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FASCISTS, MIGRANT LABOUR AND THE DEALS OF THE BOURGEOISIE

«BASHKIMI» — central organ of the Democratic Front of Albania

In a number of West-European countries there is a recrudescence of fascist activities, indeed, an explosion of the hysteria against migrant workers and their families. Gangs with swastika emblems terrorize foreign workers whom poverty and unemployment have forced to abandon their countries in search of a job to secure the bitter bread of emigration in West Germany, England, Switzerland, France and the Netherlands. With «Heil Hitler!» shouts, fascists have attacked migrant workers in Tuttligen, Munich and West Berlin, in London and Birmingham, threatened them and set their houses to fire. The bourgeoisie encourages these outrageous acts even in traditionally quiet countries, such as the Scandinavian countries, where the burning crosses of the notorious Ku-Klux-Klan gangs have become a frequent sight. Fascist hysteria coincides in time with the administrative measures the governments of West Germany and other

migrant labour in order to expel them and their families, or «facilitate» their repatriation.

They find the excuse for unleashing this campaign in the large-scale unemployment and crisis that have affected these countries. The unemployed in West Germany are 2 million, in Britain more than 3 million, and in France, Belgium and Denmark unemployment has beaten all records. The official propaganda makes the great number of migrant workers responsible for this state of things. The bourgeoisie makes out as if these workers have been invited to the European countries only thanks to its generosity. But now that the Europeans have come up against difficulties, the foreigners must clear out!

One can call this anything, but not generosity. There was always cold reckoning in the utilization of the cheap migrant labour. The American, West-German, British, French, Belgian or Scandinavian bourgeoisie needs migrant work-

ers, who are employed in the more menial jobs, are paid less, have no rights, in order to exercise pressure on the local workers and force them to think that they must be «more moderate» in their demands and in their class struggle.

If there are so many unemployed today, migrant workers are not responsible for it. Responsible for this state of things is the bourgeois order and the appetite of the bourgeoisie for maximum profit, for the highest possible surplus value from the unpaid labour of the worker. By inciting attacks against foreign workers, the bourgeoisie imposes dangerous diversion. It tries to distract the attention of the working class from the true cause of its wretchedness, from the heavy burden of the crisis, high taxes and rents, from the insecure future and astronomical prices the worker comes up against every day. By implementing the centuries-old motto of all exploiters — «Divide and rule», the bourgeoisie and its state try

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to shift the attention to the «harm caused by migrant labour». At the same time tens of thousands of workers are

sacked and thrown into the streets, and funds for social insurance, hospitals and schools are curtailed.

Behind the activities of the criminal gangs is hidden the hand of the bourgeoisie.