Since the beginning of the dollar campaign, the communist Press has received numerous letters from workers who relate the fact that the measures of compulsion and the lit-tlement by the Fascist malefactors to which the workers are exposed when they are being “persuaded” to subscribe the dollar. On the other hand enthusiastic letters are received in which is related that in various factories — especially in the large centres — the workers have unanimously refused to sign, with the result that they succeeded, as a united mass, in resisting the compulsory measures of the Fascists.

The Labour Press, the Communist Press however cannot make the slightest allusion to all the innancies which are undertaken to the detriment of the working masses, unless they wish to be confiscated or prohibited. It is therefore not difficult for Fascism, to which the appeal of the Press of the former adherents of the Aventino and of the “fianccheggiatori” is attacked, to announce to the world that the dollar subscription is a “plebiscite in favour of Mussolini”.

We can calculate without exaggeration that of the 80 million lire brought in by the dollar subscription, at least 50 million were extorted from the masses of workers and employees by the methods we have described.

In spite of the “manifestation of agreement” which was blazoned forth by the vena Press, the masses are more anti-Fascist than ever. Driven by systematic pressures and by political pressure which taxes more acute from day to day, they are gradually forging the new weapons which are to unite them and to lead them to a frontal attack against Fascist reaction.

The Reawakening of the National Liberation Movement in Egypt.

By J. B. (Jerusalem).

After the expulsion of the Liberal-Constitutional Party, which although by no means revolutionary still had a little regard for the masses, the dictatorship of the Zivat Pasha ministry became unbearable. After a number of brutal measures which were intended to crush the opponents of this dictatorship along the whole line, he issued a coalition law, according to which only those parties confirmed by the king have a legal right to existence; all others are to be straight away dissolved. This law, which, as the Zivat Ministers boasted, was to put an end to the Zaglitulist movement, had the exact contrary result: Zaglitism, the national movement, which for over a year had given no sign of life whatever, began at once to become active and went over to the counter-attack. Zivat Pasha’s assassination was the spirited protest against the bombarding of Damascus met with an enthusiastic response throughout the whole country, and in the last few weeks not a day has passed in which the Egyptian Press, and not only the Zaglitulist press, has not made some allusion, or more to aproaching great actions against the Zivat Cabinet. On the 13th of November, the day of the national festival to be held in honour of Zaglit Pasha, there took place, against the express prohibition of the government, a Zaglitulist meeting which ended with the arrest of prominent nationalist leaders. This act of violence on the part of the government increased the excitement of the population and stirred up the masses.

Formally, Egypt is a Constitutional Monarchy. The constitution was drawn up by the Zaglitulist parliament and — at least outwardly — is still in force at the present moment. This constitution is on the one hand an excellent mask behind which the real rulers of the country, the English, have safely concealed themselves. But precisely for this reason it is a dangerous weapon against them: for if the constitution, the maintenance of which they themselves guarantee, is violated, then the mask is immediately torn from them and the rulers find themselves face to face with the masses whom they have deceived a state of affairs which is bound to lead to severe collisions. Now the Zivat government, in response to “wishes from above”, violated the constitution when, in March last, it dissolved the Egyptian parliament. Since then Zaglit Pasha has been able, under the perfectly loyal slogan of “for parliament”, “for the constitution”, to rally all sections of the Egyptian people against the Zivat government. The withdrawal of the Liberal-Constitutional party from the Zivat Cabinet completed the isolation of the latter from the masses of the people.

Convinced of their own right, the government has been summoned to meet on the 21st of November. As Zivat Pasha, after the dissolution of the former parliament, had quite sufficient time in which to prescribe new elections but has not yet done so, Zaglit declared a few days before the 21st of November: “The old parliament continues to exist. This parliament alone is empowered to determine the government of the country according to the constitution. And parliament will assemble on the 21st of November.”

This declaration was an open challenge to the Zivat government. Zaglit felt strong enough to enter on a struggle, and he did so. The government concentrated all its troops in Cairo; all public buildings were placed under guard and Zivat Pasha assured the King that the parliamentary sitting would not take place.

It did take place, however, punctually at the time laid down and only in another place. Its imposing proceedings surprised even the most optimistic supporters of Zaglit. Before the assembled members the representatives of the Liberal-Constitutionals and also of the extreme “Nationalist Party”, who for years had bitterly opposed Zaglit, declared their complete solidarity with the latter. The assembled members took an oath not to rest until the “anti-constitutional government” in Egypt is removed. The three great Egyptian parties stand behind Zaglit and against Zivat.

More important than the imposing sitting of parliament is the fact that the masses have again commenced to move. One sees again, as was not to be seen for many months, demonstrations attended by thousands raising the cry: “Long live the constitution!”, which is always accompanied by a second cry: “Long live Zaglit Pasha!”, a further proof of the great popularity of this leader, in spite of the many mistakes he has made.

