AS THE IMPERIALIST WAR DRAGS ON IT IS TIME FOR THE SCATTERED FORCES OF THE WORLD REVOLUTION REDOUBLE THEIR EFFORTS FOR THE TASK OF PREPARING TO MEET SOCIAL COLLAPSE WITH THE REVOLU-TIONARY MESSAGE TO THE WORKERS: NO COMPROMISE WITH THE FORCES REFORMISM OR REACTION. ORGANISATION FOR THE SOCIAL REVOLUTION.

(From Anarchist Federation Aims & Principles Leaflet)

Vol. 6, No. 4.

9th DECEMBER, 1944

Fortnightly, 2d.

# LIES FIGHT FOR OLD ORDER

SINCE THE GERMAN ARMIES lost the initiative in the war and were placed on the defensive, the events in Europe have been increasingly disillusioning to those who saw the conflict as one between progressive and reactionary forces. Ever since they gained the initiative the Allied High Command have had repeated opportunities of acting in a way which might feed the hopes of those who support the war on anti-Fascist grounds. Yet on every occasion, so far from acting on these opportunities, they have shown themselves to be the mainstay

Such behaviour comes as no surprise to us. Before the war, and from its start, we have frequently reiterated what should be a self-evident truth: that Governments represent ruling class interests only, and can therefore only behave in a reactionary direction. Ruling classes everywhere have a record of friendliness with, or appeasement of, Fascist administrations. War Commentary saw from the outset that the leopards do not change their spots, and has proclaimed the fact in and out of season since.

The recent events in Europe strikingly bear out the Anarchist view of the war. It was not we who acclaimed Churchill as a progressive, determined anti-Fascist. Rather sourly (as our critics thought) we harped on his past record of friendliness with Mussolini, admiration for Hitler, and hatred for revolutionary workers, whether in Russia in 1918 to 1921, or in this country in 1926. And Churchill merely reflected the attitude of the ruling class of the British Empire. Their attitude in Manchukuo in 1931, in Abyssinia in 1935, in Spain in 1936, remained unchanged in Italy in 1943, and in France, Belgium, and Greece at the present moment. Elsewhere in this issue the events in Europe are reported. It is important that the significance of their general trend be fully appreciated.

In Italy, in France, in Greece, and in Belgium, the path of the Allied Armies has been made smooth by the spontaneous activity of resistance movements. These groups have shown the truth of the Anarchist contention that the way to freedom lies through insurrectionary movements against the ruling power. The truth of this is certainly recognized by the Allied

leaders. Now that the Nazi administrations have been overthrown mainly by these insurrectionary movements, the Allies are anxious to secure to themselves or their puppets, de Gaulle, Pierlot, Papandreou and the rest, the effective reins of power. Their first move therefore has been to try and deprive the resistance movements of their arms lest they should themselves be overthrown. Moreover, since the economic stability (in a class sense) of "liberated" territories depends on the owners of industry, they have also supported them and protected their interests and property. And they have done this regardless of whether the employers have collaborated with the German forces of occupation. Of course, most the them have collaborated; the Nazis needed them in order to keep the workers in subjection; and they needed the Nazi government, just as they now need the Allied governments, in order to main-

tain their positions of power and privilege.

The Italians do not want Bonomi,

Plan Examined

A NARCHISIS have always opposed power being placed in the hands of a body of men, however allegedly disinterested, and the enormous powers that have been

placed in war-time in the hands of indisputably self-centred vested interests and bureau-

cratic politicians, can only strengthen the Anarchist determination to oppose all forms of

government. The fatal attraction of playing with human beings like children with toy

soldiers, is by no means confined to Prussian Junkers. The war has given power to

bureaucracy more than was ever dreamed of by home-grown fascists who always expected resistance to their aim of total rule. Save for an isolated handful, the Ministry of Labour

and did not want Badoglio or Umberto. The French Maquis bitterly re-sented de Gaulle's disarmament decree. Th Greeks have many time expressed their views about the Greek puppet government. The riots and demonstrations in Brussels and elsewhere in Belgium leave no doubt as to the attitude of the Belgian workers towards Pierlot. Yet all these unwanted rulers owe their continued existence in power to the support given to them by Allied arms. None the less, the phenomenon is not new. The German people did not want Hitler, yet his régime was assisted and maintained by financiers and politicians who are now vociferously (though not very convincingly) in the 'Anti-fascist' camp. Franco was unequivocally rejected by the Spanish people; yet Franco is only able to hang on in Spain

# The French Strugg The ruling class is seriously weakened and divi-Goes on ded and the executions and arrests of great

(By a French Correspondent) THE insurrection which has opened Paris to the Allies has not terminated its task. The enthusiasm of the first days of victory has by now been dissipated and the forces which used to make up the Resistance Movement are dividing themselves in the face of the problems created by the

The most striking thing in France to-day is the deep separation between the new governmental institutions and the people. The Government promulgates decrees, concentrates in its hands the legislative and executive power until Parliament will meet again at an uncertain date. On the other hand, over the whole country, the population of the towns, of the isolated communes, act independently having grown accustomed to use their own initiative and take an active part in political events.

## Freedom of the Press

The first clashes between the Government and the people have been caused by the question of the status of the F.F.I. and the question of the freedom of the Press. The question of the Press was quickly solved, the Government realised that its decrees were completely disregarded and dropped them. But the most important measure was the disarmament of the civilian population, and its incorporation into regular The militarisation of a few F.F.I. detachments and their participation in the war against Germany has been portrayed as an acknowledgement of the rights of the Resistance Government which succeeded, in that way, in liquidating irregular troops whose spirit of in-dependence was suspect. This is a repetition of what happened in Spain during the civil war when the workers' militia was put under the

Not everyone has given up arms in France articularly in the working class districts of Paris and the provincial towns. In the South 100,000 Spaniards fight with the Maquis. They are veterans of the Spanish revolution and don't intend to give up the struggle now that de Gaulle is in power. There are also some F.F.I. groups who continue to recruit adherents.

# Disarming the Militias

The conflict between the legal power and the militias has reached its climax with the project of disarmament of the "patriotic militias". The militias are represented by the C.N.R. (National Committee of Resistance), largely influenced by the Communist Party which tries to preserve the principle of armed militias while at the same time tries to weaken its character by reducing the militias to the role of a police force. The C.N.R. and the Communist Party are in a difficult position, divided between their loyalty to the Government and the pressure exerted upon them by the militants of the Resistance who understand clearly that they must remain armed if they are to bring about the great social changes which are inherent to their struggle.

