



# HOW COMMUNISM WORKS

## Russian Democracy a Myth

### WHEN THE GAG WAS APPLIED IN GLASGOW

Continuing his series of exposures, our contributor—an ex-Communist agitator—shows how free speech was banned from the Glasgow unemployed's platform in keeping with Russia's dictatorship—p—not of but over the proletariat.

THE whole case against the Communist agitator and his system can be summed up in one sentence—namely, that it is in contradiction of every law in economics. It is also a direct challenge to the laws of human nature. As one who has been in the rebel movement of this country, I can assure my readers that the boasted power and sway of democracy in Russia is a myth. Real Communism never existed except on paper. I will give you a slight idea of how things are done in Russia since the Revolution.

The elections of 1917 proved conclusively that the Russian people were against Communism. From the beginning the leaders of the Russian Revolution were determined to rule by the iron hand, seizing political power regardless of constitution or will of the people. Those of my readers who have followed up the state of Russia since the Revolution will see conclusively the temperament of the people who have held power in that country. Take for a single instance the elections of 1918, when the National Assembly was formed to represent Russia. This Assembly was something similar to our own House of Commons. But Lenin, the supreme being in Russia at that time, and who was looked up to as a little god, walked into the Assembly and dismissed it as unrepresentative as Cromwell dismissed the Rump Parliament. This affront to democracy was camouflaged as "the Dictatorship of the Proletariat"—a high-sounding but empty phrase, and a contradiction in terms.

The regime established in Russia in November, 1917, is not a dictatorship of the proletariat, but a dictatorship over the proletariat. And the dictators themselves are neither proletarians nor workers.

### Ban on Free Speech

I said I would show how the Communist Party tries to undermine the present system by holding up every member of the community who tries to advocate the rights of free speech.

Let me give you a personal instance of these underground methods. When I was elected president of the Unemployed Committee for the Gorbals Division I was determined to exercise the right of free speech for all shades of political opinion. I was anxious to get parish councillors, town councillors, members of the Education Authority, and local members of Parliament to come forward and give an account of their stewardship on the various bodies they represented. Our first speaker was Councillor Mrs Kate Beaton, who spoke to the unemployed at their rooms. The next speaker was Mr Maurice Bloch, J.P., prospective Unionist candidate for the Gorbals Division of Glasgow, and he was followed by Mr George Buchanan, M.P. for Gorbals. On every occasion the unemployed gave them a very attentive hearing—especially Mr Maurice Bloch. From my experience in the Gorbals Division I really thought there would be some difficulty at the meeting of the prospective Unionist candidate, but the only interruption that occurred was a speech by a member of the Communist Party.

I understand that the Gorbals committee, for which I was president at that time, set a precedent by allowing a member of the Unionist Party to stand on our platform, because, as I pointed out in last week's article, the National Unemployed Workers' Committees of England, Scotland, and Wales are run solely and entirely by the Communist Party of Great Britain.

### Home Truths—Debate Declined

As chairman of the meeting addressed by Mr Bloch in Oatlands Picture House on December 11, I can say he studiously avoided any political prejudice. Nevertheless he gave the members some home truths as food for reflection. At the outset, speaking under the auspices of such a militant body as the National Unemployed Workers' Committee, he thought it necessary to state his qualifications for dealing with the unemployed question, and explained that he had been engaged in social work in the Gorbals for 17 years. Proceeding to discuss the causes of unemployment, Mr Bloch said the main cause of the present condition of things was the Great War, through which much property was destroyed and our customers abroad reduced in purchasing power. Another factor which he thought entered largely into the present situation and would prove fatal to any revival of industry was the suspicion, distrust, and lack of co-operation which existed in industry, and for which he blamed both employers and men. So long as unemployment was made the subject of debate, he

their parents 10s per week for their keep during the extra two years at school. He commented strongly on the anomaly of paying 30s to keep a criminal in prison for a week and allowing only 18s to keep a respectable citizen. And so on, in the well-known Socialist strain.

