

# **The League Against Imperialism Supports India's Fight for Freedom.**

The rapid development of the revolutionary mass struggles in India against British imperialism induced the Secretariat of the **League Against Imperialism** to discuss at an extraordinary sitting the question of **international support for the great Indian struggle for emancipation** and the practical measures connected therewith. **Bridgeman, Page Arnot and Saklatvala**, representatives of the English Section of the League, were invited to the meeting, which was held on May 10, 1930, in Berlin. There were also present the representatives of the **German** and of the **Arab** Secretariat of the League and of the affiliated **Balkan Federation**, who were staying in Berlin.

The chair was occupied by **Willi Münzenberg**, and **Chattopadhyaya** (India) delivered the political report. The speaker pointed out that the Indian revolution is at present entering on a decisive stage. The violent collisions, which are taking place almost daily in various parts of the country, showed firstly, that the movement is embracing ever broader sections of the Indian masses, who emphatically reject Gandhi's tactics of non-violence, and secondly, that the revolutionary Labour movement is coming more and more plainly to the forefront and beginning to play the greatest role in the Indian revolution. The speaker dealt at length with the perspectives of the Indian agrarian revolution. Unmistakeable signs prove that the peasants in various parts of India are beginning to rid themselves of the hampering illusions of the petty bourgeois leadership and to fight on an increasing scale for revolutionary agrarian demands. In the present struggles the fact is significant that, in spite of the British imperialist policy of "divide and rule" and in spite of the treacherous attitude of certain Mohammedan leaders, there exists complete solidarity between the Hindoos and the Mohammedan workers, peasants and soldiers. The speaker concluded his report with the call to organise internationally a broad campaign for India and at the same time to see to the organisational strengthening of the Sections of the League in all countries.

In the discussion, which was taken in by all present, **Münzenberg** submitted a number of practical proposals, and pointed out the significance of the fact that it is a British

**Labour Government** which is brutally suppressing the Indian people. He referred to the meeting of the **Executive of the II International** now taking place in Berlin, and compared the present role of social reformism in regard to the emancipation struggle of the colonies with the role played by the social democracy on 4th August 1914.

Bridgeman (England) called attention to the importance of the British working class actively participating in the aid for the Indian revolution, in which the great masses of the industrial proletariat and also the transport workers, seamen etc. must take part.

The representative of the Balkans proposed that delegations from the most important countries (England, France, Germany etc.) be sent to India in order to break through the isolation of India and to investigate the situation on the spot.

The representative of the Arab Secretariat emphasised the importance which the intervention of the world proletariat for the purpose of showing solidarity with the Indian revolution has, especially in view of the simultaneous revolutionary upsurge in the other colonial countries (China, Indo-China etc.).

After the discussion a number of important decisions were adopted. The attention of all sections of the League is to be called to the enormous political importance of India's struggle for freedom, which demands in every country an equally broad and intensive activity as in the case of the first phase of the Chinese revolution. The campaign is everywhere to be conducted under the following slogans: "Hands off India!", "No soldiers and arms for India!", "Withdrawal of the English troops and officials from India!", "Not pacifism and national reformism; only the revolutionary struggle of the masses is the way to India's independence!", "Release the Meerut Prisoners!", "Link up the Indian struggle with the fight for freedom in all colonies and with the struggle of the revolutionary proletariat and of the peasantry in all countries!"

Of the concrete measures adopted we mention the following: Launching of an Indian Campaign in all European countries, in North and South America, in the Arabian territories, South and East Africa, China and Indonesia; the fixing of a general solidarity-week for India, in which collections are to be carried out for the anti-imperialist fighting fund of the Indian revolution; the sending of delegations to India etc. A special delegation of the League Against Imperialism was appointed, consisting of Bridgeman (England), Campbell (England), Fimmen (Holland), Professor Nejedly (Czechoslovakia), Münzenberg (Germany), Barbusse (France) and Dimitrov (Member of the Executive of the League for the Balkans). The International Secretariat has already made application to the British Government for visas.

It was decided, in carrying out the campaign for India, to pay special attention to the imperialist policy of the II International, which is most closely connected with the MacDonal Government.

The question of the broad organisational extension of the English section of the League and the issue of an anti-imperialist paper was also discussed. A political declaration on the role of James Maxton, who has been expelled from the English Section of the League, was adopted unanimously. This declaration stigmatises the role of Maxton and the I. L. P. in regard to the emancipation struggle of the colonial countries.