

Revolutionary Age

For Communist Unity in the Revolutionary Class Struggle

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Simon Report Mere Fraud Cloak for Imperialist Rule

The report of the British parliamentary Commission headed by Sir John Simon on conditions in India and "recommendations on policy" was announced on June 10 with the publication of a 400 page book representing the first part of this report. The second part, it is declared, will be made public June 24. The Simon Commission, made up of four Conservatives, two Laborites and one Liberal, all British with not a single Indian on it, declared itself unanimous in this report.

The entire activities of the Simon Commission encountered the determined boycott of almost all sections of the Indian population, including even the more conservative Nationalists, since it was clear on all sides that the object of the Simon Commission was to provide an apology for British rule in India and a screen under which this rule could be continued. When the first part of the report was published it met with bitter protest and detestation on the part of the whole Indian press, except the avowed mouthpieces of the British rulers and their native puppets. The British press on the other hand, capitalist and so-called "Labor" (the *Daily Herald*), generally welcomed the report very warmly and praised it for its alleged "dignity," "moderation" and "fairness!"

The report is to be followed by the so-called Round Table Conference in London in October 1930 "which will be open to delegates of all responsible groups in both countries" (England and India). Like the Simon Commission the Round Table Conference has also been boycotted by the Indian nationalist movement as a barefaced fraud and instrument of British domination. The Indian people have shown that they are determined to win full independence and will not be turned aside by such obvious swindles as the Simon Report or the Round Table Conference.

The Meaning of the Simon Report

"The British"—Marx once said in a letter—"exploit a continent and oppress a people with a sense of public service, as a matter of public duty." No one can fail to appreciate the truth of these words who reads the just published first part of the Report of the Simon Commission, with its intolerable sanctimonious hypocrisy masking the most calculated imperialist ruthlessness. The Simon Report is an invaluable commentary on the latest phase of the colonial policy of British imperialism.

The main theme of the first part of the Simon Report is that "ancient social and economic customs are to blame for the worst of the evils from which India is suffering" and that these "social and economic customs" provide "great and serious difficulties for the realization of responsible government in British India." To bolster up this argument the Simon Commission has filled hundreds of pages with facts and figures, some true and

(Continued on page 2)

Unite the Communist Party!

Appeal to Seventh Convention and to the Party Membership

Dear Comrades:

In the name of hundreds of Communists expelled from the Party within the last year because of their disagreement with the new line of the Party, we appeal to the Convention and to the entire Party membership for readmission into the Party. We appeal for the reunification of the ranks of the revolutionary movement in this country at a time when it is under heavy fire and when the forces of capitalist reaction are being concentrated for the most powerful attack upon our movement within the last ten years. We appeal to you for the consolidation and strengthening of the Communist forces so as to overcome the present crisis in which our Party finds itself and to put it back on the road towards be-

year of the life of our Party and must judge the new line of the Party leadership upon that basis.

The Fruits of the New Course

What has the last year—the year of full sway of the new line of the Address—brought to our movement?

1. The membership of the Party today—according to the official figures of the Central Committee—is smaller than it has been at any time in the last few years. After the boasted membership drive (which was supposed to have gotten in 6,167 new members) the dues-paying members (including exempt stamps) in January 1930 was 6,145 as compared with 8,689 in June 1928.

2. In the reactionary unions, where

members. The National Textile Workers Union has shrunk to small groups in two or three centers. The Independent Shoe Workers Union has a few hundred members in contrast to the thousands of a year ago. The Needle Trades Workers Industrial Union has a few thousand members, practically all in New York, whereas the reactionary unions in the same industry have over 175,000. Within the last year these organizations have conducted no serious struggles, especially the miners and the textile unions. Moreover, the policies which have reduced them to this state are now being continued and even reinforced.

