

1,781 NEATH WORKERS VOTE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNISM

SUPPLEMENT TO

SOCIALIST APPEAL

"Workers of All Lands Unite"

ORGAN OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST PARTY, FOURTH INTERNATIONAL.

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TWOPENCE

100,000 GERMANS IN NAZI CAMPS

Capitalists Hide the Truth

IN THE PAST WEEKS THE CAPITALIST PRESS, CINEMA, AND RADIO HAVE CARRIED ARTICLES, DESCRIPTIONS AND PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE HORRIBLE ATROCITIES COMMITTED IN THE NAZI CONCENTRATION CAMPS.

There is universal horror and condemnation of the unspeakable crimes perpetrated on the defenceless prisoners in the camps of Buchenwald, Belsen, Dachau, Oranienberg and Oswiecim.

But what has been left unsaid and unrecorded is that from 1933 onwards, when the socialist movement and working class press was exposing Nazi bestiality, the capitalist politicians and press lords, who now hold up their hands in horror, were financing the Nazis and had nothing but praise for Hitler and his methods.

In those days Lord MacGowan enthusiastically attended Nazi Congresses at Nuremberg, and Winston Churchill constantly praised Hitler, expressed his hopes that the British ruling class would find a saviour of the same stamp.

Mavis Tait who now holds up her hands in horror, was one of the prominent members of the delegation who visited the German concentration camps in 1934. But then she found nothing to complain about.

Today these hypocrites, Mavis Tait included, these corrupt agents of vested interests, who refused to lift one finger to save the tortured German working class victims from their terrible fate, now parade these sufferings and use them only for one purpose: to pretend that the entire German nation is responsible, and arouse a hatred for the German people as a whole.

WHO IS TO BLAME?

The capitalist and labour politicians and their daily press attempt to lay the blame for the horrors in the camps on the entire German people. Why, they ask, did the German people knowingly permit such atrocities?

Deliberately they distort the real situation as it existed in Nazi Germany. They conceal the fact that Hitler could only come to power over the defeated German working class who had been betrayed by their Labour and Stalinist leaders. That Hitler was able to stay in power only by arming and organising the dregs of society, the thieves, swindlers, razor gangs and declassed elements, using

them to terrorise the working class and club them into submission. They ignore the fact that once the Trade Unions and political parties were crushed the merest breath of opposition meant instant death or the concentration camp.

And what the capitalist press has also consciously not stated is the fact that the inmates of Buchenwald and the other notorious concentration camps were German. In Buchenwald in 1938, out of 6,000 prisoners, 2,000 were political, i.e. either Socialist or Communist.

In their propaganda they have hidden the fact that these concentration camps contained in their vast majority, valiant and heroic German fighters. To show these very camps in which the German working class were massacred and tortured as evidence of "German guilt", brands the capitalists and their lackeys as hypocrites and fakers of the worst stamp.

In a booklet written by Victor Gollancz entitled: "What Buchenwald Really Means", he gives figures and facts of the German victims in Nazi camps, which the capitalist press hides from the British people.

According to the Brown Book of the Hitler Terror published in 1933 there were 45 concentration camps containing between 35,000 and 40,000 German anti-fascists. From 1933 to 1939 there were no foreign workers, no prisoners of war, and no resistance workers, therefore the inmates were all German.

The Zurich "Weltwoche" of 9th March 1945, published the following figures as an average of Germans in concentration camps:—

"Buchenwald, near Weimar... 40,000
Sachsenhausen, near Oranienburg 25,000
Dachau, near Munich 11,000
Neuengamme, near Hamburg 6,000
Gross-Rosen, in Silesia 4,000
Faliersleben, near Brunswick 4,000
Danzig-Stuthoff 4,000
Flossenburg, Upper Palatinate 3,000
Mauthausen on the Danube. 3,000"

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1,500 Neath Workers at Jock Haston's Meeting

Stalinists Forced Into Debate

The greatest mass rally of Neath workers to be held in the Gwyn Hall since 1929, when Ramsay Macdonald addressed the meeting, took place on Sunday, May 13th, convened in support of Comrade Jock Haston, the Revolutionary Communist Candidate.

The meeting had been widely advertised as a "Grand Internationalist Rally" and speakers from India, Belgium, France, Burma, Germany and Greece were billed to speak in support.

Every inch of standing space was crammed, workers were standing on the window ledges and down the alleyways. On the stairways leading to the hall there were queues waiting to get into the hall. And there was still an over-flow meeting of a few hundred people who stood outside and heard the meeting through a loud-speaker relay.

