THE CHIEF AIM OF ANARCHISM IS TO AWAKEN THOSE CONSTRUCTIVE POWERS OF THE LABOURING MASSES OF THE PEOPLE WHICH AT ALL GREAT MOMENTS OF HISTORY CAME FOR-WARD TO ACCOMPLISH THE NECES-SARY CHANGES, AND WHICH, AIDED BY THE NOW ACCUMULATED KNOW-LEDGE, WILL ACCOMPLISH THE CHANGE THAT IS CALLED FORTH BY ALL THE BEST MEN OF OUR OWN TIME. KROPOTKIN,

(Modern Science & Anarchism)

Vol. 6, No. 8.

10th FEBRUARY, 1945

Fortnightly, 2d.

Background to the

Citrine Sits on the Fence

A S we foresaw, Sir Walter Citrine's delegation to Greece has acted as a time-gaining device for the Government, and has been fully used by the reactionary press. Thus full reports appeared with flaring headlines of Citrine's examination of mass exhumations described as "ELAS victims". These were exhibited by the Government, and one may reasonably doubt any evidence brought forward as to who were the perpetrators. After several weeks of bitter street fighting it is not difficult to find corpses. It only remains for the government to affix the trade-mark "guaranteed

Citrine was cautions enough to state only that the large number of corpses exhumed was irrefutable evidence of "cold-blooded murder". As we all know that a civil war had just been carried out by interventionists no one will quarrel with him. He did not however state that ELAS were the murderers. It was left for the press reports to do that for him in their headlines. Incidentally all this "evidence" was seen by Citrine before he had interviewed the EAM representatives. When he did see them, the press gave such headlines as "Why EAM refuse to Sign Citrine Plan for Vote" Below this-and coming after all the "coldblooded murder" stuff had well sunk inthey report Citrine as regretting "the references which have been made in the House of Commons to the original members of EAM. We are satisfied that many of these people were people of high integrity. In seems the same was true of Elas and that many were men of military competence, integrity and high purpose.

Unfortunately, even when Citrine does make his final report, it will carry no great conviction. Sir Walter's previous chameleon work in this direction, his Russian Diary, his Finnish Diary, and his American Diary, have all shown only too well how easily his legal mind adapts itself to the propaganda needs of the time.

AMNESTY PROMISES TORN UP

War Commentary pointed out in its last issue that the government's purpose was to secure time, to delay and allay popular reaction here by devices like the T.U. delegation. Under cover of this, reactionary forces in Athens would institute a White Terror. This view turns out to be only too correct. Reuter's diplomatic correspondent in Athens stated that:

A splendid example of working class solid-arity is being given in the Palace Collicry

the Duke of Hamilton's grounds. The men

have been on strike since January 5th., and have only worked two shifts since the New Year holidays. Their struggle has been

very difficult because they have received

only meagre assistance from other pits. This is due to the fact that they have

not set up any form of propaganda committee

to state their case to the public and to other

miners in the district. If they made such an

appeal they would receive many willing work-

ers in their cause. Another reason for the small support is the interference of union offi-

cials and some managements when honest

workers attempt to collect money at the pit

but are prevented because of various reasons. The old cry of "war effort" though wearing

thin, is very discouraging still in this respect.

There is also the threat of victimization which

is still a reality despite what the authorities

may say to the contrary. Nevertheless, sup-

port is rallying and this fight may become a

machineman was sent to other work on an-

other shift. A newcomer to the pit had been put on his job. To thoughtless people this

might seem a very simple thing, not worth striking about. But to miners who are com-

pelled by the circumstances surrounding their

job to watch out for incidents like this one,

there is a very deep principle involved. Fur-

thermore, there is no telling when or where

The strike began when a coal-cutting

broad issue

Many miners at other pits want to help,

This pit, as its name suggests, is on

self at a disadvantage in casual conversation with more or less educated Greeks, because the British are automatically taken as opponents of all Left Wing ideas and as prepared to encourage their suppression by every means, Attempts to correct (sic) this assumption or explain the social and political structure and trends of wartime Britain are met with either scepticism or alarm, according to the listener's political attitude.

The Greeks are not altogether fools. On Janpary 19th, Eden "emphasized that the only people liable to prosecution in Greece would be those guilty of crimes against the penal code or the laws of war, and that no political arrests would be made." To underline this promise of amnesty, the headlines (News Chronicle, 20/1/45) read: "Eden Reaffirms Pledges on Greek Amnesty-Plastiras Makes a Promise-No Punishment for Bearing Arms"

In Athens since then several people have been sentenced to death for taking part in the recent fighting, "for carrying arms against the State". (Reynolds News, 4/2/45). Reynolds adds, "These are the first trials by a military court since Greece was liberated. No quislings or pro-Nazi traitors have been tried."

A FAVOURABLE SIGN

There is one hopeful sign. The Greek gov-ernment have thought it wise to start some trials of collaborationists. It doesn't look too well to be trying those who fought the German occupation, while those who collaborated with it still remain untried. So there will be some collaborationist trials soon in Athens, probably beginning with the quisling Prime Minister (German quisling, we mean) John Rallis. It is very distasteful to see one set of quislings denouncing and executing another for the greater glory of their imperialist masters. Moreover the present situation shows the function of these trial-shows. They serve to give an appearance of impartiality, of striking the right as well as the left. cover of such "justice" the work of liquidating the leaders of popular resistance goes on ruthlessly and efficiently.

EAM supporters continue to be sacked from

their employment—that is, handed over to starvation, and the prisons are filled to capacity. le, as a safeguard for the future, a new

the management would stop if they were

is the demand of the miners for the removal

of the manager and some of his lackeys. Manager Davies is a rigid disciplinarian. His

deputies and firemen were in fear of him, and

it was not a very unfamiliar piece of news to

find in the paper that a miner was charged

with striking one of this manager's subordin-

ates. There was definitely bad feeling between the men and his underlings, simply be-

cause of the way-at his instructions-they

goaded the men on. On one occasion he

threatened the men by saying that he wished

the war was over as he could then bring in

more discipline and thereby get his revenge on

ed affairs existed at this colliery that during

one dispute even the union leaders threatened

action against this man. In one statement issued from Miners' headquarters they said

that they demanded his dismissal. But they

did nothing about it, and he still remains.

The men are now taking action at last for

themselves, and are determined to displace

The newspapers earefully refrain from men-

tioning anything about this man, and content

themselves with saying that "there are other

issues involved besides the one concerning the

machineman." Of course, the newspapers

cannot be expected to say anything on behalf

of the men. It is well known that they play

on one side only. Their part in reporting

this strike is a truly dispicable one. They

keep strictly to the line of sabotaging the

miners' case. Yesterday, Sunday, January

28th, they reported that the men were de

ciding to go back to work. This is an uld

trick-there is not the slightest evidence that

their report is true. The Hamilton Advertiser

stated that a majority of the branch committee

recommended a return to work. But they

failed to gain anything from this low

manœuvre. In January 28th, at a meeting

the "Palace" miners voted solidly to continue

him-more power to their arm

It should be noted here that such a state

miners who were "giving him trouble"

One other important issue in this dispute

allowed to get away with things like this.

law has been introduced providing for the investigation of the past history of every Greek officer. This will ensure that only diehard reactionaries get into the officer class, that the army will be a thoroughly reliable weapon for the Greek ruling class.

But the collaborator trials show that the government is having to take some stock of public feeling. An even more favourable sign is that none of the ELAS men sentenced to death (in the teeth of the amnesty) has yet been

JAILED FOR SOLIDARITY

A soldier recently was sentenced to 16 months detention for being absent without leave for . . , only 30 days. a reason for so savage a sentence, but it is not that the victim had behaved in a specially despicable manner. On the contrary he had acted in accordance with high ethical principles; but they were working class principles, and as such received the venom of the ruling class.

