordism in its worst form dominates the sountryside. The peasant can be its worst form dominates the countryside. The peasant can be evicted the moment he falls behind in rent, even though he has worked the land for generations. The Congress has been talking for a long time about the twin evils of the money-lenders and the landlords. When the elections under the new constitution were held, the peasants, in spite of all the threats and pressure put on them by the traditionally loyal landlords, voted against their masters and put the Congress in power. Once installed in office, the Congress ministries forgot the peas-Congress ministries forgot the peas-ants till they saw them one fine morning converging in their masses on the various houses of Parliament with hammer and sickle flags flying on the horns of their bullocks. In Patna, the headquarters of the Behar

the trust of the peasants. But to-de the Congress organisations are fig ing a battle with the Kisan Sa in Behar and Oudh, and are us in Behar and Oudh, and are using every means to destroy its influence among the masses. In spite of that, the peasants have mustered round this League of their own and are trying to link themselves with the workers' movement in the town

ers' movement in the towns.

Though India experienced a strike wave of the same widespread type that came to France after the electoral victory of the Popular Front, no workers' party, with a distinct and independent programme, has emerged so far. When some of the Socialists are feeling their position inside the Congress as one very compromising to their principles, the stalinists, sailing along the new democratic stream, have come in to give "working class" support to an organisation which is openly working against social revolution. In Cawn-

BUY FIGHT! * READ FIGHT! **SELL FIGHT!**

ment. And how could Congress and if it had no money.

The peasants pushed most of these social harmony and peace lecturers out of the village, and organised their own committees under the inspired lead of Swami Sahajanand and a few lead of Swami Sahajanand and a few other socialists who were tired of holding the lower end of the Congress tail. In the year which has elapsec since the Congress accepted power under their imperial masters, the All India Kisan Sabha (Peasant League) has increased its membership and has increased its membership and strength tremendously. At one time Nehru was talking of Congress as a federal body with the Trade Unions and Peasant Leagues working as its component units. To-day the Con-gress Working Committee is issuing ukase after ukase denouncing the "red activities" of the Kisan Sabha.

Government, fifty thousand peasants surrounded the premier's bungalow, demanding an immediate cancellation of all debts, and the suppression of the Zamindari (landlordism) system. In the United Provinces, and particularly in Oudh, the peasants refused to pay rent or interest. The District Civil Courts were jammed with attachment and eviction cases. But the villagers, armed with their bamboo sticks, were prepared for resistance against any such orders passed by the Courts. Facing this ugly situation, Mr. Gobinda Ballabh Pant, the "most radical" of the Congress premiers, working under the constant advice of that stalwart of "scientific socialism" and darling of reformist elements in Britain, Nehru, ordered the suspension of all such cases. That was the kindest thing the Congress took the bullock cart to the villagers and went about preaching that the villagers should pay the rent to the landlords, otherwise the landlords would not pay their little share to the Government. And how could Congress rule if it had no money.

The peasants pushed most of these million workers struck for months.

In Cawnpore, till recently, a very backward area from the labour propagandist's point of view, a strike lasted for nearly six months involving nearly sixty thousand workers. The labour organisations led by the Congress type of socialists and stalinists are gradually changing, former this countries that our strike exemptions. war sentiments of the real revolu-tionary character are being expressed every day from the workers' meet-ings while the bourgeois National Congress has gone back on its ori-ginal resolution of non-participation in an imperialist war, and revised it so radically that collective security has found another defending ally in this congress led by Bose, who not so long ago was a great admirer of the fascist dictators. As the nation-alist middle class shows its liking for the imperialist path, the workers and peasants are resorting to independ-ent action.

This is the chance for which revo-lutionary socialists have been wait-ing. Lenin's line is being taken up more and more in sharp contrast to that of Stalin. The Fourth International is getting known among the more alert comrades in Calcutta and Bombay. Let us carry the messag in such clearness that it reache "red activities" of the Kisan Sabha. The days are gone for ever when Gandhi could successfully check thrising agrarian movement by canalising it into the failure of a local rent strike as in Bardoli. The Government, with all its forces fighting in a small place, was always certain of a victory. It are Mr. Gandhi chough rope to acquare following, and rity and leadership. B. AGARWAL.