The chairman of the meeting, Comrade Cyril Davies of the local I.L.P., opened the meeting by informing the audience that the Revolutionary Communist candidate had heard that Alun Thomas, leader of the West Wales Stalinist Party, was prepared to debate with Jock Haston and it was proposed to give the meeting over to that debate.

As a result of the tremendous pressure from the rank and file members of the Communist Party, as well as from

the large mass of the miners and workers in the district, Alun Thomas was forced to speak from the platform. Behind him was a large red banner with the lettering "Long Live the 4th International". This was a great victory for the Revolutionary Communist Party.

ALUN THOMAS' CASE

In his opening remarks Alun Thomas said that it was not the usual policy of the Communist Party to debate with Trotskyists. But unfortunately there were some politically backward people in Neath who had been persuaded by the demagoguery of Jock Haston and that was the reason that on this occasion the C.P. had decided to do so.

He said that the Trotskyists had concentrated their whole national organisation in the constituency.

He went on to say that the Moscow trials had demonstrated conclusively that the Trotskyists were fascists, and that there trials were attended by the international press. Now Mr. Haston

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TROTSKYISM LAYS ROOTS IN WALES

By Heaton Lee

THE ADVANCED SECTION OF NEATH WORKERS DEMONSTRATED BY THEIR VOTE THAT THEY WANT AN END OF THE POLICY OF CLASS COLLABORATION AND REFORMISM PURSUED BY THEIR LEADERS, AND ARE DEMANDING A FIGHTING POLICY AGAINST THE CAPITALIST CLASS.

AT A TIME WHEN THE POLICY OF INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISM IS UNDER VIOLENT ATTACK FROM NOT ONLY THE CAPITALIST CLASS, BUT FROM EVERY SECTION OF THE LABOUR AND STALINIST MOVEMENT, THE FACT THAT IN A SMALL AREA OF WALES 1,781 WORKERS VOTED FOR A POLICY OF REVOLUTIONARY SOCIALISM, HOLDS OUT GREAT HOPE FOR THE FUTURE OF THE WORKING CLASS MOVEMENT. THIS VOTE WAS CAST IN FACE OF THE BITTEREST AND MOST HYSTERICAL SLANDER CAMPAIGN TO BE SEEN IN AN ELECTION FOR MANY YEARS.

In 1929, in the height of the depression Harry Pollitt, contesting Seaham Harbour against Ramsay Macdonald polled 1,451 votes against 35,615. In 1940 at the Silver-town by-election Pollitt received 996 votes on an anti-war ticket against Labour's 14,343. In comparison with these figures, the result of the first election which our party has contested should be an encouragement and inspiration to the workers seeking a communist solution.



HEATON LEE
Jock Haston's Election Agent.

RESULT OF POLL:

WILLIAMS, D. J.	30,847
SAMUELS, W.	6,290
HASTON, J.	1,781

Two generations ago Keir Hardy, the great pioneer of independent Labour campaigned in the Welsh coalmining valleys to break the working class away from the politics of the capitalists and to organise their own class party in opposition to the capitalists. Whatever the limitations of Keir Hardy's programme, this great pioneer performed a tremendously progressive historical task.

In the Neath by-election campaign that mission which Keir Hardy set out to fulfil was re-enacted. This time on a very much higher political plane.

The careerists and job seekers who have taken over and now control Hardy's party, have led the working class back into the arms of capitalism, back under the domination of the class enemy. And the task which the revolutionary communists set themselves in the election was to tear the workers out of the embrace of Churchill and reassert their mission as a class: the destruction of capitalism and the creation of a communist system of society.

Throughout the campaign, the Revolutionary Communist Party raised the central and fundamental principled issues. The character of the war, which it declared to be a war for profits and not a war for democracy; the treach-

ery of the Labour leaders in adopting the capitalist programme and entering a coalition government with the enemies of the working class, there to act as agents of the capitalists against the interests of the workers; the question of complete and unconditional independence for the colonial peoples and opposition to the brutal policy of British imperialism in the colonial countries. The Revolutionary Communist Party raised boldly and fearlessly the need for the workers of Neath to demonstrate to the European and in particular to the German working class that the best sections of the British working class still retain their internationalist traditions and want to extend the hand of class solidarity to their fellow workers both in allied and enemy lands.

And finally, the Revolutionary Communist Party pointed to the need to destroy the capitalist class and for the working people to take power into their own hands as the only class which could wage a progressive war against reaction and make a peace in the interests of the workers of the world.

