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OCCUPAZIONE TERRE

Occupation of lands

A wide movement of land occupation, of labourers strikes and of strong agrarian struggles is being implemented in Sicily.

This struggle invests different and various aspects of the Sicilian societies in particular and of the Italian one in general. In the province of Agrigento, the peasants fight for expropriating three feudal properties and for expropriating lands (i.e. for passing of ownership) whenever the land owners don't fulfill their duties as to the land reform. An analogous struggle is carried out by farm-labourers at Palma di Montechiaro, who performed a march through the fiefs Narbone and Ravansa, and occupied the fiefs Arciresi and Mangiaricotta.

Another important stage of the struggle aims at preventing the cancellation of farm workers from the anagraphic lists; this is an abuse of power prefects have been committing and bringing forward in the last period, in order to stop and break down the labourers movement.

The renewal of work agreements is the third casting aspect of the struggle. The land owners want to model them on their selfish interests, and try to take all power away from peasants and labourers trade unions. Finally, the struggle affects the whole governmental policy vis a vis agriculture favourizing both the great land owners and the capitalistic farms. The problems concerning a general agrarian reform - which is to be the core of a democratic programmation plan - are the basic political elements giving a great importance to the whole present struggle.