# IN THE INTERNATIONAL OF LABOR

## Reviews and News of the Working Class and Revolutionary Movements

The British Scene

### National Government in Sharp Attack On the Workers' Standards

tion in England: one that arises directly by some sections of the working class has from the conditions outlined in the preceding article.

The National Government, returned by a majority of voters at the General Election, is now in an extremely strong position: its huge majority in the House of Commons guarantees for the ruling class a constitutional cover for all their activities against the workers. Whatever measures are "necessary"; however strongly the Government may attack the workers' movement; however great the misery and suffering inflicted upon the tary democracy.

What does the immediate future threaten? Not Fascism, as some would appear to believe; that can, and perhaps will, come in England, but only when Parliamentary Government no A widespread strike can develop, of longer has the support of the middleclass and sections of the working class. paration, but only under such circum-Those obsessed with the possibility of stances as will ensure its crushing de-Fascism are apt to overlook the pro- feat. General strike action, with a leadblems of the present, the correct handl- ership prepared to face up to, and preing of which will, in advance, help to pare for, all the implications of such a decide the tempo of England's advance to Fascism.

#### National Government Lowers Workers' Standards

The policy of the National Government ing higher prices, inflation, and a ruthless reduction in the number of unemployed drawing benefit. Part of this program has been realized already: the wages of Civil Servants, teachers, and of the armed forces have been reduced; the benefit of the unemployed has been cut and in one week alone, out of eighty State, the Union leaders could only cap- defiance of British authority cost him thousand workers brought before the authorities, seventy thousand have been tunity. From then onwards the reform- even more dependent upon the British register and from benefit altogether.

#### WAR CHIEF ADMITS FAILURE AGAINST REDS

NANKING, Nov. 10 (Fenprecor)-To fight the "Red Armies" of Kiangsi Province, it is necessary to fight the people-and in this the Communist Extermination troops of the Kuo Min Tang have failed after eight months' ceaseless campaigning. Such is the gist of a report made here today by General Ho-Ying-Ching, minister of war in the Nanking government,

Two hundred thousand troops, General Ho reported, have been march was no inquiry carried through first ing and counter-marching since last before the men were suspended. They May and the announced objective "extermination of the Red Menace"-is as far off as ever. General Ho minimized. Nanking sent more than 300,000 into Kiangsi, including some of the best fighting regiments at the command of the government. For three months during the early summer they were led by Chiang Kai-Shek in person who directed operations from Nanking.

The War Milster revealed in his report that the inhabitants of the 'banditridden" areas gave their wholehearted support to the "bandits" and that "the government troops find it extremely difficult to obtain the assistance of the people in securing food or in the trans- the employers' attack and ultimately portation of their ammunition and military equipment". He expresses optimism, however, over the fact that "the Communists are being driven towards complete destruction". This is being accomplished, he states, not by the government troops but because "diseases of epidemic proportions have broken out in their camps and because of lack of medical help many are perishing. With the approach of the cold winter their hardships are steadily growing worse as very few of the bandits have winter clothing."

General Ho, commander of the forces which for nearly a year have been waging open warfare on millions of Chinese peasants, sagely concludes his report with the statement that "the trouble has been caused by the frequency of internal warfare and the remedy is the cessation of all civil fighting and Subscription rate: \$2.00 per year; forthe restoration of peace in the coun-

We can now turn to the present posi-1 The resistance to this attack offered been dealt with in no uncertain manner: twenty-four sailors have been dismissed from the navy for their part in the mutiny of the Atlantic Fleet; al' meetings have been stopped outside Labor Exchanges, a ruling enforced by the batoning and imprisonment of numbers of unemployed. The attack on conditions has begun and any assistance by the workers is to be crushed with all the force the employers can command.

Against such an attack resistance can and will be offered by many sections workers by the policy of the Govern- of the workers and in the only way posment; all can be done in the name of sible-strike action. But such strike ac-"democracy", since the Government is tion must be general and widespread, constitutionally elected, was given a free for the old sectional methods of strughand by the majority of the electors, gle can play no effective role in the and, whilst wielding the iron hand of present period. A sectional struggle, as the capitalist dictatorship, can conceal a means of developing widespread strike it beneath the silken glove of parliamen- action, certainly: but not the old longdrawn-out-certain-to-be-defeated strike of which we have experienced so much in the last few years.

Such action however demands careful preparation and considerable agitation. course, without this preliminary pre struggle - this idea must be spread amongst the workers.