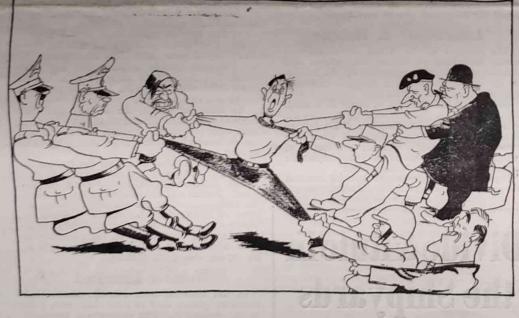
The militias, owing to their character, could become the nests of revolutionary agitation. first of all the political sifting out inside the militias must be completed. The groups which adhere to authoritarian programmes should join the Right Wing parties. The other sections of the F.F.I. if they preserve their character, largely popular and democratic, could become important centres for revolutionary militants.

The Socialists, but above all the Communists, are at present exerting the greatest influence on the Resistance Movement, but the Communists will maintain their influence only as long as they don't disappoint the people who have fought to bring about a change in French Social order.

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personalities has destroyed the little respect there was for the State. The people feel that they can obtain what they want through their own initiative once they see clearly what they want. Getting Ready for War Again

General de Gaulle gave, a short time ago, a very frank exposé of the situation in France after its liberation. It appears that the occu-pation has been less costly than the war carried out on French soil by the Allies. Important out on French soil by the Allies. Important towns and harbours, roads and bridges have been destroyed and thousands of people have been killed by Allied bombing. Peasants have lost their herds, their crops have been destroyed and de Gaulle points out bitterly; "The Allies don't fight to liberate us or to provision our



towns, they fight for their personal interests".

The situation in France is a difficult one, said de Gaulle. Agricultural machinery is worn out, almost useless, most factories need to be reequipped. Transport will not be put in order for months and as a result the feeding of the cities will suffer. The reconstruction of destroyed towns appears to be a formidable task which will require a great quantity of man power. The General concludes that France must take part in the war effort, must be represented on all fronts, must mobilise its industry in order to satisfy the needs of the Allies; the merchant marine, must, as all other means of transport be primarily used to carry war material.

Bearing this in mind the nationalisation of key industries does not appear as a revolutionary measure but as a step which will help the imperialist policy of the French Government. All political parties are in complete agreement with this policy. The Communists demand posts for their leaders Duclos, Thorez and Cachin in the Consultative Assembly and sum up their pro-gramme by these words: "Make war and work".

From all this it appears that the Government and political parties aim at re-establishing the authority of the State and participating as much as possible in the war. As far as the vital needs the population are concerned, food, clothes, etc., they are almost entirely neglected. Furthermore mobilisation orders have been issued and the country will suffer as it has never suffered before.

The social policy of the Vichy government which squeezed all the resources out of the country in order to feed the German war machine and the policy of the de Gaulle govern-ment are fundamentally the same. Both serve the same interests, the same bankers, the same industrialists; both accept the same principle of exploitation of the workers. Nationalisation merely represents a greater concentration of capitalist economy. Functioning under the control of the State it can exploit the workers even more ruthlessly than private capitalism.

Some comrades have thought, after the Paris insurrection, that the workers had missed their opportunity. Those comrades think by histori-

cal analogies. In my opinion the German defeat was so rapid that the uprising did not have time to take a revolutionary character and to transform itself in another commune. The cities abandoned by the Germans have been immediately occupied by the Allies' military forces. A new administration prepared in advance has taken the place of the Vichy government. The masses had not had time to test their political leaders and to organise themselves.

The march towards insurrection continues. The political division is now taking place. The Government, the right wing parties, the parties of the Resistance, the Communists and the Socialists are all engaging themselves on a road which separates them from the masses. The workers, the peasants, the small employers have to find a solution quickly, or they may not be able to survive. It is imperative for them to put an end to the parasitism of the Government and the destruction of the war.

The workers in June 1936 organised stay-in strikes extremely efficiently. To-day those workers are well-trained in the technique of civil war and underground struggle. To the policy of nationalisation the workers could answer with the formation of factory committees which would control production and produce goods needed for the people and not for the war machine.

If these steps were taken they would lead in-evitably to insurrection, but this perspective is the only possible one if class-consciousness reaches its logical conclusion. The workers must, above all things, distinguish sharply between their own struggle and that of the imperialist war. For this reason there can be only one foreign policy for the French working-class: to refuse to let itself be mobilised and to kill or be killed in the struggle against Germany. Its foreign policy is the fraternisation with the German working class and this fraternisation has already manifested itself during the Paris in-

The best "prestige" France could get would be to give the signal of revolt to the oppressed classes against their masters, against the State and to give back their freedom to the colonial people in the "Empire".

## the question of demobilization arises. But the Ministry of Labour Barons and the Industrial-ists are unwilling to see the workers selling their labour to the highest bidder, and are stalling. the insurance schemes provide the thin edge of the wedge for industrial conscription in peace-

The Reallocation

This is the moment chosen by the Canadian Government to extend conscription; and even in America, which has not adopted an Essential Works Order, the government is discussing peacetime conscription, Roosevelt and his hierarchy, the election behind them, point out how "healthy" this would be. The British Labour Party openly praises the principle of industrial conscription, and its own man, Ernest Bevin, the wartime gauleiter of labour, must have had a main part in preparing the Government's White Paper on the "Re-Allocation of Man-

With the end of the war in sight, however,

# GREECE

"We shall not hesitate to use the considerable British Army now in Greece, and being reinforced, to see that law and order are maintained." -CHURCHILL.

After four years the "liberation" of Greece has begun. Not much time for celebrations is allowed the Greeks, before the iron heel of the new conquerors stamps down resistance as the former conquerors had done before them.

On Sunday 3rd December the Greek Government police fired on thousands of unarmed demonstrators, wounding and killing. British tanks patrolled the streets to keep order, and R.A.F. Spitfires and bombers flew over Athens "demonstration flights". It is only too evident what they were demonstrating.

General Scobie, G.O.C. in Greece, proelaimed martial law in Athens and the Piracus. He declared:

"I reiterate that with the vast majority of Greeks I stand firmly behind the Constitutional Government and shall aid them to the limit of my recourses and until the Greek State can be established with lawful armed force behind it and free elections can be held".

