

**U. P. COMMUNIST CANDIDATE** ★ ★

by **S. Mahmuduzzafar**

# Dr. Z. A. AHMAD--Popular And Trusted Leader

Z. A. AHMAD, popularly known as "Doctor Sahab," is one of the best and most prominent of the members of the Communist Party in the U.P. He has been in the Provincial Committee of the Party ever since its foundation in 1936 and has been a whole-time Party functionary throughout these nine years.

AHMAD went from Aligarh to England in 1928, already full of hatred for British Imperialism and an ardent nationalist.

Soon after his final return from abroad he took up teaching in Sind. But it was the period of the national upsurge of 1936. Active political life drew him from the class-room. He resigned his job and joined the progressive band of young men collecting round JAWAHARLAL NEHRU.

## A Leader Of The Rising Congress Left

Inside the Congress, his consistent stand was that of a Left progressive. As a member of the A.I.C.C. Secretariat and in charge of the Economic Section, he wrote with great ability basic pamphlets and articles on the burning economic issues that faced the National Movement.

He had a large share in the first serious effort of the Congress, to analyse and tackle the Kisan problem in all its aspects. The outcome was the Congress Agrarian Committee's Report of 1936, which Ahmad helped to draft.

Numerous other pamphlets and articles were poured out by Ahmad from this Economics Section of the A.I.C.C. Secretariat up till the outbreak of the war.

Ahmad rose to prominence as a progressive Congress leader. He was elected to the Provincial Congress Committee in 1936 and to the A.I.C.C. next year. He participated in the Haripura and Tripuri sessions of the Congress. Later, he became a member of the U.P. Congress Executive Committee and was twice elected one of the secretaries.

## Champion Of Kisans And Mazdoors Inside Congress

Kisan and working class issues, problems relating to the minorities, particularly the Muslims, questions of democratic functioning of the ever-expanding Congress organisation and questions of basic national policy, were raised sharply inside the Provincial Executive. Ahmad was one of those who consistently fought for progressive ideas, for defence of the people's interests.

During the Congress Ministry, he stubbornly fought for a popular agrarian policy in connection with Relief, Indebtedness, Tenancy Rights and for the kisans' right to organise their own independent movement. He pressed the Congress to support the workers in their struggles against the owners and for their right to strike and organise their unions. During the famous 51 days' strike of the Cawnpore textile workers in 1938, Jawaharlal sent him specially to investigate and report.

Ahmad was also a consistent supporter of the just rights of the minorities. He pressed for more organisers in the districts for the Muslim masses, for more literature in Urdu, for more representation of Muslims in Congress Committees.



As head of the Provincial Congress Committee's Minorities' Section, he helped to spread freedom consciousness amongst the Muslim people. Bulletins, pamphlets and articles were prepared and Ahmad toured extensively and addressed Muslim audiences.

## Provincial Congress Organiser

As one of the Provincial Congress Organisers he had a hand in the day-to-day functioning of the Congress. On many an occasion, he had to fight very hard to preserve the popular integrity of the Congress.

Once under Pantji's Congress Ministry when a certain circular was issued by the Chief Secretary calling upon district officials to watch out against "Communists and Communists," Ahmed took up the matter in the Executive with Pantji. Jawaharlal supported him with such vehemence that Pantji had to offer a public explanation.

Questions of broad national policy were also thrashed out inside the Council, sometimes with heat. Particularly sharp discussions took place on the eve of August 9th, '42. On the issue of the struggle Ahmad had to face a hostile Council, when he declared that national interests demanded an all-out resistance to the Japs. On that occasion also Jawaharlal took up a progressive anti-fascist stand and strongly advocated resistance to the Japs.

## Builder Of Kisan Sabha

Ahmad's activity on the kisan front was as great and as consistent as inside the Congress. From 1936 he took active part in building the kisan movement.

The U.P. Kisan Sabha was in its infancy—Ahmad, who was elected Vice-President of the Sabha, visited one district after another, helping to lead the great kisan upsurge and strengthen the independent kisan organisation.

Unao, Rae Bareilly, Partabgarh, Ballia, Jhansi, Meerut, Sultanpur, Saharanpur and Aligarh Kisan workers owe much of their early inspiration to him. These are the very districts where a vigorous independent kisan movement is most developed today.

