The world today is characterised by political, diplomatic,

and propaganda moves which reflect the growing antagon-

ism between America and

Budget expenditures on arma-

ments are reaching higher levels than pre-War in

Britain and America. Army

manoeuvres in Canada and America are taking place in

Arctic conditions as a pre-

paration for conflict with

being stepped up. Even more

Atom Bomb research is

teverishly

Russia.

up war bysteria.

socialism.

The only hope for

MOCK ELECTION

Trotskyist group made use of this

opportunity to put forward its full platform and Comrade Jeanne

45 votes out of about 400 political votes cast. The Stalinist, who

At the same time practical preparations for war are

going ahead.

Workers of All Lands Unite!

No. 57.

APRIL, 1948.

Price 2d.

STOP THE ANTI-RED PURGETUC DECISION

by the methods and police

while opposing the totali-

tarian regime in Russia, the

workers must never forget

that the basic antagonism to

Russia on the part of the

capitalist world is not because

of the Stalinist bureaucracy's

totalitarianism, but precisely

because capitalism has been

Workers in the organised

Servants, like all other

sections of the working class,

must have the freedom to hold

allegiance to any working

destroyed there.

regimes of Stalinism.

Imperialists Prepare For War on Russia

THE DECISION TO PURGE THE CIVIL SERVICE MINISTRIES CAME AS A BOMB-SHELL TO THE LABOUR MOVEMENT. DEMONSTRATES THAT THE LABOUR LEADERS ARE PREPARED TO THROW OVERBOARD THEIR DEMOCRATIC "PRINCIPLES" AS SOON AS THEY ARE FACED WITH THE VITAL ISSUE OF THE DEFENCE OF THE CAPITALIST STATE.

The inclusion of Fascists as well as Communists serves only as a cover to head off anticipated criticism.

borrifying preparations are being made for biological warfare which will destroy men, beasts and crops and produce high places in the Civil are no justification for un- from the Soviet Union. The famine conditions in the Service are beyond suspicion democratic measures by the Easter Conference of the Coin their lovalties to the Labour leaders. in their loyalties to the Labour leaders. The political struggle in working class! It is an Of course, the capitalists heavily in favour of the lialy, France, Greece, Turkey and China is interpreted from the angle of the future great proportion of high-up civil servents are more than sym-The Press of Britain and pathetic to the ideas of Whitwill, President of the America is filled with hypo- fascism and reactionary Bristol Chamber of Comcritical denounciations of the dictatorship. But they will merce, and Chairman of the totalitarian regimes of Russia sleep tranquilly, for it is clear S.W. Regional Board for Inand Eastern Europe. Ameri- that no action will be taken dustry, has made an accusacan Imperialism, dragging at against them except, perhaps, tion that the Stalinists were its tail British Imperialism, in one or two cases as a show responsible for slowing up utilises the reactionary features of "impartiality". This is production and suggested that of Stalinism to conceal their ensured because the whole the purge be extended to imperialist motives, and whip procedure will be carried industry. He was a little humanity lies in the interof the most rabid reactionary suitable time, they will use it annulment of these unnational solidarity of the world working class and the

establishment of world ployment. Every left winger in the favour. Civil Service is now open to This measure has aroused victimisation through tale considerable disquiet in the class organisation. bearing, spite, and above all, Labour movement, and even for "unorthodox" political in the ranks of the Parlia-At University College opinions. Had the Tories in mentary Labour Party itself. troduced such legislation Certain Labour M.P.'s have there would have been a put a motion signed by S. O. Harold Davies, In a mock political election recently held among the students of University College, London, candidates stood from all the political tendencies represented in storm of protest in the Labour Davies, Harold Davies, movement. For who is to Chater, Coa, Hudson, and 41 lecide the difference between wners, regretting Attlee's a Stalinist, a Trotslayist, a statement, and pointing out Socialist? Who is to decide that the Official Secrets Act which views are "loyal", and should provide adequate pro-Hoban stood as Revolutionary Socialist (Trotskyist), candidate. The Trotskyist candidate gained which are dangerous and sub-tection in peace and war. versive? pelice of M.1.5! Today it is to soften the blow. Headed votes cast. The Stalinist, who stood as Socialist candidate, gained 63 votes, and Labour 71, making the combined Left vote 179 as against a combined Right vote of 224 (Liberal 84 and Conservative the Stalinists, tomorrow it by Crossman, Foot and others, will be Socialists if a different they are asking for the right government comes to power. of appeal to an "independent"

On the basis of its support in has made use of the the Government is not prethis election, the Trotskyist group police states established by pared to accept. Stalin in Eastern Europe and There is only one reason for

Apparently the Tories in measures by the Stalinists nical secrets of the future war

servants are more than sym- West England, Colonel M. out by M.1.5., branch of ahead of time. The employers Military Intelligence. It is are content with the precomposed not of socialists, but cedent established. At a movement must fight for the elements in government em- to take action against democratic measures. Civil workers whom they dis-

The political Another group of M.P.'s wish In debate, Attlee has tribunal. Even this, however.

