severest and most palpitating struggle: Send everything useful, food containing proteins, fats, vitamins, sugar, starch (of secondary importance), in durable containers (e.g. cloth, canvas, clothes, underwear, first-aid things, cotton thread, needles, pins, candle, their expression of gratitude). Also and over there are the continual power cuts, knitting wool, coffee, tea, tobacco, chocolate, oil, and on and on.

For we know that this could be a tremendous act of support; but if some of them could pledge themselves to do this from time to time, even for short intervals it would be even better. To give you a glimpse of the life of a housewife in Berlin I enclose a passage from a letter I have received: "Recently I went to buy fruit in Werder (near Berlin, formerly a centre of orchards sending train loads to Berlin). Already at the station in Potsdam I got the fright of my life when I saw the masses of hungry people there, on the same er-rand, and scrambled into the station. But all of them went—don't ask me how!

Then started the begging procession from Potsdam to Berlin giving a pound of bread and 3 lb. of cherries for my daughter's pull-over, or 10 kg. of apples and 5 kg. of flour on which we had to hide the fruit, because police threatened with watching for 'forbidden import of food.'

I stuffed the fruit into old stockings which we sewed into the sleeves of our overcoats and hid in the lining. Finally bought everything home, but I was so exhausted they had to go back to bed for a couple of days."

I have investigated personally cases of needly and still active socialists, and I give you addresses (I have been here if they are needed): Georg Mueller, Berlin-Friedenau, Suedwestkorso 9, hochparterre, Germany; Fritz Witz, Berlin-Dahlem, Fritz-Beuerleallee 103, parterre, Germany; Walter Leibetseder, Wien 2, Langle Gasse 70/2/3, Austria; Karl Mueller, Berlin-Oberhausenwest, Bodestrasse 1, Germany; Theodor Thiele, Berlin-Lichtenberg, Ploennistrasse 18, Germany; Karl Hartmann, Berlin-Wilmersdorf, Hohenzollerndamm 70 A, Germany; Fritz Sperling, Berlin-Lichterfelde Ost, Gaertnerstrasse 10, bei Halle, Germany.

Please write these into your paper for help (don't give my name). The Government here are against foreigners as always engaging in politics, and this they call politics, and circulate the appeal also privately. All of the named persons have families, with children, so also children's things were accepted with joy. All of them share their gift parcels with others unnamed, so you won't spoil any of them by sending too much to them. But if anybody wants privately more particulars or more specialised advice on ages, special needs, etc., write him to me! Unless I was really desperate about the whole problem I would not write so urgently. Many thanks for any help you can give. Yours faithfully, H. J.

WE NEED SUBSCRIPTIONS

Berlin, 5770 Melbourne, Australia.

The working class alone can and must blaze the trail to their own objective end. That is why we regard the organisation of the trade unions as a fundamental necessity to open the way to the Ultimate Ideal of Emancipation, Freedom, and Peace.

THE DOLLAR CRISIS


The Dollar Crisis is but another phase of the same old crisis that regularly returns at more frequent intervals, is an inherent feature of the capitalist system. There is a difference. 1947 is not 1930.

For well over a century this economic system has been a crisis-prone system after crisis. In comparison, the economic system of England in its expiring years has been likened to a "golden age," in which droughts and floods, and cold winters, and epidemics, such as the Black Death Plague of London, were often major factors of change. With the advent of capitalism proper—the production primarily for a profitable market, and not merely for sustenance, and comfort, as it was under feudalism—we see, first, a boom period and great expansion in production, where prices climbed faster than wages—that is, where the workers were exploited. Even today, major factors, and inventions of labor-saving machines and the opening up of virgin prairies were not enough to counterbalance the alternating factors, which, to some degree, also had an off-setting effect, i.e., wheat, as a major food, became cheaper, and so cheapened the purchasing power of the industrial workers' wages, while the same time it blasted the agriculture. In Britain and Europe—we find the major causes of early capitalist crises in OVERPRODUCTION—meant a put-ting down of the purchasing power of the mass of the people who were, of course, poor people. When unemployment consequently appeared in factories and workshops the wealthier class got the wind up and started to economise in their spendings on luxury items, with a consequence of unemployment spreading to both luxury production, as well as essential production. The earlier profits of production to the owning class, and faster than before, prices, accumulated faster than the rich could spend them on luxuries, and a huge proportion became capital seeking investment, and expansion of production, which always precedes a crisis.

