Developments in India

A^S this magazine goes to press, unconfirmed reports from India state that the All-India Trade Union Congress voted to affiliate to the Pan-Pacific Trade Union Secretariat, and that a leading left-winger, Comrade Bose, was elected to the highest leading body of the Congress.

Should this report prove correct, it must be taken as a sign of rapidly maturing events of historic significance in India. It can only be understood as the result of a tremendous movement of the masses, pressing their will upon a group of resisting, reactionary officials hitherto in control of the All-India T. U. C., headed by Mr. N. M. Joshi, who works hand in hand with the League of Nations and British imperialism. Under no condition should there be any illusions of a change of heart of the right-wing officials surrounding Mr. Joshi.

Among the leaders of the Indian trade union movement there are two camps, one aligned with imperialism and the native bourgeoisie, and the other fighting against imperialism and against the native exploiters. Both sides of this class struggle have their representatives in the All-India Trade Union Congress. Comrade Bose, or any other true left-winger, if elected to the leading committee of the All-India T. U. C. will probably find himself surrounded by a majority of the old right-wing camp, who will attempt to continue their same old line. It will be the duty of all left-wing representatives to give expression to the will of the masses; while participating in the leadership of the T. U. C., it will be their special duty to guard against this leadership being turned against the mass movement. It will be their special duty to continue the splendid advance of the left-wing unions, of the revolutionization of the masses, of the overthrow of the old right-wing policies which so long have hampered the development of the Indian trade union movement. It will be their duty, from their posts of responsibility, to mobilize the masses for struggle against imperialism and all its agents and against the native bourgeoisie which is suppressing the strike movement and betraying the cause of India's liberation by accepting "Dominion Status" a la MacDonald.

The same elements who betray the cause of independence are also the sabotagers of the strike struggles of the masses. Militant trade unions can only be built through struggle on both fields, which are only two sectors of one battlefront — the masses versus imperialism.

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