

Socialist Outlook

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2d.

STOP THREATENING THE PERSIANS!

Labour Must Recognise the Persian People's Right To Nationalise Oil

UNLESS the Labour Movement repudiates the Government's threat to land troops in Persia we shall become involved in yet another reactionary war against a people fighting for its national independence. Malaya . . . Indo-China . . . China . . . Korea . . . Persia . . . this tale of blood and misery will go on and on, until the workers compel the Government to stop interfering in the affairs of other nations and get on with the job of ridding Britain of the Tories and their system of wealth and privilege.

THE PERSIANS ARE RIGHT

Persia is a land of extremes of wealth and poverty. All the poverty belongs to the workers and poor farmers—most of the wealth (oil) belongs to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company whose biggest shareholder is the British Government.

The decision of the Persian Government to nationalise these fabulously rich oilfields has, quite naturally, the enthusiastic support of the great majority of the Persian people. It is a decision which should also have the support of every democrat—leave alone every socialist—throughout the world. For the Persians—like the British or any other people—have a sovereign right to dispose of their national wealth in any way that they, and they alone, see fit.

Anybody who denies them that right becomes a defender of the 'right' of great and powerful nations to dictate to small and weaker nations—*in fact, a defender of the imperialist system.*

Having itself nationalised a number of important basic industries, one would have expected the Labour Government to be the staunchest defender of Persia's right to do likewise. But, instead, the Government is openly preparing to move armed forces against them! None other than Herbert Morrison—who recently described the Foreign Office as the "Ministry of Peace"—has ordered a complete airborne division to be ostentatiously despatched to the "Mediterranean."

GUNBOAT DIPLOMACY

The purpose of these belligerent troop movements is to coerce the Persians into either dropping their nationalisation project altogether or, at the very least, into making

Editorial

'terms' which favour the strategic interests of British and World Imperialism in the Middle East.

Of course, the Government does not admit these are its aims. It talks of "upholding the sanctity of international agreements" and of "protecting the lives of British women and children in Abadan." But nobody is deceived, and certainly not the Persians. As the *Sunday Observer* puts it . . . "The immediately important thing . . . is that Persian oil should be pumped, refined, and made available to the countries that depend upon it . . . (otherwise) . . . the British Mediterranean Fleet will be badly hampered . . ."

Not a word here about the "women and children."

ENTER THE LAWYERS

"Agreements must be upheld." So say the well-paid lawyers of imperialism—and well they might. This particular 'agreement' was signed in 1933—UNDER THE SHADOW OF BRITISH NAVAL GUNS. Under its 'legal' terms, the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company sucked out of Persia £142 millions in profit in the last three years alone. And, also quite 'legally,' they were only called upon to pay the Persian Government a paltry £8 million in royalties. *Some agreement! Some lawyers!*

The fact that the signature of the Persian Government is to be found on the Oil Agreement, alters nothing at all—because the Persian PEOPLE, the workers and farmers, never did agree to this robbery. They weren't even consulted. The agreement was signed by a reactionary clique of feudalists whose leader is the Shah and—so strong was the opposition of the people—they needed the protection of British guns

before daring to sign away their country's wealth to foreign capitalists.

THE 'IMPARTIAL' STATE

"We will negotiate," says the Government. But by this it should not be imagined that the Persians are to be allowed to negotiate with the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, with a group of businessmen. Not at all. Thanks to Mr. Herbert Morrison, they are being forced to 'negotiate' with the Anglo-Iranian PLUS A WHOLE AIRBORNE DIVISION!

To understand how the Persians feel about this sort of 'legal' and 'democratic' negotiation, just imagine our own feelings had the American Government sent over a couple of armed divisions to 'negotiate' terms favourable to the coal-owners when the Labour Government decided to nationalise the mines.

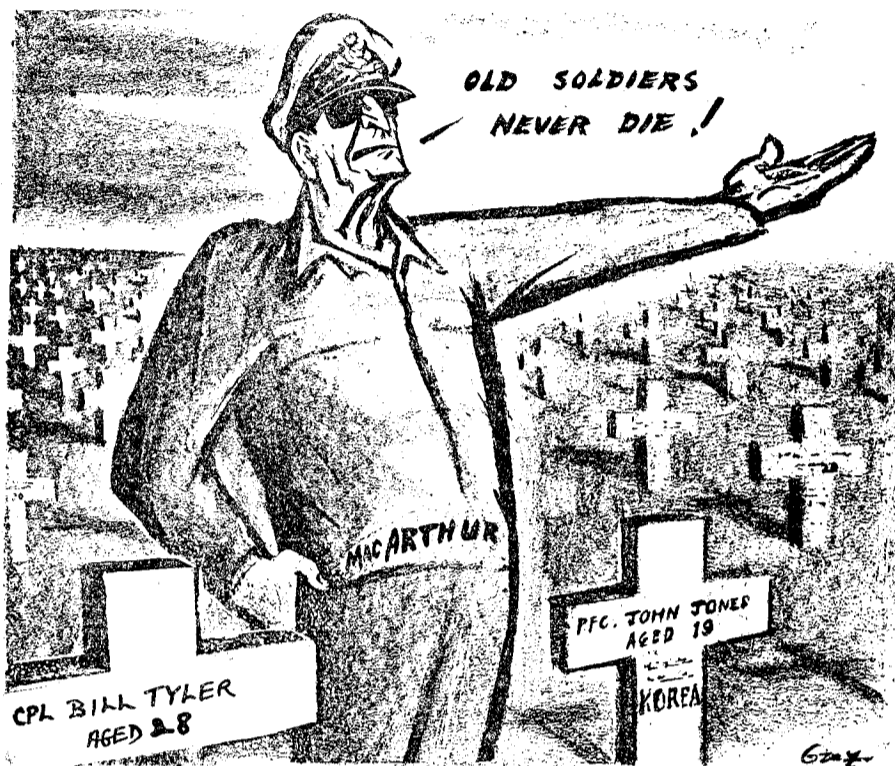
The fact is—as at least every socialist should know—all these lawyer's arguments are merely the legal cover which hides naked imperialist interests. And against these imperialist interests, against this unwarranted interference in the affairs of small and subject nations, more than half the world is now in open revolt.