The repression that followed the outbreak of the war practically smashed this kisan movement. Ahmad was himself in jail from 1940 to 1942. Soon after his release, came August 9th and a fresh wave of repression. Nevertheless, the Kisan Sabha was revived, practically rebuilt, during these calamitous years. It was Ahmad, again, who was most active in this work of reconstruction.

The U.P. Provincial Kisan Sabha today, of which he is the President, with a membership of 25,000, functioning in two-thirds of the districts of the Province, owes very much to his devoted activity. Today, he is paying special attention to the whole question of agrarian reforms in the U.P. The inadequacy of the existing tenancy laws to defend the kisan and ensure food for the people has been proved to the hilt by the experience of the war years.

The pamphlet on this question which the Communist Party is bringing out, prepared by him, will be a blue-print for the immediate future, to ensure the U.P. a healthy and happy countryside and an adequate food supply.

## Among Allahabad Workers

It was at Allahabad that Ahmad first gained living experience of the working class movement. There was hardly any organisation then. The condition of the workers, especially of the Railway coolies, Press workers, Electric Supply Company workers and the University employees was very bad.

It was a common thing in some presses for workers to be locked inside the factories during the recess.

Wages were as low as Rs. 9 or 10,—there were no provisions for leave and provident fund. Harassments, fines, and dismissals were frequent. Even in the Government Press, grades of pay and wages were low.

The majority of the workers were still on temporary employment basis, promotions were arbitrarily stopped by high-handed officials and so on.

The conditions of the Railway coolies was even worse. They were horribly exploited by the Contract System and were under the thumb of an extortionate manager.

Two stubborn strikes and prolonged agitation won solid concessions for the Press workers. Their Unions were organised and they elected Ahmad their President. A thirty-day strike by the Railway coolies, in which 150 of them went to jail, eventually won them all their demands, including the removal of the manager.

The Allahabad Railway coolies give the Red Salute from that day.

## Reorganised Trade Unions After 1942

The war and repression wrought havoc for the Allahabad workers also. When he returned from jail in 1942, Ahmad found their condition worse than in 1936, and the trade unions practically smashed.

Here again, the task of rebuilding was done largely by him, during the years 1942-44. Civil Liberties were non-existent, prices were soaring, commodities disappearing from the market. All the old "zealotry" had reasserted itself.

In the face of indescribable difficulties, the trade unions were reorganised. The Press, Electric Supply and Railway workers and University employees once again set up their Unions, once again elected Ahmad as their President and leader. Dogged by the Police, Ahmad would rush to the factories and presses and to the few bold patriots who remained outside.

Prolonged agitation secured dearness allowance for the press and Electric Supply Company workers and others. Day to day harassments were removed, grain shops secured.

This continuous service of the workers for almost a decade has earned Ahmad the love and respect of the working class of Allahabad, Cawnpore, Agra and wherever he has gone to address workers' meetings.

But service to the workers and kisans' only does not complete Ahmad's contribution. He has served the people as a whole,

as a patriot, as a Congressman, as a Communist.

## Consistent Service Of The People

During the ugly communal riots at Allahabad, it was Ahmad and his wife Hajrah Begum, who were amongst the peace brigades of Congressmen and others who patrolled the streets.

In the aftermath of August 9th it was he who led the Communist Party and a few bold patriots to protest against the repression, keep the peace, render aid to the victims.

In the grim years of 1943 and 1944, it was he who led the young Communists and other patriots, to organise relief, set up 'mohalla' Food Committees, fight the insolent bureaucrats and the unscrupulous hoarders and profiteers.

On his initiative the Communist Party helped to organise several important Food Conferences at Allahabad, at which he and Pandit Hirdaynath Kunzru, Messrs. Z. H. Lari and P. N. Sapru and others raised their voice against food scarcity, official high-handedness, profiteering and hoarding, and called for efficient controls and total rationing.

Ahmad was the leader of our squads, which went out night and day in the mohallas, scrutinizing the grain shops, rousing the mohalla people, exposing the authorities. And when the veteran Congressmen of Allahabad came out of jail many of them joined up in this work, for rationing of food and cloth.

Ahmad is today known throughout the Province for his honest political work, character and ability. He can justly claim to have served the Congress in the period of the national upsurge and also in the days of deadlock and frustration. His services to the kisan movement, to the trade union movement, to the people, are there for all to see.