#### · Prepare For Struggles

The General Strike of 1926 was lead, and to some extent, organized by the is one of wage-reductions, tariffs bring- Trade Union leaders. It represented an attempt to meet the new conditions with Indians first and Princes afterwards." machinery and ideas which had grown The British Government must have up under old and very different condi- noted this sentence carefully. Hari tions. The Union leaders were more or less forced into the struggle by the employers. Faced with the need for revolutionary mass struggle against the itulate at the earliest possible oppor- his throne. The ruler of Kashmir is removed from the unemployed exchange ists could only follow the path of Am- than was Ammanullah. laboration with the employers as against the alternative of revolutionary struggle. To expect such leaders, men who have betrayed every strike that has taken place during the last five years, to lead and organize a mass struggle against the present attack is foolish and unwarranted.

The recent struggle of a section of the Postal Workers shows what role the they have long coveted. union leaders will play. The Mauchester Postmen carried on a "go slow" strike; two of the leaders were suspended: the union executive protested at the suspension but only on the grounds that there then got the struggle called off on the grounds that it injured the chances of

successful negotiations. New leadership, new forms of organization, revolutionary ideas and revolutionary action are necessary in order to wage effective struggle under present

Such a leadership can only come from achieve the conquest of power. London

-ANGLICUS. (To be continued)

### THE MILITANT

Published weekly by the Communist ope as "Mr. A." League of America [Opposition] at 84 East 10th St., N. Y.

EDITORIAL BOARD

James P. Cannon Martin Abern Max Shachtman Maurice Spector Arne Swabeck

Entered as second class mail matter November 28, 1928 at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. Under the act of March 3, 1879.

Vol. IV, No. 37 (Whole No. 96) Saturday DECEMBER 26, 1931 eigh \$2.50. Five cents per copy. Bundle rates, 3 cents per copy

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## The Significance of Kashmir

Press and especially The Times have is that the British Government have devoted enormous space to Kashmir, an used the agitation against Hari Singh to Indian State. The Round Table Confer- further their own ends. They have proence, which, on the surface looks far vided leaders to the movement, men who more important and is supposed to decide the future destinies of India, almost British Government at any time. That passed unnoticed, and has lately been relegated to a page principally devoted to to continue so long. The attitude of the Squash Rackets and Association Football. Kashmir is in the north of India. It is important as it guards one of the approaches to India on the North West Singh. Frontier. It forms an excellent air base from which to wage war against the U. S. S. R. Kashmir is the famous health resort of the English in India, In it oil lies hidden.

When the former ruler of Kashmir, the Maharajah Partap Singh, was told that there was oil in his state he said, succinctly, "Let it remain there." He knew that the moment oil wells were sunk the control as well as the profits would have to be passed to the British and that the best thing was to keep quiet about it. The oil yet lies unexploited and as the British Empire is deficient in oil the British are naturally anxious to get hold

There were two candidates for the throne of Kashmir after Partap Singh died. One of them, who was backed by the British Government, unfortunately for the British could not secure the doubt with the Maharajah's full consent" throne and thus made the way clear for the present ruler, who, though a great to give "to deal with Moslem demands." favourite of Partap Singh never found favour with the British.

ruler, was one of the representatives of Conference. In the course of his speech at that Conference he said: "We are Singh seems to have had a very short memory. Had he so quickly forgotten the fate of his neighbour the Amir Ammanullah of Afghanistan? Ammanullah's

and they have not forgotten the Indian War of Independence of 1857 (known to the British as the Indian Mutiny) and they will never again take steps against the Indian Princes in such a way as to antagonise the masses. They will only interfere when they profess to champion the cause of the Indian subjects, though in reality to gain a concession which

#### Living Conditions In Kashmir

Such at present is the case in Kashmir. We do not pretend to be the champions of Hari Singh, who is an oppressor. In a few years the iron boom of the proletariat will make a clean sweep of him. Kashmir State was a creation of the British and when they go it, too, will disappear. The overwhelming population of Kashmir, as throughout India consists of peasants, but with this difference, that in Kashmir, 90% are Moslems. The peasant all over India including Kashmir is burdened by the debts he owes to the moneylender and the rent he owes to the landlord. The the Communist Party, always providing agrarian crisis has made his condition that its policy is a correct one. The in- sitll worse. Life in a Kashmir village crease in the membership of the party is worse than hell. The houses are of during the past few weeks shows that, mud; there is no ventilation, and often to thousands of workers, it stands out the whole family sleeps in one room. as the revolutionary leadership which There is no water, no sanitation. The alone can wage effective struggle against men have nothing but the loincloth they wear, and the women their saris. Only an infinitesimal proportion of the populahave been opened. No wonder there is a popular agitation against the Maharajah who is notorious throughout Eur-