In this respect, the Persian crisis is yet another aspect of the general crisis which now exists in the relations between the rich exploiting nations, like America, Britain, Holland and France, and the nations they have for so long exploited. The peoples of India, Burma, Indo-China, Malaya, China, Korea, and now Persia, will no longer tolerate 'agreements' which have been IMPOSED upon them and which provide for the legal plundering of their countries by a handful of foreign capitalists.

LABOUR'S DUTY

It is ordinary people who are rising against the imperialist system. It is they—and especially the workers—who are pressing their Governments to fight for national freedom and independence. When those Governments have refused to fight—as happened with Chiang Kai Chek in China, and Syngmann Rhee in Korea—the people have

(Continued on col. 3, page 4).



But YOUNG ones do

A Conference BEFORE an Election!

ON page two the reader will find a list of organisations, representing over a million workers, which are demanding an Emergency Conference of the Labour Party. This demand is receiving such powerful support because the active Party workers know that we have precious little chance of defeating the Tories at the next Election unless drastic changes are made in Government's present policies. Where can these policies be changed? At a properly constituted Conference of the Party. When? Now—BEFORE THE ELECTION IS UPON US.

The present policy is openly Tory in foreign affairs. Reduced to its essentials, it is a war alliance with American Big Business against the Soviet Union, China, and the colonial peoples of the world. It is thoroughly reactionary. Furthermore, Tory policies abroad are leading inevitably to the adoption of Tory policies at home.

Wars in Korea, wars in Malaya, and the preparations for wars against the Soviet Union have all got to be paid for. And they are being paid for. Not by the rich who are getting richer every day out of the fat arms contracts which re-armament brings them,

but by the workers who are having to meet staggering increases in the prices of everything needed to sustain life today.

And it will get much worse. As more and more labour and material is transferred to arms production so will guns drive butter—and meat, and milk, and clothes, and shoes, and books, and cigarettes, everything—out of the reach of all but the richest sections of the community. The workers can take, and are taking, strike action to defend living standards, but for the old people, the sick, the disabled, and the widows, the prospect is grim indeed. The Social Services are already being offered up in sacrifice to the arms drive. Housing has been practically wound up, education gets along as best it can in overcrowded working-class schools, and the Health Scheme is no longer free.

The only people who are happy in this situation are the Tories. Their profits are breaking all records, their privileges are comparatively untouched, and, above all, by an unscrupulous exploitation of the discontent created by this re-armament policy—which is THEIR policy—it is they who collect the political dividends.

Every Party worker knows that if an Election were held right now—BEFORE THE WORKERS HAD A CHANCE TO ALTER THE PRESENT POLICY—the result would in all probability be a victory for the Tories. And what a result that would be! Everything that was bad to-day would then become a thousand times worse.

That's why the demand for a Special Conference of the Party is so absolutely correct. It is a demand which sums up the determination of the best Party members to rout the Tories. It says, in effect, NO ELECTION BEFORE THE WORKERS HAVE DECIDED THE ELECTION POLICY.

True, the normal Party Conference is booked for October—but that is no guarantee at all that it will take place BEFORE an Election. The Government may resign at any time. In fact, a persistent rumour is going the rounds that the General Election has been decided upon for October.

(Continued on col. 4, page 4)

End the Murder in Korea!

THE war in Korea - which would have been over in a week if the Western Powers had not intervened in the internal affairs of the Korean People - now threatens to extend to the Chinese mainland. The American rulers have already forced the Allies to virtually stop all trading with China, and now the Chief of the American Navy demands a total blockade even though he openly recognises that this will probably mean war with China AND WITH RUSSIA.

Every conceivable weapon of destruction is being used by the United Nations armies to blast and burn the Koreans into submission. But the spirit of this people is unbroken. American soldiers, amazed at Chinese and Korean heroism in the face of the most terrible odds, believe that they are drugged! What these soldiers of capitalism do not understand is that the peoples of Asia are willing to die a thousand times rather than submit to the restoration of the brutal rule of Syngman Rhee and his American-protected landlord thugs. The Koreans KNOW WHAT THEY ARE FIGHTING FOR. That is the secret of their bravery. But the slaughter is terrible.

On behalf of this heroic people, who want only to unite their country and free it from both the foreign invader and his friends the capitalists and landlords, we appeal to the British Labour Movement. STOP THIS WAR!

The Chinese Government have long ago proposed that ALL FOREIGN TROOPS BE IMMEDIATELY WITHDRAWN. That is just and democratic. It deserves the vigorous support of the Labour Movement.

LABOUR MOVEMENT SWINGS LEFT

Powerful Support for Emergency Conference

Reported by H. GEORGE.

THE campaign for an Emergency Conference of the Labour Party has developed into a powerful movement. Constituency Labour Parties and important Trade Unions have joined hands in pressing the demand on the N.E.C. To date it is only possible to give a partial picture of the campaign, as results are coming in all the time—later a more complete balance sheet will be presented but organisations representing over a million workers have so far responded.