The soldier, Private A. Lambert, a middleaged man of 44, who doubtless remembered the General Strike of seventeen years ago, had taken part in the recent Manchester Gas Strike—for which some of his comrades were fined, and then gaoled for refusing to pay up. He was absent without leave from November 18th to December 18th of last year, and told the court martial that his conscience would not allow him to help break a strike in the Cardiff Dockyard last November. Rather than do anything against his fellow workers in the docks he went to stay with friends until the strike was over.

The court must have realized that a spirit of solidarity like that, and a refusal to break the working class code of ethics, if allowed to spread, would constitute a deadly blow to the upholders of class injustice. How bitterly they felt about it is reflected in the vindictive sentence of sixteen months detention. But honest men and workers will feel their hearts warmed by Lambert's spirited action.

THE much heralded meeting be-

tween Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin is not taking place under very auspicious circumstances. The military victories in the West, in the East and in the Pacific put the Allied Powers, it is true, in a stronger position than ever before but the problems created by the process of "liberation" and the prospects of peace are likely to cast a shadow on the victories.

The people, will, of course, be left guessing as to the nature of the discussions and the decisions reached by the Big Three during their conference.

Even if we are not told what is going on at the conference we can nevertheless have a good guess. The fact that no smaller nation has been invited clearly indicates that they will have to accept the decisions of the Big Three, whether they like it or not. Many small nations will not, of course accept this without putting up a fight for what they consider their rights and one can foresee endless conflicts. Already General de Gaulle, who feels sore at not having been invited to the conference, has declared: "We have let our Allies know that France will not regard itself as bound by any arrangement which she has not discussed and approved on equal terms with the other Powers".

The growing power of Russia cannot be regarded as exerting a progressive influence and as she is the strongest power as far as Europe is concerned one is forced to watch her policy with particular care and anxiety. Up to now the Union of Socialist Republics has been carrying on a policy of territorial annexations together with the setting up of right wing quisling governments in those countries which she has been unable to annex. The case of Poland does not need to be mentioned again. In

Hungary, Bulgaria and Right wing elements are given full support while genuine working class movements are suppressed.

Czechoslovakia is the latest country to have been told, in no uncertain terms, that she must toe the line or else lose some of her territory. The Ukrainian Government at Kiev had carried out some agitation for the annexation of Sub-Carpathian Ruthenia which had apparently "demanded" to be incorporated in the U.S.S.R. As one knows the autonomous republies of the Soviet Union have now the right to carry on an independent foreign policy. When the alarmed Dr. Benes approached Moscow on this matter the Soviet Government denied any responsibility for the demands put forward by the Kiev Government and declared that it felt itself bound to its pledge to restore Czechoslovakia to her pre-Munich frontiers. The Observer furthermore reported that "The Russian Government is believed to have assured President Benes that the campaign will be stopped immediately."

This incident is interesting because it shows that the autonomous republics can be used to put forward claims which the Soviet Government cannot decently sponsor. Their independence is a myth since a call to order from Moscow is sufficient to make them alter their policy.

It is probable that the Kiev demands were put forward to blackmail the Czech Government into accepting the Russian controlled Lublin committee. A few days after an assurance had been given to Dr. Benes that no Czech territory would be touched it was announced that the Czechoslovak Government would recognise the Lublin Provisional Government of Poland.

Through force and intrigue Russia

More about the Warsaw Rising

Eye Witness Account

STALIN'S government and its stooges at Lub-In are already trying to besmirch the rising in September in Warsaw by means of "new investigations". No new investigation however will alter the fact that Moscow urged the necessity of the rising right up to August, promised aid, and then diverted the Red Army's advance to Warsaw, sent no useful arms and even denied landing grounds for British and American supply planes. They dubbed the rising "criminal".

Now they are on a new tack. General Bor, says Moscow, is being well treated by the Germans, lives comfortably. This proves—according to these scribes—that Bor was a Hitler agent. We do not know what Bor's politics are. we do know that the Stalinists are using a filthy device here. Do not they treat Von Seydlitz and Von Paulus well-however much they reviled them in the past? Did not General Mont-gomery breakfast with Von Thoma, the butcher

A young Polish officer, Lt. Jan Novak, who is said to have conveyed the signal for the rising from London to Warsaw, has told the other side of the story in the News Chronicle (27/1/45).

"My wife and I were once gathered with 300 Polish patriots in a building overlooked by Germans, but they did not interfere with Posters were openly displayed in the city declaring that 'the day is coming',

"We knew the Red Army was near. I had seen their tanks and their soldiers and we thought liberty was very near. We believed that our rising would last only three or four days and we heard incessantly the roar of Russian guns. Russian patriots were in Praga. Then Russian fighters and bombers came over the city and only the Herman Goering divisions remained east of the Vistula. At 5 p.m. on August 1st the rising began. By ten o'clock 18 German tanks had been knocked out and most of the city, except for Praga and Lubeski and the German strongpoints within it, was in our hands,

"Not only the Underground army but the whole civilian population had risen. There was a terrible battle on the banks of the Vistuls, but help did not come, and at length a deathly silence fell—we heard no longer the sound of Russian guns and planes.

"On August 10th the German offensive began: their planes flew over and machinegunned and bombed the city, and guns which they had used at Sebastopol began its destruction. We were afraid of using our dwindling munitions."

The News Chronicle report continues: "Lt. Novak said they had heard Russian wireless messages asking the Poles to rise, and stated that a Russian Intelligence officer, Capt. Kalugan, of the Czerny Group, was in Warsaw in contact with General Bor. On August 5th, this Russian officer sent a wireless message for transmission, through London, to Moscow. The messagethe text of which he gave-asked for automatic guns, arms, ammunition, grenades and anti-tank weapons, and added: 'The heroic population of Warsaw trust that in a few hours' time you will give them armed support. Help me to get in touch with Gen. Rokossovsky.'

'This telegram reached Gen. Sonkowski on August 6th, and was handed to Gen. Sir Alan Brooke, from who Gen. Bor learned, on August 9th, Lt. Novak said there was no reply, although Kalugan remained in Warsaw for six weeks.

'After a while,' he added, 'we began to lose hope'." Lt. Novak continued his narrative:
"We heard nothing from the Russians until September 10th, when their fighters came

over, and at night their bombers dropped supplies. But the ammunition they gave us was of no use, because it was Russian, and we were using German weapons. The supplies which we received from Allied aircraft from Italy fell for the most part into German

"Six times the Germans called on us to surrender. On September 30th Gen. Bor sent a telegram to Gen. Rokossovsky saying that our situation was hopeless and that he could hold out only another 24 hours. But there

Bevin Boys Line Up!

A considerable period has now elapsed since the beginning of the so-called 'Bevin boys" scheme, heralded by the yellow press as the one and only solution to the ills which beset the mining industry. So it is perhaps appropriate to review the situation from the point of view of the Bevin boys themselves.

Lately, Fleet Street in general and the News Chronicle in particular, remembering that most of their readers (luckily for them!) have short memories, have been discovering that like their brothers in other industries-only more so-many of the Bevin boys are not at all patriotic, and that some -well, some are downright rebellious! At Durham, for instance, fifty Bevin boys have 'disappeared', while 1,100 summonses are to be issued against those who have dared to take (like Parliament, only they took a month) ten days off at Christmas. We can imagine how busy the Labour Exchange bureaucrats must be, particularly the gallant 'Major' who seems to be a well known (and well hated) figure at most Bevin boy establishments!

Worse even than their general unkindness towards Capital on the part of the Bevin boys is the fact that their arrival at certain collieries has destroyed the 'one big happy family' feeling which, the capitalist press would have us believe, hitherto existed between masters and slaves. Division of Labour! Anarchists, however, should thank Gauleiter Ernest for the one piece of good he has ever done, albeit unintentionally! His slavish scheme has made thousands of youths reach several important conclusions -reached by the hard way of personal experience-conclusions concerning conditions of which they had previously heard the vaguest rumour only.