#### FRENCH EVICT CHINESE

SHANGHAI, Nov. 15-(Fenprecor)-More than 1,000 poverty-stricken Chinece occupying mudhuts along Soccawei Creek-bordering on the French Concession here, have been ordered to vacate by the French police. Two weeks is the time limit set on their evacuation under threats of forcible steps being taken to demolish the miserable hovels in which the people were seeking to achieve some protection against the coming winter.

"Civically" minded social welfare groups have raised a proteest to the authorities-not demanding housing improvements-but merely asking that the paupers be permitted to remain where they are! An appeal was made to the local Kuo Min Tang branch which replied-"We will see what we can do."

#### HANKOW COMMUNISTS EXECUTED

HANKOW, Nov. 9 (Fenprecor) -- Ten Communists were summarily and publicly executed here today on the public square after "court martial" by the Hankow Garrison Headquarters.

#### EXPIRATION OF SUBSCRIPTION

issue of The Militant, send in your renewal immediately to The Militant, 84 East 10th St., New York, N. Y.

For the last few weeks the British | The point we are concerned to press are prepared to lick the shoes of the

> ways an official of the Government shows the hostility of the British towards Hari About the jathas, (groups of volunteers), who were invading Kashmir The Times correspondent says: "They are splendidly loyal people who supplied

the best troops in the British Expedition-

is why the agitation has been allowed

correspondent of the Times, who is al-

ary Force and will not have any dealings with the Congress crowd." Two or three weeks ago jathus began to march into Kashmir. The British Government knew it was a breach of the treaty between Great Britain and Kashmir, but it did not interfere. The Times correspondent in the same issue which I quoted above, (viz. 4-11-31) remarks: "The present situation was by no means

#### Britian Wants Kashmir's Oil

unforeseen."

From The Times we learn that "s committee of inquiry has now been appointed by the Government of India, no as if the Maharajah had any consent The invading jathas demanded that the British should appoint a British minister Maharajah Hari Singh, the present to the State. The Maharajah had to do so. With the appointment of the Brithe Princes at the last Round Table tish minister also entered the British army and occupied Jammu, the winter capital of Kashmir. A few days after wards The Times correspondent stated "There is the delicate question of how long Jammu and other points are to be occupied by the British troops." argues that if the British army leave Jammu the whole Moslem population would follow. From today's news we learn that the Moslem leaders are sending telegrams to the Viceroy not to withdraw the British army. We need not indicate who these Moslems are.

British remained in Jammu permanently. Nearly two years ago it was published in the British Press that Jammu was for sale. The Maharajah of Kashmir denied it, but the news was not without foundation, as its source was the India Office.

Jammu is not the only thing for which the British Government is aiming. There also remains the hidden oil. Hindu-Moslem tension is always fostered by the divine power at the very moment when the Indian National Congress is meeting at Karachi or the Round Table Conference in London. The whole atmosphere in Kashmir has been created while the Round Table Conference is meeting so that as few concessions as possible may be granted to the Indian capitalists. The British are, from long experience, masters of the game of "divide and rule." If they want to remain in India it is essential that they play off one community against another or one class against another. Pursuing this policy they have ingenuiously diverted the growing discontent of the Punjab peasantry, due to the agrarian crisis, into a Hindu-Moslem feuu. Kashmir has become the centre of this maneuver, and the target of the peasants' anger.

A few days ago the two sons of the Nizam of Hyderabad, another Indian Prince, married the daughters of the ex-Khalif of Turkey. The Nizam is a very rich prince who can (and does) squantion can read or write, although we are der a few millions of pounds at a time. told that recently a few primary schools. The result of this marriage may be that upon the death of Mustapha Kemal Pasha, the Nizam's son, supported by the British, will be declared the rightful heir to the throne of Turkey. The India Office in London is already busy collecting all possible information and material with regard to Turkey.