I tried at this time to arrange a full-dress debate between Mr Bloch, the Unionist candidate, and Mr Buchanan, Socialist member for the division. The subject was to be unemployment and how it could be removed from our midst. Mr Bloch was quite prepared to take up the challenge and debate on the subject, but for some reason or other Mr Buchanan declined.

### Applying the Closure

Now, I have no intention of pursuing the debate, but I will show how the Communist Party of Great Britain gets to work behind the lines, as it were. At this period, while I was advocating the right of free speech for all shades of political opinion on the unemployed platform, the Communist Party began to get busy. They held two special meetings that week to discuss the subject of the unemployed allowing a prospective Unionist candidate to speak at our meetings. At a special meeting of our Executive Council called to discuss the matter I moved that the unemployed of the Gorbals Branch dissociate themselves from headquarters at London, the latter being quite inimical to our interests. I pointed out that the whole organisation at headquarters was run by Communists, and we in Glasgow were not going to take our orders from Moscow.

The Communist Party were determined to get my motion rescinded, and mustered up all their forces for this occasion. It was a memorable meeting. For three hours we fought out the issue of whether we would be affiliated to the Communists at London or whether we would carry on by ourselves in Glasgow. Our secretary was an interpreter, and it is a positive fact that he had to interpret the motion and amendment to a considerable number of Russian subjects!

The result of the division was that my motion was defeated by an overwhelming majority, and the Communist Party are the masters now. The first thing they took in hand was to see that no one stood on the unemployed platform to speak unless they were members of the working class.

This is only one sidelight of how the Communist Party seeks to control the working class movement in this country. Their first object is to abolish the right of free speech. After that, the rest is easy.

### Soviet Funds

If the figures of the Soviet secret funds—and all their funds are in a way secret funds—were published it would be found that more money has been spent directly or indirectly on publicity than on education. I say quite frankly that all the Russian legations are one huge mass of spies—especially the London legation. I know for a fact that there is a great deal of secret correspondence carried on through the Diplomatic Corps of Russia, and they also take advantage of the leniency of the British people. Take the notorious Red letter of Zinoviev-Appebaum, who is one of the most powerful personal factors in the Soviet of Russia to-day, especially since Lenin was stricken down with paralysis. In all the arts of cunning and diplomacy Zinoviev is unequalled in modern European history. Having lived in Russia for a period of six months and been in the movement there as well as in Glasgow, I know from personal experience what, what, and have had unique opportunities of gauging the temperament of the Russian people. Even to-day the first question which a Russian asks the visitor from this country is—"When is the revolution going to break out in Britain?"

### Unhappy Dictators

To-day in Russia most of the sober-minded Soviet statesmen have ceased to believe in the prospects of an immediate world revolution. Some of them feel, I know, that they are fighting a forlorn battle, and all know that it is going to be a long and desperate struggle. But they are compelled to continue, driven on as they are by the instinct of self-preservation. They know they have let loose forces over which they have no control. They know that, as far as they are concerned, they cannot turn back. They recognise that if the revolution fails they are all doomed men. The sword of Damocles is suspended over the head of every one of the dictators, and the fight is thus, for each and all a question

which is more than the great bulk of the Communist Party of Great Britain can say to-day.

Whatever success is achieved by Bolshevik propaganda is due to its mendacity and persistence. While other Governments pursue wavering, discordant, and contradictory policies, the Communists work with a single aim and undivided enthusiasm. At the Baku conference 1800 delegates—every one of them Orientals—with swords uplifted, swore and vowed eternal hatred, and declared an implacable war against the English oppressors. From the West of Scotland to the Far East of the Asiatic continent Communists and Bolsheviks have been sowing a bloody trail of hatred against this country, stirring up revolt in India and Egypt and labour troubles everywhere. China is only their latest exploit. The politicians of Soviet Russia are always denouncing the wickedness of Great Britain. The allegation is that this country never ceases to interfere in the domestic affairs of sorely-troubled Soviet Russia, which only asks to be left in peace and to be allowed to mind its own business!

### The General Strike

Nothing, of course, could be further from the truth, for the agents of the Soviet are everywhere out to overthrow Great Britain by fair means or foul. Throughout the General Strike private negotiations were carried on between the various heads of the Minority Movement in this country and the official's in Russia. I absolutely defy contradiction, and if any member or official of the Communist Party dare in any way dispute the facts I am quite prepared to put it to the test.