Firstly, the Bevin boys are beginning to realize that they are living under a system akin to that in Germany and that England, the "land of the free" is rapidly becoming a policeman's paradise. The difference between British and German Fascism being that over here they sugar the pill a little more with the aid of 'socialists' and 'com-

Secondly, that the miners far from being cowards and rotters as the Bourgeois press would have people believe, are brave workers and good comrades.

Thirdly, and most important of all, it has led many of them to consider means for changing the present system and of elaborating new methods of struggle against it. As a result, Bevin will yet have cause to regret adopting the scheme, if he does not do so

VIVIAN BIRD,

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Take advantage of this offer to introduce the strike. And they are still on strike. new readers in the Services J. CARRACHER.

Palace Colliery Dispute

An Example of Working Class Solidarity

FORTNIGHTLY M

WAR COMMENTARY

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Background to Big

Mackground to 161g
Meeting (comined from p. 1)
seems to have succeeded up to now in
having her own way in all the countries surrounding her.
In countries which are stronger and
further away from Russia its influence
makes itself felt in a more subtle way.
In France in particular, it is thanks to
a series of rapid and well-executed
somersaults by the Communist Party
that Russia has manceuvred the
French Government into a position
which is favourable to her.
The rescently signed Russian-French

French. Convenient into a position which is favourable to her.

The recently signed Russian-French race is secret but it must have given satisface in secret but it must have given satisface in secret but it must have given satisface and secret but it must have given satisface between the french satisface and secret but it must have given satisface between the free given full support to de Gaulle as soon as he came back from Moscow. Up to the treaty the Communist Party was often critical of de Gaulle and his government. Jacques Duelos, secretary of the Party blamed de Gaulle for the disorders in France; he declared "since the Government is too slow in earrying out the pure, people naturally of the secretary of the Party blamed de Gaulle and Picrlot for attempting to disarm the resistance movements in France and in Belgium.

Now that de Gaulle has come hack with a treaty in his pocket and the Red Pope's blessing the French Communist Party stands solidly behind him. Thorex, the prominent communist leader just back from Moscow, advocated that all arms beld by former members of the Maquis should be that "Public security must be assured by regular police force constituted for this purpose".

In spite of the Communists withdrawing from the opposition and the drawing from the opposition and the product of the proposition and the product of th

this purpose".

In spite of the Communists withdrawing from the opposition outspoken criticism of de Gaulle was expressed by the Movement of National
Liberation (M.L.N.). An arricle in
their paper Combut (31st Jan.) attacked both de Gaulle's policy and the
Communist's.

Communist's.

To-day, when De Gaulle returns from Mosow with a paet about which we know little all also with assurances of social tranquility, hose consequences are already evident, when the consequences are already evident, when farin (Conservative Isater) are fully agreed on a policy which leads to the abandonment of all revolutionary aims, are they men who are preserved their toughness and obstinacy of follow the current, or to try to swim against.

What are the workers, disappointed by their uty, thinking? What are the trade unions omanding? What does the great majority of e French nation expect? What are the aims of our young men, for whom the only overnment attention has been calling-up

verement attention has been calling-up mediately two must be finished and me, but in order to obtain the abolition of the vision of mour, the socialisation of credit of key industries. On an international scale of the common and the internationalisation of the surgest to zero materials. He support of the Gaullet of the support of the Gaullet of the communists a lot of the popularity hey lave in France. It is significant they have in France. It is significant into the communistic and the constraints.

groups the Communist forces of the crisitance.

All these machinations are cervied and the power-lineary politicans while the control of a semicar writen as in France or to famine conditions as in Italy, Greece and Poland. While Friontiers are "adjusted" round green tables, riots are crushed by the police, hungry workers are shot, revolution-aries are put in prison by the thou-

aries are put in prison by the thousand.

It is difficult to find reasons for optimism anywhere. The World Trade Union Congress now being held demonstration of international solid-arity which could give hope to mankind. The representatives sitting there are the faithful servants of the ruling classes whether capitalist or stalinist. Their decisions will not be essentially different from these different from the constraint of the faithful servants of the ruling classes whether capitalist or stalinist. Their decisions will not be essentially different from these constraints. Wasn't Churchill gloing to preside over the Conference?

Aren't the Russian delegates Stalin's mouthpieces?

Didn't the C.I.O. representative support Roosevelt's election?

As far as the workers are concerned beld together—it middle not have made the slightest difference.

Murder, Justice and Society

THE capitalist press has given great prominence to the "Cleft Chin" murder trial, whose outcome was the death sentence for two young people, an 18-year-old girl and an American soldier of 2z. This brutal murder was the result of an association between two people whose youth had already endured sortid and demoralizing privations in their home lives. Society's "solution" is even more degenerate.

Betty Jone's childhood was entirely drab, amid-unemployment in South Wales. She won a scholarship, but as her father was on the dole and a scholarship, but as her father was on the dole with the second of the sec

and areary routine association and areary routine association was disappointment and depression to this young life.

Married at 16 (it is said, in order to escape from the approved school; the association was from the approved school; the association was considered as a second of the second of t

HULTEN'S BACKGROUND

Hulten's background is similar. His parents separated when he was very young, in an atmos-

FREEDOM PRESS LECTURES

SUNDAY MEETINGS

Commencing at 6.45 p.m.
to be held at the
HOLBORN HALL
[Second Boor, Room 4)
Greys Inn Road, London
[Buses 38, 19; Trolley 555, 581, 613, 621,
Tube: Helborn, Chancary Lane)

11th Feb. Ron Avery THE SOCIAL FUNCTIONS OF ART 18th February Tom Carlile THE MINERS' FIGHT

25th February Ernest Silverman ENGLISH JUSTICE

phere of family strike which is an uppersion as perione for any child. When he beasses a prevent of the perione for any child. When he beasses a prevent of the perione of the perion of the period of

subjected and specially trained.

The environment of Hulten and Betty Jones—which they could neither condition nor control—had defeated any supersions they may have had. Their lives frustrated them by their drabness. Their crime was indeed serold, but what he suspense of judicial proceedings during which they were urged by their advisers to denounce one another. And the outcome: cold, deliberate extinction by judicial hanging. People who read the press are shocked by the brustility of the murder. If they could clearly visualise the

Little Known English Anarchists

Some of the letter house photoers of our moreOf that of prolevirus origin, Don Chatters
ton stands our. He attracted more attention
than others of the time, at least a for as mortion in contemporary books goes. But he was
able to all mercing of the advanced sections of
the social movement, where he told Preceden,
also at all meetings of the advanced sections of
the social movement, where he told Preceden,
also of all men fittle production. Chatteron's
Arbeistic Communitatic Scorcher, of which the
British Museum possesses a full late. He usually
mont by rapidly amounting his paper as "An
appeal to the All-starved, herring-putted,
porty-stricking, parish-damond inhabitants of this
The paper appeared in pamplat form where

dis-united kingdom"!

The paper appeared in pamphiel form where ever he was able to issue it in curious. He usually held a meeting in Hyde Park, and then sold his paper—por there were no retrietions on the sale of literature in the Park in those days. It was also much easier to talk in paper—with a surface to the work of the sale of literature in the Park in those days. It was also much easier to sale literature was always vigerous and he never failed to draw a crowd.

Dan Chatterton

for he had no machine!