He backs the monarchist semi-fascist government of George of the Hellenes and Papandreou, and intends to restore it by "lawful armed force". "Unlawful armed force" is always, of course, what the other side uses. We must remember that the pre-Hitler Greek State was a dictatorship since the "Constitu-State was a dictatorship since the Constitu-tional Government" ruled autocratically and did not permit even the pretence of "free elections". Hence the fine phrase of standing "firmly behind the Constitutional Govern-ment" simply means to force a dictatorship upon the Greeks who have for so long fought against the Nazi dictatorship.

has had no determined resistance. So many have followed the paths dictated for them that the task of the conscriptionists has been simple. Hence total conscription, for war-The White Paper shows clearly that we have been trapped by the thieves of freedom. They are not talking about *Demobilization*—which means coming out altogether—but of Re-Allo-cation, which means being directed from one military or industrial job to another. Already

time; the youth organizations provide the open-

ing for peacetime military conscription. Some politicians, for vote-catching purposes, try to attach some "idealistic" meaning to all this, but the fact remains that we were promised a better world after the war, and all that remains of it in small change is the promise of a few more shillings on the dole for a shorter period. We were told to defend freedom and now find conscription, which is clearly the opposite of freedom. As Churchill himself said, "We now no longer presume that there will be no more war." When the country was in danger, all from the highest downwards made the most fulsome promises; now it is rescued, "the war has lost its ideological character"

### Individual Resistance to Conscription

When Bevin came into power the entire press, from right to left, loudly acclaimed his "aggressively working class ways." Other dictators have insisted on their "proletarian origins" (even the Ministry of Information could scarcely do this for Churchill, however!), and we spared nothing in Bevin's case. But since that time, Bevin has created a vast bureaucracy for the purposes of telling people what to do. It is not true that the individual can do nothing against all this conscriptionist machinery. The objector who simply falls into line with the rest does indeed achieve nothing; and the Central Board for Conscientious Objectors in its pamphlet "The C.O. and the Future" has no vision beyond following the leadership in its proposals for C.O. demobilization. It is fortunate indeed that a former generation fought hard for such con-cessions as C.O.'s have, for many would now follow the passive line. (Continued on p. 4, col. 3)

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# SUNDAY MEETINGS

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# COMMENTARY

spain and the WORLD and REVOLT

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ceause he is supported by Churchill nd the interests Churchill represents.

and the interests Churchill represents. The Allied Government support reaction on the Continent, just as they have always supported it. Their actions give the lie to the high sounding slogans of the early years of the war—the war for freedom, the people's war, and the rest. War Commentary came into existence to point out the course which the war was bound to take. The present position is not fortuitous; it was instrument of reaction, and cannot act otherwise than in a reactionary manner.

otherwise than in a reactionary manner.

But War Commentary in its first number, more than five years ago, also pointed the way whereby the war could be ended, and Fascism and reaction wiped away for ever. Anarchists held then, and hold now, that the anti-Fascist struggle must be a revolutionary struggle. The overthrow of existing property relations, and the destruction of the monopoly of power in the hands of the State will bring the war rapidly to an end. Beginning in one country, the social revolution will quickly spread all over Europe, perhaps all over the world. At the present moment in Europe the Social Revolution is a possibility. The Resistance movements are not however animated by any clear intentions as regards property relations. Moreover, the most vocal sections in them are devoted to the reaction. Communists and other political groupings within the movement of the workers constantly urge collaboration with the government even when they appear to be in opposition. They have supported the principle of disarming the militias, limiting their opposition to technicallities.

militias, limiting their opposition to technicalities.

Despite this the situation is a critical one. Because of the part they have played in the underground resistance, large sections of the workers arms. And the disarming which has gone on with the aid of Allied soldiers has been far from complete even according to reformist sources. An armed population is difficult for a government to coerce. And with arms in their hands workers are less respectful of the "rights" of property. Moreover, the food situation is one which makes the populations very impatient of the private control of economy. On the other hand, governments have learned to use food supplies as a means of coercion. (German civilians are not forced to work for the Allied Occupation Forces; but they are not given ration cards if they don't). The important fact about the situation is that, faced with an armed population the governments are weak, even though they are backed by the Allied Armies.

In such circumstances, if the workers are the initiative if they disre-

In such circumstances, if the work-ers took the initiative; if they disre-garded the politicians and took over the factories, mines, transport and farms; they would have put their hand to the central problem of food supply and economy. It is true that they would instantly provide onen opnosito the central problem of food supply and economy. It is true that they would instantly provoke open opposi-tion from the Allied Governments; they would have to be prepared for intervention. But British and Ameri-can soldiers are, like them, workers. They hate Fascism, and are increas-ingly disgusted by the rôle their re-actionary rulers ask them to play. Direct revolutionary action will win their sympathy far more effectively than timid half measures.

near sympathy tar more effectively han timid half measures.

Delay always favours the ruling dass; every day they are perfecting heir counter-revolutionary preparaions, strengthening their feeble puppets. The working class should occupy the means of production and thereby secure to themselves the means of its while they yet have arms in their hands. Soon it may be too late. The ruling classes in Europe are seared, and will therefore be ruthless. If they succeed, with Allied help, in re-establishing their power, they will not hesitate to use starvation and the most brutal instruments of oppression to secure themselves once more. The signs are clear enough, Decisive action on the economic field provides the only hope for the future of millions of working class men, women and children throughout Europe — perhaps, throughout the world,

# Shall we back the Unions?

THE following article is to initiate a discussion on the trade unions and the attitude of the revolutionary towards their present position. The revolutionary is to-day pressed by conflicting advice as workers tear up their union cards, curse betrayals or leave the branch meetings near empty; as the militants of the trade unions turn in their shop stewards' cards in disgust. Some urge us to shepherd the workers back into the unions, others say, "Let the rot go on; the unions are past saving." This article is not the law of the Medes and Persians, which once spoken not even the king himself may alter. It is not the last word on the subject. Readers are invited to send us their contribution to the discussion. All we ask is that they shall remember that conditions vary greatly in many parts of the country. Do not generalise freely from one man's experience. We seek a view of the whole of the country.

To avoid unfairness to those who cry, "Back to the unions," I will not attempt to state their case before replying to it. Instead I will use a statement of this viewpoint which recently appeared in the Trostsyits Socialist Appeal in the form of two lengthy articles, entitled "Fight Breakaways in the Unions" and headed:

to state, triumfly I observed; to the union bureaucraits have rections: The effects of the activities of the union bureaucraits have been seen all over the country, but most seriously in places where militant struggles of the orders have taken place. More tenders have become cynicion and distillusioned in the unions as a result. Many worker have torn up their cards, or cash paying dues, because, they say: The Union is only a racket,

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# THE FACTORY COMMITTEE

It is in the shop of factory committee that the apologist of fancy when he says:

"One thing solicit comes out very strongly in all the beats around ready rouds, to the fact that the Shap Strongly and the Sha Committee, continue to have the unbounded confidence of a conductor.