I have in front of me as I sit and write a small pamphlet written by A. J. Cook, the secretary of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain. This pamphlet is urging all the British workers to take the cue from Russia. He attacks the leaders of the trade union movement of this country for not accepting aid from Russia while they were at the same time accepting aid from every other source. He goes on to point out that this gave a very bad impression to the workers of Russia. He makes no apology for urging the workers of this country to enter into an Anglo-Russian agreement and form a committee.

The amount of money which came from Russia during the General Strike is notorious, and I have the evidence in my possession to show conclusively that the Communist Party in this country, in league with the Soviet in Russia, were doing everything to carry on a destructive war without mercy to the detriment of Great Britain. As one who has seen the stupidity of following up such a course, I only wish to God the working class of this country would see the error of their ways, and be guided by saner counsel. Ninety per cent. of the members of the Communist Party never know what it was to work for their living in their lives—unless you can call standing on a soap box at a street corner haranguing a few unemployed men and women work. I have a different name for it.

Next week I hope to deal further with Russia's financing of the General Strike, and show how the Russian workers have been taught to hate us.

### SCOTTISH LIFEBOAT ORGANISER

#### Glasgow Lady Appointed

Following the recent controversy as to the relationship between the Scottish branches of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution and the parent body in London, a Glasgow lady was appointed as district organising secretary for Scotland at a meeting of the Scottish Council of the institution held recently in Edinburgh.

Sir Godfrey Baring, Bart., London, who presided, submitted the name of Miss May Connell, 530 Great Western Road, Glasgow, as the nominee of the London Committee for the post, and this was accepted by the meeting. Miss Connell has already entered upon her duties.

The meeting also decided to remove the headquarters in Scotland from Glasgow to Edinburgh.

### TRAVELLER'S ALLEGED EMBEZZLEMENT

When an elderly, well-dressed man, who was described as a commercial traveller, and who belongs to Largs, appeared at the Central Police Court, Glasgow, on Tuesday on a charge of embezzlement, it was stated that a sum of £700 was involved.

It was alleged against the man that between January 1, 1923, and February 1, 1923, while he was acting as collector for a Glasgow firm of wholesale grocers and tea merchants, he failed to pay into the firm's bank account sums of money which he had collected. The offences are said to have taken place in Glasgow, Lanarkshire, and Ayrshire.

### DEATH IN GLASGOW CHURCH

BL

I

The Camp wood, Blyths Laurer Marsh: G.C.V. Court, Wedne innan, portan years. The only tl secure long b

wood H the chu lodge g. The f very b assembl Paisley Moderat Franok' "Interl The b of her "Lead She I gown c symboli wheat c broider gold ga Botticel entwine with a longing Blythsw Lady A only oi

C G O

CHI

TEA Sprag Price WHI Were dozer WHI Size, Price FRU. and Price WHI ls, ne A I



# HOW THE STRIKE WAS FINANCED

## Truth About the Russian Gold

### "RED" WORKERS BLED FOR PROPAGANDA

Continuing his series of Communist exposures, our contributor this week deals with Russia's financing of the "Reds" in this country during the General Strike, and shows how the "Red" workers of Russia were bled by the lying campaign of agents of the Soviet.

THE latest information I have in my possession regarding the money received from Russia in this country during the General Strike is to the effect that Schwartz, Gorbachoff, and Akuloff—three of the more notorious men in Russia to-day—were, with comrade Tihomirova, president of the All-Russia Trades Council, the main individuals responsible for the transmission of the coin to Mr A. J. Cook. Up till July, 1926, the total money received from Russia was £400,000, and to the latter end of October £352,000.

Despite the fact that the British Government sent a stern Note to Russia and threatened to break off diplomatic relations between the two countries, Russia treated us with the height of contempt. I am quoting from the official press of Soviet Russia when I say that millions upon millions of Russian workers contributed part of their wages to help to promote the General Strike. The actual total will probably never be known, for there are secret channels which I know nothing about, and which it would be a stiff task for even the most astute Secret Service man to find out.

