

OUR AIMS

"To secure for the producers by hand and by brain the full fruits of their industry, and the most equitable distribution thereof that may be possible upon the basis of the common ownership of the means of production and distribution . . ."

Labour Party Constitution.

Socialist Outlook

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3d.

Lead with
LABOUR'S
LEFT!

Demand NOW
General Election

GO AHEAD WITH PUBLIC OWNERSHIP

THE anti-nationalisation campaign started by the press lords is in full blast. It has been timed to influence the deliberations of the Labour Party National Executive which is drafting a general election programme as instructed by the Morecambe conference. This must include a list of "key and major industries to be taken into public ownership during the five-year programme". The T.U.C. is likewise obliged to "formulate

more general mandate without a specific list."

The more advanced policy! The programme of the Labour Party adopted decades ago set forth the fundamental reasons for social ownership of the means of production. Only from 1945 were the first moves taken to implement this programme. Now, at this hour of the clock, Morrison proposes to turn all the way back to the beginnings of the movement.

This formula can serve only to aid the outright opponents of nationalisation, appease the backsliders and "consolidators", and evade the express intent of the resolution unanimously passed at Morecambe. That resolution pointed the way forward, not backward. It called for a specific designation of nationalisations to "give a Socialist answer to the recurring economic crises" and "elaborate plans for Britain's next steps towards a more Socialist society."

It is absurd to maintain that it is impossible to mark out those sectors of the economy which are ripe for public ownership. The Engineering and Shipbuilding Confederation has already submitted its plan to the T.U.C. for nationalising a large part of their industries. Agricultural land, chemicals and fertilizers, aircraft, textile machinery, and a number of others have been mentioned in the *Labour Press* as suited for inclusion in a rounded programme.

Morrison argues that if Labour pushes through unwise and hasty nationalisation, "its electoral stock will sink and we ourselves might be sorry about it when facing the tasks of government". This is the kind of "sorry" wisdom that played into Tory hands, helped lose the last election, and dismayed the ranks of the movement. Voters have the right to know—and the Party to tell them—precisely what it intends to do in office.

The movement must be on guard against interference from any quarter with the execution of Morecambe's decisions on nationalisations. These are binding and must be carried out. Not only because they represent the will of the membership but because they are the best means of preparing for victory over the Tories at the next election. They offer the sole hope of coping with the difficulties generated by a bankrupt capitalism, creating a planned economy and taking concrete steps toward our goal of Socialism.

Tories Raise Food Costs To Pay For Arms Drive Children First to Suffer

BUTLER'S budgeteers have swung the axe again to further force up the cost of living. The announcement that government purchases and subsidies of flour and feeding stuffs which have been in effect for 14 years will end April 1st is expected to add at least £40 million to the nation's food bill.

Farmers will have to pay more for their fodder on the open market. This means higher prices for bacon, eggs, butter, meat and other produce. The National Farmer's Union has criticized the government for acting without consulting Britain's farm producers. They say that decontrol of feed stuffs will raise production costs, injure the small farmers and start a scramble for supplies.

The government contends that decontrol will restore "freedom" to the food traders. Actually it gives the bigger farmers, flour millers and other business men the freedom to gouge greater profits

and enables private traders and speculators to enrich themselves at the expense of working people. Food is the largest single item in the ordinary family budget.

As compensation, the government is putting white flour and bread back on the market. The white loaf will probably cost 3½d. more than the present national loaf. Whoever can afford the extra expense can enjoy the luxury.

These cuts come on top of egg decontrol which means dearer eggs; other food subsidies are to be sliced. Step by step Butler is eliminating the system of controls which kept food prices down under Labour. He is doing this deliberately. World prices for foodstuffs and raw materials have been dropping over the past year but instead of reducing living costs, the Tory Chancellor is removing controls to make them soar.

This callous disregard for their pre-election promises does not disturb the Tories. When Labour M.P.s. attacked Butler's boosts, he defended himself by saying that he had exceeded his hopes in holding down living costs! He added that increases in the prices of subsidised foods were less than the 1/6d. expected and other retail prices had gone up only half a point between Budget Day and December 16th.

From her own daily journey to the shops, every housewife can back up the Labour M.P.s. outcry that this is a gross underestimate.

One big reason for the boosts is the greater cost of the arms programme. Last week the Commons was asked for £164 millions in Supplementary Estimates, most of which is needed for military purposes. This year's cuts in food subsidies come close to equalling the extra expenditure for arms.

Increased military expenditures, less food at higher prices, reduced educational and health services, spreading unemployment and the

prospect of heavier taxes—this is the grim picture of Tory financial policy.

How long will Churchill's gang be permitted to continue their assaults upon the workers' standards? How long is the present deadlock in Parliament which enables them to get away with these actions to persist?

The Labour leaders should not rest content with registering protests in the House. They ought to take the case directly to the people by initiating a sustained campaign of meetings and demonstrations throughout the country to organise and encourage the growing anger against the Tories. The goal would be to mobilise pressure enough to make the Tories resign and give the nation a chance to bring back a new Labour government.

Meanwhile the whole movement must rally behind the miners in their current wage negotiations which have reached a stalemate. In line with Butler's "take it out of the workers" policy, the National Coal Board has rejected the miners' claims for pay increases. The union executive is now planning to appeal to the government to overrule the Board. The mani-

Skimp on the Kids But Spare the Ric

THE Tories don't mind taking food away from the poor. Miss Florence Horsbrour, Minister of Education, announced in the House that school meals go up 2d. to 9d. a day.

"Does the Minister not really protest Jennie Lee, M.P., 'this is a most cruel and controllable action and if she cannot persuade her colleagues to restore food subsidies would she not make strong representations that at least the children should not be the victims?'"