### Britain Supports Pan-Islamic Movement

There is a good deal of talk about the friendship between the British and the Moslems. The British Government Islamic movement in India. In the Nizam's son, who may one day be declared the Chalif of Islam they may find a nominal head for the Pun-Islamic

Such a movement will not only create a still wider gulf between the two communities in India but will also prolong the life of British Imperialism. A successful Pan-Islamic movement might also become a great danger against the U. S. S. R. as Turkey is next door to U. S. S. R.

These are the dangers which lie at the bottom of the Kashmir affair. The whole movement is led by the leaders of the Pan-Islamic movement. Jammu is in easy reach of the other countries, Afghanistan, Baluchistan, etc., and therefore lectures. In this way we published an the occupation of Jammu is a nost significant act. This clearly shows that British Imperialism is based upon "divide and rule" whether it is in India, Party members which increased the ten-If the number of your wrapper is 96 Cyprus or Pulestine. This old principle, or under, your subscription has expired. the British are employing in a new way first newspaper contributed further to and we must warn our readers to recognize this coming danger and be ready to counterbalance the movement.

London, Nov. 11, 1931

### Persescution of the Left Oppositionists

(Continued from page 1) ber of the Bolshevik Party since 1910; each other. member of the Petrograd Party Committee during the February revolution, particpated actively in the October insur-

Comrades Dingelstedt, Solnzey, Stopalov, Jakovin and Eizin are all old Party members. All of them have written independent scientific Marxian works on economic and historical questions. They are no ordinary writers; they are the young theoreticians of the Left Opposition. But their theoretical work was always tied up with political struggie. After the end of the civil war they exchanged rifle for the book, to exchange it again for the rifle when the interests in Verchne-Uralsk. of Communism demanded it.

Victor Borisovitch Elzin joined the Party in 1917, and participated in the preparation and execution of the insurrection of October in Perm. In 1918 he was chairman of the executive committee of the Viatka Government. In 1919 and 1920 he was active on the Eastern tront. After the liquidation of the Kortscak adventure he worked as an economist. From 1922 on he attended sessions at the Institute of Red Professors and ended his studies in 1926. Since 1923 he has belonged to the Opposition and was one of its leading workers in Moscow, until his exite. He edited the cohected works of Trotsky. Exiled in January, 1928 by Staim, he has been in prison since 1929.

about the whole Eizin family. Boris Banner); Military Academy. michallovitch Elzm, father or Victor ers of the Opposition. He signed the from exile. first platform document of the Opposition, the so-called "Statement of the exile, Commissar for Agriculture of the Forty-Six", which became the center of Crimean Republic. the 1923 discussion. B. M. Efzin was ar-

Elzin, has been in exile for more than took part in the October insurrection; two years in Old Crimea. He has tub- they took part in the civil war; they erculosis in its most acute form, and the were economic or scientific workers afdoctors assume that it means death un- ter the victory at the various fronts; less his manner of living is not changed. they struggled for seven years against A fourth member of this family of rev- the Stalinist revision of Marxism and olutionaries, the daughter, B. M. Elzina, Leninism; exiled, and jailed, Always is in exile in Siberia. The whole Elzin and under all circumstances courageous family is therefore not only under lock and devoted without limit to the cause and key under the Stalm regime, but without a thought for themselves.

its members have been torn apart from

man Newelson-member of the Party since 1914; a Party worker since the beginning of the rebruary revolution, active in the Communist youth organization of Petrograd, a member of the Red Guard during the October insurrection, From the beginning of 1918 to the middle of 1920 comrade Newelson fougat in the ned Army, as regimental commissar, divisional pontical commissar and chairman of the Political department of the army. in economic work since 1923; already then a member of the Opposition. In exile since January 1928; in prison since the middle of 1929, first in Topolsk, then

J. M. Posnansky-member of the Party since 1917, and an active participant in the October insurrection in Petersburg. At the front throughout the whole civil war; particularly as cavalry inspector at the Southern front he successfully organized the mounted forces there; wounded. In 1921 he fought before Kronstaut for the dictatorship of the protetariat. After the end of the civil war and until his exile comrade Posmansky was Trotsky's secretary (see "My Life"). Arrested in February 1928 and sent North by the G. P. U. Ior his attempt to follow Trotsky to Alma-Ata. in prison since 1930.