Richard Whiteing, in his once famous novel
No. 5 Ioth Steet, makes Chatterton one of his
No. 5 Ioth Steet, makes Chatterton one of his
and ways of his paper, "The journal, if I may be
performed the figurestion, has no circulation, yet
is supports it, as he supports it. It is baught
person who have in view an interpentive donation to the British Museum. Many who purgrain who have in view an interpentive donation to the British Museum. Many who purtioning the proprietion and mit. It has every note
of singularity. It is printed on paper of the
texture commonly used for potenty, and of the
of the first standard; its syntax aspress to the
perfect freedom of the Amachinal ideal. It is
easy from a composite fount suggestive of the
containing so make a proportion of capitals that
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they sometimes have to take service out of their
than a large site of figures to the
perfect freedom of the characteristic prophes the
teach of the Chariter issue, and "Crownwell"
call sa a quality of substrainment. To the intaked, however, these are but so many incarpa-

DEFENCE OF THE REVOLU

ANARCHISM AND PACIFISM

There is a minority of revolutionary pacifix, who recognise the class set-up in society and desire for a complete change in the gloral system. Their attitude is to advocate revolution by non-violent methods by production the production of the pro

AGAINST MILITARISM

We agree with the pacifist in wanting a world in which will be a been also belief, but we recognise that the State itself and wildered are belief, but we recognise that the State itself and been so that the state itself and the property of the state of

To oppose the State is not enough. Annechus are just as more of the propose the State is not enough, Annechus are just as more of the state is not enough. Annechus are just as more of the state is not enough of the state in the state of th

THE DEFENCE OF THE REVOLUTION

We realise our duty to defend the gains made by the workers, but we also realise our duty to expore and strongle against those who would creet a new kind of typinary "Mode against these who would creet a new kind of typinary "Mode and the state of the

offices of Makhano in the Ukraine in 1917, of Zapata in Mexico III and the Charles in 1917 a peasant force of "irregulary" in 1918 were of din instrucing the control of the Charles in 1917 a peasant force of "irregulary" in the Charles in 1917 a peasant force of "irregulary" in the Charles in 1918 and the Charles in 1918 and settled into an insurgent force and the Charles in 1918 and peasants keeping the Governmenta on the Charles in 1918 and peasants keeping the Governmenta on the Charles in 1918 and the Charles in 1918 to 1918 and peasants keeping the Governmenta on the Charles in 1918 and the Charles in 1918 to 1918 and peasants keeping the Government on the Charles in 1918 to 1918 and the Charles in 1918 to 191

pline" was possible.

The distinct principal of the Worker's Militia in Spain was not due to their method of organisation, but was due parify to the other method of organisation, but was due parify to the state of the workers. Added to this was the toolstion of the Spainds Amarcho-syndicalists when creatived very like organisation of the workers. Added to this was the toolstion of the Spainds Amarcho-syndicalists when creatived very like organisation of the state of the workers fought the ill-armed and poorly equipped Spainds workers foughts to the state of the workers, who realized that now they had far less to fall ter.

Unconditional

of the Gardy who sacked Rome Surreened Surreened Surreened Brunnam was being

pole, some twenty-three centuries later, the inited Democratic Nations" fling the law of sword in the face of the oppressed people der Nazi rale, in the shape of "unconditional render". And because the suffering people anot pay in gold and cash, they are threatened the deportation to England, America or Russia, ere they will serve as labour slaves, and work "voluntere co-operators" for the "generous" ge of seven shillings a week, or no wage at

all.

If these are the real meaning and aims of the "unconditional surrender" policy—and it would appear to be so—how then can we be surprised that the Germans are stubbornly defending their territory and fighting to the death rather than submit to mass deportations? If the fate of the German people is likely to be that of slaves suffering and dying far from their native land, it is anatural that they should prefer to suffer and die at home.

"WARNING" AGAINST
POLITICAL ACTIVITIES
BUT NOT FOR GENERAL
SCOBIE!

Mr. Print asked the Secretary of State for
War whether he is aware that A.C.I. No. 1527,
of 1944, which asserts that it is an offence
against King's Regulations for all ranks to permut their names to be published for political
purposes or to sign public petitions, circulars
and appeals dealing with political matters, has
no justification in law, and whether he will have
this misrepresentation of the legal position withdrawn.

this misrepresentation of the legal position with-drawn.

Sir J. Grigg: The A.C.I. referred to does not make the assertion mentioned in the first part of the hon, and learned Member's Question. It says in effect that an officer or soldier who per-mits his name or opinion on a Service matter to be published for political purposes or adds, or allows his name to be handed to a public peti-tion, circular or appeal dealing with political matters, may be held to have contravened the King's Regulations. The question whether in a particular instance there has been a contra-vention of those Regulations is one for deter-mination by the responsible military authority. The second part of the Question, therefore does not arise.

The second part of the Question, therefore does not arise.

Mr. Pritt: Does not the right hon. Gentleman agree that it is almost impossible for any intelligent lawyer to suggest that the matters suggested in the first part of the Army Council Instruction could be offences at all; and is it not just a blackmailing threat?

Sir J. Grigg: It is not in the least a threat; it is a warning.

Mr. Shiwsell: Does the prohibition of the expression of political opinions by Army officers, apply to General Scobie, who recently expressed opinions about minorities in Greece?

Hansard, 16/1/45.

Himmler's Fourth Front

A refugee German industrialist, Mr. Walter Locb, addressing the guests of honour at some banquet at the Savoy Hotel—who happened to be a couple of Labourite "leaders", Mr. Arthur Greenwood and Mr. James Walker—boasted that "the Germans have only one virtue—they know how to obey". The German "industrialist", however, did not himself appear to have much faith in such racial virtues, and hastened to suggest the intervention of the Britannic mailed fist, adding: "You should know how to command."

to suggest the intervention of the Britannic mailed fist, adding: "You should know how to command".

Not even Himmler, the chief of the Gestapo, believes in the servility of the German people. It has been said that some years before the war he made the following statement: "In the event of war, we shall have a land front, a sea front and an air front; we shall have also a fourth front, that of Germany herself, and this internal theatre of var will be the decisive one".

In order to hold down the conscripted people in the army as well as in the industrial field, Himmler has at his disposal an army of some 4,000,000 gangsters (S.S., Gestapo, etc.), to cope with any rebellion. Himmler knows that the only serious and permanent danger to all totalitarian régimes comes from the masses' natural aspiration towards freedom, and not from the plots of dissatisfied generals or politicians.

The example set by Italy suffices to show that a totalitarian régime can be overthrown only by the popular will and not by plots or palace revolts. Plots can be dealt with: by Mussolni and Stalin, as well as by Hitler and Himmler. It is well known that the Nazis are carefully organising for the extermination as hostages of large sections of the German people as well as of conquered peoples and of war prisoners, in readiness for the day when they will abandon the occupied territories on the activity of the residues of the day when they will abandon the occupied territories on the fourth front, the last entrenchment of the Nazis, will rise in revolt against their oppressors.

The Call of the "Liberators"

For years the "liberators" have been calling upon the people under Nazi rule to revolt. Indeed, the call is but a matter of routine, and when they do revolt, they are bombed from the air, as was the case with the workers of Milan, Turin and Genoa who were demonstrating against Badoglio, demanding peace; or they are

abbed in the back on the gro

Business as Usual While

The Indian Government has been making the headlines in the financial columns recently. Apparents it is making an offer to buy 111 miles of railway owned by the Assam Railways and Trading Co., the price that is mentioned is £1,770,000

The news that this sale might come off has produced considerable activity amongst the business sharks. Just before the war the price of a unit of the "A" stock was £14, to-day the same unit is priced at £106. And the "B" stock, which will only be paid out after the "A" is satisfied, has made even more startling gains. In 1942 it was priced at £5, to-day it stands at £66, this includes a trebling in value during the last six months.