But, whatever its great total, the money came mainly from one source—the hard-earned earnings of the poor underpaid Russian workers. This, indeed, now that the wealth appropriated at the time of the Revolution—from our own people who owned factories, etc., in Russia, among others—has been dissipated, is practically the only source of finance open to the Soviet Government to-day. And the way it is procured as the "free-will offering" of the common people for the sake of the cause is the eternal preaching of the doctrine of hate against the capitalist class—and particularly against the capitalists of Great Britain—and the lying stories that are continually told about how this country grinds the faces of the workers, and is for ever interfering in Russian affairs and scheming to make the Russian workers sweat like our own! That is undoubtedly how the Russian millions have been—and may still be—procured for the "down-trodden workers of capitalist Britain."

### The Gospel of Hate

A typical example of how effectively this gospel of hate has been preached throughout Russia was given at a meeting of the workers of the largest factory in Moscow—the Sickle and Hammer Factory—held only a day or two after the General Strike had been declared. The secretary having explained the aims and objects of the General Strike as reported by Mr Cook and the other revolutionary agents in this country, it was unanimously decided to give the strikers all the moral and material aid possible. Then the discussion, as reported in the Soviet press, proceeded as follows:—

The Secretary—Comrades, since we have decided to give material as well as moral aid, I propose that we shall send to the British workers a quarter of a day's earnings.

"Not enough." "Half a day's earnings would be better," and "A day's earnings" came the cry from all sides.

Then one of the workers mounted the platform and made the following proposal:—

From the period from the 3rd of May until the 9th let us send a quarter day's pay, from the 10th to the 16th half a day's pay, and from the 16th onwards a whole day's pay.

"Good!"

"Those in favour?"

Thousands of hands were simultaneously lifted into the air.

"Those against?"

"What are you talking about?" some one angrily shouted.

Other resolutions passed by the workers of Russia previous to the appeal from the miners of this country leave no doubt as to the aims of Russian generosity. In "Bed-nota," May 11, 1926, we find this:—

This general meeting of the workers of this area (namely, the Amo works of Moscow) sends martial greetings to the British proletariat, heroically fighting British capitalism. We know that the bourgeoisie will take all possible measures to crush the British workers. The British workers are not alone in their struggle against the capitalists. The united front of the British bourgeoisie will be countered by the united front of the world proletariat. We declare to the British workers that their cause is our cause and their victory is our victory. The British working class must conquer. As a mark of

with the aid of the cringing policy of the representatives of the Second International, is endeavouring to sow dissension among the struggling British workers. But the enthusiasm with which the British working class is entering upon the fight, and the brotherly solidarity and the support of the workers of all lands, convince us that all the attempts of the capitalist class to crush the commencing struggle will be defeated.

### Russia's "Friendliness"

Russia still protests her friendly feelings for this country, but picture a friendly nation allowing such seditious resolutions to be passed without ever, in any way, censoring or curtailing the phraseology of the comments or pamphlets! I know from personal experience that, if any public body in this country, be the members capitalist or proletarian, had dared to pass the same resolutions as I am about to show in print in these columns, they would have been held up for sedition. Here is one damning resolution. It was passed by the workers of the Red Triangle in Leningrad, who declared:—

We send proletarian greetings to the British workers on strike and to the locked-out miners.

British workers! More decisively move the hands of the clock to the last hour of the reign of capitalism in Britain! Be steadfast, resolute, and solidised to the end. The proletariat of the United Soviet State of Russia is with you. Away with the compromise policy of the Amsterdam Trade Union International and of the Second International, both of which wish to sabotage your fight and to hinder attempts to help you.

March boldly into the fight under the leadership of the Revolutionary part of the General Council.

Down with the strike-breakers, the enemies of the working class!

All hail to the British workers, standing shoulder to shoulder in the struggle with the capitalists.

This resolution was taken down verbatim and published in the official Russian press on May 13, 1926.

