

# **BRITAIN WITHOUT CAPITALISTS**

**A STUDY OF WHAT INDUSTRY IN A  
SOVIET BRITAIN COULD ACHIEVE**

*By*

**A GROUP OF ECONOMISTS,  
SCIENTISTS & TECHNICIANS**

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## PREFATORY NOTE

**T**HIS volume in no sense represents a programme. It is not a sketch of a party policy; and what is contained in it must not be taken as committing any person or body of persons to particular undertakings. It is an attempt by a group of about a dozen economists, scientists and technicians (who for a variety of reasons have decided to remain anonymous) to apply a certain body of principles to a critical analysis of the condition of British industries to-day and the possibilities of achievement open to the working people of this country once the capitalist class were removed. This fundamental principle they share in common: that a constructive future for the people of Britain depends on the working class and its allies taking power through organs of their own creating in a way similar to that by which the workers' Soviets in Russia have won through to the constructive achievements of socialism. It is this principle which distinguishes this work from most of the works which have appeared on "economic planning" in recent years. At the same time they realize to the full that each country has national peculiarities which require the most careful concrete study; and on many points concerning particularly the economics of a Worker's Britain they realize that there is room for further examination and discussion. This is a first sketch for such a study, which makes no claim to precision of detail or to authoritative finality. At the same time, the authors believe that in its main lines and in its basic principles the case which it presents is unanswerable and true.

Less than one-half of the problem has been surveyed in this

work. But in an important sense it is the fundamental half. It is primarily a study of Britain's productive system—of the physiology, as it were, of Soviet Power; and as such it deals with economic possibilities rather than with details of administrative or legislative forms. It covers the leading industries of the country, transport and distribution, and concludes with a survey of the apparatus of scientific education and research in relation to production. The social and political aspect—such matters as general education, health services, recreation and entertainment, crime and punishment and problems of government—fall outside the scope of this work and must be the subject of a separate volume.

*4th August, 1936*

THE AUTHORS.

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