# Allies Disarm Belgium Workers

"A LLIED forces will assist the Belgian Government in ensuring respect for the law and maintenance of order."

This military proclamation issued by General Erskine, commanding the British Army in Belgium is the keynote of the present situation in that country.

sent situation in that country.

The Belgian people are on the verge of starvation (U.N.N.R.A.'s activity has been conspicuous by its absence). Pierlot's government has banned all political meetings and reinforced the power of the police. The Resistance Movement, without whose aid the rapid Allied advance through Belgium would have been impossible, has been disarmed. The industrialists, bankers and financiars who for four years collaborted with the Nazis are the main supporters of the Pierlot régime; their support is reinforced by British bayonets. The workers are on the verge of open revolt.

These are the bare facts of the situation in

These are the bare facts of the situation in Belgium. The starving people are submitted to a regime differing little from that of the Nazi occupation.

#### Pierlot & Co. Ltd.

Pierlot & Co. Ltd.

In 1940, at the time of the German advance through the Netherlands, Pierlot and his government left Brussels hurriedly. Pierlot, as Judgian Frime Minister, calcular at the time of the Common Compilation and announced that the overnment's function had ended, resistance was over, and the members of the government could retire to private life. Before leaving Brussels, however, (according to the Liberal Demiire Heure quoted by Tribune, 24/11/44) Pierlot had called together five financial leaders and instructed them "to counsel the nation and maintain production."

The meaning of the first half of this message.

fortunately for Pierlot & Co., the reinstatu of their government was not one of the ain which the Resistance groups were fighting.

### "Liberation" & Hunger

"Liberation" & Hunger
The advance of the Allied armies through
France and Belgium during the summer and
autumn was helped considerably by the activity
of the underground forces in both countries.

In view of the facts stated above it is small
wonder that after the liberation of Belgium the
workers did not greet Pierlot and his fellowcalles with any show of enthusiasm when they
returned to Brisusch. Without the threat of
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Divide&Rulein

# the Shipyards Merseyside. The transfer of labour from the lighter industries into heavy engineering and the shippyards is bringing to the forefront the question of women and other dilutees. The unions content that the women should go first when come under review later. The unions content that the women should go first when come under review later. The growth of the skilled men are directed away they can maintain a greater power over the semi-skilled workers with continual threats of dismissal. The results is that many skilled workers are being transferred away from their homes. Naturally, this is causing a great deal of unrest amongst regular workers. Many skilled workers feel strongly in the strong was also the strong with the strong was a strong with the strong was and trained for a different class of work. The unions merely tend to increase that confusion. Some unions demand that women and other dilutees should be first to go while other unions that cater for this class of labour are not in agreement. This, of course, makes the bosses gloat and say "obviously they are desirous of protecting their own members". The Ministry of Labour and the bosses are emplained unions. This business serves to expose the union racket and clearly shows the weaknesses of organisation which we have always tried to point out. To meet this problem there is only one solution and it is the only solution that will solve the post-war unemployment which is already being felt. Workers everywhere whether skilled or unskilled, are workers and should remain loyal to each other. They should not allow the unions or the bosses to create artificial difference. One shippard, one unlon, is the only method of organisation.

In this situation came Pierlot's decree: the resistance groups were to hand their arms over to the authorities. The government obviously feared direct action on the part of the armod workers.

Erskine, on behalf of British Imperialism supported this decree, and ordered British military police to stand by in order to assist the Belgian authorities.

of recolutionary action. This may are any have began.

The Allied authorities have made their position clear—to preserve law and order, that is to preserve the capitalist system. The policy applied in N. Africa, Italy and France is to be repeated. Reaction is to be bolstered up by British bayonets.

Our task as workers, whether in uniform or overalls is clear. Our place is at the side of our class comrades, our allies are the workers internationally. Let us make sure that Churchill does not get away with wars of intervention as he was allowed to your apathy at the end of the last worldwar. Hands off social revolution in Europe!

KEN HAWKES

# Can You Afford It?

At has been liberated now for over a year and one would expect the blessings of Allied no make themselves fell, yet all reports on out of the country show that the country show that the country show that the country for the plight cut is shown in this accountry for the plight cut is accountry for the plant accountry for the pl

the food second of the people residence monopoles people's interest by their occumentation of the people residence of the Press and of the people shall be people of the peop

#### What Starvation Means

What Starvation Means be word stravation has been so extensively a since the beginning of the war that we all ri with a certain callouing the war that we all ri with a certain callouing the state of the startes, is starves, Greece, Polandas. China starves, is starves, Greece, Polandas, China starves, is starves, Greece, Polandas, china starves, is starves, Greece, Polandas, and the startes, is startes, is startes, is startes, is startes, and in the seems merely in the order of things, well seems merely in the order of things, and in the general pattern of war and occupation. This fatalistic attitude towards starvation most revoluting and pernicious. The famine Italy, as the famine in India is a man-made innew which could be easily remedied if the ople of the world were free to act in a natural densible way. Inflation and black-marketing could be stamped out by the spontaneous tion of the people if a trificial rates of exchange are not fixed by the Government and if black-racketers were not protected by the police. nortage of food could be remedied by increasing

production (this would be possible if the farmers and peasants were given some help instead of being submitted to forced requisitions) and by imports if the usual red herring, shortage of transport, was not brought up to prevent any action being taken.

Every man or woman should feel that starvation in other countries is his or her responsibility. It is with this in mind that we quote some of the heart-breaking descriptions of starvation in Italy. The Italian people should not be pitied but practical steps should be taken to help them.

some of the heart-breaking descriptions of starvation in Italy. The Italian people should not be pitied but practical steps should be taken to help them.

In Life, 19th June, 1944, a U.S. soldier describes the misery war has brought to the people of a small Sardninan town:

"We can't help thinking unwillingly we have helped bring this degradation to Borgovceehio. We can't help thinking unwillingly we have helped bring this degradation to Borgovceehio. We can't help feeling humble about the appalling job of repairing and feeding and cleaning that faces us. We know that so far we have not done nearly enough of this job.

You catch the full impact of the town as soon as your vehicle reaches the main square and is swallowed up by its mobs of children, who run through the fifthy streets like a remained by the same of the same o

the U.S. soldier describes:

"One boy of 9 years is the most persistent and the most successful too, judging from the groups of the G.Ls. who engage him in serious conversation and then follow him to the lower end of the town where is sister, a prostitute, holds busy court. He has a stump for a right arm, lost when our bombers blasted an important coastal city; both his parents were killed at that time. He now spends the entire day pimping about town for his sister and managing the line of soldiers that forms outside her doorway".