The Tory Minister callously denied that the youngsters would suffer at all.

fest determination of the movement to back up the miners will be a decisive factor in making Tories offer a satisfactory settlement.

The Tories must go! These lines of action can help send them packing.

RENT INCREASES—What Policy for Labour

By Phillip Williams

WHAT is Labour proposing to do about rent increases? As the municipal elections draw near, the voters are anxiously looking to the Labour Party for a solution. What will Labour offer?

Mr. Daines, Secretary of the London Labour Party has called upon the Constituency Labour Parties to support the L.C.C. in its recent decision to increase rents. We believe this was a wrong decision. Labour must not vie with the Tories in boosting rents.

Meanwhile right wing Council nominees are busy drafting election addresses which will avoid mention of rent increases so that when they get into office that will leave the road clear to proceed with increases. They may consider this "smart politics", but in fact it would be nothing but a shabby electoral trick.

The issue of rents is a touchstone for Labour. It is a matter of the highest national importance whose roots go deep into the bankruptcy of British imperialism and its drive toward war. Rents have to be raised to pay for the arms budget. This is an inescapable fact.

The profits of the "merchants of death" are to be extracted from the slum dwellers, council tenants and lease-holders of private landlords. Almost the entire working class

will be affected. Those who stand for increasing rents condone a robbery of the poor in its most brutal form, regardless of what "moral men" may say.

There is no middle course in this question. Either you favour rent increases—or you oppose them.

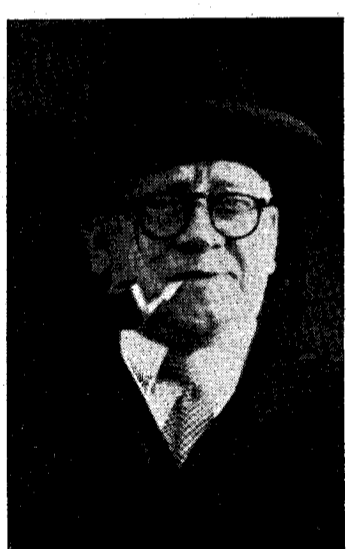
We have been told that, in standing for election as councillor, it is necessary to be "responsible". Responsible to whom and what? Does this mean that councillors, to quote Mr. Beveridge, must "talk like Tories". This would not be acting responsibly to the working people, local government who look to Labour to protect their welfare.

Local government finance is intimately controlled by Westminster. Here the Tories are in power. Rent increases is Tory policy. How we fight the Tories if we have to, and operate their policy in the localities? How can members of a Labour-controlled council claim to be fighting Toryism if in turn they identify themselves with its policy? How do they combat it if they do oppose rent increases?

When Labour takes control of a council it must refuse to be blank to boost rents. Labour councillors should consider themselves as the spearheads of Labour's efforts to bring down Tory government. They should feel an obligation to mobilise the tenants of both the council and private landlords as part of a national campaign to get rid of Churchill and his crew.

Since after the May election Labour may well control a majority of councils in England, Scotland and Wales, it may be argued that this would lead to a serious clash with Westminster. Indeed it would. But can the Tories be challenged, exposed and turned out in any other way?

Labour must stand firm against rent increases.



Herbert Morrison at Morecambe

New U.S. Defence Secretary

WHEN Gen. Eisenhower took over the Presidency from Mr. Truman, one small cloud hung over his head to mar the festivities. That was the case of his nominee for Defence Secretary, Mr. Charles E. Wilson.

During the campaign the Republicans promised to raise the standard of ethics in government in view of the corruption exposed in the previous administration. In his inaugural address Eisenhower said: "It is the duty of each of our free citizens, and of every free citizen everywhere, to place the cause of his country before the cause of himself."

Although Mr. Wilson was there to hear these noble sentiments, he was reluctant to respond to this call of duty. He has been head of General Motors, the biggest industrial corporation in America. He owned \$2,500,000 worth of stock in it. By law no government official may negotiate contracts with

a business firm in which he has a personal interest.

Many citizens questioned the propriety of Wilson's nomination in the first place since General Motors is the largest Defence Department contractor. During the last war it made twelve billion dollars worth of armaments and a large slice of its \$625,000,000 profits in 1951 came from government contracts. DuPont, the principal arms concern in the U.S., owns a quarter of its shares and determines its policies. Thus Wilson will be in the position to guarantee that his company maintains its inside track in the arms race.

Even so, Wilson refused to divest himself of his stock in G.M. He said he could not afford the tax loss.

Consider this aspect of his attitude. As head of the Defence Department, Wilson will be responsible for ordering hundreds of thousands of American boys, and married men with children, to get into uniform and serve on the Korean battlefield. He will demand that they risk life and limb,

give up everything dear to them—yet he himself balked at conforming to the letter of the law and selling some stock to avoid taxes for the very war programme he supports and superintends!

To add insult to injury, he brazenly tried to justify his position. Asked why he wouldn't comply with the requirements of office, Wilson remarked: "What is good for General Motors is good for the country, and what is good for the country is good for General Motors."

That absolute monarch, Louis XIV, once said: "The State; that's myself." This autocrat of Big Business goes him one better. "The Government; that's General Motors."

It undeniably is the philosophy of the Republican Party that what benefits Big Business is best for the U.S.A. That's why Eisenhower's Cabinet consists of "Ten Millionaires and a Plumber." But at least before election, the Republican spokesmen had sense enough not to say things like that so openly.

In the intoxication of victory,

Wilson committed the error of blurring out what he and his associates really think. It is well-known that G.M. was perhaps the largest single contributor to Eisenhower's campaign fund, the greatest in U.S. history. Every one of the thousands of G.M. distributors throughout the land was ordered to do the utmost for Eisenhower's victory. G.M. got its first payment on account when Wilson was chosen for the Defence post.