All these qualities combined with his unflagging devotion to the service of the people and the ideals of Communism ensure him his place amongst his people and his Party, which has put him up as its candidate for the four-cities labour seat for the U.P. Assembly.

**PEOPLESAGE**

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# What Does The Choice Show?

From Nikhil Chakravarty

The Bengal Muslim League Parliamentary Board after one hundred and eighty hours' deliberation and examining over one thousand claims, have just announced its nominations for the Assembly elections. Out of the one hundred and nineteen names, ninety are new. Most conspicuous is the elimination of the "Nawab of Dacca family" nominees: neither Nazimuddin nor his notorious brother, Shahabuddin, are standing. Out of the nine members from this clique in the last Legislature, only one has been nominated this time.

IN the long list of new names, some are definite assets for progressive circles, like ABUL MANSUR AHMED from Mymensingh West, who is a veteran of many battles fought under Deshabandhu C. R. Das. There is also ABDUL ELAHI BAQI, a great Khilafat leader of North Bengal, who joined the League in recent years.

Mention may also be made of ABDUL GANI from Berhampore, noted for his united food work in this district; Principal IBRAHIM KHAN for Tangail North and ANWARA KHATUN for the Dacca Women's seat, both noted for their broad-minded and progressive outlook.

But the inclusion of these names and the exclusion of the old do not by any means indicate the victory of the progressive camp over the reactionaries. A glance at the list makes dismal reading and shows clearly the absence of any clean democratic standards on the part of the Bengal League leadership. A few instances may be given here.

## Profiteers And Zemindars Preferred

In Dacca, Abdul Hakim Vikrampuril piled up profits by securing a contract for salt through the "Merchants' Syndicate". Khan Bahadur Aulad Hossain, President of the District League, is one of the bosses of the "Boatmen's Association," which is widely said to be a notorious medium for black-marketing in rice. He is also connected with the Government Transport Department. Masihuddin Ahmed became notorious by siding with the local S.D.O. and corrupt officials in Food Committee matters.

In Mymensingh, Khan Bahadur Ghiasuddin Pathan recently became prominent as one of the war rich. Nurul Amin is the Chairman of the District Board, which is regarded as one of the most corrupt bodies in East Bengal. Mohammed Israil earned notoriety in Kishoreganj by siding with the local S.D.O. against the all-parties' campaign against corruption in the Civil Supplies' Department. Khurram Khan Panni is an oppressive zemindar.

In Chittagong, Khan Bahadur Fazul Qadir is a confirmed pro-Government man, who was recently booed by Leaguers in public for leaning towards the Government side during the all-parties' campaign against military atrocities at Kasalpara. Farid Ahmed Chaudhury is one of the biggest contractors and profiteers in Chittagong.

## Communalists - Worst Enemies Of Kisans

In Noakhali, Abdul Jabbar Khaddar, though an ex-Khilafatist, is today one of the worst communalists and a sworn enemy of the kisan movement in a district where the peasantry is dominantly Muslim. He is an agent of A. R. Siddiqui's (Muslim business magnate) Eastern Federal Insurance Co. He has been chosen in preference to Habibullah Bahar, a well-known progressive leader.

Mujibar Rahman is also a rank communalist with an anti-kisan outlook, who is reported to have raised the vile and fantastic slander that Hindus try to snail promising Muslim personalities by giving their

own daughters to them and quoted the cases of Kazi Nasrul-Islam, Asaf Ali and Humayun Kabir. He was chosen in preference to Chunnumeah—the widely-known kisan leader.

In Dinajpore, Hafizuddin Chaudhury is one of the biggest jotedars, who is notorious for his oppression against kisans. He was chosen in preference to one of the leaders of the Bengal kisan movement, Haji Dares, who recently joined the League.

In Khulna, Abdus Sabur is widely looked down upon for being a profiteer and a rank communalist.

## Ex-Govt. Contractor And A Police Boss Too

In the 24-Parganas, Khan Sahib Anwarul Huq is a retired Government contractor.

But most shocking of all is the nomination of the retired Government official, Khan Bahadur Shamsur Dahar, who has spent practically his whole career in inflicting tortures on young revolutiona-

ries as Deputy Commissioner of Police, Intelligence Department, and who is widely hated as a Government man.

