cold water was flung over him and his body burnt with a red hot iron.

These tortures lasted from Wednesday to Saturday without achieving any result. Even up to the present day the press has not reported anything regarding a “special” Communist “conspiracy.” When, however, during the night from Saturday to Sunday, Comrade Zoltán Szántó was arrested on the frontier in a car returning to Vienna, the nullification of the police power and the cry of the police and of the press was let loose against the Communists.

The Hungarian bourgeoisie has been seized with a panic.

“What is the use of the watchfulness of the police when French Communist conspiracies are being continually discovered and which assume ever increasing dimensions?”

This is how a portion of the Budapest press wails, while on the other hand the outspokenly government press wishes to give an international note to the arrests in Budapest. Under the title: “Check to Bolshevism!” the “Pester Lloyd” calls for an international fight against bolshevism in which the Budapest police, who are watching over the security of all Europe, must play the leading role. The position of England, it declares, would not be so serious today if it had paid heed in good time to the warnings of the Budapest police. For the Budapest Police — writes the Pester Lloyd — pointed out already two years ago that Moscow was preparing an armed revolt in China, but the English government did not pay sufficient heed to the communications of the Hungarian police.

That this insane behaviour on the part of the press is not a chance phenomenon is shown by the fawning of the Prime Minister Bethlen on England. Bethlen declared before the Finance Committee of the Members of Parliament that

“so long as Russia did not give up revolution she could not hope to be recognised by Hungary”.

The accompanying music to this campaign of incitement is naturally supplied by the social democracy. The Central Committee of this Party and the parliamentary fraction issued a declaration in which it is stated that the social democracy, as the deadly enemy of bolshevism, will continue its fight with all means against the Communist movement. This declaration of the social democracy could not be surpassed in its sharpness against the Communist movement, so that the fascist Minister, Bishop Vass, at the Conference of the government party expressed his thanks to the social democracy for this brave act. He characterised this declaration of the social democracy as a symptomatic phenomenon.

In the meantime the government press is arousing a pogrom mood against the arrested and is demanding that they be brought before a special court.

In view of the events which have occurred up to now there remains not the least doubt that here it is a question of a well-prepared campaign against the Socialist Labour Party of Hungary. The campaign has its roots in the new Pact of the social democracy with Bethlen. The social democracy wishes to get rid of the Labour Party in order again to have the monopoly of the only legal workers’ Party. The Labour Party is therefore to be dissolved as being a “Communist” Party. As evidence for this it is to be pointed out that among the arrested members of the Party are prominent Socialist members of Hungary could be also dissolved on the same ground, for among the arrested Communists there are some who are members of the social democratic party.

The constant campaign of the government is obviously directed against the Communist Party of Hungary. Behind every movement of the Labour Party and of the working class in general the government sees the activity of the Communists. The C.P. of Hungary will, of course, not be intimidated by any government terror. The arrested communists as well as the wole C. P. of Hungary will continue to carry on as in the past their fight against the present regime and for the re-establishment of the workers’ and peasants’ power.

The international proletariat must raise its voice in protest in order to wrest the brave fighters from the hands of the Hungarian terror.

The Revival of the Labour Movement in Egypt

By J. B. (Jerusalem).

Under the reactionary dictatorship of Zivar Pasha, even those remains of the Labour organisations, which had survived since the days of Mohandessin, were annihilated in Egypt. Since the victory of the Zaghlulists at the election in the summer of 1926 and the formation of the moderate Government of Adly Pasha, the Labour movement is gradually reviving.

Adly Pasha and the Zaghlulist majority in the Egyptian Parliament by no means of course, favour the Egyptian workers or the Communists. All the measures of the fight against communism have been demanded by the Adly Government. Every attempt of the workers at class organisation continues to meet with the most violent resistance, the anti-Communist laws are put into effect most meticulously, even with exaggeration, a special credit of 3000 pounds sterling has actually been demanded in order to form a “Department of the Ministry of the Interior to combat Bolshevism”, the Communist Member of the English Parliament, Saklatvala, has been refused entry to Egypt or even a transit visa.

At the same time however, the discontent of the workers is finding more and more frequent and clearer and clearer expression; a number of papers have dealt in detail with the conditions of the housing of the workers and with the measures of the employers, and their oppression by the employers, and have called upon the Government to intervene at once lest Communism “should be nurtured by the economic distress". In Parliament, a commission has been appointed to work out a law for the protection and insurance of workers, which is to be linked up with a law regarding the right of coalition of workers (which has hitherto not existed legally). On the occasion of the discussion of the Saklatvala affair in Parliament, several deputies belonging to the Zaghlul party and describing themselves as representatives of the workers, have advocated the revision of the resolution refusing a permit of entry.

All this is going on under the increasing pressure of the discontent of the workers which is making itself felt with ever-growing intensity. The tramway workers in Cairo, who possess a well organised trade union, have several times threatened to strike. Smaller Labour conflicts, in private factories and in those belonging to the Government, are the order of the day. Small incidents, often starting with partial strikes, as was the case in the printing-works of the “Wadi el Nil” (a large daily paper). One of the printing workers, who at the same time, published a weekly Labour journal of his own, was called upon by the owner of the printing-works to give up his paper. When he refused to do so, he was dismissed. Thereupon all the workers in the printing works went on strike in order to bring the employers to take back their comrades. The printing-works were closed down.

The result of a by-election for Parliament in the working class district of Minet el Basel is also characteristic. Whereas otherwise the candidates of the Zaghlul party are, without exception, elected wherever they put up, in this district a candidate supported by Zaghlul Pasha was opposed by Dr. M. Sabet, the chairman of the trade union organisation of Cairo (at the same time a radical Nationalist), the latter doing his canvassing with pronounced Labour slogans. The election contest was very keen, and finally Dr. Sabet carried off the victory.

Shortly after his election, Dr. Sabet declared that he was going to found a general Egyptian Labour movement, with a raper of its own and with sections in every town of the country. This organisation, if true, is to keep its activities within the scope of the law. A general Labour Congress is to take place in the immediate future, which is to declare the foundation of this organisation. Within the Zaghlulist party itself, the workers form the Left wing, and it is just within the Zaghlulist camp that various functionaries have repeatedly demanded a more resolute policy with regard to the English.

Thus we see that the struggle to improve the economic situation is proceeding hand in hand with the revival of the Labour movement in Egypt and with an intensification of the anti-imperialist fight.