In the midst of the tremendous press and newsreel campaign of race hatred against the German people, we fought to bring the attention of our fellow workers that fact that there were still German anti-Fascists and a German working class who needed our solidarity in this dark hour.

Evolution of a Labour Fakir

To study the evolution of D. J. Williams in the course of the campaign was an interesting experience, one in which many workers learned some lessons. For years Williams had a reputation of being a "Labour Left" which he undoubtedly was. The Stalinists had attacked him as a "Trotskyist". He used Trotsky's "History of the Russian Revolution" for his N.C.L.C. lectures. He was the ideal type to whom the workers pointed when they talked about changing the policy of the leadership of the Labour Party.

Unable to conduct a struggle on questions of policy, since he undoubtedly knew the Labour Party's policy was false, Williams gradually adopted the most vicious Stalinist slanders: "Haston is a fascist." "Haston is subsidised by the same people who subsidised Lord Haw-Haw". Whereas at the beginning of the campaign his election agent issued a public declaration renouncing the assistance of His Majesty's Communist Party, as the campaign developed and it became evident that Comrade Haston was gaining a measure of support, he used the services of the Stalinists more and more and finally even authorised them to publish a foul and slanderous pamphlet and to put up posters throughout the constituency "A VOTE FOR HASTON IS A VOTE FOR FASCISM." Thus there arose an unholy alliance of cowardly slanders, without a programme and without a banner other than support for the government of Winston Churchill.

So low did Williams stoop that he alleged from his platforms that the chairman of the revolutionary communist candidate were paid £2 10. 0 per meeting. Although informed that this was untrue by well-known miners in the area, he continued to use this slander. This petty parliamentary careerist found it inconceivable that anyone should participate in the movement without being well paid for it. Like others of his ilk he could see the movement only as a business career and could not think in terms of service to our class without cash payment.

An effectual reply from which we quote below was sent to Williams and published in the "S.A." 5,000 leaflets were distributed headed:

END THE SLANDER! Wage a Clean Political Fight

Extracts of this read as follows: "Unable to meet our political arguments or refute our programme these miserable and cowardly people descend to using the weapon of reaction: lies, slander, and insinuation.

The great class struggles that will face the workers in the next few months and years will expose them for what they are—Charlatans and Traitors.

LET US DEBATE BEFORE THE WORKERS

In our press, in leaflets, from the platform at every meeting we have held in the course of the election campaign, we have challenged them to debate; to come onto our platform and prove their allegations or defend their case to the working class. Instead of honestly accepting the challenge they have scurried away.

The "Socialist Appeal" of Mid-April published a letter written to D. J. Williams by comrade Jock Haston which concluded with the following:—

"We repeat our challenge to you which we have also issued to our slanderers. Let us debate the policy issues before the workers, every day of the campaign, and in every miners' and workers' hall in the constituency if necessary. If you are confident of your case you will seize the opportunity, otherwise the workers must conclude that you fear the search of truth and fear the Revolutionary Communist challenge."

THIS LETTER WAS IGNORED. BUT THE FOUL CAMPAIGN OF SLANDER CONTINUES.

WORKERS' PENNIES PAY FOR OUR NEATH CAMPAIGN

In this same letter we answered the allegations about money by making the following offer which we now repeat:—

"If you—D. J. Williams—genuinely wish to know the source of our funds you, personally, or any elected deputation of Trade Unionists are invited to inspect the books of our party and especially the election fund. You will find that our monies come entirely from workers in industry and the Forces. Indeed, several pounds have already been collected from miners in your own district of Cwau-n-ae-Gurwen."

That offer remains open today. Let the slanderers accept it, or expose themselves as conscious falsifiers and liars!"

CHARACTER OF THE ELECTION MEETINGS

Despite the numerous stars that the Labour Party brought into the campaign for Williams, including Jim Griffiths, M.P., D. Grenfel, M.P., W. G. Cove, M.P., Edith Summerskill, M.P., D. Mort, M.P., Morgan, M.P.,

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French Masses Turn to Communism

R. RYAN

The result of the second Municipal Ballot in France shows a tremendous swing to the Left on the part of the French workers.

The first returns from about 500 towns of over 4,000 inhabitants show the voting as: Socialists 1265, Communists 1,037, an insignificant vote to unaffiliated groups, Radicals, Resistance, Moderates and Christian Democrats; and the revealing total of 19 vote to the Conservatives.

The French workers have demonstrated by an overwhelming majority that they are disgusted with the capitalist system; that what they want is Communism.