This is not an isolated case; the Manchester Guardian correspondent reports an increase of prostitution in Rome and the anarchist paper Rivoluzione Liberaria, published in Southern Italy gives some arresting facts as to the extent of child prostitution. In one hospital alone in Naples 4,000 women affected by veneral diseases were examined over a period of a fortight, hospital there are girls contaminated and pregnant who are 13, 12 and even ten and a half years old. A girl of twelve had been admitted into a hospital suffering from injuries. She had been beaten up by her father because she could not earn more than 2,000 lire per day while her sister, fourteen years old, carned from 4,000 to 5,000 lire.

The Official Attitude

It cannot be said that the Government in this country and in America are unaware of the terrible conditions, within a light in the conditions of the conditions a country and in America are unaware of the terrible conditions.

sister, fourteen years old, carned from 4,000 to 5,000 lire.

The Official Attitude

It cannot be said that the Government in this country and in America are unaware of the terrible conditions existing in Italy to-day. The report of the Trade Union delegation who visited Italy during the summer of this year states the facts very plainly. After pointing out that people who have a job earn between 50 and 150 lire per day it goes on to say that "a very modest mean in year of the trade of the trade

"humanitarian" said:
"It was not a question of coddling the Italian people but to see that the populations are put into a state of repose behind the Army. The infant mostsliy in Bome is now 50 per cent. Every tenth man or woman you pass on the street in Rome will be a corps before the end of the year. He reminded the Council that Italy was the centre of the Catholie world. Should U.N.R.R.A. express a lack of interest this fact would be commonicated far and wide to persons in occupied areas and throughout the world.

If Rome had been the centre of the Moslem or Buddhits world U.N.R.R.A. would not have felt compelled to help its inhabitants!

The Mythy of the Events of the Standard Parketing of the Moslem or Buddhits world U.N.R.R.A. would not have felt compelled to help its inhabitants!

felt compelled to help its inhabitants!

The Myth' of the Freedom of The Press

In a country where people starve there never is any freedom of the Press as the Government has to take every possible step to suppress popular criticisms and urrest. Officially the liberty of the Press has been reintroduced in Italy bite in fact the decrees governing the Press which have become effective as from the 1st August, 1944, give power to prevent or to sop any publication to the Prefent (beads of the administration in a department and to a Commission composed of officials; most of whom were appointed during the fiscist regime.

The decree states that whoever wants to issue any publication, even if it is not a proidical, must ask permission to the Administration of the

As far as the Army goes, perhaps the two most significant events of November were: The declaration by General Erskine that the Army of "Liberation" would be used, if needed, against the workers of Belgium; and the anti-Conscription and anti-Government protests by the Canadian soldiers.

The first of these is conclusive proof—if any further proof were necessary—of the cold-blooded reactionary principles guiding the Allied leaders, in London, Washington and Moscow. Our glorious Liberating Armies are not wading through mud and blood to free their brother-workers of the Condinent. No! They are there, like a huge aggressive police force, to keep the workers down, and to help in the establishment of the brutal oppression of espitialst. Earning what soldiers think shout this, particularly those serving with the British "Liberating" Army. The demonstrations in Canada are very interesting, too. We all know the tough and adventurous spirits of Canadian boys and therefore no one can accuse them of cowardice in wanting to remain in Canada. The fact is, that they, like many others, are seeing through this war racket, only instead of taking it lying down, they are putting their views into "direct action" much

Forces Corner

#### Only the Names Change

Therefore the greatest suspicion the news that the greatest suspicion the news that the present of the third present of third present of the third present of third present of th

#### against restrictions on their freedom

against restrictions:
On Monday, November 27th, 2,000 dockers and stevedores at the Surrey Commercial Docks struck work over an issue which was deliberately distorted in the capitalist press. The men struck work to emphasize their refusal to use a new covered-in control point, the first covered building to be opened in the Port of London area. Immediately they were attacked and ridiculed in the capitalist press, which propagated the idea that the men had been given brand-new sheds in which to work in comfort and that the men had scorned this new-fangled comfort. A different picture is presented when one has conversations with the men concerned.

Previously for generations, the dockers, their fathers and grandfathers, had stood around in the cobbled roads, wet or fine, to "prove attendance", wait for work or draw their weekly pay. Now, in this elightened twentieth century the bosses give them a covered shelter in which to assemble. The dockers took one look at the shelter and

walked out. Their objections were heard on Monday but to reinforce their arguments walked out. Their objections were heard on Monday but to reinforce their arguments they struck work for one day. The authorities will discuss the situation at the end of the week. The main grievance of the dockers was that in return for a little physical comfort they were forced to give up their freedom. They considered the control points to be like concentration camps. They felt that they were being herded into them like a bunch of sheep into a knacker-house. From a long and tough experience they know that the bosses never give anything away. If work was available for all the control-points would not be necessary. Within the control-point the dock bureaucracy could keep a more strict control of labour than was possible in the open streets or yard. When these moves are seen in conjunction with a potential increase in man-power and mechanisation of the police force, it is obvious that the bosses are making rapid preparations for the unemployed after the war.

#### Dockers Strike in Protest

#### LIBERATING = SCROUNGING

Changes of Army slang mark changes in mood, and they usually tend as war goes on to become increasingly cynical. "Scrounge" in flast war, for instance, became "make" or "win", and in the early stages of this war if you got extra leave or petrol or rations you were said to have "organised" them. The latest variant I have heard was in a conversation in a train where a soldier opposite said to his friend: "That's a fine coat you have. Where did you liberate that?"

The New Statesman & Nation, 2/12/44.

the



Pleading guilty at Salford vesterday to

Press

A Commando Writes

Good for them!

The following is an extract from a letter sent by R.M., a commando serving with the B.L.A.:

"I have been reading War Continentary and other of your publications for about nin months and during this period my attitude towards 'your' work has developed from a purely academic interest into an intense desire to bears encrything possible on Anarchiam, on as to make myself more fit to enlighten the politically 'unconscious' amongst my comrades and to take up the challenge against Tories, Socialists and other shades of polities. No longer will it be 'your' but 'our' work.

"We in the largest must goods."

of polities. No longer will it he 'your' have work.