On May 6, only six days after the memorable declaration of the Trade Union Council to declare a General Strike in this country, a particular body in Russia well known for their extremism called together the Committee of the Union of Local Transport Workers. This committee issued a circular to the dockers in all the ports of United Soviet Russia, calling a partial strike in order to prevent the loading of ships destined for British ports, and forbidding the supply of fuel. This atrocious circular read:—

### "BOYCOTT ENGLAND."

"Call a partial strike of all your members, sailors and dockers, working upon exports for Britain. Do not load cargo or fuel (whether coal or oil fuel) on any ship if there is reason to believe that it is likely to be transhipped to Britain. Stop work on all steamers sailing for England, whatever freight they may carry. Vessels already on the way to England, having received information by wireless of the partial strike of seamen in the United Soviet Russia, must, on arrival at the nearest British port, make common cause with the British strikers, and must not allow their vessels to be unloaded. Should an attempt be made to unload any such vessel with the aid of strike-breakers the ship should at once put to sea again. The loading and unloading of the ship can only be sanctioned by the authority of the British Trade Union Council.

The local branches of the Transport and Waterworkers' Union must keep the Central Committee informed regarding the progress of the strike in the case of ships on the high seas and sailing for England. The ship committees must acknowledge the receipt of the wireless calling a partial strike. On arrival at the British port they must immediately get into touch with the local strike committee."

### How They Love Us!

I will conclude this week by giving further specimens of Russia's "kind regards" for this country. First, there is this from a pamphlet dated May 13, 1926:—

"The workers of Soviet Russia greet the workers of Britain, who are steadfast in the fight with capital notwithstanding the infamous and most treacherous part played by the Right Wing leaders—MacDonald, Thomas, and Henderson. There is a

necessary step towards improving the lot of the working folk. Comrades, British workers, be yet more steadfast, and have more trust in your own strength! Behind you stands the powerful army of the workers of the world, which is not indifferent to your struggle, and is holding out to you a helping hand."

"The workers and employees of the International printing works unanimously proclaim their detestation of the yellow leaders of the British proletariat. British workers, you must ever bear in mind what MacDonald, Thomas, Henderson, and the rest of the reformist rascals have done. No longer trust them for a moment. Follow in the footsteps of your Communist Party, which knows how to defend your interests."

"The united general meeting of fourteen factory committees of Moscow metal-workers sends cordial greetings to the British proletariat. British workers, your interests are being betrayed, and betrayed by your menshevik leaders for the advantage of the bourgeoisie. You are foredoomed to failure unless, disregarding your treacherous leaders, you take up arms, and, in an open struggle, give a knock-out blow to the bourgeoisie and its menshevik hangers-on. Replace the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie by the dictatorship of the proletariat. The fate of the working class is in your hands. Remember, we shall always be with you and ready to back you up."

"This general meeting of the workers of the Seventh-Anniversary-of-October dye-works considers it its duty to brand with infamy the 'leaders' MacDonald and Co. as traitors to the working-class, who are now attempting, behind the backs of the workers, to enter into an agreement with the Baldwin working-class working-class of the whole world, and

to hold out a helping hand to the British working-class. The workers of our works will always be ready whenever necessary to help their foreign comrades with deeds and not with words merely. With regard to the slogans of the Communist Party of Great Britain—'From defence to attack! Down with the Conservative Government! All power to the British workers! Nationalisation of the mines!'—we are unanimously and wholeheartedly in favour of them. We hope that the Communist Party of Great Britain will help the British workers to achieve their ends. No concessions to the capitalists! Greetings to our British brethren! Long life and victory to the British working-class!"

Next week our contributor will sum up the situation in Russia as he sees it and deal with any Communist challenges that may come to hand.

### EXPRESS IN DANGER

#### Bogey on Greenock Line

An express train of the L.M.S. Railway line between Greenock and Glasgow had a remarkable escape from disaster in the vicinity of Kilmacoll on Sunday evening, the engine striking a bogey which had been placed on the line, but, by good fortune, throwing it clear of the track.

In the train were passengers who had disembarked from the Canadian Pacific liner Montcalm at Princes Pier, Greenock, and were being conveyed to Glasgow by express. When the engine met the bogey—a wooden carriage used by platelayers for transporting materials during track-repairing operations—there was a bump, which most of the passengers seem to have dismissed as an ordinary lurch of the train. Even the engine driver was unaware of the mishap until he had where it was slightly damaged.

