

# "THE UNITED FRONT"

"The Way of the 'United Front' leads ultimately to the Dictatorship of the Proletariat."—"RADEK" (1922).

"The tactics of the 'United Front' is only a method for agitation and the revolutionary mobilisation of the proletariat for considerable periods. The tactics of the 'United Front' were, and remain, a revolutionary, and not a peaceful and evolutionary method."—"COMMUNIST THESIS ON TACTICS" (1925).

"The determining factor is that the tactics of the 'United Front' must always be pursued in a Bolshevik manner."—"REPORT OF THE XIII PLENUM OF THE COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL" (1933).

LAST year the National Joint Council was asked to entertain a proposal put forward by the Communist Party of Great Britain that, together with the Co-operative Party and the Independent Labour Party, consultations should be opened with a view to forming what was termed a "United Front," the occasion being the triumph of Nazism over all other German sections including the Social Democrats and the Communists, who, with many of the Jewish faith, were being put to persecution, to torture, and to death.

The National Joint Council, like the Co-operative Party, declined the proposal and issued a Manifesto making clear the reasons why Working-Class Parties, based on democratic procedure and working for democratic methods of Government, cannot make common cause with any other Parties which accept dictatorship as their fundamental political basis.

That decision and the Manifesto were alike overwhelmingly approved by the Trades Union Congress at Brighton, and the Labour Party Conference at Hastings. At these gatherings, as on previous occasions, it was declared that "Democracy" and "Dictatorship," as political principles, are fundamentally opposed. It is with these considerations in mind that the Communist Party's renewed proposals for a "United Front" have been again declined.

The power to achieve full liberty—political, social and economic—is in the hands of the enfranchised millions of men and women who constitute the great mass of the nation. The conscious, active mass who form the Trade Union, Labour and Co-operative Movements, hold firmly to the belief that by the strengthening of their own ranks, the greatest and strongest barrier can be erected against any attempted dictatorship in Britain, be it threatened by Fascism on the right, or by Communism on the left. They hold that the British people, working through democratic institutions, can achieve the Socialist State. They believe, indeed, that in this country it can never be achieved by any other means.

Frustrated in their attempts to find open platforms in the Labour Movement, from which to preach their own doctrine of Dictatorship, the Communist Party have adopted the subtle but familiar method of forming so-called neutral organisations for specific and varying objects—organisations to fight Fascism, to fight War, to fight the Unemployment Bill, to fight the Means Test, to fight the Sedition Bill, to relieve German Refugees, to aid German Prisoners; indeed, new organisations for this, that, and the other object, that the Communist Party is pursuing.



The Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party have been continually engaged in the various activities for which the new bodies were ostensibly established. The whole Labour Movement, throughout the country, has devoted its persistent efforts in fighting these various issues under its own auspices and through its own well-tried machinery. The sole reason for these "United Front" organisations remains one of Communist tactics—as acknowledged, first by Lenin, and endorsed by Stalin, "to make it easier for millions of workers to transfer from Social Democracy to Communism."

"Social Fascists" has been the Communists' favourite phrase for Socialists who are also Democrats. This has been the epithet applied alike to Social Democrats beaten to death in German prisons or suffering confinement in concentration camps, to those directing anti-Fascist campaigns in other countries, and to the leaders and rank-and-file of the Trade Unions in this country who have assisted the Fascist victims abroad.

It is the Communist practice, too, to charge our Democratic Movements with being merely "reformist." This, again, is familiar jargon, and no substitute for judgment. That the Trade Union, Labour and Co-operative Movements have a record of successful achievement behind them in the way of reform in this country seems to be a crime in the eyes of Communists. The very freedom of speech, of press, and of assembly that the Communists exercise and so frequently abuse is high testimony to the efforts of democratic fighters long before they came upon the scene. Communists know full well, however, that reforms secured by industrial struggle and through political activity are not, and never have been, the main purpose of the Movement, but that rank and file and leaders alike carry on their efforts day after day, week after week, and year after year, to enlarge our ranks, to inspire the apathetic, to fire men and women throughout the country with the need for the fuller life that only Socialism can bring.

Unsuccessful as ever in their destructive tactics, the Communists now come forward preaching "unity" while again sedulously seeking disruption.

To-day, as emphatically as ever, the National Council of Labour and the Co-operative Party, join in calling their members to consolidate the existing "United Front" by striving to strengthen and extend the influence of their own organisations.

**RALLY TO THE UNIONS!**

**WIN MORE POWER FOR LOCAL PARTIES!**

**JOIN THE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES!**

**Stand solidly for Democracy! Fight unceasingly against Fascism!**

**AND BY SO DOING**

**WIN BRITAIN FOR SOCIALISM!**

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