The Executive Committee of the A.E.U., which represents 800,000 engineers, has led the way inside the trade union movement. Its demand for an emergency conference has been enthusiastically supported by the membership. The following branches have sent in resolutions to Transport House:—

Stafford 6, Staines 4, Stoke Newington, Stonehouse, Sunderland 7, Tottenham 6, Twickenham, Urmston, Urmston 2, Walthamstow 10, Walton 2, Wandsworth, Watford, Watford 2, Watford Central, Well Hall, Welling, Welling 1, Welling 2, West Norwood, Wigan, Willesden 3, Willesden 5, Woking, Woodford, Enfield, Snodland, Acton 4, Acton 7, Apsley A.E.U., Ashton 8, Battersea, Becontree, Bedford, Billingham-on-Tees, Birmingham 4, Bristol 26, Bristol 28, Bromley, Camberwell, Camden Town, Camden Town 3, Charlton, Chatham, Chatham 3, Chingford, Clapham 3, Coventry 52, Coventry 67, Coventry Baginton, Coventry Holyhead, Crayford 7, Dagenham 4, Dagenham 6, Derby 9, Dulwich, Dundee 4, Dunston-on-Tyne, Ealing 1, East Acton, Ecclesfield, Edgware, Edmonton, Enfield Town, Feltham 1, Finchley 2, Friern Barnet, Frome, Gladstone Park, Gorton 6, Grantham 5, Greenford, Greenwich 1, Greenwich East, Hackney 1, Hackney 3, Hainault, Hallsdown, Hall Green, Harlington (London Airport), Hayes 3, Hendon 2, High Wycombe 5, Hitchin 2, Holloway, Kirkby, Leavesden, Liverpool 4, Liverpool 14, Liverpool 17, Liverpool 21, Maidenhead, Manchester 6, Mitcham 3, Newark 5, Newcastle-on-Tyne 5, Newcastle 13, New Moston, North Woolwich, Nottingham 1, Nottingham 5, Nottingham 16, Oldbury 10, Old Hill, Park Royal 4, Peterborough South, Peterborough 3, Plaistow and East Ham, Ponders End, Rochester 6, Romford, Rotherham 4, Rugby 7, Rutherglen, Sheffield 37, Sheffield 38, Southfield, Southall 6, Southwark, South Yardley.

The following branches of the A.U.B.T.W. sent resolutions:—

Bradford, Edgware, Man-Com-Hall, Kings Cross, Manchester N, Putney, Romford, Small Heath, Southall, Stoke Newington, Watford.

The membership of these branches totals 3,263.

Derby, Manchester and Islington branches of the C.E.U., representing 1,100 steelworkers, sent in resolutions.

From the E.T.U. came an impressive show:—

Aberdeen, Acton, Bexley Heath, Camberwell, Chatham, Cirencester, Fulham, Grays Inn, Hornchurch, Huddersfield, London Area Office, St. Neots, Southend, Liverpool South, London N.W., Park Royal, Preston, Pontypriod, Sutton, Walthamstow. Apart from Bexley and the London area office, which did not provide membership figures, the rest represented 8,449 "sparks".

Holloway and Birmingham 1 National Society of Painters, representing 650 painters, Wood Green N.F.B.T.O.

The South Wales Miners demonstrate their power. Resolutions from the following Lodges poured in:—

Werntaw, National, Risca, Rhigos Park and Dare, Fernhill, Cilely, Caelynen, Cambrian, Aberaidden. These represent 9,040 miners. Aberaidden and Cilely did not send figures and are not included in the total.

Railway branches from Penge and New Cross, representing 1,126, sent resolutions.

Plumbers' branches in N.W. London, Holloway, Bournemouth, and Barnet 545 sent resolutions.

Birmingham Co-operative Branch U.S.D.A.W., representing 5,000, sent a resolution, as did the Surrey Federation of Trades Councils, representing 65,000 members, and the Rochdale Trades and Labour Council, representing 12,000, and Staines and Egham, and Hounslow Trades Councils, representing 3,100.

The Amalgamated Union of Foundry Workers sent a demand in the name of the Union for an emergency conference.

Constituency Labour Parties who so far responded are:—

Chislehurst, Basingstoke, Blackpool South Executive Committee, Chesterfield C.L.P., Cities of London and Westminster, Droylesden, East Salford, Manchester Exchange, Holborn and St. Pancras, Moss Side, North Devon, Southend West, Streatham, South Tottenham, Twickenham Borough, West Lewisham, West Salford, Wythenshaw.

Taken together, these organisations represent over one million Labour and trade union members. It is by no means a complete picture but it demonstrates conclusively the widespread unrest over the present policy of the Government.

THE CAMPAIGN A SUCCESS

The Campaign Committee, which was set up at a representative conference of London Labour movement on March 18th, has done a good job. Its expenses have been met by donations from Labour Parties and trade unions, and many enthusiastic letters of support have been received.

From the outset, the Committee set about uniting trade union and Labour Party

Anti-War Meeting Inspires T.U. Branch

By K. A. Traynor

I GAVE my "report back" to my Trade Union Branch (Ashton No. 2 A.E.U.) after attending the Socialist Fellowship Anti-War conference at the Caxton Hall, Manchester.

Having taken notes of the proceedings and main points made by speakers, I was able to convey the character and message of the conference. The response from my branch was much more enthusiastic than I could have dreamed of—Right Wingers and Catholic Trade Unionists alike expressed their approval.

The Branch attendance was one of the best I have ever witnessed. Maybe it was the socialist outlook of the serious situation we face that the members were after. I put the following resolution to the meeting:—

"We call for an emergency recall conference of the Labour Party so that a real socialist policy can be formulated to ensure the utter defeat of the Tories at the next election."

This was carried unanimously.

Birmingham Labour Protests S.F. Ban

AT a well attended Borough Labour Party meeting held on Wednesday, May 16th, the delegates endorsed by a clear majority their Executive Committee's protest against the proscription of the "Socialist Fellowship".

At the same meeting a full discussion took place on the Budget and the resignations. Birmingham M.P.'s were present at this meeting. Delegate after delegate rose to protest at the Budget and many spoke against the colossal rearmament burden. Others attacked the whole basis of rearmament.

The Birmingham M.P.'s present at the meeting were also very critical, except for Roy Jenkins who defended the Budget and got heckled for his pains! The demand of nearly all the speakers was "We need a change of policy—we need to form a bold Socialist Policy if we hope to win the next election".

workers behind its campaign. It believed that the widest possible unity could be built up behind the demand for an emergency conference, and that such a conference could only carry weight and therefore be successful IF THE UNIONS PARTICIPATED IN IT. In this the Campaign Committee was completely opposed to the leaders of the "Victory for Socialism Group" who started off from the very wrong idea that the unions were the "reactionary" wing of the Labour Party. (See the article—"Face to the Unions"—in April Socialist Outlook).