In Jalpaiguri, Nawab Mussharraf Hossain, a big zemindar, has been nominated again.

## Suhrawardy Group - Dominant

Such a selection is the result of factional squabbles dominating the League leadership in Bengal. Abul Hashem, one time leader of a progressive group, threw in his lot with Suhrawardy against Nazimuddin instead of taking an independent stand and using his key position to stamp out corruption and factionalism.

Today, one sees the tragic spectacle of Hashem acting as Suhrawardy's henchman and the two together distributing seats to people whom Suhrawardy could trust in all his factional misdeeds.

In return Suhrawardy throws a few sop to Hashem by giving nominations to half a dozen progressives.

The situation today is so bad that it is understood that the Police boss Shamsur Dahar got his ticket through the backing of Hashem's group, perhaps at the bidding of Suhrawardy.

## Protests From League Ranks

It is, therefore, but natural that the nomination list aroused no enthusiasm in general League circles. Even the Morn-

ing News of Siddiqui gave only qualified support, while the League President, Maulana Akram Khan's Azad, voicing the opinion of the Nazimuddin group, quite openly criticised the Parliamentary Board, though that too from their own factional viewpoint.

There was a demonstration of Muslim students at the League office and at Suhrawardy's place, in which Suhrawardy was violently abused. The League leaders try to dismiss this as being engineered by disappointed suitors but they should realise that Muslim students could not have been so quickly mobilised but for their genuine indignation, as such demonstrations are seen only in Bengal.

Not only in Calcutta but from the districts too, news of protest demonstrations are coming in hundreds and they are all waiting for Nawabzada Liaquat Ali and Mr. Jinnah to come to ventilate their grievances. Appeals for reconsideration of selections are the largest this time.

The Imam Saheb of the Shahi Masjid in Calcutta, in a press statement, says:

"The Bengal Muslim League Parliamentary Board has flouted public opinion by rejecting the nomination of deserving candidates as a result of which the League might lose in many places."

Calling upon the districts to inform him of such cases he says:

"At this critical moment, we cannot agree to lose a single seat to those who are opposing the League and fighting Pakistan."

Great resentment is felt in Chittagong, where the District League Working Committee is understood to have met and condemned the nominations granted to contractors and zemindars, and Muslim students threatened to go on strike if the nominations are not changed.

## Resignations of League Office-Bearers

In Dinajpur, extreme bitterness persists against the oppressive jotedar, Hafizuddin's nomination from Thakurgaon Sub-division. Out of 92 unions, 36 union League Committees have already sent telegrams to the Provincial Parliamentary Board against Hafizuddin's nomination and leaders of the Sub-divisional League are thinking in terms of making an independent nomination of their own choice and forecast that Hafizuddin will lose his deposit in that case.

The Orient Press reports mass resignations of League office-bearers from their offices in Dacca district as a protest against undeserved nominations.

Reports of open discontent are coming from other centres as well.

## League's Enemies Active

No doubt the League's enemies will take full advantage of such a situation. For instance, it is reported that Congress circles at Thakurgaon, in Dinajpur, have seriously begun to think of putting up a candidate for the Muslim seat since they rightly think it will be easy to defeat a man like Hafizuddin.

Fazul Huq who always tries to fish in troubled waters also threw a significant hint, in a press statement, immediately after the announcement of the League nominations:

"I don't know why students are very much annoyed with me and are opposing my candidature. I go much further than the Muslim League in many respects and it would be bare justice to me to let me have my way to the Muslim League to put matters right."

Huq hopes to exploit the disgust among Muslim League students to win them for himself.

## Muslim Masses Roused, But Bankruptcy Of Leadership

But more serious than all this is one simple question: What is the League inside the Legislature going to do this time—and is this the team for the job? The League demagogues promise to abolish the zamindari system and work for the uplift of the Muslim millions of Bengal, the bulk of whom are peasants. The zamindar, with his auxiliaries, forms the biggest problem.

But with a team composed of profiteers and zemindars how does the League hope to solve it? Winning of Pakistan is the battle-cry in this election. But what sort of fight could this bunch of unmitigated toadies put up against Imperialism and what sort of 'Pakistan' will they win?