While the boom was on credit was loose, money flowed, orders came rolling in, and goods streamed into the markets in flying volume.

As stated, this resulted in over-pro-duction—more than could be absorbed by the market.

It stands to reason that warehouses and retail shops have a limit to their storage space—and when incoming goods rolled in faster than goods were sold, then the traders eased off their orders to the factories, and factory workers would be put on part time, or even laid off, all of which the purchasing power of their wages disappeared from the market, and became the major factor in a growing, in which credit tends to be declining. (Here I will draw your attention to the local phenomenon that many commodities are being marked down lower than wholesale, and factory cost; a sure sign of a slump in the making)—so as prices declined, production of the same thing dropped.

Time and again this cycle occurred, and rival political parties blamed it on to their political opponents, as Menin is now blaming it on to the Chiffey A.D. Local Council's strike is blaming it on to the Attlee Labor Government.

Actually, although to a minor degree, political administrations can and do co-contribute to the expansion of the world economic crises—neither political parti- nor political administrations can prove crises, and natural crises are caused by the capitalist system in which production swings pendulum between booms and busts.

A new factor—or rather an old inhe- rent factor—WAR—now appears as the politician on the throne.

Every country has its State Administra-tion formulating and implementing the war, and save their own particular land in the full-fledged world crisis. So, in 1930, U.S.A. sought to hold the American segment of the world economy out of the war by purchasing power of any segment of the world economy—its own exclusive use. The U.S. Corporations and the Hawley-Smoot, Tariffs for this purpose.

In a direct state of alarm—somewhat akin to the present one—British called an impromptu economic conference at O-tawa (Canada). And so was born the British Empire Policy of Preference for the British Empire, under which Great Britain forced many countries to placate customs duties on 57 items: favor iner-domination trade and restrict the non-British Empire movement of world trade as far as possible to members of the Empire.

Thus, in the early 1930's an estimate 65 per cent of world trade was more or less rigidly controlled by U.S.A. or the British Empire.

And there were more than 50 other nations interested in world trade, and the principal ones of these the 1930's were Germany, Japan France, Holland, Belgium, etc.

You also all know the steps Germany in particular, and Italy and Japan too, had to take to get the hammer-lock hold of U.S.A. and the British Empire upon world trade.

You know only too well that WAI was the final outcome.

You also know only too well that the policies of U.S.A. and Great Britain in the early 1930's DID NOT forestall the Great Depression which only lifted as preparation for the impending war caused the wheels of industry once more to roll as a market was created for the means of waging war.

You all know too, how once wars started, all unemployment ceased, and a world-wide shortage of man-power came into being as millions of workers were drafted into the armed services of the warring nations. This at once directed the industry to provide them with the weapons, materials, food, clothing and housing.

You all know the civilization shortfalls that have become a constant feature of our "civilization.

The potential market there would appear to be! But stop and consider the actual facts that we are akin in all respects, so far as effects, to earlier times, whilst there is so evident a world-wide
SOUTHERN ADVOCATE FOR
U.S.S.R. magnetizes the class struggle in advanced nations like France, as well as in colonial outposts in Asia, in Australia, even though it is conditioned to some extent to cushion Australian capitalism from harm.

U.S.A. and Britain export as magnets which still reduce to skirmishes in the major battle any act or crisis in any one which comes within the orbit of these two Great Powers.

Their domestic policies are increasingly trivial—nowhere is there a real working class in Australia opposing and attempting to sweep aside the effects of this strangle of capitalism and assert the WILL of a working class intent upon solving its own CLASS problem.

I do not agree with much of Dwight MacDonald’s ideas in the main, but in the May-June 1943 edition, he expresses some points very well. He states: To-day—

"Foreign policy swallows up everything, either in the case of the Big Two—as preparation for eventual war, or—in the lesser nations—as means of "getting into the Big Two.""

When we speak of "practical politics" we can only mean the conflict of oppositional policies—that of which IS practical in politics, more or less as realistic the classic Marxist revolutionary aims of an oppressed working class in an effective force to undermine and overthrow the existing status quo.

As realists we must sadly admit it is tragically non-existent. It lives in the shadow-land of socialist and anarchists only, despite the valiant attempt of realistic remnants such as the I.W.W. in America, the various Revolutionary Workers’ Commune Groups, Anarchists, etc., in Europe.