The following item taken from the Johannesburg "Rand Daily Mail" of the 3rd March, is an indictment of the white herrenvolk and their treatment of the black and coloured people of South Africa. Cases of this nature are so common-place that they only receive a few paragraphs without comment in

> "FINED £20 IN INSTALMENTS FOR HOMICIDE

KICKED, THRASHED. THREW MAN IN FIRE

SWELLENDAM. Tuesday.-Gert Johannes Swanepoel, aged 60, a cartage contractor of Bonnievale, was found guilty of culpable homicide by Mr. Justice Newton-Thompson in the circut court here to-day and fined £20, with the alternative of two months' imprisonment. He was allowed to pay the fine in monthly instalments of £5.

It was alleged that Swanepoel assaulted a coloured man, Christian Muller, by pulling him off a cart, kicking and jambokking (thrashing) him, and later throwing him into a fire which had been made at the side of the road. Mulleved .from the injuries 'SAPA."

Hamstrings Unions

Tribunals Given O.K. To Freeze Wages

BY ROY TEARSE

THE T.U.C. AND THE FEDERATION OF BRITISH INDUSTRIES HAVE REACHED SUBSTANTIAL AGREEMENT ON THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY TO PEG WAGES.

Commenting on the F.B.I. "plan" on price and dividend limitation, the "Times" commented that "many indeed would probably accept the stabilisation of 1947 dividend rates gladly in exchange for the certainty of being able to earn 1947 profits."

Considering that the profits of some 2,000 companies in 1947 was £435 million, the "Times" shows good horsesense from the employers' point of view.

for workers are: £4 16s. 6d. for many railwaymen; an average of £3 11s. for women cotton workers; £4 4s. for women in the Yorkshire Woollen Textile Industry; £4 10s. for agricultural workers; £4 1tis. to £5 for drivers in the provincial transport services, less for con-

In announcing the Government's policy, referring to the possibilityof "some exceptional case," where increased wage rates would be "justified" Cripps had the effrontery to state: "It is difficult to imagine one"! Cripps had the catate: "it is difficult

T.U.C. Accepts -

Despite their talk about the cutting of profits and prices, this policy has now been endorsed by

The current weekly wage rates the Trade Union Executives. By workers are: £4 16s. 6d. for 5,321,000 votes against 2,032,000 Council. As the "Daily Herald reports: "in accepting th reports: "in accepting the restraints, the trade unions do not reports: make conditions."

The "critical" speeches of the bureaucrats were necessitated only by the very real fear of the development of a movement among the rank and file.

The dilemna into out sharply Union leaders handle this polimeter Conferences of certain this polimeter Conferences and Administrations. The Clerical and Administration of the Association of Engineering and Shipbuilding Draughtsmen, the Executives of which supported the T.U.C. General Council's recom-mendation, both decided in Conference to press for higher wages.

Threat To Trade Unions

Two vital factors are here involved. One, the contradiction between an attempt to build and strengthen the unions by showing to unorganised workers the need for organisation to fight for better living conditions, and at the same time the declaration to the world at large that the union is against to-day. applies with special force to less organised sectors of industry, such as those catered for by these

The Rank And File

Secondly, there is the pressure of the rank and file. Unlike the union bureaucrats, they do not get They see no reason for pegging their wages while the Government and T.U.C. General Council a c c e p t "reasonable profits"—£435 million in 1947! as "instified', and while government officials receive £5,000 a year salaries.

These are only two unions. The situation in the others, whose leaders voted for the Government policy, will be substantially the The bureaucrats will argue that wages must be frozen, but in order to save their faces they will tell their own members that they did not really mean it should apply to them. The Executives are painfully aware that the rank and file will not jump so smartly to attention upon the recommendation of the T.U.C. General Council, as did the Executives themselves.

T.U.s At Arbitration

Tewson, T.U.C. General Secre tary, pointed out that "the union Executives are not automatically tied" by the decisions of the T.U.C. or its General Council, but stated that the decisions will have an "influence". This "influence" means that the apparatus of the unions will be lined up with the employers against the working class whenever the latter attempts to force a struggle for better con-This is a very real

Moreover, the position of the union representatives will be particularly farcical in front of the Arbitration Tribunals to which they are tied by the Industrial Truce. They will be respectfully reminded of their decision to sup-port the wage-freeze policy wher. their claims are thrown out.