The bogey, which was the permanent

The presence of the bogey on the line is thought to have been the work of several youths who, very possibly, were unaware of the likelihood of traffic on that line on a Sunday evening. Several lads were seen playing with the bogey in the vicinity by a surfaceman's son, who informed his father and other platelayers of the danger, but an effort to attract the driver's attention was unsuccessful.

### LOSS TO LIBERALISM

The death took place a week ago at Haddington of Mr William Hope, stockbroker, only son of Mr John D. Hope, for-



A m

held c

parties

of lice

Ward

last.

voted

per ce

withd

their

should

the op

to adj

at the

Court

The

affecte

Robe

provisi

Ther

provisi

John

provisi

Sam

Street.

Jane

public

29 Kir

Doctor

A pe

ward,

the lic

mitted

On

The

decide

which

menda

the ce

STREE

An

minut

ing Co

afforde

of the

which

The

Brown

sweep

city.

It w

that h

work e

the Au

stating

cient

granted

meeting

The c

be rem

the co

intende

Mr Cl

director

British

Harmer

Thomas

succeed

Dr Co

at Dur

College,

Muss

St

nc



# COMMUNISM *versus* COMMON SENSE

## How Russia Has Been Ruined

### LABOUR'S INTEREST IN BOLSHEVISM

Continuing his exposures of Communism, our Contributor this week tells the story of Russia's ruin at the hands of the Bolsheviks, and asks the workers of this country to take warning. Russian Bolshevism, he says, differs from British Communism and Socialism only in name. The aim of all is the same, and the inevitable end ruin.

HAVING shown how the money from Russia came to this country during the general strike of May, 1926, and how the speeches of the firebrands in Russia helped to finance the strikers in this country, I intend this week to deal with the position of Soviet Russia to-day and its relation to the Labour Party of this country. I am not in any way an authority on politics or political economy, but I have had the advantage of travelling round the world two or three times, and have taken careful note of the various races I have come in contact with.

I see that the Prime Minister in the late Socialist Government has been trying, like myself, to educate the British public on Russian affairs. It may be justly said of Mr Ramsay MacDonald, however, that he has been writing in the interests of a party—and that certainly cannot be said about the contributor of these articles, who has cut himself adrift from all shades of political opinion.

It has been said of many leaders in the political movement that their conception of duty was to follow and not to lead. This gibe was never truer than when applied to the present leader of the Socialist Party. Like many other weak leaders, Mr MacDonald is unfortunately compelled to follow the more noisy and extreme section of his followers, and the difference between Bolshevism and extreme Socialism is merely nominal. Hence the Labour Party's interest in Soviet Russia. Labour and Socialism differ from Bolshevism only in degree; they are the same in kind. Both Soviet Russia and Socialism believe in nationalisation and in a State bureaucracy to apply the principle; both believe in class war, which will never lead to anything but ruin. Marxian Socialism, which is common to all Labourists, has been tried in Russia, and it has proved a complete failure. Why? Simply because it is an absolute contradiction not only of the fundamental laws of economics but of the even more fundamental laws of human nature.

The poison of State Socialism when it is injected in small doses at a time may act—and often does act—as a stimulant. But common sense has taught the majority of the inhabitants of this land of ours that the Communist poison is invariably mortal. People of any intelligence can see quite plainly that it has proved so in Russia. So it will prove in this country if we refuse to learn our lesson from the Russian experiment.

### Russia's Ruin

Because of the solidarity and identity of doctrine between Bolshevism and Socialism it was only to be expected that the Socialist Party of this country should do their utmost to mislead public opinion as to the failure of State Socialism in Russia, and that they should attribute the failure to every cause but the one true and only cause—namely, the system of State Socialism itself.

The Socialist Party argument is a very simple one. It may be summed up in the lying proposition that the present ruin and starvation in Russia have nothing whatever to do with Bolshevism, and that Russia has been practically ruined by Tsarism and by the world war. I submit that the proposition is based on a false interpretation of the facts. Neither Tsarism nor the world war can be held responsible for the present plight of the Russian people.

