

Facing Fascism in Great Britain

By J. T. WALTON NEWBOLD

THE OTHER DAY, traveling down thru France, on the Riviera express, fate and fortune were so good as to project me, suitably equipped with non-comittal guide-books and literature, into a compartment in which were two ex-officers, one Italian and the other British. We got into conversation which became, to say the least, interesting. It started with the franc. It went on to the pound. It embraced the Labor government, and the guardsman became still more interesting. The Italian proved to be a Fascist. They grew communicative. I smiled my sympathy and my encouragement.

Fascism—The Cult:

My compatriot was engagingly frank. Fascism is the thing and matters are going on very nicely. It is the cult in the regimental messes and in the West End clubs. One of these days, and before so very long something is to happen to "those damned fellows from the Clyde." They will be taught a salutary lesson. It will be rather "a rag, don't you know." "We are going to have no Bolshevism in England."

Now, this week-end one finds in the reactionary press a chorus of denunciation of Wheatley, torrents of abuse of the Clyde men, violent attacks upon the Communists of Poplar. The whole of the Conservatives and a very large section of the Liberals are rallying against Wheatley and his interpretation by an executive act of the whole case of the left wing elements in what affects the treatment of the unemployed worker.

Wheatley intends to force the pace. The issue he has raised makes a direct and immediate appeal to the great masses of the un-

employed and the low paid workers. He has raised the issue of whether or not the workers are to permit the powers of the State and the local authorities to be used as the framers and defenders of the whole poor law system intended they should be used, to enable the master class to use the necessities of the poor for the undoing of the bargaining power of the poor.

Wheatley's action, like that of our comrades in Poplar, is indeed revolutionary, striking at the whole vile system of bourgeois class rule across hundreds of years. Wheatley's action is a step, as the master class knows (and, knowing, squeals), towards the use of political power, embodied in the state and local authorities, for the purpose of breaking the capitalists' economic advantage over the worker.

On Eve of Fascist Violence.

It is a step that, affecting the principle all local expenditure and, therefore, all the big rate payers who, under democracy, find themselves in a grotesque minority, will cause these big rate payers here, as in Italy and Germany, to finance and assist organizations for "cleansing" local and national authorities of socialists and Communists.

We are one the very eve, comrades of the entire left, of fascist violence here in Great Britain.

It now becomes apparent, from what Maxton has said concerning the appointment of Lord Chelmsford to the Admiralty, that the navy chiefs have declared a mutiny, a class revolt against the working class.

After the army revolt at the Curragh in 1914, we have the navy revolt at the admiralty in 1924. We have the same insolence shown by the Scottish legal fraternity.

It may seem a little thing, but it is very symptomatic of the arro-

gance of the king's immediate court entourage, and of their insufferable impudence, that the Londonderry household, which was the go-between for the army rebels and Carson with the king in 1914—has been entertaining, not on behalf of the government but on behalf of the opposition, the ambassadors of the United States, France, Italy and Spain.

Kellogg, ambassador of the United States, is notoriously the nominee of the Morgan house, i. e., of Tory influence in American finance and politics. The Vicomte St. Aulaire, ambassador of France, belongs to the circle of Bonapartist-Monarchist reaction, profoundly hostile to recognition of the Soviets and favorable to the right wing of the Bloc National. The Spanish and Italian ambassadors are the avowed agents of fascism.

Insult to Laborites.

Quite evidently, we are here witnesses of the official representatives of American and European reactionary governments attending the party reception, not of the government to which they are accredited (in theory), but of the opposition.

If the Labor government does not understand in its full bearings the significance of this insult to themselves as representatives of the working class they will understand nothing. If they do not understand it is no reason why we should be equally supine and spineless.

The reaction is organizing in the ward rooms, in the messes, in the clubs, under the eye—and you may warrant that Nickie's cousin's eye is an approving eye—of the king himself, to defend here in London and thruout Britain the close preserves of landed and financial privilege.

The hitch in recognition; the need

of watching all attempts to whittle down that recognition by bringing pressure to bear upon the government during the coming negotiations with Russia; the incident of the admiralty officials; this case of Poplar; all these veiled insults and intrigues—require that all the elements of the Left-Laborites, Socialists and Communists call into being once more, this time to strengthen the hands of the Labor government, the councils of action, national and social.

Organize!

We must organize, and at once, the whole working class behind the government so that it can have the assurance that whatever it does immediately behind it stands a watchful, resolute working class movement.

IMPEACH COOLIDGE!

State Publishers of Russia (Gosisdat)

The Representative in the United States and Canada will fill orders

FOR

RUSSIAN BOOKS, MAGAZINES, ETC.

12,000 Titles to Select From.

Regular discount to dealers and organizations.

Write for Catalogue.

Subscription accepted for:

Isvestia \$2.00 per month
Economic Life . . . \$2.50 per month
Pravda \$3.00 per month

GOSISDAT,

15 PARK ROW, New York City