"We in the forces must realize that now, as never before, must we stimulate interest in our views. Now, before the lads in this forces, realizing the ruling closives grow betrayal of the realized closive strength of the strength of t

# VANSITARIISTS American Labour has abandoned its hitherto consistent policy of differentiating between the Nazis and the German people and now demands attern punishment of the entire nation. Six hundred delegates of the Congress of International Organisations in the convention at Chicago yesterday side-tracked all other business to carry without a single dissentient vote a resolution calling for stern punishment not only for the Nazi high-ups and war criminals but for the German people themselves, "who must be taught that they shall atone for the crimes and horrors they have visited on this earth." News Chronicle, 25/11/44.

AMERICAN T.U. VANSITTARTISTS

MUTINY IN CANADIAN

MUTINY IN CANADIAN

RIMY

King's Regulations were read to Canadian troops in British Columbia to-day, and the men (who are demonstrating against conscription) were warned of the penalties for mutiny and in-tiement to riot.

This was annuounced in Ottawa, Following reports them, on the control of Canadian defence to the control of the

and allowances have been cut off from 1,000 men who have refused to obey

men at Terrace have declared a sit-down with a demand that they be sent back to

# GAMBLING RACKET Gambling states on Gambling states

races in 1,38, 180, 181 in 1942 and £30,417,779 in 1,38. Bookmakers operating on these same tracks and on 40 to 50 others where there are no totalisators, the committee states, probably take it least the same amount.

A grand total of £120,000,000 staked with sockmakers and the totalisator is, the committee dd, considered a conservative estimate of the etting turnover on deg-racing. In the London ites, where racing took place on twenty tracks in 1943, the totalisator receipts amounted to more than £28,700,000—nearly as much as the country.

#### **VOTE—WHAT FOR?**

Mr. Harold Macmillan, head of the Allied Mission in Italy, is in London. In a week's time he hopes to be in Washington; then, in about another week, back in Italy.

Mr. Macmillan had some shooting near his Sussex home over the week-end. To-day he started work again.

I asked him he was last able to visit his control of the week-end. To-day he started work again.

"I'm sorry to say that I have hardly seen them for two years," he replied. "Even before I went to North Africa I was so busy at the Ministry of Supply that such visits were infrequent."

Evening Standard, 27/11/44.

Through

#### THERE AIN'T NO JUSTICE

WAR COMMENTARY is offered to members of the Services at special rates I year, Is. post free 6 months, 6d. post free Take advantage of this offer to introduce new readers in the Services



Pleading guilty at Salford yeaterday to atealing 28 pounds of coal, value 8d., from his employers' premises the previous night, James Farrow (33), a labourer of Charles Street, Pendleton, told the Court that when he got home from work he found his family burning old boots, because all the coal in the house had been used up and there was

no wood left.

"My mother was a bad colour, the little lad had come home from school starved with cold, and my wife had sprained her ankle," he said, "I had to get ceal by hood or crook. The coalman only left two bags last Monday, but it was all the cooking has to be done on the fire. We have had no hot water for weeks."

Detective Sergaant Macphail said that when he and another officer stopped Parrow in a passage he was carrying a shopping bag full of coal and all his pockets were stuffed with coal. There was none in the coal collar at his home.

The Stipendiary Magistrate, Mr. F. Bancroft Turner, who bound Farrow over for six months, said that any future case of coal-stealing would be dealt with severely, no matter how trying the circumstances.

Manchester Guardian, 23/11/44.

Manchester Guardian, 23/11/44.

The capitalists responsible for the poverty of the workers will, of course, never be dealt with severely . . . at least not until the day of the revolution!

#### FRENCH C.P.



The Observer, 26/11/44,

The Communist Party's official organ, the Humanité, appears mainly concerned in foreign affairs to support at every point the policy of the Kremhin. On the day that Mr. Churchili was in Paris the Humanité's daily article on nougan guestions was mainly about the resignation. The Swies and hydrocal thresign Minister, and it like Swies and should be resignated to the Swies and stored the Persian Government, taking for granted that nothing can be said in favour of the latter. So an attitude goes for to destroy the impression rule by the dissolution of the Committen. The resident of Communisté' habit of excluding persons with proximation of the Committen. The source of the proximation of the Committen. The source of the proximation of the Committen. The source of the dissolution in the party suggests that they are conscious of the weakness of their position in this respect.

Manchester Guardian, 23/11/44.

#### THEY ARE ALL THE SAME



THEY ARE ALL THE SAME

Last night I attended a meeting of parents. Enlightened parents who are wide way for on issues, etc., etc.

Well a group of them were engaged in discussing why they were going to support Roosevelt and one was holding out for Dewey. After listening to some pros and cons and finding nothing action of the Rooseveltians to read a speech. I had cut out all names and identifying remarks on several of the newspaper accounts of speeches. I asked the Deweyite to read another such clipping. After reading the clipping I asked them to pass them around atmong the others. No one person agreed with his neighbour for her neighbour) on the candidate making the speech.

Letter to The Call (U.S.A.), 13/10/44.

# KILLING OF HOSTAGES

THREAT
General Leclere has threatened to execute five
German hostages for every French soldier killed
by Justice of Secretians.
The second of the second of

Manchester Guardian, 29/11/44. General Leclerc is using exactly the same

threats as the Germans used against mem-bers of the Maquis.

#### BEVIN BOYS PLEASE NOTE

The Mining Association of Great Britain (the owners' organisation) is to appoint a £2,000-a-year director of recruitment, training and education.

cation.

Mr. Robert Foot, the association's chairman, aims at giving every new entrant into the industry the opportunity to make mining a profession and to rise to the highest echnical and executive posts.

News Chronicle, 30/11/44.

News Chronicle, 30/11/44.

#### DIVINE INTERVENTION



Mr. Churchill, whatever criticisms may be levelled against him, has never failed to acknowledge. Divine the control of Alexandria. For two years they had-atrived for this. Now victory was in

their grasp. Desperately our weary soldiers and a few remaining tanks sought to stop the German advance. The Germans were nearly exhausted for lack of water—but a few more forceful fighting hours and Alexandria would be theirs. Then a dust cloud arose—and the thirst of both sides increased. But the British held off the tanks until an amazing thing happened. Eleven hundred of the 90 Light Panzer Division, some of the finest troops of the Africa Korps, suddenly surrendered. Their tongues were cracked and black and swollen. They were cracked the state of the Africa Korps, suddenly surrendered. Their tongues were cracked and black and swollen. They were cracked without water. When had benderinking sail water! The previous day they had been druhout water. They had been druhout a six-inch water pipe line freshly laid to supply our men with water. They shot holes in it and greedily drank. Their great thirst prevented them from noticing at once that the water was sail. About a thousand men drank of this water before they realised its condition. Bitterly frustrated, they yet fought on, but that sail drink was too much for them, and, when the German tanks drew back before the resolute defence of our men, the resistance of these men completely broke. They could hold out no longer. They crazed forward and surrendered, begging for water, even tearing the water before strong the necks of the British soldiers. The men were crazy with thirst and the tide had completely broke. They could hold out no longer. They crued and it has never ceased to flow ever since. But why was that water sail? The story is a simple one. The pipe lone was being tested by the officer in charge, and he never used preclous fresh water for testing purposes. He used sail."