The arrogance of this merchant of death was too raw for even a Taft-dominated Senate to stomach. They held up approval of his nomination until he disposed of his holdings.

In any event, the American people have been given warning of the kind of men now at the helm in Washington. Next time a Strains Trust is in your locality, ask them this question. If such five-hearted magnates hesitate to give up a piece of their fortune to assume a public office which will profit them immensely, how can they be expected to confer benefits on other countries?

Harold Davies M.P.

Resumes his Commentary on

"The Week at Westminster"

(See page 2)

Comprehensive Schools must be Labour's Aim

a capitalist society like ours, the classes of its educational system are broadly defined at the early age of ten, when children are segregated into three groups.

The pupil who is interested in learning for its own sake, who grasps an argument or follows a line of connected reasoning... to the grammar school. "The child whose interests and abilities are markedly in the field of applied science or applied art—he often has an uncanny insight into the mechanics of mechanism whereas the subtleties of language construction are too delicate for him to go to the technical school. The third category, which forms the bulk of the whole, is "the child who deals more easily with concrete things than with ideas—his mind must turn its knowledge to immediate test, and his test is practically practical." He goes to a secondary modern school.

ence endorsed the Comprehensive School as the only form of secondary education consonant with socialism.

However, despite all this, the plain fact must be stated that the Labour Party in office did little for the Comprehensive School. George Tomlinson had many fine qualities but he certainly showed no great enthusiasm for a socialist

By T. Enright

system of education. In a report issued in January, 1952, the Fabian Society showed that of the development plans of 111 Local Education Authorities which they examined, only 5½ per cent. of the schools are to be Comprehensive!

Nevertheless, we must not forget that the welfare of the nation's children had a high priority under Labour rule in sharp contrast to the present Tory economising at their expense.

The bastions of British imperialism, the public schools, are more entrenched than ever, as the numerous preparatory schools which have been springing up in recent years show. This is a touchy subject because many of our own Trade Union and political leaders send their children to these breeding grounds of privilege, while in public they pay lip-service to entirely different principles.

Ralph Morley said in the House of Commons in July, 1951: "I think everybody will agree that it would be to the advantage of educational progress and of social solidarity in this country if people in all income groups sent their children of primary school age to our primary schools. That, of course, is not the case today. There are even Hon. Members on this side of the Committee who have children of primary school age, but who do not send them to our primary schools. They send them to boarding schools or to private schools. When asked the reason for that somewhat reprehensible and anti-Socialist conduct, they always reply that it is because the classes in the primary schools are far too large. They say, 'I am sending my child to a private school or a preparatory school, because there the classes are much smaller and he will get more individual attention.'"

In a socialist society all education will be state administered. The privileges of the few, and especially of the hypocrites within our own ranks, will have to give way to the democratic rights of the people. There will, of course, be a national system of boarding education for those whose home circumstances render it desirable. We have to make sure that the next period of Labour rule sees the

establishment of the Comprehensive School, not as an educational experiment, but as an essential prerequisite of social democracy.

As the Scottish Advisory Council said in a report published in 1947: "If education is much more than instruction, is in fact life and preparation for life, can it be wisdom thus to segregate the types from an early age? On the contrary, we hold that school becomes colourful, rich and rewarding just in proportion as the boy who reads Homer, the boy who makes wireless sets and the boy without any marked aptitude for either are within its living unity a constant stimulus and supplement one to another.

Our aim is the classless society; the Comprehensive School can be that society in miniature.

The Monkey and The Nuts A Fable for Our Time

IN a jungle on an island called Britannia a few monkeys had retained possession of three-fourths of the trees while one-quarter had been taken over by the whole colony.

A highly educated monkey named Fabius was talking about reforming this jungle society. "Is it not unjust and un-Christian for this small group of owners to have more nuts than they can use while the majority do not have enough?"

"Indeed, yes," answered the nut-gatherers around him. "What should we do about it?"

"Let us vote to take some of the nuts and even a few of the trees from the over-supplied and hand them over to the under-privileged," said Fabius delighted with his own brilliance. "That will give us a Welfare State."

THE task outlined in the last issue of rebuilding Britain is well within the capacity of a Building Industry organised as a public service. If the work could be started in 1955 most people living today would see the job virtually completed. Some time must be given to consideration and planning, but this does not mean that an immediate start cannot be made; it can. There are four works of major importance to be put in hand.

The first is the clearing away of all slum property, houses condemned by the sanitary authorities,

The Monkey and The Nuts A Fable for Our Time

"But," asked a bolder monkey who laboured all day in the trees, "why don't we socialise all the trees? Then all the nuts would belong to the community and together we could divide them in an equal and efficient fashion."

"Oh, no," shouted the horror-stricken Fabius, "that would be expropriation, robbery, Communism, un-Britannic."

"What a hypocrite you turned out to be," cried the others. "You're willing to take away a few nuts and a few trees but you want to leave the bulk of the forest with the monopolists. We need to take all the trees to save ourselves and our children." Thereupon they hooted at Fabius and beat him sorely.

Moral: Don't start anything you don't intend to finish. The forces you set into motion may sometimes be wiser and stronger than yourself!

Says TOM BRADDOCK

This is the fifth in the series of articles by Tom Braddock, in which he puts the case for nationalising the Building Industry.

derelict buildings and bomb-damaged sites. The larger hotels and boarding houses in the areas nearest to the slum property should be requisitioned and the slum tenants given accommodation therein. Public transport would be provided to take workers to and from work. The pulling down should then be carried out from the very foundations, the sites cleared, filled and levelled ready for development under new plans or for open spaces or agricultural purposes.