4. In the case of the Amalgamated Food Workers the attempt was made to split a left wing organization which had endorsed the Party election candidates, which had given thousands of dollars for the organization of the unorganized, to the I.L.D. and to the Gastonia defense, and which had helped the left wing movement in many other ways. This wanton

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In this Issue—

AN APPEAL TO THE PARTY CONVENTION

THE SECOND CONVENTION OF THE NEEDLE TRADES UNION, by Chas. S. Zimmerman.

AGAINST SECTARIAN DUALISM, by William Z. Foster.

OUR PARTY AND THE COMINTERN, by Max Bedacht.

WHAT ARE THE SOVIETS, by V. I. Lenin.

FOR MILITANT STRUGGLE IN THE AMALGAMATED!

THE CRISIS IN THE CANADIAN NEEDLE UNIONS, by J. Holtzman.

coming a mass Communist Party acting as the vanguard of the American proletariat!

Many comrades did not believe and many more who did believe thought we were greatly exaggerating when we pointed out, one year ago, that the change of line forced upon the Party by the Address of the Comintern and the accompanying regime of terror would have the most disastrous consequences for our Party. But unfortunately the events of the last year have shown that our warnings were more than true! The Party Convention and the Party membership must carefully examine the last

the overwhelming majority of the organized workers of this country are found, there is today hardly a Party fraction or an organized left wing movement, in spite of very favorable conditions for Communist work. The whole policy of the leadership of our Party has been and still continues to be to desert these mass organizations and to withdraw all left wing forces from them. Therefore the influence of our Party among the organized workers has declined almost to nothing.

3. The new militant unions, established thru such sacrifice and struggle, are in state of collapse. The National Miners Union counts a few hundred

Challenge Post Office Ban

Revolutionary Age to Publish "Unmailable" Issue

In order to challenge the decision of the Post Office Department that the first six issues of *Revolutionary Age* are non-mailable because they are "treasonable" and "seditious," the management of *Revolutionary Age*, with the assistance of the Civil Liberties Union, has decided to make a public test case by reprinting the entire issue of January 15, 1930 (No. 6) as part of a new issue and presenting it for mailing at the New York Post Office. The refusal of the authorities to mail this issue will strengthen the basis for the legal and political battle we are conducting.

It is clear that the attack upon *Revolutionary Age* is intended as an entering wedge for a concerted attack upon the labor movement and upon the labor press. It is clear that the Post Office is desirous of establishing a precedent for the suppression of labor papers because of their militant content. For this reason the CP-Majority Group, whose chief organ *Revolutionary Age* is, is determined to fight this battle out to the bitter end. In this battle it relies upon the support of the workers and farmers whose cause it champions and upon all people who stand for civil liberty and freedom of the press.

Demand Freedom For India

An enthusiastic well-attended mass meeting was held on Tuesday, June 17, at Park Palace, New York City to voice support of the struggle of the Indian masses for freedom from British rule. Timothy Healy, former president of the Brotherhood of Firemen and Oilers, denounced British imperialist rule in Ireland but his tolerant attitude toward MacDonald's rule in India was sharply criticized by all the speakers who pointed out the direct responsibility of MacDonald as head of the "Labor" Government for the bloody regime in India. Peadar Onunain, of the Irish-American Friends of Indian Independence, delivered a scathing denunciation of British imperialist rule and exposed its ruthless role in Ireland. Sailendra Nath Ghose, president of the Indian National Congress of America, likened the present stage of struggle of the Indian masses to the revolt of the American colonists in 1776 and called upon the workers to support that struggle. C. B. Jenkins, of the Harlem Tenants League, spoke of the solidarity of the Negro masses with the Indian people fighting for freedom. Bertram D. Wolfe, of the *Revolutionary Age*, gave an analysis of present day imperialist rule in the colonies, showing the cruel, hypocritical reactionary character of both British and American capitalism. He criticized the non-resistance and passive disobedience attitude of Gandhi, as an ineffective, futile weapon against the British machine guns and airplanes. Mr. Onunain struck the keynote of the meeting when he urged the Indian workers and peasants to give the British "ball for ball" just as the American revolutionists did in 1776. The audience rose to its feet with enthusiasm when C. B. Jenkins for the Negro people, Ghose for the Indian masses, and Onunain, Coyne, and Wolfe joined hands on the stage in a dramatic gesture of mutual solidarity. The meeting decided to launch a widespread campaign under the auspices of the Labor Friends of India's Independence. Albert Coyle, former editor of *Locomotive Engineers Journal*, presided.