The Committee's line was also in opposition to that of the Communist Party which has favoured an Emergency Conference confined to Constituency Parties (see Pollitt's Open Letter to Labour Party members). Such a demand could only have the effect of splitting the movement at a critical time and was for this reason correctly rejected by the Campaign Committee.

The Amalgamated Engineering Union has so far been the outstanding union in this campaign—but the Electrical Trades Union is not far behind. The "sparks" have done a grand job and it is a great pity that their Annual Conference did not record its support for the demand. From all reports it seems that the Emergency Conference demand (proposed by Left Wing Labour delegates) was defeated primarily because of the abstention by a big bloc of delegates who were members and supporters of the Communist Party—although many C.P. members had supported the demand in the branches.

If this is true, it shows a very real and dangerous confusion in the Communist Party as to the way forward for the Labour Movement. The correct policy of the Campaign Committee demonstrates, however, that the Left Wing of the Labour Party is quite capable of politically leading the socialist forces in Britain to-day.

Engineers Back E.C. Demand

By A.E.U. Member

IT is now fairly well known that the Executive Council of the Amalgamated Engineering Union is in favour of an Emergency Conference of the Labour Party—but what is perhaps not so well known is that the rank-and-file of the union is completely behind its E.C. in this demand.

In the London area, for example, 14 A.E.U. branches and 2 Shop Stewards' Committees recently sent delegates to a meeting called to discuss what concrete action could be taken by the Union to press home its demand.

The meeting was convened by the East Acton Branch which has itself already gone on record for the Emergency Conference. Their delegate pointed out that his branch had called the meeting because they thought that a real campaign—a mass meeting of all A.E.U. members in the London area—should be called by the appropriate body in the Union to back up the Executive Council's demand.

The other delegates supported this idea, and it was agreed to press the various District Committees—by means of deputations—to call on the E.C. to organise, or give approval to, an all-London mass meeting.

I am sure that if A.E.U. members take similar action to the brothers in London we shall arouse the Union to the need to wage a real campaign around this demand for an Emergency Conference—and in this way play a responsible part in helping those individual members of the Labour Party who are trying to stop the present horrible drift to war.

We have a duty to make every one of our members aware of the Executive Council's demand—and to win powerful backing for it.

Karl Westwood

A Tribute by Bill Doran

Last month we published an appeal to our readers to assist in the fight for an Emergency Conference of the Party. It was written by Karl Westwood in his capacity of Secretary of the Emergency Conference Campaign Committee. As most of our readers now know, Karl has since been killed in a motor-cycle accident while on his way to the E.T.U. Conference, which he was to attend as organiser of the N.C.L.C. in Southern England. His death is a considerable blow to the Labour movement—especially to its Left Wing, of which he was such a devoted, hard-working member. We associate ourselves entirely with the tribute here paid to Karl by his friend and comrade Bill Doran, vice-chairman of the Egham Labour Party and active member of the Agricultural Workers' Union.

ALTHOUGH Karl Westwood was only 39 when he died, he had spent twenty-five years in the Labour Movement. When most of his contemporaries were enjoying adolescence, he had thrown himself into the fight. The General Strike of 1926 was his baptism and from then onwards he was for the workers of all nations, colour or creed.

He was a founder member of the Labour League of Youth and many present day Labour M.P.s were his companions—Maurice Webb among them. Had Karl been less sincere in his Socialist principles, there is no doubt that he would be in Westminster to-day. He would never separate himself from the rank and file, and herein lay his strength and appeal. Even when he served in the Marine Commandos during the last War, he would not accept any promotion but preferred to stay with his comrades.

From the age of 15 when he was a Labour Party Secretary, he did all the jobs that the movement asked of him. For all that he was Richmond's Parliamentary candidate in 1950 (and incidentally he polled that Labour votes than had ever been polled there before) he would do anything that anyone asked of him. If you wanted an election address mapped out, a question answered, a doubt settled—Karl would do it no matter how busy he was.

He had been organiser of Division I South for the National Council of Labour Colleges for the past two years and during that time had made innumerable contacts over the whole of the South of England. He lectured on an average to eight classes a week and attended many a week-end school. Last summer he took an A.E.U. school in Yorkshire for a fortnight and had been asked to do the same this coming summer.

When the Socialist Fellowship was started, Karl joined, realising that the Labour Movement needed a real Socialist programme. He believed that this would stimulate the slowly developing Left Wing of the Party. This indeed proved to be so and several conferences held in London and elsewhere showed that the rank and file of the Party were indeed seeking to form a Socialist policy from their own experiences.

When the London conference set up the Campaign Committee for the calling of an Emergency Conference of the Labour Party, Karl was appointed Secretary. Under his lead the Campaign has developed very well. No doubt, had he lived, he would have had to face heavy attacks from the Right Wing, but he was well equipped with natural talents to deal with these. His real strength lay in his working-class approach to problems. He was a Marxist and therefore essentially an Internationalist. For him the slogan of "Workers of the World Unite" was no idle one. All his thoughts, words and deeds were based upon the fact that only the actions of the International Working Class can solve the problems posed by Capitalism and insoluble under Capitalism.

Many people accepted the logic of his arguments, but lacked the spirit to carry them out—the road to Socialism is not an easy one and only the strongest hearts are capable of leading the workers along it.

Let us raise the banner of Internationalism high in our movement—this will be the finest tribute we can pay to the memory of a gallant comrade, a staunch friend, a leader of men—Karl Westwood.

Not so good

THE only comment so far made by the "Victory for Socialism Group" on the N.E.C.'s ban on the "Socialist Fellowship" is contained in a letter they have sent to all Constituency Labour Parties which reads in part as follows:—

"We should be grateful if you make it known that "Victory for Socialism" has no connection with the "Socialist Fellowship," an organisation recently banned by the Executive Committee."

"Victory for Socialism" consists of loyal members of the Labour Party."

BLESSED ARE THE PURE IN HEART!