## Our Rulers Can't be Wrong

AFTER THE LIBERATION

only the names change

oliticians and pressmen in the U.S.A. are urbed at the rush of workers from war jobs as shells and sireraft to jobs promising at some little post-war prospect. In this try too, though to a lesser extent, the ruling its warning us not to be too complicent and full about an early end of the war. If di miscalculation of the number of shells bombs required to subdue Germany results shortage of these, then we may expect an ound condemnation of the workers for their ish optimism.

The Prophet

Consider the following, splashed on the front age of a Sunday newspaper with one of the argest circulations in the world;

age of a Sunday newspaper with one of the regest circulations in the world;
HOW LONG?
Another 18 days says an M.P.
Prophesying the end of the war at an early date, Colonel Sir George Courthope, M.P., said at Beshill yesterday that his choice of date was the 31st of this month.
This gem appeared in the Sunday Express of sugust 13th, 1944 and readers were invited to urn to page 4 for more prophecies by eminent ecople! And some folk think the workers could ot manage their own affairs without the guidness of the sunday support of the sunday support

Office Workers Win

Further news of the Handley Page wages office staff strike has reached our paper. Men and women wage clerks have received advances of from 3s. 6d. to 15s. a week. The previously higher paid have received the least advance, bringing a more equitable relationship among the office staff.

We believe that the need of combination between office and factory workers is better understood now and that the clerks will be more eager to use in their defence those methods of direct action they previously despised. Best wishes.

Draughtsman Next.

Draughtsmen Next

Draughtsmen Next

From the same aircraft factory comes the complaint of designers and draughtsmen who, too, threaten action. The drawing office staff there is paid on a comparatively low wage scale which is augmented by a "production bonus" which rises or falls with the piece-work earnings of the factory workers. As this bonus is only paid on machines over a certain number per week, and as production has now fallen almost to that number, the "production bonus" threatens to vanish.

It may be tempting to be offered a production bonus in place of a solid raise when production is high, but second thoughts should reveal this as foolishness, for production is always at the mercy of the management and the Ministry, When production is reduced, the men and women with a flexible wage feel a considerable draught.

disappointed by him continuing his journey without them. Some take it well, others curse the driver in particular and businen in general to any audience which may assemble.

Little do such persons pause the work of businen. True, about fifteen or twenty years ago businen were much readier to wait for a galloping passenger (though obviously they could not wait for every late passenger or the bus would remain at one stop all day). Now businen cannot do this. The schedules—and each new one seems to be worse—do not allow this.

When businen strike against faster, nerve tearing schedules, passengers should remember this.

Can't Afford It

The prospect of a post-war demand for a

ing schedules, passengers should remember this.

Can't Afford It

The prospect of a post-war demand for a shorter working week does not delight our capitalists—the radicals as little as the conservatives. Seebohm Rowntrec writing in the Evening Standard on the subject of the 40 hour week demand says that we cannot afford to reduce hours from the present 47 and 44 per week. This was exactly the cry of the capitalists who opposed the reduction of the working day to 10 hours for children in mills and factories. "Can't afford it".

At present Britain has about five million men in the armed forces, about a million in the blown out Givil Service, a great host in N.F.S. and Civil Defence and many millions in war factories. That is, the vast majority of the working population is not producing one single useful commodity.

Even in peace time only a minority is engaged in really socially useful labour. Capitalists, landlords, parsons, bookmakers, politicians and the millions who are forced to wait upon them produce nothing.

In peace time, too, unemployment is often 25 per cent. of the working population. But reduce house from 44 or 47 to 40? "Can't afford it."

#### 'Our' Leaders No.2



"There is a devil haunts thee in the likeness of an old fat man; a tun of a man in thy companion. Why dost thou converse with that trunk of humours, that bolting-hutch of beaultiness, that swoln parcel of dropsies, that huge bombard of sack, that sutfled cloak-bag of guts, that roasted Manningtree ox with the pudding in his belly, that reverend vice, that grey iniquity, that lather ruffian, that wanty in years? Wherein is he good but to taste sack and drink it? Wherein neat and cleanly but to carve a capon and out it? Wherein cunning but in craft? Wherein crafty but in villainy?... Wherein williamous but in all things? Wherein worthy but in nothing?"

SHAKESPEARE: Hunky V.

# THE REALLOCATION

PLAN (Continued from p. 1, col. 5)

Our experience in the war has shown that "if you leave the line, you leave a gap in the line." The bureaucrat in his luxury offices will pass a thousand sheep into their allotted occupations while haggling over the stubborn mule. "Where would we be if everyone made as much fuss over doing their bit as you do?" I was asked bitterly by a Labour Ministry Official into whose offices I gate-crashed. The more one insists on one's fredhed into whose offices I gate-crashed. The more one insists on one's fredom. Standing before the counter cap in hand the individual can do nothing. But one can hardly believe that those who have fought from the snows to the sands are going to be deterred by a few more civil servants with one foot in the grave. To demand demobilization, as the soldiers did after the last war, was the right course. They stormed the centre of London and demondination of the study of th

# SUBSCRIBERS

SUBSCRIBERS
PLEASE NOTE!

With this issue of "War Commentary" ware sending out a considerable number of renewal notices, in some cases to readers whose subscriptions have only just lapsed but in other cases to readers who have already received more than one renewal notice from us.

That the latter are still receiving the paper is due to the fact that we always hesitate before striking names off the lists because more often than not we eventually receive the renewals with apologies for delay! But the position now is that we have so much work to get through that we cannot give the time to sending more than one reminder to subscribers. We therefore ask for readers co-operation in this matter by (a) attending to their renewal notice right away. (b) returning the form with their subscription renewal and (c) noting clearly on the subscription form any change of address. By attending to these three points readers will be making our work much lighter.

came as liberators, but failure to meet obvious food shortages is not an act of liberation . . . If we do elsewhere in Europe what we are doing in Italy, then the peace is lost before the war is won." This is the opinion of an Allied official; as far as the Italian people are concerned their war has been lost long ago, when the fall of Mussolini simply meant a change of masters for them. The only hope is that the mood of despair and cynicism which made Italians write on the walls "Down with everybody" will change to one of self-reliance and resolution to bring about a radical change in the economical and political conditions of the country.