Pretty good business, especially so seeing that the biokes who will profit by it probably have never done a useful day's work in their lives. What about the Indian workers, out of whose sweat and toil the Indian Government will pay for this transaction? A lot of important information about conditions during last year's Indian Famine was probably suppressed, but it is at least an indication of the state of affairs if men are so hungry that the only way they can eat is to join the army. But still, what are a million Indians starved to death compared with the profits of a couple of hundred bushedden? Carre on, Business as Usual! with the profits of a couple of hundred shareholders? Carry on Business as Usual!

THE PRICE THE MINERS PAY

An article in Picture Post (27/1/45) may perhaps bring home to supporters of the "law and order" of eapitalism some of its consequences for those whom the need for wages, and now the threat of Ministry of Labour Direction Orders as well, drives into the

mines.

The Picture Post article tells how the eleven miners who made up the Glyaneath Football team for 1929-1930 have subsequently fared. One man is dead (of pneumonia at the age of 23), three are hopelessly injured, and the remaining seven are totally or partially ineapacitated by silicosis. Fifteen years ago they were all bealthy athletic men; now not one of them is able to carn a full wage. And all

place in the mines, and which could be practi-cally climinated if the conditions of coal mining were not determined by the needs of property and profit.

Seven have fallen victim to silicosis—"stone lung" as it is gruesomely called—a discusse caused by the inhalation of fine particles of stone dust into the lungs. It is mostly found in anthracite mines, but also affects workers in certain types of quarry, some work in pottery, and most rapidly fatal of all, sand-blasters and steel grinders. (In Sheffield the discase is known as "grinders' discase"). The father of two brothers in the football team died of silicosis at the age of 46...

Though elifornic hours long here recognized.

team died of silicosis at the age of 46...

Though silicosis has long been recognized as an industrial disease, sufferers used to have the greatest difficulty in getting certified, and so getting compensation. The position became finally untenable and the Government instituted a Coal Mining Industry (Preumoconiosis) Compensation Scheme which came into force in July 1st, 1943. Even this is far from satisfactory. During the first year of the scheme, the Silicosis Medical Board received 4,762 applications for certification. Of these 1,328 were certified, 1,158 refused, and 2,235 remain undecided still. It is calculated

men a year and will continue to do so unless greater preventive measures are taken quickly. What happens to those who are disabled or discased by mining? Picture Post sava: "Compensation for disablement is quite inalequate. In the case of total disablement due to accident or industrial disease, advances are made on a basic rate of 39!—up to \$5!—for the first 13 weeks of ineapacity, and 65!—therealiter. A widow receives \$400, or \$700 if she has children.

if she has changed,

"In the case of partial incapacity, the rate
is based on half the difference between the
miner's carmings before the accident or illness,
and what he is carming, or could theoretically
carn, in light employment on the surface, or
outside the collicry. Thus, if a miner's
former wage was \$25, and his wage on the new
job \$4, his compensation would be \$10/~
Supplementary allowances would only add a
shilling or two."

A point to remember is that ELAS is com-posed of Trotskyites.

posed of Trotskyites.
Get this clear too.

Now you know why the Daily Worker is so strongly in favour of ELAS.

That too is why Joe Stalin has been in the hull with Winston Churchill, and has been so long in fixing up a meeting.

Joe Stalin did not know what Winston Churchill meant by sending arms to the Trotskyites.

Was it to enable the Trotskyites to fight the Communists?

WHO IS WHO?



THE END OF A POLICE

CHIEF
Angelo Chiappe, the former police prefect, who was sentenced to death on December 23 on a charge of intelligence with the enemy, was shot at 8 a.m. to-day in the courtyard of the Central Prison at Nimes. He was the brother of the late Paris prefect, Jean Chiappe, who died in a Palane crash in 1942 while returning to his post at Beirut as High Commissioner under Vichy.

Manchester Guardian, 25/1/45.

THE PRICE OF LIBERATION

THE PRICE OF LIBERATION IN FRANCE

France is to-day nearer to starvation level than at any moment during the whole war. This near-famine was not what Frenchmen expected of liberation. Coming in the sixth month after the Allied arrival, it suggests a grave lack of Anglo-American foresight.

Though French rations are, officially, much what they were under the Germans, they are much less often obtainable. In no recent week has an adult in Paris been sure of his four-and-shalf ounces of sugar or his two ounces of fat. The daily average of calories purchasable on the open market, which was 1,722 in October, had fallen to 1,418 in December. The January figure will be lower. The very old and the very young suffer most. At Nanterre, in the famous home for the aged, there were 3,500 inmates a year ago, there are now only just over 2,000. The inadequate fat ration has been a death sentence.

Two English visitors who called at a Paris

sentence.

Two English visitors who called at a Paris creche in January found that 17 babies had died of cold that morning.

The Observer, 4/2/45. In other words the French people are economically worse off than they were under German rule. What explanation does Churchill offer for that? He can't blame ELAS this view.

CENSOR AT WORK AGAIN



WHAT'S THE FUSS ABOUT?

"The idea of meeting Communist leaders at a conference is most repugnant even to men as broadminded as the Regent of Greece."

This is an extract from a message sent by Mr. Leeper, British Ambassador in Athens, to Mr. Eden, and printed in a White Paper issued last with the property of the property of

Daily Mirror, 1/2/45.

This is a very tactless remark on the part of the British Ambassador. Surely if Churchill and Roosevelt can meet the greatest Communist leader, Comrade Stalin, without feeling any repugnance the Regent of Greece should not be so fussy.

MORE STRIKES AND UNEMPLOYMENT

UNEMPLOYMENT
Just over twice as many working days were lost through industrial disputes last year as in 1943.

The number of disputes involving stoppages of work was 2.185, compared with 1.785 in the previous year. The number of workers involved was 850,000 against 560,000 in 1943.

The coal industry accounted for more than half the stoppages and for two-thirds of the number of days lost.

October saw a rise in the number of unemployed—93,300 compared with 86,500 in October, 1943.

News Chronicle, 1/2/45.

ALL IS WELL IN AUSTRALIA

ALL IS WELL IN AUSTRALIA

The question whether the Duke of Gloucester is to be regarded in Australia primarily as Royalty or as Governor-General seems to be settled by the procedure adopted at his swearing-in at Canberra.

When he leaves the converted and modernised squatter's home which is his official residence, his car will fly his own standard. When he returns after the ceremony which makes him Australia's first Royal Governor-General, this will appear also on his airplanes (the Duke will have three at his disposal).

Nevertiseless the Duke's own standard will fly over his Canberra and Sydney residences.

Beening Standard, 30/1/45.

MOSCOW RIGHT WING

sharply realising the mistake (of thinking that Poland could be independent). This has been newly illustrated

been newly illustrated by a strong appeal made this week to his countrymen by M. Stanislaw Grabskis in a pamphlet under the eloquent title "Nil Desperandum." M. Grabski has for more than half a century been the leading light of the nationalist Right. He accompanied M. Mikolajczyk in his visits to Moscow last year and resigned from the chairmanship of the Polish National Council when Mikolajczyk left office. His pamplet is a firm and persuasive plea—the most outspoken so far—for a genuine and radical reconciliation with Russia. The plea is addressed primarily to the Polish Right Wing; it is made from a purely nationalist viewpoint and it advocates the Polish frontier on the Neisse and the Oder: but it will undoubtedly strongly stir Polish public opinion.

opinion.

Another instance of the swing in favour of co-operation with Russia is the adherence of General Szeptycki to the Lublin Committee. General Szeptycki to the Lublin Committee. General Szeptycki is one of the most prominent Polish generals and Minister of War in many Polish Governments. He, too, is of the Nationalist Right Wing tendency.

The Observer, 4/2/45.