The Isaacs' Circular

What the policy of the Arbitration Tribunals and other such bodies wil be, was shown by the circular sent by Isaacs, Minister of Labour, to the Chairmen of Wages Councils. The circular stated that these bodies, in arriving at their decisions, must be absolutely certain that they have taken the

(Continued on Page 4.)

united Left front in the college. This has been accepted, by the Stalinists, and is at present under stalinists, and is at present under action. In demographic wishes to hold beek the tech consideration by the Labour group. action. Undemocratic wishes to hold back the tech-Italian Socialist **Youth Move Left**

BY PAUL G. STEVENS

"We are leaving the Saragat Party because it stands irrevocably outside the Socialist Movement and is moving further and further away from the working class to become a left cover for the bourgeoisie," Comrade Maitan, general secretary of the Italain Socialist Youth said in an interview to the Rome daily "Republica."

the Saragat party leadership, Com-rade Maitan categorically stated that this was not a resignation of rade Maitan categorically stated that this was not a resignation of the Socialist Youth leadership, but a split which takes almost all the Socialist Youth outside the ranks can be supported by the Socialist Youth outside the ranks of the Saragat Ministration of the Saragat Ministra Socialist Youth outside the ranks ing points after demanding the of the Socialist Party of Italian Workers (PSLI) led by Saragat. ters from the government: Workers (PSII) led by Saragat.

He added that all over Italy, regional congresses of left militants belonging to the parent party were taking place, to discuss the regional details of the split and to determine the orientation of the new independent movement.

In the interview published in the daily "Republica" of Feb. 8, daily "Republica" of Feb. 8, Comrade Maitan likewise defined the class position of the new movement and clearly indicated that the split was not the resut of a differ-ence of opinion over tactics, but of a principled incompatibility between reformism bogged down in the mire of collaboration with the bourgeoisie, and a sincerely revolu-tionary tendency, placing in the forefront the defence of the class interests of the proletariat.

Political Platform

Refuting reports circulated by cal platform before the Congress

1. Return of the party to its proper domain, namely, the class which is openly endeavouring to struggle, in order to convince the tie up the activity of international struggle, in order to convince the workers that the PSLI will not serve as an instrument for the con- of the British government. solidation of the capitalist regime, but remain the political instrument ments of the proletarians, peasants

offering the proletariat the alternative of revolutionary socialist initiative as against the Stalinist policy, which is absolutely incapable of defending the interests of the working class, because it is an expression of the diplomatic-military apparatus of the Russian bureaucracy on a world scale.

The Revolutionary Left of the unflinching defence of the prole- reformists and Stalinists to tie the Saragat party drew up their politic tariat against the offensive of the trade unions to the state apparatus. With the 3rd Republic's villainous Sunday, Feb. 1, large police and

5. Presentation of Socialist

6. Activity directed forward the dispensable precondition for a socialist construction, and, conse-quently, opposition both to the

7. Solidarity with the moveindispensable to the workers for and toiling people of all categthe defence of their class interests. 2. Define a clear-cut policy growing misery and increased capitalist oppression. The party capitalist oppression.

3. The essential task of a real split trade union unity. Denunci-Socialist Party must consist in an ation of the attempts of pseudo-

agents, particularly the Christian Democrats, as well as against the opportunism of the Stalinist

4. The Ministers in the Christian-Democratic Government who are party members, must leave this government.

unity lists at the elections, and where this proves to be impossible, of autonomous PSLI lists.

unity of the world proletariat, in-Stalinist position which wants to adapt the policy of the proletariat to the interests of the Russian state, and to the Labourite position,

gories, which arise from the ever capitalist oppression. The party must reassume the leadership of these workers' struggles in order to bring them back to the field of the class struggle and forestall their tactical utilization by the Stalinist party.
8. Struggle for the recognition

of the management councils, and condemnation of all attempts to French Imperialists MOVE AGAINST TROTSKYISTS AND

COLONIAL WORKERS

VIETNAMESE PRISONER, securely trussed, is interrogated by a French Foreign Legionaire.

The prisoner was captured after fighting recommenced in October at the end of the rainy season.

22 million inhabitants are now at war with France. The area of Viet Nam is one-third greater

than that of France. There are 115,000 French soldiers in Indo-China, among them numbers of

ex-Nazis recruited from the Foreign Legion. About 600 are killed each month.

The French courts have in- Republic has taken over. stituted proceedings against a number of French Trotskyists considered responsible for the editing and distribution of a poster and the colonial peoples. denouncing the colonial war in Indo-China. These proceedings are part of a whole series of reactionary measures against the colonial people.

examining magistrate, Padin is careful not to operate the amnesty law of January 1947, passed sub-equent to the summoning of the accused. It is necessary for them to prosecute in line

The prosecution takes place together with the reactionary measures against the toiling masses

Viet Nam Workers' Arrested In France

The following is a resume of a statement to the press on the arrest of Viet Nam workers, published by the Association of Viet Nam Workers in France. It speaks imperialist oppression." for itself:

"On Saturday, Jan. 31, and

laws on the press, which the 4th | mobile guard forces in the whole of France proceeded to encircle tia camps of the Viet Nam workers and arrested 150 of them, consisting of old and newly elected delegates and rank and file workers.

(Picture from "Life")

'We Viet Nam workers who are still 'free' appeal to the French workers, to all men devoted to the cause of justice and freedom, to join forces with us in order to save the arrested workers from the brutality of the colonalists. Only the international solidarity

> The Central Committee of Viet Nam Workers in France February 8, 1948.

of all the oppressed can stop the