THE FIGHTING FUND

The following donations are gratefully acknowledged:—

	£	s.	d.
M. Morris	...	...	1 0
H. Noakes	...	...	2 0
J. Wise	...	...	10 0
A. M. Berry	...	...	10 0
J. Ride	...	...	6 0
G. R. Sargeant	...	...	5 0
E. Smith	...	...	6 0
A. Feldman	...	...	3 3
Nottingham supporter	...	...	3 1 6
Total	£5	4	9

E.T.U. Conference.

Left Wing Labour's Tasks

By Industrial Reporter

THE Conference of the Electrical Trades Union which ended on May 12th was an important one — especially from the standpoint of Labour's Left Wing.

The E.T.U. has for a long time been to the front in the fight against the wage-freeze and took the leadership in the drive against Order 1305—even before the victimisation of the gas-workers and the prosecution of the dockers had made the anti-working class character of this Order glaringly apparent to organised labour.

The leadership of the E.T.U.—its General Secretary, Walter Stevens, its President, Frank Foulkes, and a majority of its Executive Committee, are all members or supporters of the Communist Party. While by no means reflecting the political opinions of the 192,339 members (who are in the main Labour workers) this leadership maintains its position very largely because of the militant policy briefly described above.

But such a policy must be accompanied by a determined fight inside the Labour Party and the T.U.C. if the socialist aims of the Labour Movement are to be extended and safeguarded. And it is from this standpoint that the E.T.U. Conference decisions must be judged.

INTERNATIONAL POLICY

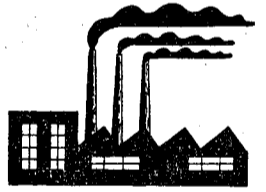
It was clear from the resolutions on this subject that Labour Party members in the Union had almost completely ignored the opportunity of drawing up a progressive international policy. Right Wing members, in fact, supported a resolution that the E.T.U. should "bring its foreign policy into line with that of . . . (the T.U.C. and L.P.) by rescinding policy contrary to theirs . . ."

They completely evaded the fight for an independent international policy for the union in favour of accepting the dictates of Transport House. They thereby threw overboard the democracy of the Union and were, quite rightly, heavily defeated by Conference.

DOMESTIC POLICY

Here Conference passed some militant resolutions—wage increases for all engineering and other workers; a revision of the wages structure; two weeks' holiday with pay; and wage increases at the expense of profits.

However, in the major debate on Wages, Prices, and Profits, there seemed to be little



THIS PAGE IS FOR TRADE UNIONISTS. SEND US YOUR VIEWS

awareness of the importance of working-class organisations making plans for the control of profits and prices and the workers' participation directly in operating such plans. Yet it is on this issue that the Labour movement will be judged by the mass of pensioners, disabled, widows, etc., who suffer so cruelly at the hands of rising prices.

Coming as it did immediately after the resignation of Aneurin Bevan, the Conference was sharply faced with the necessity of intervening in the political situation in such a way as to assist the aroused rank-and-file of the Labour Party in its search for a socialist solution. Not unnaturally, therefore, a very good emergency resolution was presented to the Conference which stated:—

"In view of the position caused by the resignation of Ministers, this Conference urges the E.C. to press the N.E.C. of the Labour Party to bring forward the date of the Labour Party Conference in order that a socialist programme be formulated which will unite the working class movement to meet a General Election and the threat of Tory reaction."

This resolution was moved by J. E. Hutton of Manchester and seconded by S. Goldberg of Birmingham and was signed by six other delegates who had composed similar motions.

WHY THE RIGHT WING WON

The Right Wing attacked the motion as "impracticable" because the Labour Party Conference had been fixed for October. They pleaded that technical difficulties prevented its date being moved forward.

The Left replied that in a situation where delegates have yet to be elected and final arrangements made, no purely technical considerations should prevent the Labour Party from holding an earlier Conference. In any case, the formulation of a socialist programme is vitally necessary if we are to win

HOMAGE TO A MURDERED NEGRO

The Conference of the Electrical Trades Union rose and stood in silent tribute to Willie Macgee, the American Negro who was legally murdered by American "Justice". The union has been in the forefront of the world-wide campaign to secure Macgee's release and, with the socialist movement everywhere, will no doubt redouble its efforts to end this bestial racial persecution which is such a horrible feature of American "democracy".

the Election—which may be upon us at any time.

The intervention of the President, Bro. Foulkes, was simply incredible. After saying that he was not sure the resolution should have been allowed, he gave as his opinion that only members affiliated to the Labour Party should have the right to vote and, since he could not ask which delegates paid the political levy, he therefore left the matter to the "conscience of delegates."

After this astounding ruling there was obvious confusion. The Communist Party members (constituting a very large bloc) abstained from voting with the consequence that the Right Wing gained a narrow majority and the motion was defeated.

THE FIGHT AGAINST TORYSIM

The recent L.E.B. strike has now led to legal reprisals against the union. The seven members who did not come out on strike have now sought an injunction against the Union and they are asking the Courts to declare whether the dispute was legal or illegal, whether it was constitutional, and whether strike pay should have been paid. In the words of the General Secretary, "They have apparently had a whip round and have briefed Sir David Maxwell Fyfe to take their case."

This is only the beginning of such attacks on the Union. If the Tories ever get back to office they will undoubtedly encourage a legal proscription of the union leadership. Therefore, it is clear that to keep the Tories out is the first duty of every member of the union. But keeping out the Tories is an extremely difficult task when the Labour Party is itself hamstrung by a non-socialist policy. That is why the fight for an Emergency Conference to change the present policy is so progressive. Not to support it (or to abstain), is, under these circumstances, surely lending aid and comfort to those who are trying to split up the Union.

When this is fully understood in the E.T.U. it will take its place in the forefront of the struggle for a real socialist policy for the Labour Movement.

Our Worker's Diary
by Harry Shindler

—West and East

in the holiday season and in the West End and the East End of London folk will be looking for some way to spend the week. Maybe these suggestions will help? I found them in the Evening Standard on April 27th.

**Who's for Cruising?
Cruise to Iceland
See Europe from an Armchair
To Madeira by Sea**

Who's for cruising? Well, how about this one from the *East London Advertiser*.