While Stalin gains support amongst the re-actionaries in the countries he occupies the workers are submitted to the ruthless Soviet

ALLIES

Very late in the day

some leading Poles are sharply realising the mistake (of thinking that Poland could be independent). This has

Press Through

IN BELGIUM

IN BELGIUM

All the intense political activity here takes place against a grim background. The food position, allied with a fuel shortage of appalling magnitude, has now produced a crisis situation. Even the slender bread ration has been practically distributed, and the complete cutting off of electricity and gas during the day is adding to the hardships of the Brussels population. In starfling contrast has been the revival in its grossest and most indecent form of the black market. Well-known black market restaurants are open with eggs, chicken, rabbit, and coffee available. Meantime, the civilian hospitals complain of totally inadequate supplies.

The black market toute carry on their business openly. For coal the current black market price x about 10,000 frances per ton.

On Monday and Tuesday, in the biting weather, the plight of families in the working-class districts, under-nourished as they are and entirely without fuel, was pathetic. Fortunately Wednesday brought the thaw, and a welcome rise in the temperature has continued. Neverthiess, it is impossible to overrate the seriousness of the present position.

The Observer, 4/2/45.

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

Trade Unions are expected to provide £120,000 of the Socialist Party's fighting fund for the General Election. To the current income of Transport House they contribute £8 for every £1 contributed by Socialist political organisations. How many Parliamentary seats will be allotted them in reward for these lavish donations? Evening Standard, 2/2/45.

While money subscribed by Trade Unionists is used in the parliamentary racket strikers are refused strike subsidy by their unions.

RIOTS IN ITALY

More riots have broken out in Italy—this time in Graffignana, near Rome. Hundreds of people demonstrated outside the town hall, protesting against the appointment of the mayor, says a message from Rome.

The carabinieri were called out and fired on the crowd. Six people were wounded.

Bombs were thrown on Saturday in Naples and Cagliari. One policeman was killed.

News Chronicle, 23/1/45.

RUSSIAN ARITHMETIC

RUSSIAN ARITHMETIC

The Russians must realise that we are not all schoolchildren in the West. If we are at times sceptical of Russian figures and reports it is not necessarily due to ill-will but to the somewhat extravagant conception of numerical accuracy in Soviet military reports. For example, if one adds up Russia's official figures of German losses they reach the staggering total of more than nine million killed and taken prisoner and about 20 million wounded. Our only defence against such inflation is constant scepticism. Moscow might note that.

Tribune, 2/2/45.

ITALIAN ARMISTICE

The Italian Government has informed the Allies that Italy can no longer comply with the financial provisions of the armistice. The armistice terms have not yet been published, but it is understood that Italy was to bear the cost of the occupation by the Allied armies. When the terms were drawn up, however, it was not foreseen that a long and exhausting war would be fought on Italian soil, and it is not surprising that the Italian Government is now asking for credits to enable it to carry on. The truth is that the situation in Italy is very bad.

Manchester Guardian, 2/2/45.

Mr. Eden threw further light on the matter when he came to speak; when he said: EAM does not exist any more, and what is left is just a hard Communist core; or if you like, Trot-skyite core." Obviously things are getting more and m complicated.

Communists? Who, then, are the Trotskyites? Obviously, they are the people who commit all the atrocities? But wait!

Ikonoblast in Forward, 27/1/45. JAILER COURSE FOR

'LIBERATORS" British officers who are to be placed in control of the German prison system are to take a course in penal administration in Wakefield Gaol, says the War Office.

When the course is over they will go to Lon-don to make a special study of the German prison system.

Sunday Dispatch, 28/1/45.

GOD IS ON OUR SIDE



"Almighty and most mereiful Father, we humbly beseech Thee of Thy great goodness to restrain these immoderate rains with which we have to contend. Grant us fair weather for battle. Graciously hearken to us as soldiers who call upon Thee that, armed with Thy power, we may advance to victory and crush the oppression and wickedness of our enemies and establish Thy justice among men and mations. Amen."

Since Christmas Day there have been considerable spells of excellent weather on the Third Army front. Snow and frost, across which armour can operate, replaced rain and mud.

Ecening Standard, 18/1/45.

Servicemen's Reactions to Freedom Press Raid

From a Lieut. in Italy.

You don't know how frustrated such an invasion of your office files, homes, etc., makes us feel out here when we have supposedly left home four and a half years ago, and country two and a half years ago, to ensure that such things should not happen in

From the Navy.

I am rather disgusted at the treatment meted out to you by Scotland Yard-they obviously consider that you are establishing yourselves too firmly and every time you establish yourselves so far they will probably think up some cat-mouse method of sending you back to the commencement again in the hope of tiring you out.

I am not in full agreement with your ideas but I must say that I consider it not only despicable but crass impertinence that in our socalled democracy they do not consider anyone apart from themselves mature enough or cap-able of analysing ideas and pronouncing judg-ment on them. What is so maddening is that these people do not even seem capable of this themselves. If they were children they might be called nasty, selfish little bullies: as so-called adults I'm afraid even a sailor's language fails to describe them.

Clashes with authorities

It is some time now since I last wrote to you but my interest in anarchism is still very much alive in spite of being in the forces for 14 months, in fact if anything my interest in the conquest for freedom has increased during this time. I've had the chance to see for myself what this foul war is really being fought

I have already had clashes with the authorities about my views and have been told in no uncertain way to keep them to myself. I think this is good enough proof that those in

authority don't want the rank and file to do too much thinking for themselves.

Freedom Press pamphlets not returned.

Last Monday the 22nd Jan., the Squadron Leader returned all my books and pamphlets excepting those which are published by Freedom Press. He said these were being held under Defence Regulation 94a. I signed for those I did receive in triplicate.

A couple of weeks ago a friend had his father's house searched in Darlington by a policeman, a redcap and an officer. He was searched also.

They have been trying to make things awkward for me here since I came out of detention. They chase me all the time. One morning the sergeant said to the fellows: "If any of these Anarchists or Communists come up to you and say f- fatigues, f- snow shovelling, you punch him on the nose. He is trying to stir up trouble." What a low mentality he must have!

[Defence Regulation 94a refers to seizure of printing presses. The squadron leader obviously didn't know what he was talking about .- Editors.]

Further Searches.

Since the raid on your offices I have not received a copy of War Commentary. My name and address is probably in the hands of our "wonderful police force" and consequently rather out of reach. Two of my friends are also in the same position.

You will be interested to know that this camp also had to submit to a search and various books were confiscated. The only light spot that I can see is that the government must be seared or such strong measures would not be put into effect.

Wishing you all the best in this New Year. S., R.E.M.E.

vice to the community by assisting in giving

publicity when these rights are trampled on whatever the authorities' pretext for so doing.

One final point. The law does not oblige

you to make or sign statements if requested to do so by a police officer. Nor need you

answer questions unless you want to of your own free will. These facts do not seem to be

generally known. The authorities already

have quite enough power without adding to it

the common man's ignorance of his "rights'

EXPERTS DISCUSSION ON CHILDREN

A CONFERENCE of experts has been meeting in London to discuss the social education and leisure of school children, and Dr. E. B. Strauss of St. Bartholomew's Hospital has expressed the view that there was a growing group of children who are incapable of loving anything or anybody and who needed leadership: "A very large proportion of urban chil-dren are already on the fringe of that group, if they do not fit into it," he said. "It finds destruction easier and more pleasurable than creation." Dr. Strauss was not the only one to put forward such reactionary ideas, other speakers complained that children left school with the idea only of making money. Other speakers pointed out that children did not get they had the arms, and there were few troops which the Government could rely on for police

To an extent many of the Canadian conscripts may be moved by French-Canadian nationalist feeling, but it is likely that that is not the only reason nor is that a reason which would appeal to all the conscripts concerned. The fact is that we are at the really war-weary stage of the that we are at the really war-weary stage of the war, when people are sick and tired of the holocaust, when even the most eloquent oratory of the tired old men in power fails to convince. The youth of to-day has had its blood sucked clean by the politicians of all countries. We are in the sixth year of war waste, and the majority of those who have been wasting their war and will have nothing afterwards. According to the News Chronicle (26/1/45) "From and the building of a society free from crime or

German Prisoners Obey!

