

IN THE CAMP OF SOCIAL DEMOCRACY

International Social Fascism Supports MacDonald's Imperialist Terror in India.

By V. Chattopadhyaya.

The Executive Committee of the Social Fascist, Social Imperialist International has just concluded a two days' session at Zuerich and has added another chapter to its glorious record of treachery to the working class and to the colonial peoples. The full report of its proceedings are not yet to hand, but from the summary of the second day's discussion contained in the "Vorwärts" of August 24th, the organ of the German Social Fascist Party, we learn that the originally planned agenda was extended by the discussion of two problems — unemployment and India.

These additions were indeed natural, for the British "Labour Party" plays a dominant role in that International, and badly needs the moral support of the other European and American Social Fascists for its policy, as these two problems — unemployment and India — are just those that are exposing

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's "Labour" Government most ruthlessly as agents of British Fascism at home and lackeys of British Imperialism in the colonial countries.

For MacDonald's regime of terror against the masses of India in their struggle for national independence, moral support was given by the same Executive at its special meeting held in Berlin on May 11th and 12th of this year, when a resolution was passed which ran as follows:

"The Executive recalls the Resolution of the Brussels Congress of the L.S.I. which recognises the rights of the peoples of India of self-determination."

"It is convinced that through negotiations between the British Labour Government and the representatives of all sections of the Indian population that right can be exercised under the safest and most effective conditions."

"It is confident that the British Labour Government will make these negotiations possible, that in order to facilitate them it will consider an amnesty for political prisoners as soon as possible and that it will conduct the negotiations in such a manner that they will lead as early as possible to full responsible self-government."

That resolution contained **no word of condemnation** for the methods by which the interests of British imperialism were being maintained in India by a member of the Second International — suppression of the freedom of speech, of the press and of assembly, bribery and corruption, brutal prison torture, police and military terror, mass arrests, hangings and shootings, and government by machine guns, tanks, and bombing planes.

On the contrary, the Social Fascist International gave every encouragement to the "Labour" Government to make possible such negotiations with the Indian princes, landlords, capitalists and nationalist and labour reformist traitors, as might make it possible to make India safe for British Imperialism.

But the resolution on India just passed at the Zuerich meeting by these unabashed international agents of Fascism and Imperialism goes even further than the Berlin resolution. Its full text deserves quotation:

"The Executive takes cognisance of the declarations made by Comrade Gillies on behalf of the British Labour Party and Comrade Brockway on behalf of the Independent Labour Party, and renews the expression of its confidence that the Labour Government of Great Britain will succeed in giving satisfaction in accordance with the fundamental principles of Socialism and of the Labour Movement, to the demands of the Indian peoples for self-government. It recalls the Berlin Resolution of the Executive on this question, and expresses again the hope that the granting of a political amnesty to India as soon as possible and to as large a degree as possible, and the simultaneous cessation of the movement of civil disobedience will make it possible to carry through successfully the Round Table Conference."

This is exactly the hope that is being expressed by all the three Imperialist Parties of Great Britain, but there are a few remarkable features about the new resolution that need pointing out. Firstly the political amnesty suggested is to be granted "to as large a degree as possible", reflecting the change in the demands of British Imperialism since last May when the Berlin Resolution was passed. Secondly, the Executive passed the resolution after having heard not only the official Labour Party representative but also Fenner Brockway, who calls himself an "anti-imperialist". The resolution was carried unanimously, the **whole British delegation abstaining from voting**. In other words, while the British delegation wished the support of MacDonald's imperialist policy in India to come unanimously from the rest of the International, the resolution itself had the approval of Brockway also and shows once again how the two sections of the "Labour" Party work hand in hand. Thirdly, the resolution definitely accepts the British Empire as compatible with the fundamental principles of Socialism, for it urges the "Labour Government" — not to withdraw its army from India, not to abandon its repression and terror, not to recognise India's claim to independence, but — to grant India "self-government" i. e. self-government within the British Empire "in accordance with the fundamental principles of Socialism and of the Labour movement!"

Once again, too, we have in the Zuerich resolution the

same imperialist phrase about the "peoples" of India (not people of India), one of the cunningly invented phrases by which British Imperialism has created the impression of the hopeless diversity of races, religions etc. that make it absolutely essential to maintain in India the whole murderous machinery of the "Pax Britannica".

If the Executive of the Second International believe that their resolutions purporting to give support to Indian "self-government" will ever deceive the Indian masses, they are sadly mistaken. The frantic efforts of these international traitors to the working class to prop up the tottering fabric of imperialism will be frustrated by the heroic struggle of the Indian masses themselves, who clearly recognise the role of Zuerich, Amsterdam and Geneva in the maintenance of the vast system of imperialist exploitation of which they have been so long the victims.

Their fight for full national independence and social freedom will be continued and successfully terminated, notwithstanding the bombs and guns of the Second International and notwithstanding the cowardly compromises and treachery of the nationalist bourgeoisie and of Joshi, Chaman Lal, Shiva Rao, Bakhale, Ginwala, Ruikar and Co — who are the Indian counterparts of Otto Bauer and Fenner Brockway.

There is one other colonial problem that was dealt with by the Zuerich Social Imperialist Fraternity. They protested against the "extermination of the Kurds", but they have not said one word to point out the bloodstained hand of British imperialism in Kurdistan. The British Secret Service has financed and armed the Kurds to revolt, and the Kurds themselves probably believe that they are really fighting for their national independence. But when even the bourgeois world is protesting against this criminal deception practised upon the Kurdish people by and in the interests of British imperialism and militarism, the "Socialists" assembled at Zuerich have given whole-hearted support to Britain's nefarious Kurdish plans by expressing sympathy with Kurdish "independence". At the same time, however, India shall not be independent, but shall have self-government within the British Empire. The contradiction is only apparent. India is already a monopoly of British Imperialism and has to be prevented from becoming independent, while Kurdistan has yet to be conquered by British Imperialism by making the Kurds fight with British money and British guns for their independence — from the Turks and Persians! Incidentally, Britain's military base against the Soviet Union is thereby pushed up northwards closer to the Soviet frontier. It is therefore no accident that the Second International intervenes in order to help the Kurds to jump from the frying pan into the fire. This too, is in strict "accordance" with the fundamental principles of socialism and of the labour movement.

M. Vandervelde Goes on Tour.

By H. Valetzki (Moscow).

The President of the Second International, the one-time Minister of the King of Belgium, is undertaking a trip to China and Japan. M. Vandervelde has already had dealings with China. That was in the year 1926, when in his capacity of Foreign Minister he accused China before the Hague Court of Arbitration of a "one-sided" dissolution of the Belgo-Chinese Treaty of 1837 and protested most indignantly against the violation of Belgian "interests", represented by the Concessionaires and Missionaries. But all this is now past history. The situation in China has changed "for the better" since then. It is possible to "have dealings" with the present Chinese government, which represents capitalist interests, the more so as this government is urgently in need of the support of the imperialists against the inner dangers threatening it on all sides.

The protean M. Vandervelde is therefore proceeding to China not as an official representative of the government, nor as the head of the International of the social democrats, but as a private person and scholar. He has been invited by the "Chinese National Committee for Scientific Research" in order to give lectures at a number of universities on the contemporary social movement, provincial and communal self-administration of Belgium, international economic relations, and the organisation of peace. These themes, as one sees, are quite harmless, which leads one to hope that during his public appearance in China there will not be among his Chinese auditors any tactless people to whom it might occur to remind the