

SOCIALIST APPEAL

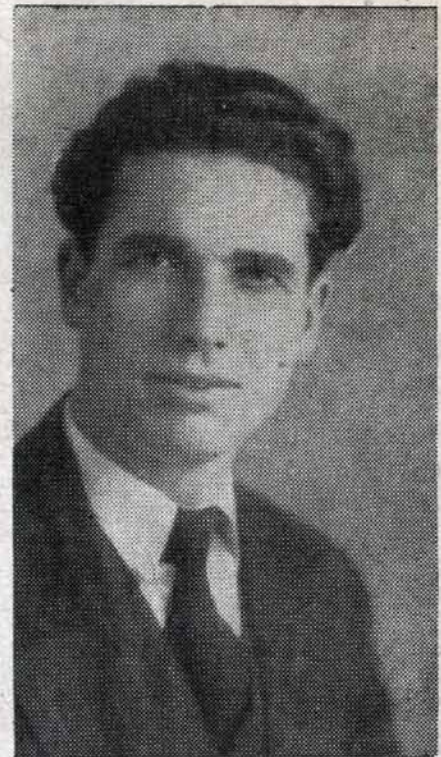
ORGAN OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST PARTY, FOURTH INTERNATIONAL.

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PROSPECTIVE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST CANDIDATE:

"I hope I have served my class as well as you have served yours in this trial."

STATEMENT OF JOCK HASTON TO JUDGE CASSELS WHEN SENTENCED IN JUNE 1944 TO SIX MONTHS IMPRISONMENT FOR SUPPORTING THE TYNESIDE APPRENTICES STRIKE AGAINST THE BEVIN BALLOT SCHEME.



JOCK HASTON, General Secretary R.C.P.

Revolutionary Communist Party call to the workers of Neath

Down with the Churchill Government of Counter-Revolution!

VOTE AGAINST THE COALITION

Workers of Neath!

Remember when you vote, that a vote for the Labour Candidate is a vote for Churchill and the Tories.

Remember, it would not make the slightest difference to the position in Parliament on the policy of the Government if the worst die-hard Tory were standing in the place of the Labour Party Candidate and were elected.

Because there is no CLASS position being put by the Labour Party. The Labour Party has surrendered every scrap of independence of the Trade Union and Labour movement to the capitalists.

The workers have given all the capitalists have taken everything. But property has not been conscripted. The property owners and industrialists have been free to exploit the conscripted labour and resources of the country in the interest of private gain and profit.

The country is in the hands of controllers, the nominees of Big Business. Steel is controlled by the stooges of the Iron and Steel Confederation. Unilever Trust controls the food supplies. With the control of supplies in their hands, the monopolies have squeezed the small traders out. Millions of pounds have poured into the coffers of the big magnates.

In the colonies the coalition has brought nothing but starvation and impoverishment. The most elementary democratic rights are denied to millions of oppressed peoples, who are held down by brute force and terror.

In foreign affairs, every reactionary force receives its support from the coalition. Darlan of France, Badoglio in Italy, the Royalist Fascists in Greece and Yugoslavia, the pro-fascist Polish Government in London, Franco in Spain—these are the proteges of the Churchill coalition government.

Four and a half years of misrule at home and treachery abroad. Four and a half years of damnable repression in the colonies and India! That is the record of the coalition government

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Labour Workers! Don't be driven further

Only the Working Class can Defeat Fascism

The main reason that the Labour leaders give for retaining the coalition is that this is a "war for democracy" and "we are fighting fascism." We Trotskyists say this is a terrible deception and a downright lie.

Let us examine the record of the Tory-Labour coalition in the "fight for democracy".

Far from Churchill and his class being able to destroy fascism or wage a war against it, they aid it as assiduously in the past and maintain it wherever they can. Look at the record of these "anti-fascist" champions.

Churchill was one of the first British capitalists to support fascism in Italy. This is what he said to Mussolini on January 21st, 1927:

"If I had been an Italian I should have been wholeheartedly with you from start to finish in your triumphant struggle against the bestial appetites and passion of Leninism." Mr. Churchill put Hitler among his "Great Contemporaries", and wrote this eulogy of him:

"The story of Hitler's struggle cannot be read without admiration for the courage, the perseverance, and the vital force which enabled him to challenge, defy, conciliate and overcome all the authorities and resistances which barred his path." Those who "resisted" him and barred his path, were of course, the German working class, whom he today calls "Nazi criminals".

It was this same Churchill who said in a speech on Armistice Day 1938:

"I have always said that if Great Britain were defeated in war I hoped we should find a Hitler to lead us back to our rightful position among nations."

At the beginning of the present war it was this same Churchill who had the following to say about the Soviet Union when Russian troops marched into Finland:

"The Soviet Government in their onslaught upon the heroic Finns have exposed to the whole world the ravages which Communism makes upon the fibre of any nation which falls a victim to that deadly mental and moral disease. This exposure of the Russian Army and Russian Air Force has astonished the world, and has heartened all the states that dwell upon the Russian border."