Gerrard Winstanley

GERRARD WINSTANLEY, in many ways a typical seventeenth century man, with his pamphlets consent in Biblical language and imagery, and his side and establish "the New Law of Righteouness" by the force of example, seems at first sight as far away from the social problems of to-day as the relatively innocuous warfare of cavalry charge and matchlock muscus and the contemporary inferno.

BOOKS

seems at first sight as far away from the social problems of to-day as the relatively innocuous warfare of cavalry charge and matchlock makets appear to the tanks and giant rockets of the contemporary inferno.

The world he lived in knew capitalism and industry only in their embryonic forms. Mining was practiced only to a small extent, and transport was sporadic and unorganised. The great economic factor was the land, which was still the chief provider of goods to satisfy the needs of men. England was virtually a self-supporting country so far as food was concerned—and indeed contrived to maintain an export trade of agricultural products. Control of the land still meant control of the means of production and thus control of power. The Parliament defeated the king not merely by the zeal of its partisans and the wealth of the City, but also by the fact that it gained the allegiance or at least the neutrality of a large proportion of the small landowners and yeoman farmers. Its principal weapon against the defeated Cavaliers was the sequestration of their land.

In such a society, where land was the means by which men lived and also by which lords ruled over men, it was natural that the poor man, the oppressed peasant or the landless labourer, should have seen his salvation from oppression and want alike in gaining the right to work the land for his own benefit. The man who worked his own fields was independent, and the lord who was deprived of the control of land would cease to have power over others. So reasoned the poor in Winstanley's day, and his view of social change was based on such an attitude. It was an attitude which has always been found among peasants struggling to free themselves from starvation. The country worker always realises that his own physical freedom is bound up with the liberation of the land from the hands of ownership and its dedication to the bearing of fruit for the benefit of all.

Winstanley has been criticised because his view of society was dominated by a preoccupation with agricul

against strikers. Mass action has resulted in victories in many places, in spite of fines, imprisonments and petty persecutions. Such action will be still more effective when the war bogey can no longer be brought out. No doubt there will be a fresh menace to scare people off, but having been fed on such grisly threats during the past five years, they may not so easily be deflected.

#### Fight for Freedom

Fight for Freedom

The slave state will soon come into being if we fall into the habit of regarding "emergency powers" as inevitable. Resistance to conscription ceased in many Continental countries until revived during the Nazi occupation. Must we wait for the worst before arising? It has been suggested that labour gangs be formed particularly in agriculture and forestry, for those leaving the forces and war-wark, and one has first-hand knowledge that this is in store for us, those who have been temporarily directed there being but the first of the few. There are a number of tricks that can be learned both from Nazi Silesia and Bolshevik Siberia, and the British ruling-class will not hesitate to use them.

Mass action, individual resistance, and industrial struggle, will be a check on tyranny whether or not they are successful in overthrowing it altogether. Those who doubt whether we can overthrow the Colusus of the modern State must at least see that only the attempt to do so will achieve a leaven of liberty. In the course of that struggle those taking part will soon learn how to dispense with government and capitalism, how not to depend on leaders, and, in fact, how anarchism can work.

The ending of the war will not end the total mobilisation which the war has brought into being. It will not be brought to an end by the mobilisers, but only by the serfs. If they make a determined stand for freedom now, however successful or unsuccessful the attempt, it will hasten the time when the Great Men of to-day are as relegated to the past as the Sultan of Turkey or the Czar of Russia or the Emperor of Austria—or even the Duce of Italy, none of whom seemed likely in their time to be shaken from the seats of the mighty. The changes that will come about after the war will be terrific. Only by a decisive struggle for freedom can they be made changes for the better.

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into his scheme of change. But they may be the mad as yet little genuine importance either in had as yet little genuine importance as symbols capacity of production or significance as symbols capacity of production or significance as symbols capacity of production or significance as symbols capacity of production or change in land tenure. Investigation of change in land tenure, have been based on a change in land tenure than his critics who would have had him devote than his critics who would have had him devote than his critics who would have had him devote than his critics who would have had been tented form of property, there is little reason to doubt that the rising industries would have developed in a similar pattern of organisation.

The story of the Diggers' attempt to colonise St. George's Common is a familiar one and seems, perhaps, a little pathetic and insignificant beside the larger social movements of the time. It is not, however, the Digger experiment itself his important so much as the social insight which are the part of the property and government of the significant which will be recorded during the experience. The parmyer intensified during the experience, who was a strain the property and government, Winstanley during the represent the saw through all the political pretences of the same and an arrow of a single against prejudice and force represent which will be recurrent until human relationships are based on a community of work and goods. Today his writings can be read with profit, for he expresses in clear and beautiful language the social problems which will be recurrent until human relationships are based on a reciprocal freedom. Now, as then, "the old world is running up like parchment in the fire", and for this reason alone Winstanley's works have a claim on our attention, as the thoughts of a socially conscious main in time of crisis.

Until the publication of the book under review, (Selections from the Works of Gerrard Winstanley, Cresset Press, 7s. 6d.), no adequate edition of Winst

GEORGE WOODCOCK.

#### THE WAR EFFORT

THE WAK EFFUK1

The Government has issued a pamphlet which gives details of the war effort of the United Kingdom. It is a booklet crammed full of figures, graphs and diagrams on all aspects of war-time Britain, and to comment on all of the information would need a full length article. One small fact is revealed which is extremely interesting. All industry is divided up into three groups, in order of their importance, and Group One contains the munitions industry.

Group. Two is entitled Principal basic induses.

Group One contains the munitions industry.

Group Two is entited Principal basic industries and services, while Group Three is the least important, and contains Building, textiles, clothing, boots and shoes, distributive trades and other services. It is very interesting to see that Jrink and tobacco are contained in Group Two, and are therefore considered by the Government to be much more important than any of the trades listed in Group Three.

There might be were the contained in the contained

trades listed in Group Three.

There might be several reasons for this strange choice, perhaps the two most important are that the government reaps £600,000,000 in taxes from beer and tobacco, and also that they realize that unless the workers can escape from their worries into the local pub perhaps they would not be able to put up with the strain which wartime conditions impose on everyone, and the workers esspecially.

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# Kingston; P.M.B. £5; Kingston; N. 5/\*. In the next article we shall consider the attitude of the various political parties towards the present situation and the work of the Anarchist movement in Italy to-day. M. L. B. Printed by Rapress Printers, ets Winteenapel High 6t., London, E.1 Published by Presdom Press, 27 Belsize Road, London, N.W.6

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#### The Carabiniere Still There

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