

along which Stalin thought, and acted! To Trotsky, however, the struggle for proletarian democracy in Russia was the struggle to destroy the bureaucracy as a social grouping, not one or other of its leaders.

The death of Stalin, nevertheless, has weakened the Russian ruling caste. This is one of the "magnificent achievements" of Stalin himself! One by one, Stalin murdered every one of Lenin's associates, except those few who saved him this trouble by dying "naturally". Of the 31 members and alternates of the Central Committee of the Bolshevik Party of Lenin at the time of the October Revolution, only Stalin survived. Today even that fig leaf does not exist to hide the reality that obtains. There is nothing left today to associate Lenin's work and thought with the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. It is difficult to believe that, however efficiently history and sociology have been falsified and distorted in Russia by Stalin, the Soviet working class (which still has access to the works of Marx and Engels and selections of the work of Lenin) can remain blind to what has happened in the past twenty-five years and more.

But this will particularly be so outside the Soviet Union. One of Stalin's most "magnificent achievements" is that he has expressed as many different opinions on the same subject as it is humanly possible to express. All this is in print. The task of orthodoxy in the ranks of Stalinism will thereby be rendered not a little difficult. The bureaucratic ruthlessness of the new rulers of Russia will never be able to compensate for their Marxist ignorance in such a situation!

Hector Abhayavardhan

March 14, 1953,
5 Solaiammen Koil St., Madras-7.

[Shri Hector Abhayavardhan's honest indignation will be appreciated by all those who are familiar with the fanatic feud between Trotsky and Stalin. In answer to the only point he raises we reproduce the following sentences from the article under reference:

"Whether Stalin was a true Marxist or not is a matter for heated controversy among the theoreticians of Communism, Trotskyites will persist in decrying Stalinism as Soviet Bonapartism. . . . There are as many definitions of Stalinism as

there are Communists. It may be an over-simplification; but the definition that Stalinism means and implies that Communism can extend only through expansion of the Soviet Union is useful."—Ed.]

Bernstein Mission

Don't you think that investigation of the safe limit of deficit financing is only an excuse for getting the IMF Mission here? Dr Bernstein lately submitted a report to the LIS Administration on US trade and foreign policy. Delhi wants to seek his good offices to sponsor our case before the Republican Administration. After all, Mr Chester Bowles cannot act as our salesman any longer, and Delhi must have some one else.

Dr Bernstein has said little about deficit financing. He seems to be more concerned how best to secure American aid for us. Delhi has hopes that a proposal for another wheat loan may be entertained, if Bernstein presents it for us. Don't forget oriental hyper-bole. Applicants still use the old form of address: "Most Respected Sir", and not just 'Dear Sir'!

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