The Crisis in the Canadian Needle Unions

By J. Holtzman (Montreal)

The Needle Trades Workers Industrial Union was organized on the initiative of the Canadian Communist Party.

The present condition of the Industrial Union should serve as a warning to all honest Party members and militant workers, to make sure that the same does not occur with all workers' mass organizations in Canada.

The Industrial Union had great possibilities for success in Canada. The Internationals in Canada are confined to the two large clothing centers only—Montreal and Toronto. It is very difficult for craft unions to exist in the many smaller clothing centers. Only the industrial Union was able to organize the needle trades workers in Winnipeg. The Internationals are discredited among the Canadian workers because of the bureaucratic and treacherous methods and the slogan of industrial unionism has a large following. The splendid response to the first appearance of the Industrial Union proved this. Also the fact that about three years ago the International, in an official communication, notified the cloakmakers that it was withdrawing from Montreal, which in reality meant withdrawing from Canada, and left the field completely open.

The leading comrades of the newly organized Industrial Union were, in the main, Party members, appointed by the Party for this work. As soon as the movement was well under way, a couple of irresponsible comrades (now the official "leaders" of the Party) began their sectarian factional game. The leading comrades of the Industrial Union were accused of wanting to organize a broad union where masses of workers may belong. Our sectarians, the present "leaders," rather wanted a small union but a "revolutionary one."

Without the slightest pretext the leading officers of the newly organized union were removed. The whole work was demoralized. The demoralization reached its highest mark with the removal of J. B. Salzberg, the most competent organizer that the Canadian workers had. The workers began to feel the mechanical control of our sectarians and large numbers of them left the industrial union.

The new "leaders" were interested in assuring their "control" over the Industrial Union but no organizational activity was undertaken. The work of the union did not progress.

The International utilized this opportunity and began to revive its locals. There was even talk of a mass meeting with Dubinsky but still our "leaders" argued and split hairs but did nothing. Comrade Stewart Smith, the present leader of the Canadian Communist Party, declared that the International would not return to Canada! Those who think different, he said, are right wingers and are seeking to create a spirit of defeatism. Not a word about mobilizing the workers.

The intolerable conditions in the cloak trade and the organization activity conducted by the Industrial Union at its inception prepared the ground for the organization of the Montreal cloakmakers for a struggle for better conditions. The cloakmakers looked to the Industrial Union but when disappointed in the new leaders they went to the International. Without any serious effort the International took over the Montreal cloakmakers.

The International leaders were mainly interested in getting the bosses on their side and therefore placed no demands. They openly declared that their return to Montreal was peaceful. The bosses looked upon the International with suspicion at first. The feeling among the workers was tense. Both sides sought a way out. After long negotiations the bosses permitted the International to call a stoppage in the trade.

On the day of the stoppage the workers left the shops demonstratively. It was an expression of protest against the intolerable conditions in the trade.

Instead of organizing these workers and mobilizing them for a real struggle, in this manner smashing the conspiracy

of the International leaders, our sectarians issued a call to the workers to ignore the stoppage! This was an easy way out for such "fighters" as our new leaders but the workers could not understand the wisdom of such actions.

Our new leaders sit with folded arms, do not call meetings of the Industrial Union and assure everyone that the International will fall to pieces. The new leadership has learned nothing. They still believe that attacks in the press are enough to drive the International clique from the labor movement.