Second. Our existing roads and highways, bridges, etc., should be put into first class order, widened and straightened where necessary.

Third. Our river, canal and surface water drainage systems should be opened up and extended to form a real network of waterways covering our country. Much of this work exists but is in a derelict condition. For recreation and for the transport of non-perishable goods these waterways can be one of our most valuable assets.

Fourth. Our sewage systems should be completely modernised, the treatment and disposal of the material should be on scientific lines. The system should be of the kind installed by the Middlesex County Council, all underground. This would free for other uses the thousands of acres of land at present occupied by unsightly and unpleasant sewage farms. (Disposal of our dead by cremation could also be made compulsory

and the land at present occupied by graveyards could be restored to use generally as play- or sports-grounds or parks.)

The work contemplated under the four preliminary schemes listed above would absorb great numbers of unskilled workers, male and female. Such an outlet for workers will be absolutely necessary when armed forces are virtually disbanded and when munitions workers and all who cater for war are released. There will also be available large numbers of workers who have been engaged in waiting on rent, interest and profit takers. These, with their former employers, when physically and mentally fit for the work, will find it in carrying through the projects mentioned above.

USEFUL WORK FOR EVERYONE

The work, apart from sewers, will not take more than three or four years and will be the best possible preparation and training for such other occupations as those engaged thereon may select for their future working life. There is also no reason why healthy boys and girls should not leave school as soon as they are big and strong enough and complete their education and preparation for the future also on these works.

It is time we forgot all the nonsense about the superiority of black-coated occupations and grammar school education. Our boys and girls will become better citizens if engaged on healthy work, mostly in the open air, well fed and well clothed. We shall then have a chance of looking at our education system again—it needs it.

The first step in the construction of the New Britain should be the preparation of a Master Plan establishing main transport routes by air, land and water, the position and area of the national parks, and the location of those industries which by their nature have to occupy definite areas in the country. The country can then be divided into Regions based on our present County system and a general indication given to each Region as to the population it is expected to accommodate.

The Master Plan need do little beyond this; the work is then taken up by the Regional Authorities. They in turn, subject to overriding requirements of main traffic routes, etc., will plan the traffic lines in their area, allot those parts to be devoted to agriculture, market gardening, livestock, etc., their own areas of open country and the size and character of their various towns. Once their centres of population and the number of people to be accommodated in each are decided, a further subdivision then becomes possible.

Each town takes up the planning and development of its own locality. It will have its appropriate number of building workers allocated to it. We shall by this method avoid over-central control and arrive at a variety of treatment which will make this country a continual joy to those who go from town to town. All old work, except selected historic and modern buildings, schools, etc., would gradually be demolished and rebuilt to conform with the new town plan, the old and historic buildings to form centres of interest in the new plans.

NATION WOULD BENEFIT

There would be no complete rebuilding of great cities like London, Manchester, Glasgow, etc. They would be split up into their original small communities and great avenues of open spaces, horticultural and market gardens, parks, etc., driven through the areas. All that is best, and there is a great deal of it in these towns and in our country, would then be placed in a magnificent setting. Britain would not only be a country of historic and human interest but also a country of beauty and convenience from every point of view.

It is not proposed in this short sketch to go further into details of this scheme. It is claimed that it is practical in the best sense of that often abused word, it is capable of almost immediate application and it would be taken up enthusiastically by the building industry. Best of all, the whole of the nation would reap an immediate advantage from its operation.

Coronation Protests

WITHIN a few days of each other the largest Ward Labour Party and largest League of Youth West Middlesex resolved to take no part in local Coronation celebrations.

Manworth League of Youth first drafted a letter requesting their cooperation in a proposed pageant. Speakers regretted the loss of publicity but felt that such publicity was something well rid of by the Party compromised itself by its principles too often in its attitude to the institution of Monarchy.

Will Fancy, proposer of the original resolution and former Chairman of the West Middlesex Leagues of Youth, subsequently introduced a similar proposition at a meeting of the Manworth Ward Labour Party to send a delegate to a committee arranged for district celebrations. Speakers the lengthy debate which ended with the essentially public belief of the Party and the costs of the gaudy ceremonial rejected any wish to prevent themselves from enjoying themselves at the opportunity.

Speakers against the resolution were with the republicanism of the coronation but felt that the

action suggested would lose the Party the support of the man-in-the-street. They were told in reply that the apparently widespread support for the monarchy was due to the huge campaign initiated by the Tory Press Lords to glamourise the "new Elizabethan Age" and the Government that went with it, in the hope of pulling off a "Coronation Election" favourable to the Tories in October.

Increase of Prices on Shopping List

	percentage increases
Butter Beans	50.00
Haricot Beans	45.00
Blancmange powders	33.00
Cake mixtures	8.00
Coffee	20.00
Plain Flour	56.00
Self-raising	453.00
Canned Meats	30.57
Tea	33.00
Bacon	63.00
Butter	20.00
Rationed Cheese	86.00
Bread	25.00
Cooking Fat	12.05
Fresh Meat	21.00
Milk	19.00

Truth or Friction?

WELL, here we are back again in Westminster and on the Floor of the House things have been going a bit quietly this first week! Mind you, the week opened well for the Tory minded, because outside the Parliament, eight Canadians landed at Liverpool with one-and-a-half million quid to spend on our goods.

But it looks as though our manufacturers when they get out to Canada blame the workers for high prices. So the Canadian leader, let fly a "clanger". He is reported as saying: "I must agree that you have the laziest bunch of workers in the world."

Now that means you! Just imagine! Remember in your school-days when you were told the Spaniards, the Italians, the French, all of them rolling in sunshine were lazy? Now you know. YOU are the laziest bunch of workers in the world! (I hope you're not reading this in the bosses' time!)