IT seems that all the speeches made against Nazism, even those made only since Sentember 1939, have been of little avail in persuading British farmers of the vices of the Nazi system. The farmers cried out against Italian prisoner-of-war labour, because the Italians apparently (with a good deal of intelligence) refused to work without decent treatment, and a certain amount to eat, and then not so hard as to hurt themselves. The German soldiers, however, have been more indoctrinated with Nazi principles of obedience and subjection: they were quite prepared to work much more willingly for a lot less, and all our good bourgeois farmers are delighted with them-one German

Anarchist Commentary

a fair deal and that all that was needed was for the children to be given an example. Said Mrs. E. M. Lowe: "We can very easily overorganise the child's leasure. All we need to do is to give the child a lead in organising its

Whatever conclusions these committees and conferences of experts may come to, they will not be able to solve the problem of child delinquency unless they take into consideration the anti-social nature of the capitalist system under which the children are educated and brought up. What is the ideology of capitalism but to make more money than the next man, and by the quickest possible way? And in wartime what chance has a child to develop love and constructive ideas when all the resources of capitalism are concentrated on destruction and hatred?

The highest honour which the present educational system can offer to the child is to fly a bombing plane, and not only is this part of the school training, it is continued by special organisations like the A.T.C. Children don't need discipline to make them behave, they will respond to healthy surroundings, freedom and a constructive example in a way which will surprise all the experts, and will give some little example of the possibilities of a truly free

"Desertion"

THE Italians at home seem likewise to be unimpressed by Allied "liberation". According to the Manchester Guardian (26/1/45) the Italian call-up is not proving a success. big green call-up posters in Rome have been torn down and the word 'Why?' scribbled on them." The home defence soldiers in Canada likewise seem to be asking "Why?" in no uncertain terms. They were told that they would not have to go overseas, and now overseas conscription is in force they refuse to go. They have either returned home or staged stay-in strikes. The Press has tried to taunt them with the word "zombies"-but has not dared to fling the charge of cowardice, since the Government itself admits it was worried, not that the Canadian conscripts would not fight, but that they would start fighting right there at home, and

12,000 to 13,000 U.S. soldiers are absent without leave in the European theatre of war". "There are 1,723 men now awaiting trial on these charges and 70 to 80 are being picked up in Paris every day".

In Italy the numbers of deserters are so vast and so cosmopolitan that they have transformed the entire social scene within many Italian towns, entirely dependent on Black Market transactions. The number of deserters in the fighting in Egypt and Africa has never been disclosed. Vast numbers took to the desert, to be assisted by friendly Arabs, and include soldiers from both sides, many of whom have actually mingled with each other in their isolated bivouacs in the desert. Many years will elapse before even an inkling of the numbers involved can ever come to light.

In industrial lands like ours there is one sure way of living, by crime, and so long as the Government insists on driving conscripts to battle whether they like it or not and treating those who disappear like pariahs, it will encourage crime. That, surely, was the lesson of the U.S. paratrooper Hulten, who has recently been sentenced to death at the Old Bailey.

It is the State that is responsible, and it plans to re-enact the same tragedy with thousands and even millions of others. How many of the Canadian conscripts now fighting for their rights to stay at home, will loyally obey orders if they come over here? Those individuals weak enough to give in-will it not be possible that amongst them there will be some who will desert and finish the same way as Hulten?

Will it be any different after the war? What is going to happen to the thousands in Britain's war-time jails? The old man tired of life who first of all talks about gigantic atrocities in Greece and then says "I turn from the pink and ochre panorama of Athens and the Piraeus, scintillating with delicious life and plumed by the classic glories and endless miseries and triumphs of its history," proclaims that so far as his Government is concerned, they will stay in jail. Our crowded jails, packed with people convicted under purely war-time laws, are to stay packed. Offenders against the military and industrial code will still be convicted. They will still round up "70 and 80 a day" for the glasshouses and brigs. There will still be the rebels against discipline forced into jail; there will still be those with a distaste for discipline forced into

Can it be said that the total victory of any Government differs greatly from the total victory of any other Government? Only the Anarchists have the right answer: the fight against Government, the struggle against authoritarianism,

prisoner-of-war "is worth five Italians" according to Press reports. The Italians seem to worry about being used as cheap labour, but the Germans don't mind, and fit in much more perfectly with the views of our home-grown

No wonder there was such a campaign in the papers against the Italian prisoners-of-war. Curiously enough, it came from just those people who praised Mussolini realising that it needed a fascist dictator to discipline the masses of Italy. We need have no doubts that just the same sources that attacked the Italian prisonersof-war will decide we need a Mussolini at home whenever the British workers study their own interests first.

CHURCHILL WEARS THE TROUSERS

"The preference given by the Soviet in this moment to the Balkan campaign cannot have only military reasons—as the British occupation of Greece is not motivated by purely military considerations. The Allies are mapping out spheres of influence. In a peace settlement it is easier to confirm established facts than to establish new ones. The accomplished fact will be Soviet influence through the Balkans and Poland, and British influence throughout the Mediterranean. Military arguments, sound as they appear to be, fit marvellously into political ambitions and plans."

(Dorothy Thompson, New York Post, October 9th, 1944).

Louis Clair, who quotes the above in the November issue of the American Politics, adds: "In this connection, a very significant episode has been almost completely overlooked. The preliminary Russo-Bulgarian armistice was signed on September 10th. However, a month later the Bulgarians had not yet evacuated the Greek province of Thrace. The Russians did not put any pressure on the Bulgarians to this effect—on the contrary. The Bulgarian delegate in charge of the administration services was a prominent Stalinist very evidently taking his orders from Moscow. A look at the map will easily explain this curious situation, since Bulgaria is occupied by the Red Army, the Bulgarian occupation of Thrace means that for the first time the Russians have an outlet to the Mediterranean and have by-passed the Dardanelles. One day after Churchill arrived in Moscow it was announced that the Bulgarians had accepted Allied armistice terms and had evacuated Thrace! Churchill can be tough if he wants to. No wonder that 'the announcement caused considerable relief in London, especially in Tory circles'." (New York Times, 15/10/44).

TO BE READ BY ALL OUR READERS: country, as well as their children in the years to come, and they are therefore doing a ser-

A certain amount of publicity has been given by the National Press to the C.I.D. raids on Freedom Press offices. Space considera-tions make it impossible for us to reproduce these reports in this issue but we propose to do so in a future issue of War Commentary. Meanwhile all we have to report at the time of going to press is that most of the literature and office equipment seized have been re-turned. The notable exceptions seem to be letters, addresses, etc., pertaining to service-

We have had a number of letters in some of which readers complain that they have not had War Commentary for some time, while in others advising us that two copies of each issue have been received! We are not surprised since our affairs have, through no fault of ours, been conducted under most difficult conditions. However, with the exception of servicemen, all subscribers' copies should go out correctly this issue and we therefore ask readers who have not received past issues of the paper to send us a postcard indicating which issues failed to reach them and we shall give the matter immediate attention.

