

impetus to the new ideology. The historic mission of the new nationalism was to coincide handsomely with positive neutralism.

### ARAB SOCIALISM

The failure of the nationalist ideology to analyze the real forces working in the Arab society, and consequently its failure to develop a system of democratic life was one of the causes that led to the breakdown of the U.A.R. as was mentioned in Chapter Three. The ANM which was the first national party to condemn the Syrian secession, carried the ideological struggle to wider circles and was very influential in this respect during the period 1961-1967.

Muhsin Ibrahim wrote a series of articles in al-Hurriyah following the Syrian secession which were considered along with Nasser's speeches and the U.A.R. National Charter the ideological framework of what came to be known as Arab socialism.<sup>11</sup> The main ideas of Muhsin Ibrahim could be summarized in the following:

The breakdown of the unity between Egypt and Syria had demonstrated that it is not true that national unity is in the interest of all classes in present Arab society.

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<sup>11</sup>Muhsin Ibrahim's articles were later published in two volumes: Fi al-Dimugratiyah wa al-Thawrah wa al-Tandim al-Sha'bi [In Democracy, Revolution and popular organization], (Beirut: Dar al-Fajr, 1962) and Munagashat Hawl Nadhariyat al-'Amal al-Arabi al-Thawri [Discussions on the Theory of Revolutionary Arab Action], (Beirut: Dar al-Fajr, 1963).