Of course you may have just arrived home after a hard day ploughing in the wind or the rain. Then again some of you may have been doubled up like the devil working in water on the coal face, too tired to pull your boots off. Still you are one of the laziest bunch in the world!

Uppards! Uppards!

OUR first sally was about the cost of living. Things are really going to happen to the cost of your food and the furniture you sit upon. It's all going "upwards". Arthur Lewis, M.P., has been hacking his way through list after list of food prices. He is one of these awkward inquisitive M.P.'s, who will unearth telling but simple facts that make the Tories wriggle uncomfortably in their seats.

Out he came with his shopping list, as professionally as any housewife. He drew the Minister of Food's attention to the percentage increases in costs. (See box, column 2.)

by Harold Davies, M.P.

poster "Mend that Hole?" An ecstatic housewife was shown with a full cheap shopping basket under Tory Rule. Where are the "Girls of the Housewife's League" tonight?

Miss Florence Horsbrugh in a cold off-hand manner, told us that school meals were to cost another 2d. a day. Mind you there'll be no hardship according to Florence. Parents who cannot pay will be able to get the meals after their circumstances are looked into!

Jenny Lee, incensed by the Minister's manner, denounced the charge as "cruel and contemptible". Every teacher knows that hundreds of kiddies would rather suffer than advertise their poverty to their school mates. What were the wonders the Tories were going to do for Education? But since Butler told us it cost a halfpenny to mint a farthing anything can happen with a crowd like this in power.

To listen to Florence announcing cuts in Educational Standards or limitations on children's meals sounds like the song of a fairy robbing an orchard. The children are the fruit she peels.

"When to bed the world is bobbing, Then's the time for orchard robbing, Yet the fruit were scarce worth peeling, Were it not for stealing, stealing."

Furniture That Goes "Bump" in the Night and Day

THE Utility scheme on furniture has been abolished. The new "D" scheme makes 50 per cent. of all our furniture liable to purchase tax. But worse than that, compulsory quality specifications of tax free Utility furniture is gone.

Elaine Burton believed that in no industry was it so easy to fleece

the public as in the furniture industry. Austin Albu accused the Government of indecent haste. They had abolished the Utility standards before any others were there to take their place. There will be a return to the old low qualities and when people have had their new suites, etc. for a short period they will find a rapid deterioration because of hidden flaws.

Shall we be back to the bodged jobs or will the great furniture firms struggle to maintain high standards? The trouble here is that there will be a kind of Gresham's Law working—bad standards will tend to oust good because of apparent cheapness. The dishonest firm will be helped at the expense of the honest.

The Creeping Willow

MY grandmother had a book called "The Language of Flowers". I remember that the emblem for "Love forsaken" was the "Creeping Willow".

The Foreign Office should send some Creeping Willows to Germany. I ask you. Here's Uncle Sam and John Bull spending millions to make Germany a democracy and they find it turning out good little Nazis. Despite the Foreign Secretary's nonchalance, this recrudescence of Nazism is exactly what Labour has been warning the Tories about.

"Manny" Shinwell wanted to know why the House had not had a full and clearer account of what was taking place. It is obvious now that the Morecambe Conference was right in warning the country about the Krupps and the Nazis. If Social Democracy allies itself with the forces of reaction in Germany, or even seems to, then there is little hope for the people to win peace. There is no doubt that Nazi elements are entrenched themselves in Adenauer's Coalition Government.

The Labour Movement must work wholeheartedly for the implementation of the Morecambe Resolution accepted by the Execu-



Tragedy of a Tribe

EVER since the emergency was proclaimed in Kenya the British public has been subjected to a barrage of propaganda from the government, press, radio and even the pulpit (see Bishop Carey), that all the trouble in Kenya is due not to economic causes but to the activities of a "band of desperate thugs" organised in the Mau Mau secret society.

This hollow and stupid argument has been debunked by the recent book* of Mr. L. S. B. Leakey, one of the foremost anthropologists in East Africa. The author is no Socialist and is a firm believer in the "White Man's burden" concept of Africa. Nevertheless his intimate experience of Kikuyu life (he is an initiated first-grade elder of the tribe), coupled with a missionary zeal for "uplifting the natives", has enabled him to illuminate a subject which has been deliberately obscured from the eyes and ears of the British people: the disintegration of tribal society under the impact of Western Imperialism.

Before the British arrived in Kenya, the Kikuyu—a branch of the Bantu speaking peoples in East Africa and the biggest in Kenya—were a virile agricultural and partly pastoral people. They occupied the territory comprising the present Nyeri, Fort Hall and Kiambu districts of Kenya which included at least 3,000 square miles of the White Highlands. The Kikuyu lands were surrounded by a thin fringe of forest to protect them from the Masai pastoralists—the traditional enemies of the Kikuyu.

Tribal economy was a subsistence economy. There was no distinction between producers and consumers. Land ownership was on a family or sub-clan—not a communal basis. The family estate (or Githaka) was held in trust by the head of the family or sub-clan, on behalf of the sub-clan. The male dependants of the sub-clan had an absolute right to a share in the Githaka and could dispose of their portion of land preferably to other members of the sub-clan.

The Kikuyu were not all landowners; a considerable section were tenants on sub-clan estates. The sub-clan consisted of a number of extended family units which were organised on patriarchal lines. The head of a family was chosen by his seniority while the head of a sub-clan was chosen for his tact and wisdom. He could not wield any arbitrary powers or alienate land without first consulting the sub-clan elders who appointed him.

Although the system of land ownership was based on consanguinity, the administrative system organised on a tribal basis was remarkable for its simplicity and efficiency.

