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AMENDMENTS TO ERBER RESOLUTION

ON JEWISH QUESTION

I. Insert the following as section (4) and change all numbers of following sections accordingly:

"(4). The wave of anti-semitism which followed the defeat of German labor by fascism and the victory of Hitler led to a tremendous resurgence of nationalistic sentiment among Jews all over the world. It seemed to millions of Jews that the struggle of Allied imperialism against Germany was at the same time a struggle against anti-semitism but this illusion has been rapidly disappearing as the remaining Jewish masses of Europe continue to feel the lash of anti-semitism in the territories occupied by the victorious Allies and in the Allied nations themselves.

"This growing Jewish nationalism has taken the form of a mass desire for a territory (in particular, Palestine) where the Jewish population might constitute a majority and thereby be able to develop its own life free from anti-semitism. These aspirations are the legitimate, democratic yearnings of a people long subjected to oppression and discrimination.

"It is an axiom for revolutionary socialists who alone can be consistent democrats that all peoples who desire to lead an independent national existence be given the opportunity to do so. Wherever such a national struggle, however, conflicts with the needs of the general revolutionary struggle against world imperialism and for the proletarian revolution which alone can guarantee real freedom for all peoples and provide the basis for a solution to the Jewish problem, that national struggle must be subordinated to the socialist struggle.

"To pose the achievement of a Jewish state under capitalism as does the Zionist movement as the solution of the Jewish question is to pose a reactionary Utopia. The effect of the Zionist movement is to divert the struggle of the Jewish proletariat and the Jewish people as a whole from the class struggle of the entire working class of the countries they live in. The attempt to realize a Jewish state under capitalism is, at best, conceivable as a wretched adjunct of one of the imperialist empires. It is precisely because the Zionist aim is a reactionary Utopia that the practical policies of Zionism have a reactionary content. The aspirations of the Jewish people for a state of their own can only find its genuine realization as a Jewish Commonwealth in a World Socialist Federation.

II. Make the following change in section (4): Add this phrase at the end of the paragraph:

"to be achieved not by bargaining with British imperialism but by mass revolutionary struggle against it."

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III. Change in section (2). Add this sentence at the end of the paragraph:

"This struggle against anti-semitism is likewise of greatest importance in the efforts of the Workers Party to educate the American proletariat to the political significance of anti-semitism, to its use by the native fascist movements and by sections of the bourgeoisie as a weapon against the working class."

IV. Change in section (3). Add this sentence at the end of the paragraph:

"For Socialists in the United States, it means also exposing the policy of American imperialism which offers no other solution for the Jews of Europe than life in a Displaced Persons Camp in spite of all the pretensions of American imperialism to being the most liberal and inherently democratic state in the world."

V. Change in section (8). Insert this sentence after the words "...until a Jewish majority is assured":

"Other slogans, such as 'bi-national state' evade this question: Shall the majority of the people of Palestine have the right democratically to decide the fate of their own country through a democratic Constituent Assembly?"

The section continues after the above as follows:

"Not only does this opposition to the Constituent Assembly on the part of Zionism make it an obvious tool, etc...."