Zivat Pasha is, for the time being, ignoring parliament and the activity of Zaglit Pasha. He is continuing his policy of suppression, if possible, with greater ruthlessness than before. The sufferings of the arrested Communists are terrible. One of them is seriously ill while the others have entered on a hunger strike. Their trial is being continually postponed. Zivat Pasha is relying solely upon the military, and the policy forces on the one hand, and the authority of the king and the English on the other, to extort further concessions from the opposition. The last named are, it is true, not so confident as Zivat: the despaching of cruisers to Egyptian waters and the great nervousness which the English newspapers have shown, since the 21st of November prove that they are better able to appreciate the real situation and the importance of their action. Nor are the English misled by the calm which has followed Zaglit’s action: the British troops are standing ready in expectation of the storm which is approaching.

The Permanent Crisis in Lithuania.

By A. Elen (Kovno).

The post-war period knows of many newly-founded States which are condemned to chronic crises because they are political formations lacking an economic basis. This abnormality finds its particular expression in the border States, and among these Lithuania is pre-eminent. Lithuania is a typical agrarian country, far more than Latvia or Estonia for it has practically no industry. Its natural wealth consists of a fertile soil and extensive forests. It has no ores and no coal. Consequently Lithuania is incapable of development. It is dependent on foreign trade (beer, tobacco, matches, paper factories). For that however it lacks the necessary pre-requisites which could only be supplied by a political transformation of Eastern Europe. A small country with about 2 million inhabitants is compelled, for reasons of home and foreign policy, to support an army and an apparatus of State which is enormous as compared with the resources of the country. Created only at the wish of the Entente, Lithuania has of course no independent foreign policy. The Lithuanian policy is undoubtedly manufactured, not on the banks of the Nemen but on those of the Thames and the Seine. And, as long as the existence of Lithuania seems necessary
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After the expulsion of the Liberal-Constitutional Party, which although by no means revolutionary still had a little regard for the masses, the dictatorship of the Zivar Pasha ministry became unbearable. After a number of brutal measures which were intended to crush the opponents of this dictatorship along the whole line, he issued a coalition law, according to which only those parties confirmed by the king have a legal right to existence; all others are to be straight away dissolved. This law, which, as the Zivar Ministers boasted, was to put an end to the Zagolulist movement, had the exact contrary result: Zagulism, the national movement, which for over a year had given no sign of life whatever, began at once to become active and went over to the counter-attack. Zivar Pasha’s assassination has caused a spirited protest against the bombardment of Damascus met with an enthusiastic response throughout the whole country, and in the last few weeks not a day has passed in which the Egyptian press, and not only the Zagululist press, has not made some allusion or denounce approving great actions against the Zivar Cabinet. On the 13th of November, the day of the national festival to be held in honour of Zagul Pasha, there took place, against the express prohibition of the government, a Zagululist meeting which ended with the arrest of prominent nationalist leaders. This act of violence on the part of the government increased the excitement of the population, and mass meetings were more frequent.

Formally, Egypt is a Constitutional Monarchy. The constitution was drawn up by the Zagulist parliament and — at least outwardly — is still in force at the present moment. This constitution is on the one hand an excellent mask behind which the real rulers of the country, the English, are hidden. But precisely for this reason it is a famous weapon against them: for if the constitution, the maintenance of which they themselves guarantee, is violated, then the mask is immediately torn from them and the rulers find themselves face to face with the masses whom they have deceived by a state of affairs which is bound to lead to severe collisions. Now the Zivar government, in response to “wishes from above”, violated the constitution when, in March last, it dissolved the Egyptian parliament. Since then Zagul Pasha has been able, under the perfectly loyal slogan of “for parliament”, “for the constitution”, to rally all sections of the Egyptian people against the Zivar government. The withdrawal of the Liberal-Constitutional party from the Zivar Cabinet completed the isolation of the latter from the masses of the people.

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Lithuania is a typical agrarian country, far more than Latvia or Estonia for it has practically no industry. Its natural wealth consists of a fertile soil and extensive forests. It has no ores and no coal. Consequently Lithuania is incapable of developing industrial life by itself. Consequently it has to depend for its food on the flour mills and match and paper factories. For that however it lacks the necessary pre-requisites which could only be supplied by a political transformation of Eastern Europe.

A small country with about 2 million inhabitants is compelled, for reasons of home and foreign policy, to support an army and an apparatus of State which is enormous as compared with the resources of the country. Created only at the wish of the Entente, Lithuania has of course no independent foreign policy. The Lithuanian policy is undoubtedly manufactured, not on the banks of the Nemen but on those of the Thames and the Seine. And, as long as the existence of Lithuania seems necessary