Yet Bengal's Muslim humanity is today in the midst of a mighty upsurge. That is shown by the record membership of the League this year, exceeding ten lakhs.

It was proved by the Calcutta Muslims' unprecedented gathering of over 3 lakhs, early in January, in celebration of the League victory in the Central Assembly elections.

It was demonstrated in the remarkable response of Chittagong Muslims in joining hands with brother patriots of other parties against military atrocities at Kasalpara, which brought the bureaucracy to its knees and routed discredited toadies in their own ranks.

It has been demonstrated in the recent Calcutta upsurge on Rashid Day.

When there are such great stirrings among the Muslim millions, Bengal's League leaders have proved their bankruptcy in selecting such a team that will be incapable of abolishing zamindari, weeding out corruption and fighting for freedom against Imperialism.

February 10.

## Election Campaign In Begusarai (Bihar)

# Procession Attacked

## Kisans Foil Attempt To Break Up Meeting

After the cowardly way in which the District Congress leaders broke up the Communist meeting at Lakhiserai (Behar) and organised the murderous assault on Communist candidate KARYANANDA SHARMA, similar attempts were made by them in other constituencies too. But this time our comrades were better prepared to face such attacks and defend the Red Flag. They were backed up by the kisan masses who rallied in their full strength against the disruptors and their hirelings.

**N** EITHER armed Police nor face left. A Forward Blocist armed goondas succeeded in breaking up the Communist election meeting held on February 3 near Begusarai in the constituency where SARJU PRASAD SINGH, the Congress candidate, is fighting BRAHMADEO SINGH, the Communist candidate.

Originally, the meeting was to have been held in Begusarai town itself, but the venue was changed to a nearby village about two miles away, almost at the last moment. For, definite reports had come through of the plans of the anti-Communists to break up the meeting forcibly.

They had prepared crackers and some kind of irritant chemical with which Students' Congress boys, especially kids, were to lead the attack. Armed lathials from Ramdiri (village of the Congress candidate, Sarju Babu, himself) were to follow them backed in turn by mounted sparsmen, belonging to the big zemindar of the locality.

## Organised By Congress Candidate

It was reported also that the whole 'campaign' had been organised by the Congress candidate, Sarju Prasad Singh. With beat of drums, he had asked his villagers to muster strong in Begusarai and break up the Communist meeting; otherwise, he told them, he would have no

## Police Joins Hands With The Goondas

At this point the Police appeared on the scene. As soon as they saw the Police lorry, the hooligans ran for their lives and completely melted away in a

couple of minutes. The procession firmly remained seated. The Police Inspector declared Section 144 and asked the procession to disperse.

The processionists refused and instead asked the neutral people around to support them in their fight against the Police. Meanwhile, seeing that Police had not resorted to violence, the hooligans too plucked up some courage and cautiously returned to the place.

But to ensure maximum safety for themselves they came with the slogan "Police hamara bhai hai, bhai nahin la-rence." (The Police are our brothers and brothers do not fight amongst themselves). This disgusted people so much that many villagers who had till then remained spectators, now rose against the hooligans and volunteered to safely escort the procession to the place of meeting.

## 3,000 Strong Kisan Rally

Not having succeeded in frightening our people and dispersing our procession, the Police then left the place and went to the meeting in the village. With the Police went some of the hooligans and their armed lathials. At the meeting while the goondas (many of whom were lathials and mounted men of the local zemindar) occupied a strategic position on the other side of the meeting.

But despite them the meeting went on peacefully. Bihar Communist leader, Chandrashekhar, made a very good speech, which was received with great enthusiasm by three-thousand listeners. A handful of disruptors tried to break up the meeting by shouting and throwing brick-bats, but they failed miserably.

Where the procession had been held up, however, the flight went on even after the Police

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## SIX LAKHS' FUND DRIVE

# For A Big And Final Spurt

### Closing Date Extended To April 1

This week collections are mounting up, both from individuals and our Party units. But there is little time left. The last date for our fund collections is March 1; and that is only a week ahead. We are, however, extending the date for closing the fund to April 1, since many have promised to give in March and we wish to include their donations in our final account. We shall publish our interim account of what we have collected in our March 10th issue.

So this is my final appeal to you to give whatever you can and see that we do top the six lakh mark.