As to the effect of the war, it is a very remarkable and illuminating fact that, at the very end of the war, the agricultural production of Russia had decreased by only 6 per cent. As 15,000,000 Russian peasants had been withdrawn from the cultivation of the land, we are driven to the conclusion that agricultural production in Russia, so far from having been ruined by the war, had relatively increased during its progress. Besides, the war has not ruined the industry of other nations, although the trade and industry of other nations, being much more complicated, much more sensitive, and much more artificial, were much more vulnerable than the trade and industry of Russia.

Commonsense teaches us that Russia, being an agricultural country, should have recuperated much more quickly than other nations; and it certainly would but for the blighting activities of Communism. These—and neither Tsarism nor the war—are the soul-destroying influences which have practically ruined Russia to-day. And I am positive that, vast as are its natural resources, Russia will never revive until the incubus of Communism is finally removed. So long, of course, as the wealth which was confiscated at the start remained available, and the Soviet leaders could live at heck

lives, and, simultaneously, an odious industrial creed has polluted the Russian soil.

It is precisely because the Communist regime is thus mainly—if not wholly—responsible for the ruin of Russia that I do not believe in any revival of the trade or industry of that country until the Communist blight is removed. The Socialist Party would make us believe that an immediate resumption of our trade with Russia would be one of the most effective cures for unemployment in this country, but this is only a typical example of the kind of quack medicine which Communist agitators are continually selling to their credulous dupes. It is quite true that Russia is a country of unlimited possibilities so far as commerce is concerned, but it may be a long time before its opportunities are



Mr James Cullen, the writer of these articles, was until lately president of the Gorbals Branch of the National Unemployed Workers' Committee, but—as he told us in his first article—resigned because of the way in which the unemployed movement was being exploited by the Communist Party of Great Britain.

translated into accomplished facts. For to-day Russia is in every sense a bankrupt country. A few people who have been picked specially by the Minority Movement of this country to visit and report may give us glowing accounts—especially the politicians—but these accounts are emphatically contradicted not only by the evidence of competent and neutral witnesses, but by unanswerable official documentary evidence.

### Failure Admitted

At the twelfth Communist Congress in Leningrad in 1924, Lenin indiscreetly revealed all the defects which are inherent in the very organisation of the Soviet economic machinery. In spite of the natural desire of the dictators of Russia to justify their new economic policy, Lenin and Trotsky made it quite clear to that Congress that nationalised industry was working at a complete loss, the cost of production exceeding the value of goods produced. "If," said Trotsky, "we take the light and the heavy industry, and the transport industry, we are driven to the conclusion that to-day we are poorer than we were a year ago. Our industry is existing at the expense of the State budget, and the State budget is existing at the expense of State economics."

I can hear some of the old soap-box orators saying—"Rubbish! A mass of lies from beginning to end." Well, my authority is "Pravda," the official organ of the Communist Party of Russia, from which I quote. Besides, Lenin and Trotsky were not only confirmed but supplemented by Dr Vladimir, the Under-Secretary for the Soviet Commissariat for Finance. If they cannot believe their own officials, who can they believe?

After these regretful admissions on the part of the dictators, who can deny that Russian industry is, in fact, a bankrupt concern? Those who tell us how much we are losing by not entering into closer trade relations with the Soviet Government appear to forget that we are not only dealing with a nation, but with a bankrupt Government as well.

Now, I am not for one moment suggesting that any individual should not deal with a bankrupt under any circumstances; that would be absurd, for there are honest bankrupts who may be very deserving. But I do say it would be foolish and dangerous to deal with a fraudulent bankrupt, who has on principle and of set purpose refused to pay any of his debts—and this is the position of the Soviet Government of Russia, as many British business

## NOT PROVEN

### Glasgow Fortune-Telling Charge

#### What Policewomen Were Told

"The case is preconcerted. The complaint which raised it, and which came from a private individual, was not signed. If people are going to lodge complaints against others they ought to be manly enough to put their names to documents sent to the police."

With these remarks, Bailie Hunter found not proven a charge of alleged fortune-telling which was brought in Glasgow Northern Police Court on Tuesday against a man named William Kilday, 153 Renfield Street.