Tower Bridge Beach opens for the Season on Monday.

School Meals and Arms

A reader informs me that some of the officials in his local Labour Party have objected to my criticism of the increase in the price of school meals. They thought the criticism was "mean." I take back nothing. As Aneurin Bevan said recently, "it may have been a small thing, but it is not the step you take that matters, it is the direction you step in . . ."

Why don't these officials brand, not my criticism, but THE INCREASE as "mean."

Arms and Legs

The *News Chronicle* (May 5th) reports that the East German Communist Party has declared that "Betty's Grable's legs are being used by warmongers to distract the masses from their real goals, to confuse the working class and cover up the real cause of their social misery."

Some legs!

History of a Wage Claim

For something more serious, turn to a study of the travels of the Engineers' claim for a £1 a week increase in wages.

On June 24th, 1949, the A.E.U. went on record for a £1 increase. The claim was based on the increased cost of living IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1949. Remember that, brothers, as you read on.

June 30th, 1949. Claim goes to Confederation for endorsement.

September 16th, 1949. General Council of Confederation approve claim.

September 22nd, 1949. Employers informed of the claim.

October 21st, 1949. Employers reply rejecting claim and reminding Union of Government's wage-freeze policy.

November 10th, 1949. Confederation Executive decided to meet the Employers.

November 30th, 1949. Case put to Employers.

DOCKERS WIN SUPPORT FROM SALFORD LABOUR

The Strike Committee state the case.

In view of the lies and distortions of the capitalist press regarding the Manchester Dock Strike we are especially pleased to print below a leaflet issued by the dockers themselves.

We are also pleased to be able to report that Salford City Labour Party came out during the strike with a statement IN FULL SUPPORT OF THE DOCKERS and appealed to the Minister of Labour to intervene and ensure the wiping out of the suspension of the two men.

At a mass meeting of 3,000 dockers, delegates from the Salford City Labour Party, after expressing the Party's sympathy with the dockers, roundly condemned the dictatorial attitude of the Dock Labour Board. By so doing they have confirmed what the *Socialist Outlook* has long been saying—the bulk of the Party is completely opposed to the anti-socialist actions of leaders like Shawcross and others.

We appeal to all our readers—especially those in the trade unions—to give every possible support to the Manchester dockers.

THE DOCKER'S CASE

"It has been the practice of this Port, as in many other Ports in the country, that when a ship is not worked overtime on at from the beginning, she stays that way until the cargo is discharged or loaded—though we have agreed, if it is proved necessary, to work overtime on that ship on the last day, if she is going out to sea immediately. Where we are given notice, from the first, that a ship is to be worked overtime, we have always accepted it.

"THIS PRACTICE HAS BEEN IN OPERATION ON THE SALFORD DOCKS FOR YEARS.

"Recently the Ship Canal Company made the proposal that we should abandon this practice and we should work overtime on a ship whether she starts with overtime or not.

"THIS IS AT THE KERNEL OF THE PRESENT DISPUTE AND NOT, AS STATED BY THE SHIP CANAL COMPANY, THAT WE OBJECT TO OVERTIME AS SUCH.

"When this proposal was put before our Trade Union Branch—T. and G.W.U. No. 6/11 and 6/12—at our February meeting it was rejected unanimously.

"To our amazement, when at the April 19th meeting of the branch, the minutes of the Joint Negotiating Committee were read out it was discovered that this committee had agreed to the proposal.

"An examination of the composition of this committee at the time this Ship Canal Company proposal was agreed to showed there to be six on the bosses' side, with a chairman, who was the deputy manager of the Manchester Ship Canal Company—making seven bosses' representatives against only four representing the workers, namely two T. and G.W.U. officials and two dockers.

"WE SAY THAT SUCH AN UNREPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE HAS NO CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO ATTEMPT TO WIPE OUT ANY CUSTOM OR PRACTICE.

"Any joint negotiating committee, to be constitutional, must have equal numbers on both sides."

EVENTS LEADING TO THE PRESENT DISPUTE

"On Monday, April 23rd, the foreman approached the men working on the 'Princess Maria Pia', and told them they had to work

March 2nd, 1950. A.E.U. decide on ballot for strike action or arbitration.

February 2nd, 1950. Employers again reject it.

March 20th, 1950. Confederation adopt A.E.U. policy on Ballot.

September 20th, 1950. Employers make lousy offer.

October 11th, 1950. Claim goes to Arbitration.

Then, after EIGHTEEN MONTHS OF THIS SORT OF THING, the A.E.U. Executive became party to a final agreement which so satisfied the members that it brought out a whole section of the engineering industry on strike!

Where Were You on Wednesday Afternoon?

The *Daily Express* (5/4/51) reported that "the prettier part of Britain's smallest world met on familiar ground for tea and a look at some new clothes.

"Our fair debutantes and friends surged into one of their favourite hotels opposite the park in Piccadilly . . . everyone had come to see the first ever dress show for debutantes.

"A few young men, looking a little pink, turned up to take a look at what their girl friends might put on one day . . . the chaps wore dark grey suits of immense sophistication and knew how to handle a malacca umbrella superbly."

Can you handle a malacca umbrella, chaps?

The Cost of Living—REAL Living

"It used to cost me £600 a year to run my 35 ton yacht with 4 deckhands. Now, with only one deckhand, it costs me nearly £2,000—my wife and I do the rest."

Mr. Myles Wyatt, Vice-Commodore Royal Ocean Racing Club.

I wonder how the 3 redundant deckhands are getting on?

An Oscar for Oscar

Keep your wits about you when studying the following. Some real smart stuff coming up.

"If one believes that in the present international situation a certain quantum of rearmament is essential, and if there is not enough material to provide that quantum as well as to maintain civilian living standards, then the only reasonable inference is that civilian standards must be reduced—always provided that they are not reduced so far as to impair productive efficiency." (Oscar Hobson, "News Chronicle" 26/4/51).

In other words—guns before butter!

overtime that night despite the fact that no overtime had been previously worked on her.