#### From Heroic Gwalior

Most encouraging news of all this week is from our Gwalior unit, which has just participated in and led the heroic battle of Gwalior workers—a landmark in the history of the Gwalior people's movement. Soon after they heard of the attack, they held a meeting of all Party members. Rs. 70 was collected on the spot, while the total quota taken was Rs. 1,139; the outstanding contribution was Rs. 1 from a panwalla; his wage is only Rs. 9-12 per month but he has not only given Rs. 1 this month but promised Rs. 1 every month.

#### From Party Units

Lucknow has started fulfilling the promises it made a fortnight ago; we have now received Rs. 1,400 from them.

From the South too contributions are now coming in; from Pallipalayam, a village in Salem district, we have received Rs. 50; from Salem itself Rs. 100, collected from Party members at a General Body meeting on January 30; student members in Annamalai University have promised Rs. 300; three of them are going to give Rs. 12 a month by giving up smoking.

From Karachi, Rs. 330 and a good wrist-watch have been received in addition to what has already been sent.

From Assam, the Gauhati unit has started the drive, even

though most of the members are poorly-paid railway workers, Rs. 75 has already been subscribed by them.

And lastly from Amraoti also Rs. 75 has come to us.

These are the Party units that have sent us their contributions—units from all over India; but there are many more who have not sent in anything—in the whole of the last month, since our press was destroyed. I hope they will move themselves into action quickly.

Individual contributions too have been many this week. BHUPESH GUPTA, one of our leading younger comrades in Bengal, has sent us Rs. 2,000 as his personal contribution, which has been our biggest single contribution this week.

#### Self-Sacrifice Of Our T. B. Patients

But the one contribution that has moved us most is the Rs. 25 from R. D. BHARADWAJ. Bharadwaj, one of the foremost leaders of our Party in 1936-39, has been ill with tuberculosis for the last four years, ever since he was released from the detention camp; he has been making strenuous efforts to get better—and he expects to be back at work in the course of this year.

As soon as he heard of the attack, he wrote to me, enclosing Rs. 50 (Rs. 25 on his behalf and Rs. 25 on behalf of TRIBHUVAN NATH of Benares, another T.B. patient at Bhowali sanatorium), pledging to get well soon and adding:

"The donations must pour in to make up for the loss sustained. They (the enemies of the Party) are wrong if they calculate that they can stifle the voice of the Communist Party by smashing its press. We will raise a mightier press with the support of the people whom the Party serves with all its might."

#### Congress Elder

The other outstanding individual contributions this time have come from Bengal. The mother of GAUTAM CHATTOPADHYAY, a leading student Party member, has sent us Rs. 110, and his father Professor K. P. CHATTOPADHYAY, who was the President of the Nadia District Congress Committee, and is an old Congressman wrote to us:

"As a Congressman I regret very greatly that a group, which is obviously aiming at Fascism, should use the name of our organisation (the Congress) which has never countenanced such conduct and has always been anti-Fascist."

Professor Chattopadhyay is a Professor of Anthropology at Calcutta University and is respected by all for his integrity and years of service of the people. We value his letter and his wife's contribution and it is indeed such contributions that should convince all that honesty and democratic principles still live in our National Movement.

From Bengal also, through the Bengal Committee, have come nearly Rs. 800 given by seven donors, among them are NARAYAN BANERJI who gave Rs. 500, and Professor NIRENDRA-NATH ROY who gave Rs. 200.

#### Thanks To All

And last of all are our collections here in the Party headquarters itself.

The brother of our Accountant, who is head of a leading Auditor's firm in Bombay, has given Rs. 250.

Several journalists have donated very generously. All of them like K. A. ABBAS, the well-known progressive writer, who gave Rs. 100, told us that though they did not fully agree with our political policy, they gave their donation as an expression of sympathy for our loss and disgust at the hooligan methods of our enemies.

So the list is long this week. It could be longer. At our People's Age Managerial office itself we have received over Rs. 1,000 in small sums, sent in response to our Editor's appeal, and it is impossible to mention all.

I shall only mention the typical donation of a young girl teacher of Bhadrak (Orissa) who sent us Rs. 10 in response to an appeal from a member of the staff of our Publishing House; she also says, having read of the attack on our headquarters, that she will send more to help repair the damage.