The workers have yet to realise that the French Stalinists no longer intend to fight for Communism. Jacques Duclos, Secretary of the French Communist Party, made clear the future policy of his party in an interview with the "Evening Standard" correspondent, 15th September 1944:

"French capitalists are 'idiots' if they are afraid of Communism according to Jacques Duclos, Secretary of the French Communist Party, who outlined to me today, the post-war programme of his Party.

He went on to say that from his party insisting on a Communist

Government for France they will even refrain from putting forward a programme for radical social reform.

"We are not even interested in the question of a 40 hour week. As far as we are concerned the workers will work 60 hours weekly if it is necessary for the rehabilitation of France."

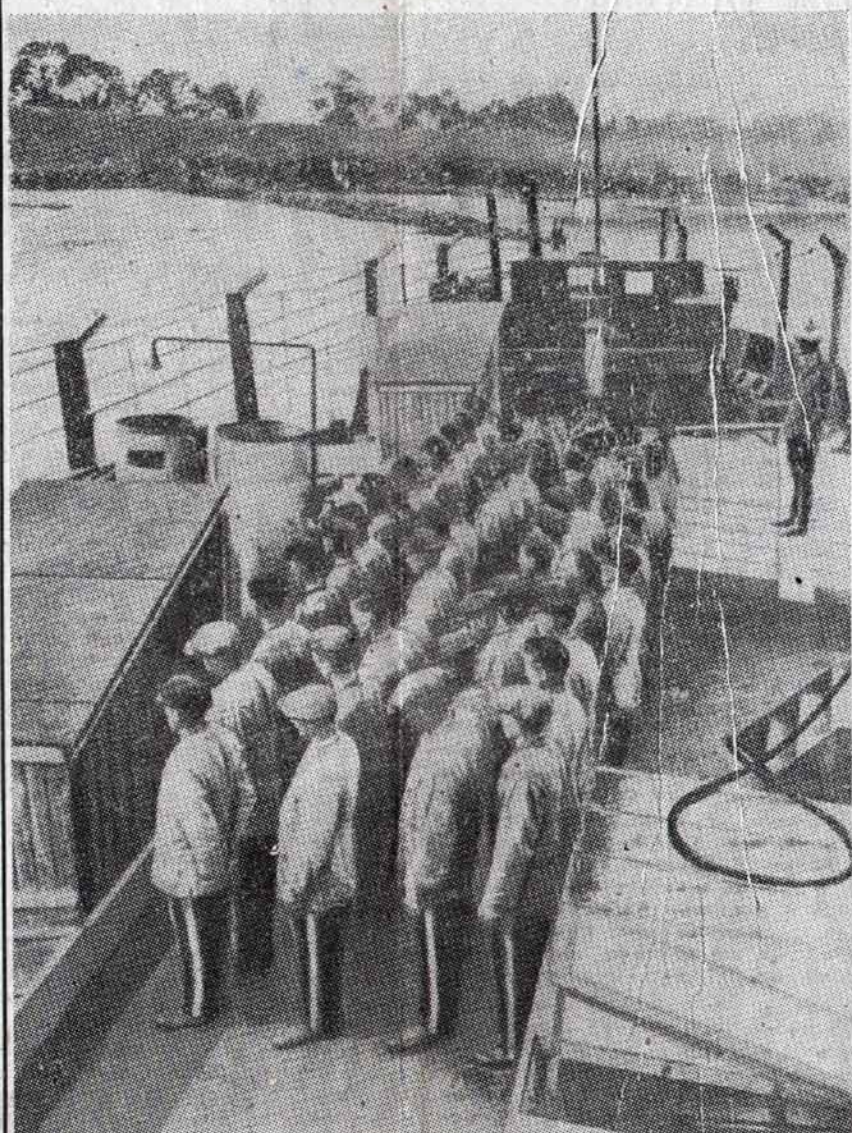
But Duclos' most surprising disclaimer was his denial that the Communists wished to give self-government to France's colonies.

"The natives in the majority of these colonies are backward people, and it is France's responsibility to give them a helping hand." Support of capitalist imperialism—this is the programme of the French Stalinists.

Despite their large majority, the French Stalinists still cling to the capitalist class and call for a Popular Front Government. In face of the mass support for the Stalinists, the Trotskyists call for a Communist and Labour government, as the best means of exposing them, and educating the masses as to their true role.

In the course of the great class struggles opening up in France, the masses will come to see that only the Trotskyist Party of France offers the programme which will lead to the overthrow of the capitalist class and the seizure of power.

British Capitalists Were Silent Then



Floating Concentration Camp on the Weser, near Bremen where our German Fellow Workers were tortured and murdered by the Nazis, before the War.