The opposition to our viewpoint expressed by the Socialist parties in Australia and overseas is explained by the fact that we are no longer in thrall to their ideology. They so brazenly adhere to the "principle" that the Socialist vote is the way for "socialist understanding" to be expressed, despite the fact that Parliament to-day has no role other than as a means to discuss ways and means that have already been decided upon outside Parliament; we have nothing else to do than to vote the necessary funds to implement. Nowhere in the capitalist system can the expression of the will of the workers be permitted by advance expenditure. The Socialists in Australia tacitly admit by their present practices that they have NOTHING to put before an electorate other than ideology, yet they steadfastly refuse to admit the need for a realistic approach to a world where the collapse of capitalism is an accomplished fact to the problem that there is no future of freedom for their class until they lay something other than the tools the workers organise practically and consciously towards a Workers’ Co-operative Commonwealth.

So, as MacDonald states:

"In terms of ‘practical politics,’ we are living in an age which continually presents us with impossible alternatives. That is it precisely, which holds both of the opposite parties away from us and gives us no real choice in the matter."

The vanished are being very poorly fed, as a letter I received last Friday will show. (See Appeal, p. 15.)

The question: Is there a role for the trade unions in the struggle against the class struggle? We have the case of the Guilds in the British Zone of Germany and the import of food necessary to keep the German population just alive; to which Britain received 1.01 million tons of colonial outposts of U.S.A., Britain.

British industry has fought no benefits at all to speak of from the Dollar Loan. The way of the debtor is hard—crucially hard.

The way of the workers in Britain, whose labor was the means of undermining cruelly hard—crucially hard; they are the living property in pledge. It is the workers who are in cop or hardship.

We read that in ancient Greece the free citizens of Athens, who were enslaved to debt—that the mortgage, the mortgage, the mortgage, the mortgage of the owners was being forced to sell their children, their wives, and finally themselves in to the possession of the owners of debt. We read that a great compromise was accomplished— the way out. The political State, in which it was born.

The property interests of the mortgage owners were to some extent sacrificed to save the State.

We are in the throes of a similar crisis today.

The British State—but bear well in mind NOT the British property class—is now impoverished, as was ancient Greek society. The British Working Class, the workers in Great Britain, have had the War Debt mortgage plastered upon the results—the production resulting by the application of their labor-power in industry.

I read somewhere that 35 percent of British industry is now OWE by American capitalists. American workers would appear to be the result of export of capital by U.S.A. through the means that U.S. exports are billions of dollars more than U.S. imports. The value remains in the importing country as capital. Before this practically all the fairly large imports of the United Kingdom were owned and managed by Britishers who had been compulsorily sold to U.S. nationals to pay for munitions in the years before Land-Lease. It can be taken that these were fully compensated by the British State, that that compensation is part of the capital of the State.

War has plunged the British State into deep debt—but so little far inroad has been made on the property of living capital in the United Kingdom altogether, however, largely sequestrated under Death Duties and Probate. The living capitalist class is wealthier to-day in capital, yet the working class is as poor as ever.

The British State has been forced to restrict the full war-time control over industry and the products produced, even increased its control.

Germany was invaded.

The “victors” have, however, implemented a policy that involves the German people being largely prevented from trade or having a free hand to plan their own economic salvation—hence the "victors" have to feed the defeated.

The vanquished are being very poorly fed, as a letter I received last Friday will show. (See Appeal, p. 15.)

The point for us is that the British worker will not get the job of accepting his status of being subject to the British State which still protects so far as is possible the interests of the living owners of capital property, even though 35 percent of the holdings in Britain are American nationals.

In short, in Britain, the working class are slaves of vasals, the servants of British capitalist remittance men dependent upon regular remittances from Uncle Sam.

The overall conflict of U.S.A. and the
The Dollar Crisis is a deep one, and it is not just the same old crisis that requires an inherited capitalist system. The present capitalist system is not designed to deal with the economic conditions of the time. The workers are suffering all over the world from the effects of this crisis. They are losing their jobs, their savings, and their homes. The capitalist system is not designed to provide for the needs of the people. It is designed to make profits for the few at the expense of the many. The workers are the victims of this system, and they must fight to change it. The workers must demand a system that is designed to meet the needs of all people, not just the few who control the economy. This is the only way to ensure a better future for all.