Viadimir Ivanovitch . Rescheinitchenke -member of the Party since 1914. Military worker and hero of the civil war .We ought to say a few words here decorated with the Order of the ked

Musia Magid-member of the Party Elzin, is one of the very old Bolsheviks, Party since 1917. She worked illegally and went through imprisonment and exite in the Ukraine at the time of the strugunder the Czar. He is one of the lead- gle with Denikin. n prison for night

Surnov-old Party member; until his

These brief items naturally give only rested in Summer of 1929 and has been a part of the revolutionary activities of imprisoned ever since, completely iso the comrades named, but they give an lated, entirely alone in the Sudal fail. idea of the "Verchne-Uralskers" as a Joseph Elzin, the second son of B. M. type of Bolshevik revolutionary. They

### The Left Opposition in Switzerland

The Left Opposition of the Communist should publish in each issue one fairly Party of Switzerland arose in Spring of this year out of the Communist traction of the Marxist Student's Group of Zurich. In this group there had been heated discussions between Left Oppositionists and the comrades of the "general line", in the course of which we laid our platform before the Party. Later we by no means limited ourselves to discussions, but reached workers and Party members through the sale of Oppositionist literature.

On Easter Youth Day we sold comrade Trotsky's pamphlets at the Party celebration. The Party bureaucracy was caught unawares, but by the end of the celebration, when we had sold all our pamphlets, we were insulted by some functionaries as 'counter-revolutionaries" and threatened with violence. After these events we were expelled from the We refused to be scared and continued

our activity, distributing literature, carrying on discussions with workers, and after we had gained a few symputhizers, we began to hold public lectures and forums. The first lecture on "Fascism and Social-fascism" passed without disturbance; the "general line" was silent. At the second lecture, on the "Trade Union Question", an unsuccessful attempt was made to disturb the group, improving its purely intellectual meeting. Our third meeting, on the "Theory of Socialism in One Country" was broken up by the appearance of numerous "comrades of the general line" under the leadership of a cantonal councillor (!) The Stalinists were able to carry through their lecture "Against us Oppositionists by force out of the hall. The next time they tried it again, continued our lectures elsewhere without further disturbance. This was the end of the comedy, for the time being. Our next lecture, "On the Situation in the Swiss Communist Party", was received in a disciplined manner, although the majority of the audience were regular Party members. The same was true of the following lecture on "The German Situation". So far, we have won.

By this time we had made up our minds to reach a wider audience of Party members and workers, and from time to time to mimeograph and sell our essay on "Fascism and Social-fascism", which was well received: On August 1st we distributed a leastet among the sion between us and the Party. Our

### Publish Newspaper

We decided not to publish single ar- Zurich, Switzerland -"A". ticles, but to get out a newspaper which

long article and a number of shorter items. The "Newspaper of the Left Opposition of the Communist Party of Switzerland" is the title of our organ.

The first issue of the Newspaper, which appeared in August, was devoted to the situation in the Swiss Communist Party, and helped make us known among the workers throughout Switzerland.

The Kaempfer, the Communist Party paper in Zurich, could find nothing to answer except a few provocatory sentences, in which it vilified us as "agents and accomplices of the bourgeoisie". The Arbeiter-Zeitung, the Right Opposition paper in Schaffhausen, took notice of us in a cleverer way, but just as stupidly

The calm of the Party press however does not at all reflect the real feelings of the Party. Many Party comrades were undoubtedly stimulated to think by our paper. The Party mandarins are trying to work up a pogrom feeling against us, threaten us with blows, etc. The real feelings of the members of the party will be shown by future events.

In the meantime, the second issue of our Newspaper has appeared, in which we state our position on the German situation. We have grown a little, a few workers have joined our social composition.

#### Composed of Young Comrades

We are all young comrades, and therefore for the next period will go out after the youth, first of all; the Communist and the Socialist youth organizations, other youth groups, etc. Definhas given its full support to the Pan- Trotskyism" only after they had cleared ite Oppositionist tendencies are noticeable in the Communist youth organization, and we shall not delay in encouragbut failed; we left the hall and finally ing them. The same is true of the Socialist youth organization, which has several hundred members. Recently we spoke at one of their meetings, issued a leaflet for the Socialist youth, and made a good impression on them. "If we become Communist at all, then we shall become Left Communists", we have often heard them say. We also have sympathetic contacts among the "Free Sport Group", a youth sport organiza-

In this way we shall continue our activity, for the time being. We hope and feel sure that, if we do our work intelligently, in the course of the coming winter we shall create a substantial. firmly-organized section of the International Opposition. We shall continue to report on our activities in the International Bulletin. We ask those comrades who wish to find out more about us, to order our newspaper through the International Secretariat, and will send it regularly by mail.

-WALTER NELZ.