

Communist Federation of Britain (ML)

Election Message

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(The Coventry Workers' Association does not agree with the political line of this statement).

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ELECTION MESSAGE

DON'T VOTE - ORGANISE!

The working class has no easy task distinguishing between the parties contending in the coming General Election. Workers are able to see that none of the Parliamentary parties represent them.

The Labour Party has a sorry record. From Labour's beginnings Communists have pointed to the treacherous nature of the Labour Party. All through its history the Labour Party has seen the road to change through reform of Parliamentary institutions. It has always attempted to change capitalism to socialism by manoeuvres within Parliament. It has been so successful in its mission to get into the bosses' good books that it is now accepted as the bosses' second party.

The 1945-51 Labour Governments froze the workers' wages. In 1964 and 1966, sections of the ruling class, represented by such papers as 'The Financial Times' and 'The Economist' agitated for Labour Governments to discipline the workers in order "to improve the economy". The present Government has achieved what the Tories could never do: they have gained the agreement of the T.U.C. to exercise control over the right to strike. Overall, the workers have drawn no benefit from a Labour Government in power.

The workers have no instrument at the moment which can change the system. A vote has no meaning without genuine alternatives. There is not yet a Party in this country which can lead the workers to break the tweedledum tweedledee 'Democracy' and institute direct workers' democracy to build Socialism. This has to be built.

Our aim is to organise in order to expose the system. We must organise independent workers' resistance to the Labour traitors in the unions, Tenants' Associations and racial minority movements. Unless the workers begin to raise their heads above the mess of capitalist policies, there can be no increase in the political awareness of the working class movement.

We are told that the Tories are worse than Labour. We are told that the Labour Party stands for the workers and that the Tories stand for the bosses. We are told that Labour Funds come from the Trade Unions and Tory funds come from large Companies. But for all this, in 1964 and 1966 important sections of ruling class wanted Labour back in power.

The economic crisis is likely to worsen in the coming year and both Labour and Tory are prepared to meet the growing crisis of the capitalist class by further shackling the unions, limiting the right to strike, imposing higher productivity for less actual wages, and increasing unemployment.

The policies of the two main parties are so similar that we would challenge readers to see any difference in terms of their promises. The word 'Socialism' does not appear once this time in Labour's prospectus.

What is significant to us is that even the pretence of a different goal has been dropped. Thus the dream of the 'Communist Party' of pushing Wilson to the left has no more reality than the Trotskyist plan to replace Wilson and Co., and thus change the Labour Party.

Anyone with any illusions of changing the Labour Party in these ways would believe that a dinosaur can be converted into a tiger either by pointing it in a different direction or by transplanting its head.

Where no alternative exists no choice can be made. We therefore urge the following active policy during the election period and after.

Organise now in your Union, Tenants' Association and national minority organisation for workers' aims:-

- X Wage increases without increased exploitation.
- X The right to work.
- X The right to strike.
- X No state interference in trade unions.
- X Solve the housing problem - get the profiteers out of housing.
- X Unite all workers, black and white for a programme of real change. Destroy Monopoly Capitalism. Build Socialism.

Tell your workmates to say no to the no choice election and lend support to the militant struggle to build a real alternative to both the bosses' parties.

Don't vote - Organise!