The tribal councils were democratic in form and content and closely associated with tribal activities. Contrary to popular belief, the Kikuyu had no "chief" system. The most important territorial units of the administrative system—the rugongo or fire ridges—were administered and controlled by a council of senior elders.

The chairman of this council had no personal powers but was only the "spokesman for the council". The author says: "This simple and yet highly effective system of decentralised control of religious, judicial and secular affairs was not in the least understood by the British when they came to the country"! Yet Mr.

* "Mau Mau and the Kikuyu" by L. S. B. Leakey (Methuen 7/6d.)

"D" Scheme Lobbying

Workers from twenty of the largest furniture factories in London and surrounding district called at the House of Commons on Wednesday, 23rd. Unfortunately, the House was almost empty, but they did see a small number of Tory M.P.s., and one or two Labour M.P.s. who we knew were supporting us. Two Tories seen were absolutely opposed to the idea of a return to any utility standards. The chaps told them in no uncertain fashion what they thought of it.

About 300 people were present. Many who participated this time had never lobbied before. They went in groups of twenty.

Jack Moss.

What Happened to the Kikuyu

By M. Banda

Lytellton contends that the Africans are not fit for home rule!

ENTER THE WHITE MAN

The stability of this tribal economy depended on two indispensable conditions:

1. An abundance of land for pasture and cultivation.
2. A slowly increasing population whose rate of increase was kept

Ceylon Socialists Protest

The Socialist Opposition in Ceylon has protested vigorously the Kenya Government's suppression of civil liberties and terrorism against the African peoples.

In a letter to the Prime Minister of Ceylon, which received widespread publicity in the Ceylonese press, N. M. Perera, M.P., on behalf of the Lanka Samasamaja Party, has called on progressive forces in all countries to join in public protest and for prompt steps to assist the African peoples in Kenya to obtain their rights and freedom.

He said that because of the direct association of the Kenya and Ceylon Governments as members of the British Commonwealth, the Ceylonese Government, "has not only a duty in the name of humanity and justice but also a right in law to press upon the British Government the views of the people of Ceylon and their deep horror in regard to the current actions and policies of the Government in Kenya in relation to the African peoples of that country."

low by frequent famines, epidemics and a crude form of birth control.

These two conditions were eliminated by the British. First, they directly expropriated the Kikuyu from the highlands by declaring all native land as Crown land. Second, by imposing drastic taxes, they forced the Kikuyus to cultivate cash crops for foreign consumption. Third, by corrupting the tribal administration they created a native landlord class within the native Reserves.

Today the settlers argue that most of the land which they cultivate was unoccupied fifty years ago or was sold to them by individuals of the tribe. This is what

the author replies: "... the position had materially changed by 1902. Four major disasters had ravaged the country in the interval: the great smallpox epidemic, the great rinderpest outbreak, an intense drought with consequent famine, and a devastating locust invasion. As a consequence... the population was very considerably reduced... thousands of Kikuyu moved away temporarily from the stricken land... This... did not in the least affect the ownership of the land. Those who moved away... looked forward to the day when they would return to develop and occupy their land once more... It was at this point in Kikuyu history that... parts of the Kikuyu territory were alienated for white settlement mainly during the period 1902-07."

Regarding the settlers' claim to have bought the land, the author comments "from the point of view of Kikuyu law these payments did not and could not ever rank as purchase of the land, at best they could only rank as payment for the right to cultivate subject always to the real owner being allowed—at some future date—to evict the occupier"

The author admits that the re-



FARES INCREASES

Letter to all London Transport Users

Dear Customers,

Just behind my driving seat pasted on the window is the list of proposed fares increases. Half-penny here and a penny there, and no alteration of fare stages. All of which doesn't amount to much on one journey, and all justified—if you believe in the capitalist system and the necessity of the war drive colossal rearmament programme. (The Prussians used to say in their hey-day: "We starved ourselves to greatness.")

But the person who has to change his bus two or three times and sometimes more to get to work may find his fare has increased by 3d. or more one way, with the same journey ten or twelve times per week. What of the Docker who must make eleven weekly attendances? He now faces a decrease of three or four shillings per week in his fall-back pay of £4 8s. 6d. less National Insurance. This is not enough to keep a man honest. Once again the workers suffer directly through this war drive (or is it defence drive?)

Lord Latham in his yearly letter to the staff, says that it is appreciated how fares increases affect the budgets of the passengers, and, therefore, they are not sought lightly. This was in respect of the last increase in March, 1952. One month later, in April, 1952, the Tory Government's budget imposed another 7½d. tax per gallon on fuel, which cost the London Transport Executive £1,150,000 per year. This is now to be passed on to you.

He also points out that L.T.E. fares generally have risen 74 per cent. since 1938, whilst costs have risen 120 per cent. Now no business can run for long on this basis, and remain solvent. But what about staff wages? In 1938 a driver received £4 4s. 0d. per week. On the basis of rising costs of 120 per cent. he should get approximately £9 3s. 5d. in 1953. He, in fact, gets £7 11s. 6d., a loss of £1 11s. 11d. per week. So the

governor's losing; the staff is losing; the passenger is losing.

Let's look round for the winners. The ex-shareholder with his watered capital is one (original investment was bought for six guaranteed 3 per cent. British Transport Stock). He has either sold out and re-invested, or enjoys his 3 per cent. with no risk attached. The armament merchant is another. Both support the armament programme, because they enjoy the fruits of capitalism. Good living and fat profits for the few to invest and thus cause the vicious circle of exploitation to continue yet more and squeeze more profit out of us.