Many like her have sent money to us. We thank them all, collectively and individually, and pledge to work our hardest, to be worthy of the confidence they have shown in us by sending their contributions.

—S. V. Ghate



## Latest Pamphlets



### For The Final Bid For Power

(About Twelve Annas)

By P. C. Joshi.

The freedom programme of the Indian Communists, aimed to unite all Indians for the final struggle to win Indian independence.

### Food For All

(Four Annas)

By G. Adhikari.

The agrarian programme of the Communists, whose implementation will give land to the peasant, food to all Indians.

### Forward Bloc And Its Allies Vs. Communists

(Twelve Annas)

By Arun Bose and Khoka Rai

Simple, factual and well-documented account of the activities of the Communists and the Forward Bloc in the last three years, and who serves their people better.

### Chittagong Armoury Raiders

(One Rupee)

By Kalpana Dutt

Personal reminiscences of one of the participants about one of the most stirring chapters in India's freedom struggle.

### Bengal's Forgotten Warriors

(One Rupee four annas)

By Nirjan Sen

The story written by one who was himself a leader of the Bengal terrorist movement—and of the agitation for the release of these—some of India's best sons.

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## Message And Donation

### FROM GERMAN--AUSTRIAN COMMUNISTS

Last week, twelve Communists came to our Party headquarters—nine of them were German, three Austrian.

They were led by HEINZ EGEBRECHT, who has been a Communist for sixteen years. Heinz had fought in the underground against Hitler, he had led the illegal Communist movement in Upper Silesia; he was in a concentration camp for nine months and had worked inside Germany right up to 1938. Afterwards he escaped to Prague, then to England.

When the war began, he was declared an enemy alien—the fact that he had fought Hitler when Chamberlain was financing him, made no difference. With others he was exiled to Australia.

Today on his way back to Germany, he passed through Bombay—and naturally, along with his eleven comrades, visited us. Here is their message to us, given with Rs. 71, all they had with them, for our Fighting Fund.

#### "Indian Comrades,

"The few happy days we have spent with you are over. We are going back to our homeland inspired by the very fine comradeship and solidarity you have shown to us and by your great struggle for freedom and emancipation of your people. The things we have seen and heard here have made us realise still more our own task of making known to the people of Europe the 'real' problems of India.

"We go away as your ambassadors, fighting side by side with you in our countries against the remnants of fascism and oppression in any form.

"The Communist Party of Germany and the Communist Party of Austria salute our Indian Comrades."

## Bihar Election Campaign

(Continued from Page 2.)

had left. After a time the local Congress leaders, Ramcharitra Singh and Brahmadeo Narain Singh, came to the place.

Ramcharitra Babu is the President of the District Congress Committee and an influential member of the Provincial Working Committee. Brahmadeo Babu is the sitting Congress M.L.A. from this constituency, but his name was rejected by the Central Parliamentary Board at the instance, it is said, of the ex-Premier, Shri Krishna Sinha, himself.

Both these Congress leaders tried their best to disperse the attackers but were openly disobeyed. They expressed grief over this sad spectacle of important Congress functionaries being disobeyed by the people claiming to be followers of the Congress.

Addressing the hooligans, Ramcharitra Babu declared: "You are striking at the very root of the Congress."

Pointing to us, Brahmadeo Babu said, with some feeling: "These are not ordinary people but Communists who would die to the last man but not budge an inch."

#### Fouling Their Own Nest

This combined pressure from the leaders and the public,

however, finally unnerved the disruptors—and completely isolated a handful of Forward Bloc gangsters who were leading the lathials. Unable to resist any more, the hooligans gave way and the procession triumphantly marched forward. But by this time the meeting in the village was over and, therefore, the procession returned to the Party Office.

Thus ended the day's battle. Thousands of neutral people and some Congressmen felt utterly disgusted with these tactics. They were bitter against Sarju Babu, the Congress candidate, who, they said, could not disclaim responsibility for what was done by his Congress supporters.

The reaction of the ordinary kisan masses was typified by what one peasant declared, commenting on the hooliganism organised by responsible Congressmen: "The Communists have become the Congress and the Congress has become Angrez" (meaning British).

This is what the use of gangster methods by Congressmen has done to Congress prestige and reputation. All that the Bihar Congressmen have achieved is to soil the fair name of the Congress and disgrace its banner.

February 11.