Two policewomen described a visit they paid to the accused, who was known as Vada. He told their fortunes by means of palmistry and playing cards. They each paid 1s 6d.

#### Their "Stars"

One of the policewomen said the accused told them they were both governed by the planet Mars. He also told witness that her motto was: "I desire," and that she always got what she desired.

After reading her fortune by cards, witness added, the accused said: "Show me the pretty ones"—meaning, presumably, that witness was to show him her hands.

Reading her hand the accused told her she would get a proposal from a fair young man about July 27, and that she would have a bright future.

The second policewoman said the accused told her that she would be promoted about the beginning of April. If witness wished a wish she would get it. "But," added the witness, "the wish has not yet come true."

Giving evidence on his own behalf, the accused said he understood the women had been recommended to him by friends. To the first client he said she was born under the star which ruled pools, puddles, and stagnant places.

He had no intention of imposing upon or deceiving these people, and the money he received was voluntarily laid down. He knew they were policewomen.

## GLASGOW CHURCHES UNITE

### New Building Scheme

The Glasgow Presbytery of the United Free Church approved on Tuesday of union schemes which affect five West End churches.

One scheme concerns the congregation of College and Kelvingrove, who are amalgamating with Claremont. The new congregation will worship under the Rev. A. K. Walton in Claremont Church as from March 27.

The admittance of a number of members of College and Kelvingrove congregation, including three elders, into Stevenson Memorial Church was sanctioned. Stevenson Church will take over the mission in North Woodside Road.

The other scheme involved St John's and Renfield congregation, who are amalgamating with Hyndland Church.

The Rev. G. H. C. McGregory will be the minister, and in terms of the agreement a new church is to be built as soon as possible in Kelvindale, to the north of Great Western Road, to meet the needs of the growing population there.

### THIEVES' DARING RUSE

A daring ruse was successfully employed on Frank Russell, bookseller, 26 Barrack Street, Dundee, by Harry Hughes, 9 John Street, and William Dargie, 7 Annfield Road, who were charged in the Sheriff Court on Tuesday with the theft of £3 from Mr Russell's shop.

With the assistance of a man unknown they induced the bookseller to come outside to discuss a book in a showcase, and while he was so engaged one of them slipped into the shop and rifled the till.

Hughes was sent to prison for four months and Dargie for two months.

### "SCOTS SUNDAY AN ANTIQUITY"

#### How Elders Fly from the Wrath to Come

In the course of a discussion on Sabbath observance at a meeting of the U.F. Presbytery of Hamilton on Tuesday, the Rev. D. McQueen, M.A., Bellshill, said that the old Scots Sunday had gone, like the cotter's Saturday night, and was now one of the Scottish antiquities. Their elders flew from the wrath to come down the Balloch road at 30 miles per hour in motor cars. (Laughter.)

### "EVERYBODY'S BLOOD PURIFIER."

CLARKE'S BLOOD MIXTURE quickly expels from the blood the clogging impurities which cause Abscesses, Ulcers, Bad Legs, Glandular Swellings, Piles, Eczema, Boils, Eruption. That's why so many lasting recoveries stand to its credit. Over 50 years' success. Pleasant to take. Of all stores, etc. 3s per bottle.—Adv.

that kind of export will not suit the average citizen of this country as it will the Communist Party of Great Britain.

## "N

### Loi Daught

#### Why Sh

Lady Sybil daughter of I as a poetess, j and artist, is i recently publ Riding Light, "Neil Scot."

It is a stor striking anal and was cons work to have says a "Star" Lady Sybil i "The End of the chief poor sense," is a t who was killed she adopted h

During the grapher to the all official airs "Why did I cause I wante shadowing per Sybil told a pe "One must



LA sides, the nove wanted the cri merits.

"I have nea called 'Cairist under the sam two very proud and of Scotland

### GAM

Benjamin Go mure Estate, w his house at l Arbroath, with lying by his sid Gould and his remove to Ber occurred durin his wife at a years of age, an

A cow being c the house of ampton. It w bedroom, wher smashed some f into the street a rope to its hot