Now for a ray of sunshine. You want sunshine there is place like Italy. Sunshine and poverty, there's an abundance both, but dark glasses will protect you from their glare. On April 1st the British European Airways will cut fares to Italy and back by 4/- to 6/- in the pound. The more ambitious dockers and tile workers, if not fully employed and with time to spare, can travel B.O.A.C. to Singapore and back for £295 4s. instead of £370 10s. Thus saving £75 on one trip!

There you have the contrast. The ever-increasing cost of essential travel for the many, who because of the lack of housing, because they wanted to live in a decent house and not a tumble-down rat heap full of draughts and dampness are compelled to travel miles from their jobs. Reduction of 25 per cent. in luxury travel for the few.

In the words of Mr. Peter Marshall, B.E.A. chief executive, "I confidently hope our fares will come cheaper still". Cheer up! The time may come when bus fares and airline fares have reached common level. Then the dockers can live on the Riviera instead of slumland with no extra travel expenses.

Bill Purvis
(London Bus Drivers' Association)

Round-up of Unarmed Kikuyu Tribesmen



Redundancy in the Motor Industry

By Bill Hunter

AS an engineer affected by the motor industry I share the growing concern of my shopmates about the growing redundancy brought about by the fall in motor sales.

Export of cars in December was the lowest in three years, dropping 20 per cent. below the preceding month. The fact that exports for 1952 are 10 per cent. less than 1951 and nearly 20 per cent. less than 1950 shows that this is not a temporary decline.

We workers cannot sit back and just accept this creeping paralysis. The strength of trade unionism can and will defend conditions in factories faced with redundancy. Local unions have already put forward certain demands, as reported in the "Outlook", which in my opinion should be adopted and fought for by the entire industry. These are:

1. No worker should be sacked from an individual factory until alternative employment is available at t.u. rates and conditions.
2. The unions should call for a pay for workers and fall-back pay for workers.
3. The unions should campaign for a forty-hour week.

Workers are right to resist attempts to place the burdens of the crisis in the motor industry on their backs. During the postwar boom employers have increased dividends and salted away big reserves, which ought to be used now to ameliorate the situation of the workers who have devoted their lives and labour to the industry.

The fight against the incidence of unemployment has to be waged in the individual factory, of course. But it must be recognised that the crisis in the motor industry is

national and can be coped with only through national action. And its solution requires not simply industrial but also political action.

The attempts being made to find a joint programme of action between employers and workers are bound to fail because they wrongly assume the two have common interests in the matter. This is not so even in the expansion of East-West trade which would certainly alleviate the situation. Poland, to take but one example, has offered bacon, meat, poultry and eggs for such manufactures as transport equipment. Doubtless individual industrialists would like to get such markets. But their political representatives in London (and Washington) continue to enforce the ban on trade with the Soviet Union, China and Eastern Europe in line with their war drive.

Again, employers as well as Labour and its M.P.s. have demanded the end of purchase tax. Even if this tax should be lifted, that would only fiddle with the problem. The drop in the prices

BILL MURPHY'S CORNER

When a former cabinet minister spoke to a packed meeting, a local alderman, an old stalwart, was chosen to introduce the guest to the audience. For half an hour he waved his arms about and told the assembly everything he knew about the ex-minister's "career" and the subject upon which he was to speak.

When at last he thought he had suitably impressed the gathering with his knowledge, the local worthy handed over to the speaker who stood, raised his hand for silence, and said: "And in conclusion, ladies and gentlemen..."

of second-hand cars shows that the purchasing power is not there to compensate for the decline in exports. Sales on the home market would have to go up by nearly 60 per cent. to cover the fall in exports from 1951-52.

The same holds true for the lifting of Commonwealth restrictions, etc. These are themselves the result of the world trade crisis. Other countries are also driven to cut down imports while pushing up exports. This is the old vicious circle of capitalist competition.

Now that the promised prosperity pivoted on the export drive has turned out to be illusory, the "captains of industry" here really have only one solution—the cutting of labour costs. This means harder work and worsening condition for those who remain in work. Or else send labour into the manufacturing of armaments.

The truth is that private enterprise has proved to be as bankrupt in the motor industry as in other fields. And no proposals based upon the salvage or continuation of private enterprise can solve its difficulties or prevent the spread of unemployment.

This is why the discussion in the Labour movement on its future programme of nationalisations cannot be a matter of indifference to motor workers and engineers. For if Labour does not take over and plan these industries, then the employers will impose their own type of planning—amalgamating and shifting to protect their profits at the workers' expense, as the Nuffield-Austin merger has shown. The Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions has worked out a plan for the industry, including public ownership of the heavy motor combine, which deserves to be widely publicised and studied.

ACTION AGAINST SHOP STEWARDS

A ROAD haulage company has applied for an injunction to restrain four shop stewards from interfering with the Railway Executive in the performance of its duties as a common carrier, by inducing employees of the Railway Executive not to unload fish consigned to the company or to be carried by them to Billingsgate.

The four shop stewards are Sonny Read, James Clarke, William Groves and Joseph Hellery. The haulage company seeking the injunction is J. O'Connor (Haulage) Ltd.

At the first hearing it was explained, for the haulage company, that the events leading to the application for an injunction had taken place during the previous three weeks. The four shop stewards were employed by British Road Services and were concerned with the Monument Group which handled fish traffic between London Railway Stations and Billingsgate.

The person mainly concerned was Mr. J. O'Connor, a Director of J. O'Connor (Haulage) Ltd., and who was formerly manager of the Fish Department of the Monument Group British Road Services.

With the prospect of denationalisation of road haulage, Mr. O'Connor had acquired shares in the Company, and taken steps to enable the Company to operate between Kings Cross and Billingsgate for the carriage of fish. It

was claimed that the four shop stewards had procured the gangs at Kings Cross to refuse to handle any fish consigned to O'Connor (Haulage) Ltd., with the result that the Company could not operate in that particular trade. It was submitted that this had been a wrongful interference with the Company's right to have its goods carried by the Railway Executive. There was no act of contract.