The "great gains" of the stoppage did not satisfy the workers. A few large manufacturers voluntarily gave some unimportant concessions to the International clique and forced them to somewhat improve the working conditions in the shops of the small manufacturers. All this is merely a maneuver to cover up the conspiracy of the International clique.

The International is following closely the road of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers. The union gets its taxes and dues and the bosses get increased profits. Shops are being reorganized, many workers become unemployed, production is increased, wages are slashed. If the Party, under its present leadership, will continue its sectarian line then the crisis will become even deeper.

Only an organized and united left wing can lead the Industrial Union out of the present crisis and make of it a virile organization of proletarian struggle!

LYNCH DEMOCRACY

Our unfathomable hatred of the American ruling class has inspired us to search the family tree of Sherman, Texas, where a Negro was lynched the other day in true "Stars and Stripes" fashion. We suppose the "hundred percenters" will jump with joy and pride at our findings. First of all, Sherman is the seat of Texas culture. It is known as the "Athens of Texas." It is 95% white, 195% American, has "fine schools" and boasts of no less than 27 churches. And lynching is the fruit of this American capitalist culture in the South—taught in the schools and blessed by the church. But it is timely to refer to the orders of Governor Dan Moody, who is always ready to have the State militia preserve "law and order" against the workers. He wired the local sheriff: "Protect the Negro but don't shoot anybody." Under the circumstances, which the Governor knew very well, his orders were a guarantee for the lynching. Hypocrisy is a fitting garb for lynch-governors. Lynching is in the very blood and marrow of the class system in the United States. It is a specifically American form of capitalist class tyranny—especially used against the Negro masses who suffer most under capitalism. The church, the schools, culture—these are only part of the paraphernalia of the capitalist lynchers. American democracy well deserves the title of *lynch democracy*.

JUST OUT

Indispensable Material on the Indian Revolution

India in Revolt

Material and Documents on the Struggle of the Indian Masses for Freedom

(Manifesto of the International Communist Opposition for the Freedom of the Indian People—The Lessons of the Lahore Congress—The Course of the Indian Revolution and the Shameful Anti-Communist Line of the Official Party Leadership)

15¢

REVOLUTIONARY AGE

37 East 28th St. - New York

The Big Fight Is On! Help Us Win!

Special Revolutionary Age Fighting Fund Lists Out!

As you can see from the special article in this issue, the big fight with the Post Office Department which wants to suppress our REVOLUTIONARY AGE as "treasonable" and "seditious" is on! For fighting we need ammunition and the ammunition in this fight is MONEY! For this we have established our WAR CHEST, the REVOLU-

REVOLUTIONARY AGE FIGHTING FUND.

Our FIGHTING FUND Drive was start-response of our comrades and readers of REVOLUTIONARY AGE has been ended less than one month ago. So far the response of comrades and readers has been encouraging. The list below gives the standing of the Fund up to and including Wednesday, June 18:

