

POLLITT'S REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BRITISH COMMUNIST PARTY

Reporting to the recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the British Communist Party, Harry Pollitt dwelt on the international situation and on the Party's tasks arising from the economic, and political situation in Great Britain.

After a detailed analysis of the whole course of development of the British crisis in the light of the international situation, Pollitt stated:

"When the world is divided into an imperialist and an anti-imperialist camp, with a Labour Government an active partner in the former, important changes need to be made in the policy of the Communist Party. We correctly exposed the

reactionary nature of the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan, but we were slow after the end of the war to recognise that American imperialism had become the new central force of world reaction, seeking to subordinate Britain to its own interests.

»Now this question is placed in still sharper terms because of the way Britain is being tied behind the Marshall Plan; production increases will not be utilised for the benefit of the British people, but will be subordinated to the general aims of American policy.

»In our anxiety to drive for increased production, we have sometimes done far too little in the fight for wages and conditions, and on occasions placed ourselves in a position where we seemed to be holding back the struggle for the workers' demands.

»It was our duty in all industries to help mobilise the workers in the factories, trade unions and all working-class organisations on a much greater scale than we have done, against all 'sacrifices', shortages and attacks on their living standards. We should drive for a drastic policy of decisive inroads upon profits and all forms of capitalist control, and conduct a much sharper fight against the composition and reactionary character of the various nationalisation boards.

»There has been too much concentration on work at the top and insufficient direct mass leadership on every aspect of the workers' struggle. Our campaign of exposure of the role of Social-Democracy has also been insufficient.«

Calling upon the Communist Party to organise a mass struggle against reaction, Pollitt warned that the main danger today is an under-estimation of the strength of the working class and its readiness to fight back for the achievements of its demands and its solution of the crisis.