For the purpose of compiling a complete record of the authorities contempt for the Freedom of opinions and of the individual, we ask all readers who have been in any way affected by the raids on Freedom Press (such as questioning by the police or through their employer or C.O., personal searches, or having their homes searched), to send us by REGIS-TERED POST a detailed and accurate signed statement of what took place. Freedom of speech and of the written word is something which effects every man and woman in the

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The Necessity for a Parallel Organization

The British trade unions have become such large and powerful bodies that the worker is urged to support them by all politicians. Once a thing gets sufficiently large, a politician with his eye on vote-catching, will always support it. The Daily Express for instance, has declared its belief that strong government depends on the Conservative Party and the trade unions. The Trotskyists attack the labour bureaucracy more than anyone, but try to provide a "left" excuse to continue to support the unions, their industrial set-up, the Militant Workers' Federation, being committeed to the policy of 100% trade unionism. The Liberals of old proclaimed themselves to be the party devoted to the protection of trade union interests, while the Labour Party was formed and financed for that very purpose. The Communists have implanted themselves in many quarters of the union bureaucracy in sufficient numbers at least to ensure that they never attack it seriously again. Even the Fascists used to cast out sops to the trade unions and say, at least when confronted with industrial workers, that they didn't oppose trade

Nevertheless the fact remains that in spite of politicians of all brands urging the alreadyorganised workers into the unions and doing nothing about the unorganised workers, there is growing up a steady rift between the workers and the unions. To-day in all disputes the union leader is on the side of the bosses. He proclaims openly that he has nothing in common with the rank-and-file, but stands firmly by the State and the employer. The strike is declared unofficial, but still the strike takes place. The strike is against not merely the employer, it is also a strike against the State, and furthermore it is a strike against the union bureaucracy.

So that whenever a strike takes place new forms of organisation are always created. The morkers, however organised they may have been before and however solid they may have been behind that treacherous slogan "100% trade assignment, have to set about the task of creating organisations. They form most meetings on the job that can take the initiative in forming councils of workers. The appeals go out for publicary and funds for strike pay, but they compat meet south a satisfactory response if left to the last minute. Such tasks of co-ordination should be done in advance. What does this imply but the setting up of a parallel organization to the samount?

It is clearly necessary for all militants nos meraly in the large-scale industrial centres but in all places of work, to get together to approach The sessing-up of any independent industrial union movement to-day would be pre-mature and probably fail. Nevertheless the embryomic forms of industrial unionism exist in many parts of the country to-day. The nucleus of an industrial union movement is to be found in the independent strike movements. spontaneous actions of the workers in many parts of the country, particularly in the North have prepared the way for an industrial union movement, based, not on a premature declaraing sogether of all the local defence committees of strikers. The workers' council should be the local form of the industrial union.

Such a step towards militans organization would be the first move towards anarcho-syndscalist action. Anarcho-syndicalum will evolve in this country out of the spontaneous endeavours arising on the job.

Industrial News in Brief

MANCHESTER GAS STRIKE.

As reported in the last issue of "War Commentary", the outcome of the strike of the 364 gas workers was that the manager of the gas works paid the fines of the men who had been jailed. By his action the manager has in effect condemned the authorities responsible for the arrest of the men and for the subsequent stoppage of work.

sort of place, Davies the manager told a "Daily Express" reporter that he paid the fines because he loves the gas works. Or perhaps he is a queer sort of man to fall in love with a gas works.

HUMBER STRIKE.

A strike lasting from January 22nd until January 31st, and involving 5,000 workers terminated with a promise of a joint conference involving the firm, trade union and employers association. The issue at stake was the demand of the workers for reinstantement of a man who had been sacked and the withdrawal of the firm's negotiator on all matters arising with the shop stewards. The strike was unofficial and did not receive the backing of the union. It seems very doubtful whether the men will achieve satisfaction by the now much discredited method of arbitration.

. 1,500 AYRESHIRE MINERS STRIKE.

About 1,500 miners in the Dalmellington district of Ayrshire went on strike on January 29th. Their grievance is that though they sweat their guts out all day they are not receiving deliveries of their coal allowances from the colliery.

STRIKES IN THE U.S.A.

Frances Perkins, U.S. Secretary of Labour has reported the number of strikes occurring last year es 4,000. Despite the claims of the politicions, large numbers of workers still find it necessary to carry on the struggle for higher wages and better conditions by the well tried strike

The letest news on the American labour front, briefly reported in England is that 4,000 extras and stunt men in Hollywood have struck. But it is e wild-cet strike, unauthorised by the screen guild which allows all actors to break the strike and go on making pictures.

· GENERAL STRIKE IN VATICAN CITY. increases in the cost of living have forced all workman in Vatican City to declare a general strike, the first to occur there. The strikers are

demending higher wages to meet the rise la princes. BELGIAN MINERS STRIKE. The "Evening Standard (26/1/45) reports that a small strike in the Halnest district of Belgium has now spread to pits in the Limburg area, and

The strike began when a number of surface workers were dismissed after distributing leaflets alleged to be of a subversive character, . 10,000 GLASGOW SHIPYARD WORKERS

there is fear of further extension.

TOKEN STRIKE. Ten thousand Clydeside shippard workers held a token stoppage in Glasgow, yesterday, to demonstrate for immediate wage increases, leaving work several hours early and marching to a piece of vacant ground adjoining Victoria Park.

The corporation had previously refused permissign to hold a demonstration in the park. Shop stewards sold that since the abolition of systematic overtime everage wages had dropped to 64 a week or less.

UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER

(Continued from p. 3)

rasp the full meaning of their debasement, we should couple this shameful decision with the scandalous declaration of Mr. Ernest Bevin, Labourite Minister of Labour, at the recent Labour Party Conference. Speaking about British intervention in Greece, he revealed that this criminal action had the full support of the Labour members of the Cabinet. I can do no better than to quote some extracts from this piece of Labourism:

"Anything I say," declared Mr. Bevin, "will be with deliberation, because it must have an effect on our attitude to other countries besides Greece.

"I took part with my Socialist colleagues in the whole of these discussions going over nearly four years, trying to mark out the best way to handle these terrifying problems that would arise at the end of the war.

"The British Empire, whether we like it or not, cannot abandon its positions on the Mediterranean. It is impossible for it to do so'

On the other hand, here is a masterpiece of Stalinist propaganda which comes from Moscow and bears the signature of Ilya Ehrenburg. The Manchester Guardian of July 24th, 1944, quoting the Red Star, reproduced the following statement by Ilya Ehrenburg:

"We are not relying on any German; we are relying on tanks and shells. It would be wrong to think that this (The generals' plot against Hitler.—ED.) is any sort of popular movement. For a popular movement, there must be a people, But in Germany to-day we see only millions of Fritzes and Gretchens, a rapacious, brainless mass, alternately arrogant and cowardly, incapable of thought or feeling".

How ludicrously slanderous But how perfeetly Stalinist!

Some ingenuous people may still have illusions and believe that the international militant working class still have something to defend in Stalin's Russia. May this convince them that a regime which uses such propagandists for such paganda need not feel envious of the régimes of Hitler, Mussolini and Franco.

The enthusiasm roused by this clarion call for 'freedom' among the Prussian generals of the 'Free German Committee' in Moscow is great as great as the disgust aroused among all decent people all over the world.

If I were questioned about "unconditional surrender" after General Eisenhower's message to Germany, in which he declared that "the Allies are coming as conquerors, but not as oppressors", I would unhesitatingly reply: "Personally I prefer Brennus's sword by which we can at least make the economy of the usual high-sounding words about Democracy and Marxism.

Those imperialistic social-democrats who, from this side of the Atlantic Wall and the White Cliffs of Dover, or carefully sheltered in the Kremlin fortress, are preaching the punishment and destruction of the German people, very dimcult undertaking identify the Germans among the ruins of Europe

To rescue the German people as well as the masses of hostages and prisoners of war now on the threshold of annihilation, the international working class must give immediately the maximum assistance to the fourth front, to the European peoples' revolt of which Himmler is so fearful. We can give help, if we are determined to force the armed democracies to keep their hands off the European revolution; to show the war profiteers that we are ready to lay down tools if they do not immediately comply with our demand. We very often strike and strive for a sixpence wage increase. Let us also defend our lives and refuse to be murderers or murdered.

Freedom is not a present of tyrants to coward and corrupt slaves, but a reward conquered by men who love to fight and live as free men.

A. CALTABIANO.

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