CAPITALIST OFFENSIVE IN FRANCE

"National Union" and thought it "National Union" and thought it impossible to resist the reaction, cared nothing for the unity of the workers and considered it quite permissible to resist the militant opposition in the Socialist Party itself. When the Senate rejected his plans, the Socialist Federation of the Seine (which corresponds to the London Labour Party) called a big demonstration of protest before the Senate building.

demonstrated

Thousands

the reaction, the main thoroughfares were blocked and the police had to disperse the crowds with their trunwere blocked and the police had to disperse the crowds with their truncheons. The next day Populaire published an article by Paul Faure, right-wing "socialist" leader, chastising the Federation of the Seine for its unmannerly behaviour to a "legislative body", and ending with the cry: "On allons-nous, grand dieu, ou allons-nous," (Where are we going, great God, where are we going, great God, where are we going?") When the workers rally against the fascist reaction it is clearly high time for the reformist leaders to address terrified enquiries to God! Receiving, doubtless, no response from the diety, they decided to take less spiritual action: the Federation of the Seine was dissolved by decree! Marceau Pivert and his colleagues of the Revolutionary Left, who were directly responsible for the Federation's action, were expelled. Later, there was a series of expulsions from the Socialist Youth of those who protested against the arbitrary and bureaucratic action of the Executive the Socialist Youth of those who protested against the arbitrary and bureaucratic action of the Executive. The Socialist Party — the Party of "National Union," of "Democracy," of "Republican Institutions" — has amputated its left wing by methods worthy of Stalin himself. And now, when they are attempting to reconstitute the Federation on the basis of absolute docility and obedience to the bureaucracy, Gaston Allemane, socialist deputy for the Seine, writes in Populaire that the first task of the reorganised Federation is "to calm people's minds, to appeal for coolness," and to put an end to the "class struggle." struggle.

And the future? For the m the working-class is disillusioned by the failure of the strikes, betrayed by the stalinists and reformists; antistrike committees are even springing

up (in Citroën, Reynault, etc.) com-posed of the technicians and the more favoured strata of the workers, and fostered, of course, by the capi-talists (Le Temps openly gloats and reports their proceedings in full). Symptomatic also is an incident in reports their proceedings in full). Symptomatic also is an incident in Calais where a meeting of 1,000 unemployed workers, members of the Socialist Party, declared their intention of joining the French Social Party (fascists) "rather than starve with Blum" and voted a resolution denouncing the Popular Front programme as a "dream" and saying it had accomplished nothing. By voting confidence in Daladier and supporting his request for extraordinary powers, the "socialists" and stallinists still further disorientated the workers. Doubtless Blum and Thorez hope that the final blow at the militancy of the workers will have been struck by the dissolution of the Federation of the Seine.

In fact, however, it is in this reactionary coup de main of the "socialist" breaucracy that hope is to be found. This action reveals the "socialist" leaders in their true colours. The most militant and revolutionary workers of the Paris region will not be deceived by the attempt to reconstruct the Federation on the basis of complete subservience to the bureaucracy. If the leadership of the Revolutionary Left does not temporise or give way, the vast majority of the Paris workers will follow it. The Revolutionary Left and the dissolved Federation must put forward a policy of militant class struggle against the capitalists and the reformists and stalinists. It must come out unambiguously for the construction of a revolutionary party under the banner of the Fourth International. Their tactic of appealing to the National Conference of the Socialist Party for readmittance with the slorgan, "To prevent the leaders from betraying us" will only succeed if it is used as a manoeuvre to gain the militant sections of the Socialist Party. Such a tactic will lead to inevitable disaster, as it did three years ago when the Revolutionary Youth was expelled, if it is allowed to interfere with the primary task of formulating a clear-cut, revolutionary programme and constructing the new Party which alone can lead the workers to victory. In fact, however, it is in this re-

A good beginning has been made with the establishment of a united front between the dissolved Federation and the P.O.I., our sister party of the Fourth International. The danger is, of course, that Pivert and his friends — inveterate centrists — will shrink from taking definite action, will adopt a "conciliatory" policy toward the reactionary "socialist" leaders, and will refuse to face the issue of creating the new revolutionary party on an unambiguous Fourth International programme. The P.O.I. has addressed an open letter to the Socialists of the Seine which points out this danger, outlines the immediate tasks, and ends with the following appeal:

"Unity of action in practice. practical collaboration for definite objects—against which the obstacle of the bureaucracy can no longer be involced—must immediately allow the first difficulties (in the way of fusion) to be overcome. The struggle against the preparations and the monstrous budget for war; the struggle against the repression in France and in the colonies; the struggle for the 40 hour week; the struggle for democracy in the factories, and for a strike by the Congress of delegates (from the factories); the struggle for workers' control; the struggle against the factories for struggle against the factories in the course of this daily action side by side the revolutionary regrouping will be prepared in the light of day!