"The men refused to work after 5 o'clock and thereupon the Port Manager suspended them for three days for their refusal, contending that the custom of not working overtime on a ship not previously worked, no longer existed.

"On Wednesday, the Port Workers' Committee called a mass meeting of dockers which decided to demand that the lifting of the suspension on two men so victimised and the payment of their wage for the time they were off.

"They sent a mass deputation to the management, who after a three hour discussion refused to lift the suspension and a following mass meeting thereupon placed a ban on all overtime, including night work, in protest against the injustice.

"On Wednesday night, those on night work obeyed the ban, reporting for daywork the following morning, as is the common practice and custom on Salford docks, when failing to report for nightwork the previous evening.

"When they were refused their books for daywork, the rest of their mates hearing of it called a mass meeting and considered it to be a lock-out, as on Salford docks an injury to one is an injury to all.

"In a statement issued by the Dock Labour Board, they say this is a 'dispute about the working of overtime' but, as shown, this is untrue. IT IS A DISPUTE ARISING FROM THE UNJUST SUSPENSION OF TWO OF OUR MATES WHO REFUSED TO BREAK A PRACTICE IN OPERATION AT THIS PORT.

"Later, in the same statement, the Dock

(continued col. 5, page 4)



Correspondence possible and address: 177, Bermondsey, London, S.E.1

Stop Arming Jap Capitalists

By M. Banda (Ceylon Socialist)

NOT satisfied with invading Korea, occupying Formosa and blockading China, the American rulers have now taken another step towards war by re-arming Japan.

and Japanese pilots are being sent to the U.S. for training. Old aerodromes have been repaired and 32 new ones have been built, the biggest of which is at Mizawa. (All these facts are taken from the paper *People's China*).

MILITARY POLICE RULE AGAIN

The other basic principle of the Far Eastern Commission was democratisation. This, too, has been junked overboard by the occupation authorities.

Convicted war criminals like Okamura and General Ishii, the expert in bacteriological warfare, have been released on "parole". The ban debarring military men from service has been lifted and 9,778 of them are organised in the "police corps". The former Military Council, the General Staff Headquarters, and the Admiralty are all now functioning with efficiency.

Meanwhile, American military orders to Japanese armaments firms average 1,000,000 dollars a day!

THE PEACE TREATY

Having failed to coerce the Asian delegates in the General Assembly of UNO to join a peace treaty on the terms laid down by the United States, Dulles sent—in October 1950—a memorandum to the Russian delegates proposing that the "occupation of Japan should continue and the parties to the Peace Treaty should be any or all nations at war with Japan that are willing to make peace on the basis proposed."

In other words, having deliberately stalled for five years on the conclusion of a Peace Treaty, America now suddenly desired one—on her own terms.

The memorandum was quite rightly rejected by Russia and denounced by China. But Dulles was not to be daunted. So in March this year he made his celebrated trip to Japan to carry out Truman's programme for an exclusive "peace" treaty which would allow the U.S.A. to arm Japan in preparation for the "holy crusade against Communism."

In this way Japan, which could very well have become the power-house and machine-shop of Asia is being turned into the arsenal of Imperialism in the Far East—as Germany is in the West.

The British workers can still prevent the catastrophe which the Imperialists are preparing in Japan by insisting that all occupation troops be withdrawn from Asia and supporting the right of every people to decide its own future.

The re-arming of Japan is a declaration of war on the peoples of Asia and it will not go unchallenged. If the American imperialists, and their British allies, have occasion to regret this decision in the future let them not blame the Asian workers and peasants!

Good Luck to the Persians

I wonder if our Foreign Secretary and Labour Government realise what a weapon they are handing the Tories to crack us with at the next Election. All members of our Labour Party have advocated Nationalisation and helped it into reality. Now, because another country have decided to do likewise with the oil industry in their own country, certain members of our Labour Government have decided against Nationalisation.

It does not make sense to me. Why should our Labour Government change its Policy again? Good luck to the Persians, I hope they nationalise a few more industries as we did. Let the Oil Moguls squirm.

Bermondsey. Bob Streetley.

"Peace News" and Socialism

F. R. Bishop, in his letter printed in "The Socialist Outlook" last month, by firmly sandwiching "Peace News" between references to "The Socialist Outlook" and "Reynolds News", did perhaps tend to suggest to some of your readers that "Peace News" is a Socialist newspaper. I think I should emphasise that it is a pacifist weekly. Mr. Bishop is bang on the mark, however, with his suggestion that we are holding firmly to the principles of George Lansbury and the other Socialist pioneers who were opposed to war.

H. H. Brock, Assistant Editor, "Peace News."

"Re-armament"

One of the most misused words at the moment is "Rearmament" as it gives the impression that this country had been practically disarmed until the Korean War.

The Korean people, who may have been impressed at one time by "Armed Strength," are now under no illusions, and instead of being protected, have been subjected to incredible misery and suffering.

Brockley. Denis Brian.

Going Left

The "Outlook" has been a great help to us locally in getting rank and file Labour Party members and Trade Unionists to take part in the struggle for socialist policies. There has been a tremendous swing to the left within the Labour movement here since February, whereas, previously, some of us had made a lone stand against the imperialist intervention in the Korean Civil war, and had had little success in our agitation for an international Socialist Policy.

The events had demonstrated the correctness of our stand and a growing volume of criticism was expressed at an official Labour Party meeting at which Michael Foot spoke.

On February 21st at the Birmingham Town Hall nearly 2,000 people demonstrated their determination not to be involved in a counter-revolutionary war against China.

On April 15th at a Socialist Fellowship

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meeting an overwhelm. Union and Labour F visitors was expressed, drawing British troops fr and immediate independ ce Colonial peoples.

Whilst it is too early in vie elections to estimate the volum. for Aneurin Bevan, his criticism. drawing class character of the cuts in social services and the risi of living, I feel sure from local reacti that the majority of Labour and Trades rank and file members are united in their determination to change the present policy and unite the movement behind a Socialist programme.

Birmingham. S. Goldberg.