Winston Churchill, 1st April, 1940. Many illusions about Soviet Russia have been dispelled in these fierce weeks of fighting in the Arctic Circle. Everyone can see how Communism rots the soul of a nation—how it makes it abject and hungry in peace and proves it base and abominable in war."

Winston Churchill, 20th January, 1940, in a speech to the nation. If any worker had the illusion that Churchill and his class had changed

in the course of the present war, the backing of Quislings Darlan and Badoglio, the disarming of the Belgian workers, and the present war of intervention and counter-revolution in Greece should have blasted these illusions to pieces. It was this Churchill and his Tory-Labour coalition Government who continue to assist with the butcher Franco, who toisted into power the dictator Plastiras, and who are preparing to back reaction against the working class throughout Europe.

In all of these actions, despite the widespread hostility from the broad mass of the organised workers, the Labour leaders came out in support of Churchill's policy and against the interests of the working class. The so-called "Left" wing of the Labour Party "protected" or "defended" but refused to give the working class movement a lead and rouse the workers to smash this disastrous coalition. They therefore acted as a safety valve for the rage of the masses, and were also responsible for these crimes.

Every worker who has participated in the Labour and Trade Union movement knows that Fascism, no matter what its national colouration, Mussolini, Mosley or Hitler brand, is the deadly enemy of organised labour. Every worker who has participated of fascism and its ruthless destruction. Many workers wrongly believed that the present war was really a war against Fascism and that this dread disease could be cured or destroyed while power remained in the hands of Churchill and his class. But the only class that can destroy fascism is the working class. To destroy Fascism it is necessary to destroy capitalism.

If Churchill and his class are fighting Hitler, Mussolini and the Mikado today, it is not at all because they are against fascism, but because the thieves have fallen out over the spoils. The contradictions of capitalism force them, as in the last war, to attempt to seek a way out at one another's expense. It is for markets, raw materials, colonial slaves, spheres of influence, and strategic bases for the next war, that all the capitalists are fighting.

The defeat of fascism can only be achieved by the workers taking power into their own hands and destroying the system that breeds fascism. Far from defeating fascism, even in the event of a military victory of British and American imperialism, there will still exist the danger of fascism, not only abroad but in Britain as well.

Workers of Neath! Unlike the German workers, you still have your organisations. Use them to defend yourselves and destroy capitalism before it devours you. Fight for the independence of the Labour movement from capitalism and prepare the struggle for power, as the only means of destroying fascism.

WHY WE CONTEST THE ELECTION

The announcement that the Revolutionary Communist Party is to contest the Neath By-election has aroused a tremendous discussion wherever the advanced sections of the working class movement in Britain discuss—in the factories, mines and forces' canteens. But in the Neath area the discussion is more animated than in any other part of the country. It is in this district that the workers will have to decide the issue of what policy to support—Tory-Labour coalition or Revolutionary Communist struggle for Workers' Power.

It was not in a light-minded vein that we chose to fight this election and bring our programme and policy before the working class. We know the tremendous loyalty that the majority of the organised workers have to the Labour Party. It is the easiest and most popular act to get cheap votes and publicity in contesting a by-election against a Tory, representative of the capitalist class, at present, but we are not after cheap votes. We want

to raise the fundamental tasks of our class—the working class—in the clearest, sharpest and most principled way. Are the workers going to allow the present leadership of the Labour and Trade Union movement to continue to act as lackeys for the Churchill counter-revolutionary Government of the capitalist class—or are the workers going to demand in the most positive manner an end of the coalition, and that the Labour movement fight for power on a socialist programme?

The answer which will be given by the workers of Neath to this question will enormously influence the development of British Working Class politics in the next few months.

In years gone by the Labour and Trade Union movements were militant fighting organisations of the working class. They never had a revolutionary programme. They struggled for concessions from capitalism, but not to overthrow it. Nevertheless they organised the workers as a class and helped to protect the workers from the savage exploitation of the capitalists. On this basis they received a tremendous support from the most conscious section of the British working class. Whatever criticisms the workers might voice from time to time or dissatisfaction at

the policy of the leaders of the Labour Party, they thought these leaders fought in their interests and gave them that loyal support which is only possible from the working class. But in the past generation there has been a steady degeneration of even this militant pioneering spirit of the old-time socialists.

Today, the Labour Party is not a socialist party. It can hardly even be called a party of social reform. The betrayal of the great General Strike of 1926 by the Union leaders the treachery and sell-out of Ramsay MacDonald and Phillip Snowden; the refusal of the leaders who remained to lead the working class into a real fight against the boss class—all this has helped to demoralise the organised workers and undermine their militant socialist spirit.

The present coalition in which the Labour leaders are both the doormats and the policemen for the capitalist class is a continuation of the policy of McDonald and Snowden. This fact is burning itself into the consciousness of the organised workers. They know that the Labour leaders are being used by the Tories and we Revolutionary Communists are convinced that they want an end to this situation.

Reformist Labour Gallery of Renegades



MACDONALD SNOWDEN THOMAS MORRISON BEVIN

They sold the Workers and aped the Boss

Revolutionary Communist Gallery of Fighters



MARX LENIN TROTSKY LIEBKNECHT CONNOLLY

They served the Workers and scorned the Boss