

war against **Russia** carried on by Western imperialism. It proclaims "its approval of the fight of the **Indian** people for its freedom from English rule and capitalist exploitation", and at the same time sharply rejects Hitler's pro-English policy. It opposes the "intentional republican-monarchist ambiguity" and stigmatises the flunkeyism of Hitler in the service of the trust magnates.

The declaration also attacks the Thuringian coalition policy of the N.S.D.A.P., with its approval of the head tax, raising of rents etc.

The declaration is signed by the publisher of the paper, **Der nationale Sozialist**, **Otto Strasser**, Major **Buchrucker**, notorious for the part he played in the Kùstrin putch, **Mossakovsky**, **Schapke**, and 20 former functionaries of the N.S.D.A.P. in Berlin und the Brandenburg province. According to the reports of the capitalist press, this group, which has strong connections in various parts of the Republic, is planning the foundation of a "National revolutionary Labour party".

The disintegration of the Hitler party means a serious crumbling of the fascist reserves of German trust capital, as was bound to come in the course of the intensified class struggle. The CP. of Germany will, in the fiercest ideological and defensive fight against fascism, as well as in the sharpest Marxist-Leninist fight against the new "national revolutionary" party, gather round its flag the revolutionised working and petty bourgeois masses. It is not without cause that leading trust papers such as the "Kölnische Zeitung" are now giving expression to their fear that the apparent successes of the Hitler party will "inevitably be followed by Communism, strengthened by the whole of the working class." Even the opposition leaders of the N.S.D.A.P. will not be able to check this development.

The Shettleston Bye Election in Great Britain.

By W. Gallacher (London).

The Shettleston bye-election is a further outstanding indication of the growing disillusionment of the workers.

The drop in the Labour Party vote, amounting to almost 9,000, and this in a constituency where the pseudo-lefts were dominant, is of the greatest significance for our Party.

True, we failed to win these thousands of disillusioned workers to our banner but there is no doubt whatever that our campaign played a considerable part in winning them away from the revolutionary phrase-mongering of the Maxtons and Co.

Right from the beginning of the campaign large masses of workers turned out to hear our speakers and especially our candidate **Comrade Saklatvala**.

Many of these workers understood the significance of **Saklatvala's** fight, as a fight to bring out clearly the unity of the **Indian** and **British workers** against the common enemy — the robber imperialists of Britain.

Thus the leading issues of the campaign were mass unemployment, wage-cuts, support of the Indian Revolution and the prisoners of Meerut and the Defence of the Soviet Union, the Fatherland of the workers.

Along this line the rotten character of imperialism and the drive for rationalisation were fully exposed in contrast to the mighty advance of Socialist construction in the USSR. With a fighting programme and a clear class policy of war against capitalism — of Class against Class, **Comrade Saklatvala** registered 1,459 votes. But this vote gives no proper picture of the interest aroused in the constituency, nor of the influence we wielded in the decisive stages.

Unfortunately in **Glasgow**, wherein the constituency is situated, our Party has been very inactive for a considerable time. Passivity has been evident in all directions. This has seriously militated against any effective work in any of the constituencies in Glasgow, several of which are represented by **Maxton** and his sham-left colleagues. These constituencies ought obviously to have had special attention, but in Shettleston when the bye-election came on we had no party local, the party being represented in this particular constituency by one member.

Thus we had to start off the campaign without having had any preliminary work from which to start as a basis.

This was bad enough, but added to this, was the fact that the passivity persisted during nearly all the time of the fight. It was only in the week-end prior to the polling day that the party in Glasgow came alive and entered effectively into the fight.

One could feel the difference right away. During that week end and the latter days of the campaign there was a livelier atmosphere all over. It is not too much to say that if the Glasgow comrades had entered the field at the beginning in the same spirit as they did at the finish—**Saklatvala** would have doubled his vote and a terrific blow would have been struck at the Labour Government and the sham-lefts through a decisive defeat inflicted on their candidate.

As it was the Labour candidate scraped through with a few hundred of a majority. This is anything but a victory for the Labour Party.

We, on the other hand, have come out of the election with about 1,500 votes for a Communist candidate in the face of every kind of unscrupulous opposition political and religious and with a good party local established in the constituency.

The lesson for the Glasgow comrades and for the Party as a whole is evident. Pessimism and passivity must be driven out of our midst. With revolutionary fervour we must drive ahead with our work.

To the factories, to the streets, to the Labour Exchanges amongst the masses employed and unemployed, rousing them to action, to struggle against wage-cuts, unemployment and starvation, to the fight against war and the enslavement of the colonial peoples, organising and leading them against the Labour Government of capitalism, towards the mass party and the Revolutionary Workers' Government.

The Political Situation in Czechoslovakia

By Ludwig Freund (Prague).

It is scarcely a year since the present coalition of the Czech bourgeois parties with the German and Czech Social Fascists took the helm. And yet this coalition is already passing through a severe crisis. The minister of finance, **Dr. Englis**, is in a situation similar to that of his colleague in Germany, **Herr Moldenhauer**. In the course of one of the past weeks he offered his resignation twice. But whilst **Moldenhauer** has gone and the parliament has remained, in Czechoslovakia **Englis** has remained, whilst the parliament has broken up for the vacation earlier than usual, without being able to accomplish the tasks in hand.

The growing economic crisis is at the same time steadily aggravating the antagonisms within and among the bourgeois parties, paving the way, in Czechoslovakia as in other countries, for a general political crisis.

The question raised by the economic crisis for the Czechoslovakian government is in its essentials as follows: On the one hand the capitalist class demands financial aid from the state, whilst on the other the state revenues are diminishing in consequence of the crisis. The intensifying crisis requires at the same time increased expenditure on the part of the state apparatus, for the suppression of the masses of the workers and peasants moving towards radicalisation, and to this must be added the ever greater sums engulfed by war preparations. The whole situation is further complicated by the participation of the Social Fascists in the government, which involves the granting of a few crumbs to certain strata of the working population. And all this is finding utterance in a financial crisis which will prove the beginning of a political crisis.

The figures just published on the tax returns in Bohemia for the 1st quarter of 1930, forming 65 per cent of the total taxes of the Czechoslovakian Republic, show how detrimentally the state revenues have already been affected by the economic crisis. In the 1st quarter of 1930 the tax revenues in Bohemia totalled 1529.5 million Kc as compared with 1736.5 million Kc in the 1st quarter of 1929, a falling off of about 12 per cent in the year. Calculated for the whole of Czechoslovakia, and for the whole year, the diminished receipts are over one milliard Kc.