

WORKERS OF FIGHTING WARSAW
TO THEIR BRITISH COMRADES

NEW YORK, N. Y.



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A message from the Executive of the Polish Socialist Party to the workers of Britain, broadcast by the Warsaw Radio Station "BLYSKAWICA" (Lightning) was heard in London on August 24th :

"The third week of our struggle has ended. Ill-armed, we have taken and we are firmly holding a town of a million inhabitants—this despite the fact that half our fighting men have no arms. We lack machine-guns and anti-tank weapons. The armament we possess has been captured from the Germans. But could it not be supplied to us? We understand that there are transport difficulties, but should they not be overcome? What stands in the way? How is it that Polish pilots fought over London but are not allowed to fight over Warsaw?

"We know we are being accused of having started the fight without consultation with Russia. We believe that every nation who loves freedom, and wants to attain it, is fighting to-day on all fronts. We, here, do want freedom and we are fighting for it. On the barricades all hearts are united."

On August 28th, Radio Warsaw broadcast a second message from the Executive of the Polish Socialist Party to the workers of Britain. The message concerns the granting of combatant rights to the soldiers of the Polish Home Army. The combatant status of the Home Army was at last recognized by the Governments of Great Britain and the U.S.A. after four weeks of fighting in Warsaw :

"Warsaw is a heap of ruins. The population has taken to the cellars. Over the city circle German planes sowing destruction. We are not receiving arms, which we lack. Meanwhile the centres of German resistance are falling one after the other. The Central Telephone Exchange and the Police Headquarters have both fallen. The 'Herrenvolk' are beginning to feel uneasy. Insurgent units from the provinces have reached Warsaw. Amidst all this we have heard the appalling news that our soldiers of the Home Army are not recognized as combatants. The Germans call them 'bandits' and kill everyone who falls into their hands. In the

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name of all Poland and of the workers we call upon the Allies to carry out an act of elementary justice and to stop our men who are taken prisoner from being slaughtered."

On August 30th, a third message from the Executive of the Polish Socialist Party to the workers of Britain was received in London :

"The fourth week of the rising is nearing its end. The majority of Warsaw districts lies in ruin. The population have taken shelter in the cellars. Charred ruins and debris, as soon as they cooled down, became barricades behind which our soldiers fight.

"We had in Warsaw a beautiful mediæval district—the Old City. Narrow, winding streets, tapering houses, artistically decorated, beautiful old churches and a Cathedral. To-day there is not one building standing. Ruins litter the place where once stood the Old City. Thousands of shells of the heaviest calibre fell on it. The mightiest guns from armoured trains fired on the ancient walls.

"One single raid of bombers could have destroyed the railway track and made this impossible. Multi-barrelled mortars of the heaviest type "MWE" like giant beasts, screaming and spreading fire and destruction, day and night, have been ceaselessly bringing down house by house, street by street. Beside that, field artillery of all calibres has been shelling the city without pause.

"German bombers were coming every fifty minutes, dropping loads of bombs. Why is there no air protection? One single enemy plane brought down by rifle fire was our only compensation for the wholesale destruction."

The Jewish Socialist Party "BUND" is fighting side by side with their Polish comrades in Warsaw. The following despatch has been received from the Executive Committee of the "Bund" on August 18th ;

"For eighteen days the people of Warsaw, and among them the remnants of Jewish youth, have been waging an uneven struggle against the barbarous invaders. We are fighting the enemy in the common cause of Poland. Do all in your power to bring about the immediate despatch of substantial and effective help to Warsaw."

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