Fellowship Ban

I was a little disheartened by the proscribing of the **Socialist Fellowship**, but the reason for this action was plain for all to see. It was not for its failure, but in its success in putting forward a case for Peace and Socialism—and its success also in gathering and building up the enthusiasm of the Socialists in the Labour Party.

We can only hope that the disbanding will lead to a widespread awakening of Labour Party rank and file.

Sunderland. E. Pocklington.

Rolls Royces not for those who make them.

IN a leaflet calling upon the workers at the Hillingdon Works (Glasgow) of Rolls Royce, to take strike action to secure the reinstatement of two victimised brothers, the Shop Stewards' Committee contrasted the firm's generous attitude towards its shareholders with its niggardly attitude towards the workers' wage claims. They write:—

"Rolls-Royce shares boomed on the Stock Exchange at the week-end, after the announcement of one of the biggest MONEY-FOR-NOTHING HANDOUTS in recent years. Holders of £1 Ordinary Shares are to receive another Share for every one they already hold, for nothing and Tax free.

"This decision by the directors put £1,500,000 into the pockets of the ordinary Shareholders, who are still celebrating a previous handout made last November.

"The Ordinary Shares quoted at £5 8s. 9d. within an hour of the announcement leaped to £5 16s. 3d. are now being quoted at £5 18s. 9d., and are still on the upgrade.

"The Company began in 1906 with a capital of only £60,000. The holder of £1,000 Ordinary Shares has been paid £3,987 in dividends since 1935 and £1,500 in Bonus Shares."

"Contrast these generous gifts to the Shareholders from the wealth produced by the employees, with the attitude of the directors to our legitimate claim for wage improvements, i.e. our claim for 11/-, 8/- and 8/6d for all workers in the Glasgow factory was rejected. This would cost the firm a maximum of only £75,000 per year."

This is Toryism

Mr. Frank Warwick, Prospective Tory Candidate, told the annual meeting of the Bermondsey Conservative Association recently that:

"The country today cannot afford the luxury of a five-day week, the sooner we return to a full 5½-day working week—with no extra pay—the sooner the country will get out of its economic difficulties." (South London Press).

This was the object of the three weeks visit to Japan by John Foster Dulles whose mission of "peace" was accompanied by such high-ranking brass-hats as Earl Johnson, Assistant Secretary to the U.S. Army, and Major General Magruder.

The decision to re-arm Japan will send a shudder of horror and revulsion down the spine of anyone acquainted with the sadistic crimes of Japanese Imperialism during, and before, the last war. The rape of Nanking, the death railway in Burma, and the "kill all, burn all, loot all" policy of General Nakamaru will never be forgotten by the Asian peoples.

When the rulers of Japan surrendered in 1945, we in Asia breathed a sigh of relief—now, at last, we thought, Japanese militarism has been smashed. Our hope was to see a new, vigorous, and democratised Japan whose industries would be used to produce—not arms—but the machinery and tools which the Japanese workers and the peoples of Asia needed for the great task of post-war reconstruction and development. But five years of U.S. occupation of Japan has dispelled whatever illusions we had in Allied diplomacy.

The Emperor retired into obscurity, the generals surrendered their swords (a few of them were even shot), but for the Zaibatsu (the monopolists and financiers) it was "business as usual". The Japanese workers and peasants—who were NOT guilty of plotting war—had to bear the full burden of the post-war crisis and the additional burden of reparations and occupation costs. The "rising sun" of Nippon was not obliterated—it merely underwent a partial eclipse.

AGREEMENTS VIOLATED

The basic policy of the Allied Far Eastern Commission was to forbid Japan an army, navy, air force, secret police, or gendarmerie. This policy—especially since the outbreak of the Korean war—has been violated by the American occupation authorities.

The Japanese Army has been re-created under the innocent title of the "Police Reserve Corps"—it includes 200,000 men and is equipped with tanks, fighter-planes and bombers.

The Japanese Navy is being gradually restored to pre-war strength under the name of the "Maritime Security Police"—it has 18,000 men and 300 vessels; big naval bases like Sasebo, Yokohama and Kurehava have been modernised to meet the needs of the American Navy.

The Air Force has been re-conditioned

DOCKERS

(continued from page 3)

Labour Board changed their tune and say 'the real issue which they (the dockers) are raising is that they are challenging the validity of the existing negotiating machinery.'

"WHICH ARE THEY GOING TO HAVE? THEY CANNOT HAVE IT BOTH WAYS. WE DO NOT CHALLENGE NEGOTIATING MACHINERY, BUT WE DO CHALLENGE THE USE OF NEGOTIATING MACHINERY IN AN UNCONSTITUTIONAL MANNER.

"What docker can agree that a 'joint' negotiating committee consisting of seven on one side and only four on the other is properly constituted, and has the right to alter the customs of the Port and allow dockers to be suspended who refused to recognise that right?"

"Now the Ship Canal Company have decided to sack all Foremen and Staff because they refused to make up gangs and blackleg on the dockers.

Send your financial support to A. GILLHAM, 173 TAITON STREET, SALFORD, 5. Send resolutions demanding Union support for our case to Transport House, Salford.

PERSIA (continued from page 1)

turned to the working class for leadership. At that point the struggle for national liberation, in itself progressive, becomes consciously part of the world struggle for the socialist society, for the workers, by the facts of their existence, are anti-capitalist as well as anti-imperialist.

That is the development so feared by the imperialists—and feared too by the Shah of Persia's rotten landlord clique. But the Labour Movement has no need to fear it. The Persians have the right and the duty to support their Government in its fight against the foreign exploiters of their country—and they have the same right to remove that Government and replace it with

a Workers' Government should it show signs of capitulation.

By allying ourselves with the Persian people—and with all other peoples fighting for national independence—we shall prove in practice that the British workers harbour no imperialist designs against anybody. Then will the workers of the colonial countries link hands with us in the common fight for socialism. Nationalism will give way to internationalism and the basis will be laid for the creation of the socialist community of nations—all equal and all sharing in the world's unbounded store of good and useful things.

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