

masses and cause them to shrink from ruthlessly defending their vital interests, which at the same time are the vital interests of the German nation. The terrorist sentences pronounced by class justice will not break the revolutionary fighting spirit of the working-class. On the contrary, they arouse in the heart and brain the most powerful spiritual and moral forces, which will one day not only sweep away the terrorist justice and its upholders, but also the rotten state and social order, which provides the soil from which this terrorist justice must inevitably spring.

## IN THE COLONIES

### Cawnpore Victims of Labour Imperialism.

Case Against Mr. Singaravelu Dropped.

By Evelyn Roy.

The four prisoners condemned by the Judge at Cawnpore to four years' rigorous imprisonment on the charge of "seditious conspiracy" for having attempted to organise a political party of the Indian working-class, have now been denied the status and rights of political prisoners, hitherto accorded them. Thinking perhaps that the world has forgotten these victims of Labour Imperialism and Bureaucratic tyranny, the Indian jail authorities have reduced the four prisoners to the status of ordinary criminals. Though an Appeal against their condemnation is still pending, and though up to now they have demanded and been given certain privileges, such as the right to wear their own clothes, to buy their own food, and to receive a few comforts from their friends, now even these ordinary concessions are denied them, and they are being forced to eat regular prison food (unspeakably bad in India), to wear prison clothes, and to perform prison duty.

Will the British proletariat, so jealous of its own liberties, permit this added insult to the great injury already done by convicting these four students and workers in the cause of proletarian emancipation? Their only crime is having advocated the full social, political and economic emancipation of the Indian workers and peasants by the organisation of a political party based on certain fundamental economic demands, such as the right of Indian labour to organise in its own defence and to strike when necessary; the recognition of trade-unions; an eight-hour day; a minimum wage with insurance against illness, old-age and accidents; protection to woman and child labour, — in fact, the very things that the British Labour Party claims for its adherents in Britain, together with the right of free self-determination of the Indian people. These demands have been damned by the Cawnpore Court as "conspiracy to overthrow the sovereignty of the King-Emperor in India!"

It should be noted in this connection that the case against Mr. Singaravelu Chettiar, one of the co-accused in the Cawnpore case, who was prevented by illness from appearing in court with the rest, has been quietly dropped by the government. What is the reason for this withdrawal of the prosecution at the eleventh hour? The case was scheduled to come up on July 1st, and Mr. Chettiar actually went to Cawnpore to appear before the Court, where he was informed that proceedings against him had been suspended. It now appears that he has in no way changed or modified his views, nor expressed any regret or apology for his actions. The government reserves the right to resume prosecution against him whenever it sees fit. Thus they keep the charge hanging over his head like a Sword of Damocles,

ready to use it against him at a moment's notice. The reason for this time refusing to proceed with the case at all. The reason is plain. Mr. Singaravelu is a very able lawyer, versed not only in the technicalities of Indian courts, but in his rights as a British subject as well. He knows exactly what right he has to advocate a change of government which shall benefit the Indian working-class as well as the Indian bourgeoisie. He has sufficient money and friends to enable him to fight the case to a finish and to force the reversal of the entire Cawnpore judgment against the other four. He has already cited 100 witnesses in his defence, in Madras alone. Evidently Mr. Singaravelu is not a man to be easily crushed by a mock-charge of "seditious conspiracy" which no regularly constituted Court of Law would uphold on the kind of evidence tendered. Mr. Singaravelu is a person of All-India and even international reputation, well known as a Marxist and champion of the Indian working-class since the days of the first All-India Trade Union Congress. Evidently, he is not a person to be trifled with. He would not give undesirable publicity to the case and to the methods of British justice under a Labour regime. Hence it is very easy to see why the case against him has been allowed to drop, without removing the charges against him. It is hoped to avoid further undesirable publicity while at the same time stopping his movements and preventing any further activities, by "letting Mr. Singaravelu off."

But it should at once be demanded, "Why is Mr. Singaravelu let off when the other four, not more guilty than he, if guilt there be, are languishing in prison, condemned to four years' penal servitude on the charge of "seditious conspiracy", for taking a less prominent part in the attempts to organise Indian labour than Mr. Singaravelu, who is the founder of the "Labour and Kishan Party of Hindusthan", and the Editor of the "Labour and Kishan Gazette." It was to Mr. Singaravelu that the majority of the letters, written by M. N. Roy and used as the principal evidence in the trial, were addressed. Mr. Singaravelu has never made any secret of his ideas, nor of his international sympathies and affiliations.

Therefore, in view of the hasty retreat of the Government, it may be seen how unjustifiable was the Cawnpore verdict, and how necessary it is to push the case of those already condemned to the final Court of Appeal, in order to obtain a reversal of the infamous decision against the four victims of Indian Governmental tyranny and of British Labour Imperialism.

## IN THE INTERNATIONAL

### Communication from the Balkan Communist Federation.

In view of the great difficulties which the Balkan Communist Federation has in carrying on its work, owing to the prevalence of martial law in the Balkans, it has for the time being transferred its headquarters to Moscow.

The Presidium of the Federation requests that in future communications for the Balkan Communist Federation (letters, newspapers, magazines etc., as well as material and manuscripts for the "Bulletin" of the Balkan Communist Federation) be sent to the following address:

Georgi Dimitrov,

Moscow,  
Tverskaya St.