UP TO JUNE 12

NORWAY		Pearl Halpern	20.00	Saby Nohama	20.00
The Independent Communists		L. Diamond	2.00	Peter Hallenen	17.75
		Gillis	5.00	Alexander Kohel	5.00
		C. Wachofsky	2.00	Harry M. Winitzky	2.00
		A. Gross	5.00	Section 5	
ANTHRACITE		Section 3		J. Q. Bentall	25.00
Luzerne, Pa.		100.00	Section donation	Mrs. Arndt	10.00
DETROIT		15.00	Helen Taublieb	Eva Schlachter	25.00
Collection list No. 426		10.00	Sylvia Rosenberg	George Halpern	20.00
HARTFORD, CONN.		18.00	M. Rock	Theresa Fox	30.00
Dan Gokis		5.00	Fannie Levine	Lazar Becker	10.00
L. Fischman		5.00	Miller	Mrs. Becker	10.00
BLOOMFIELD, CONN.		3.00	Mary Shanes	G. Chibka	5.00
D. Alpert		5.00	J. Nelson	M. Dederer	5.00
S. Apatow		5.00	Dennis Gitz	J. Goldman	5.00
MONTREAL, CANADA		11.50	Bessie Newman	G. Goldman	5.00
Donation from 2 workers		10.00	Beatrice Ulochuk	Sara Gross	5.00
LONG ISLAND CITY		11.50	Celia Lichtman	Sophie Mesnil	10.00
A Party member		10.00	Eva Stone	Miriam Silvis	5.00
PHILADELPHIA, PA.		10.00	Sasha Zimmerman	Section 6	
West Phila. Branch		11.00	Rose Zupstein	Bert Wolfe	10.00
NEW YORK CITY		10.00	J. Wahl	M. L.	6.00
Section 2		5.00	Dannbaum	(Individuals)	
Jack Roberts		10.00	Paul Tauber	M. Schneider	2.00
Bess Lerner		25.00	Lillian Gordon	M. Dash	2.00
Lena Greenberg		20.00	H. Z.	G. Schleifer	5.00
			Section 4		P. G. a Party member
			Harry Linoff	10.00	Party member
			V. Burstein	50.00	V. Zelnick
			Morris Neuser	10.00	
			Ragoisky	10.00	
			Tillie Keene	25.00	
					TOTAL
					\$1,014.35

FROM JUNE 12 TO JUNE 17

TORONTO, CANADA		Helen Taublieb	5.00	Koppel	2.00
A Party member		Bessie Newman	2.50	Emil Shaeffer	3.00
CHICAGO, ILL.		Mary Shanes	3.00	Nellie Kutlis	2.00
Chicago District		Section 5		(Individuals)	
A.R.M. (Party member)		2.00	S. Mesnil	Chester Loeb	5.00
		3.00	II. Shanes		
		10.00	M. Dederer		\$ 108.00
NEW YORK CITY		Section 6		Prev. Total	
Section 2		10.00	Jim Cork	1,014.35	
Sidney Jonas		10.00	Rose Fisher		
Section 3		3.00	M. L.		
D. Benjamin		7.50	L. Steinberg		
					TOTAL
					\$1,122.35

But our efforts must be redoubled! The fight has only just begun!

We have issued special REVOLUTIONARY AGE FIGHTING FUND LISTS for

collections in the shops, in labor organizations, among your friends and fellow-workers. Send for some of these lists. Get into the Drive! Defend our REVOLUTIONARY AGE!

Boost the Fighting Fund!

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WE AWAIT AN ANSWER!

RUSSIAN CONCERT TONIGHT

"Musical Mosaic" at Metropolitan to Aid Cultural Centre.

A concert, entitled "A Musical Mosaic," will be given tonight at the Metropolitan Opera House for the benefit of the Russian Cultural Centre, under the patronage of a committee headed by Grand Duke Alexander of Russia, Prince Paul Chavchavadze and Mrs. Otto H. Kahn.

Other patrons and patronesses include the Grand Duchess Marie of Russia, Prince George, Prince Theodore, Prince Dimitry, Prince Vasily of Russia; Princess Nina, Princess Xenta, Mrs. Henry Martyn Alexander, Mrs. Vincent Astor, Countess de Forceville, Mrs. Charles Guggenheimer, Mrs. Christian Holmes, Mrs. Benjamin Moore and Mrs. Arthur Sachs.

N Y Times, April 6.

How does it happen that the *Freiheit*, the Jewish organ of the Communist Party of the USA, advertises the concert given by the White Guardist "Russian Cultural Center under the patronage of a committee headed by Grand Duke Alexander of Russia, Prince Paul Chavchavadze and Mrs. Otto H. Kahn?"

How does it happen that the *Freiheit* omits to indicate the patronage of the



Freiheit, April 7.

concert but advertises the concert itself? Is it criminal ignorance and negligence or?

We await an answer!