"Comrades! The Second Inter-

"Comrades! The Second Inter-national expels and hounds you! The Third International slanders you and is preparing to hound you also! These two Internationals are also! These two Internationals are united in a policy of reaction and counter-revolutionary repression! Support the movement for the Fourth International and a revolutionary policy, against the "national union," against fascism, war and capitalism, for the socialist revolution!"

On this road, and on this road only, is there salvation for the French workers and for the workers of the world!

CHARLES SUMNER.

CORRUPTION EXPOSED STALINIST

tics over the League of Nations wholesale abandonment of its wholesale abandonment of its Communist principles and the ghastly farce of the Moscow Trials. The justifiable reasons for not attacking the Communist Party were gone. Then came the last street.

the Communist Party were gone. Then came the last straw.

Messrs. Lawrence & Wishart, the thinly disguised Communist Party publishing house, issued a volume entitled British Communist Party, A Short History, by Tom Bell, which contained the following item of "history," pages 132-3.

ry," pages 132-3.

"In London the Communists were successful in gaining considerable influence among the clothing and tailoring trades. In October 1928 a strike took place in the Rego clothing factories which employed a great number of girls at low rates of wages. Six hundred workers struck and remained out for twelve weeks when the firm capitulated, and the strike was successful. The executive of the reformist Tailors' and Garments Workers' Union refused to recognise the strike as official to recognise the strike as official and declined to give any financial assistance to the strikers. "As a result of the Rego strike,

"As a result of the Rego strike, which was marked by great mittancy, the Employers' Federation demanded of the Garment Workers' Union that they discipline their London members as a condition for friendly relations. The Union answered by dismissing Sam Elsbury, the London organiser, a member of the Communist Party. In March 1929 the reply of the London district was to break away and form a new Red Union, the United Clothing Workers' Union. In May, 1929, a strike took place in another clothing concern named Polikoff. This firm refused to recognise the new union, and seven

hundred workers went on strike for recognition. The reformist Union collaborated with the employers to find "blackleg" labour. Faced with this combined resistance the strike collapsed and the workers returned to work without contains a constitute of the amount of damages.

But the story is not yet finished.

workers returned to work without gaining recognition.

"After a precarious existence, disruption set in due to the opportunism and careerist attitude of the leader, Sam Elsbury (suho was expelled from the party) and the United Clothing Workers' Union collansed."

collapsed."
Elsbury issued a writ for libel against Lawrence and Wishart and Tom Bell, after he had been definitely assured on legal advice that a party cannot be sued as a Party. The libel in the last paragraph, apart from its deliberate and conscious untruth, from Bell, in particular, who knew all the facts, was too obvious for any law-court outside of the U.S.S.R. and the Fascist countries. the Fascist countries.

the Fascist countries.

The solicitor for Lawrence and Wishart, W. H. Thompson, well-known in Communist circles, immediately offered £100 and an apology as compensation. Elsbury refused, possibly from experience of Communist Party promises, but mainly to expose the Communist Party's attacks on him to the widest possible audience.

The Daily Worker informe

The Daily Worker informed a puzzled world that Tom Bell's History had been withdrawn owing to inaccuracies, but without mention of the "Apology" nor Elsbury's name. The case came into court after frantic efforts on the part of C.P. members to effect a private settlement which would prevent a particularly dirty page in the British Communist Party's history being brought to light. By the use of legal expedients neither Lawrence and Wishart, Tom Bell nor the British Communist

But the story is not yet finished. The judge awarded £200 in damages and the publication of apologies in the Daily Herald and one other paper the Daty Rerat and one other paper to be agreed upon, threatening stern action if the last was evaded. By the threat of an expensive appeal against this last ruling the Communist Party seems likely to evade incearrying out of this proviso, whilst admitting its "moral" duty to admitting its "moral" duty to apologise.

That Elsbury has been wickedly and foully slandered for years is nothing to these exponents of "De-mocracy and Social Justice."

That hundreds of workers should imperil and lose their jobs so that a few party officials should save theirs by producing "results" is satisfactory so long as it can be glossed over by lying phrases.

That the fair nam That the fair name of the workers' movement might not have been dragged through the Law Courts by the amends of a sincere apology in the Daily Worker prior to the case and from self-justification, is nothing to these petty stalinist bureaucrats.

Running almost concurrent with the last Moscow Trial, this British Trial, with the British Communist Party in the role of "Confessor," presents features of bitter interest to

A. B. ELSBURY.

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