Mr. Justice Upjohn said that he was being asked to grant an injunction where a breach of contract had not occurred. It was a very difficult branch of law and he would require argument on that point.

The hearing has now been adjourned until Tuesday, February 3rd.

Korean Stockpile

"Tungsten is about the most material gain the United States getting from its large military economic commitments in Korea. Almost one half of South Korea's total exports, according to value, consist of tungsten, and the United States is enjoying a monopoly of these deliveries.

During the past fiscal year South Korea's total exports worth about \$20,000,000, of which tungsten accounted for \$9,500,000. All of it went towards American stockpile.

American army engineers reported to be supervising working of the tungsten mines on the front. In the past six or eight months, South Korea's output of this precious ore has been doubling. Exports to the U.S. are steadily increasing. New mining equipment is expected further to enlarge output. With China's tungsten supply now available only to Communist bloc, Korea's production is at a premium.

But the richest tungsten mines in Korea are beyond the United Nations front lines and under Communist control. They are far north of our present position and a successful drive, say about 70 miles up the peninsula, would transfer possession to the other side." (The U.S. Mining Journal, Jan. 9th, 1953.)

Appeal For Aid

The London Road Haulage Shop Stewards' Association has undertaken to meet the costs of the defence of these four stewards, and is asking all depots to contribute generously.

They are unable to comment on the issue involved in the case whilst it is sub-judice, but appeal to every Transport Worker to give as generously as possible, either through their shop steward or direct to the Treasurer of the Stewards' Association.

E. Smith, 109 Whitehorse Rd., Stepney, E.1.

Union Views on Building

Presented at Co-op Conference

By "Socialist Outlook" Reporter

HOW can we create a structure capable of taking over the many firms in the building industry which will permit the maximum democratic control?

This was the theme of the conference of Trade Union branches in the building industry convened by the Political Committee of the London Co-operative Society, held at York Hall, Bethnal Green, Saturday, January 24th.

Present at the conference were 153 delegates from Trade Union branches and 57 from various sections of the L.C.S. On the platform were **Dick Coppock** (General Secretary N.F.B.T.O.), **Bob Edwards** (Gen. Sec. Chemical Workers' Union), and **W. Hilton** (Organiser Association Building Technicians).

Dick Coppock warned that without a complete re-orientation in the industry it would be increasingly difficult to extract more rewards for the workers. Similarly, there was no hope of a new architectural design with a greater use of art and science until we changed control. The great need for expansion in the industry, upon which depended the vital re-tooling and equipping of the country, can come only through socialisation of the building industry.

Bob Edwards argued that public ownership of the basic industries must also include building. We should not be deterred by the difficulties of the diversity of ownership which concealed a very effective monopoly. The defects of the present nationalised boards, which have in effect left the old worker-employer relationship unaltered, must be avoided. Similarly the dangers of the dictatorship of the technician which could blot out freedom had to be watched. These could be avoided only by industrial democracy which must give the workers some part in management and permit both producer and consumer to "play an active role."

Delegates' concern for the need for democracy and the burden of compensation was shown by questions. Support from building workers as a whole could be won only when it was plain to them that public ownership did not mean endangering their living standards and being overweighed by officials as had happened to the railwaymen and others.

When the need for Workers' Control was raised, **Bob Edwards** shied away from it as leading to "social revolution and economic collapse". Although he was at some pains to describe a method whereby "executive control would be built up

from below", requiring a reformed Parliament making a greater use of committees to direct planning, delegates were not entirely satisfied. As **Bro. Saunders** (N.S.P.) put it with some persistence, how is the centre to be kept in touch with the man on the job? How can it be made possible to control a parliamentary committee when today, within our trade unions, officials are quite remote from the rank and file? On parallel lines an A.S.W. member wanted to know how to avoid having admirals on the Coal Board instead of miners.

Bro. Stone for the Plumbers District Committee argued that socialisation must not mean saddling an industry with heavy compensation for generations to come.

With the present labour force and pre-war output, 25 per cent. more houses could be built at a price £100 less per house than now. Citing this conclusion from the Third Girdwood Report on Housing Costs, **W. Hilton**, (Org. Assoc. of Build. Techs.), who opened the second session, argued that the responsibility for this failure lay with the chaos of the industry and the machinations of the rings in building supplies. Urging socialisation of the industry as an immediate need, he advocated nationalising all firms employing 20 men and over to be compensated on a basis of past profits.

A National Building Corporation responsible to a Parliamentary Commission under a Minister for Building would carry out the organisation of building, ensuring adequate research and mechanisation. There would also be room for local authorities and Co-operatives to do work for their own needs within the national plan. Finally, he introduced the idea of co-partnership. Groups of workers, such as whole Trade Union branches, should be encouraged to set up co-operative co-partnerships in which every worker would be entitled to invest and to take part in management.

Although **Bro. Hilton** put forward the idea of co-partnerships as being the most important part of the Co-operative Party platform, it was very critically received by the delegates. The main criticism was that this scheme only nibbled at the problem. The whole of the industry needed to be taken over and similar schemes had already been tried and failed in the form of the old Building Guilds.

Although the last word on socialising the building industry was not said, the value of this conference lay in the opportunity it gave building workers to speak their minds.

SALES TALK

By the Business Manager

WITH the approach of better weather, more opportunities present themselves for selling the paper. With Spring upon us, plans should be put in hand in the localities for circulation drives.

Each week, preferably Sunday morning, canvass teams should be out in working class districts with the paper. Make out a plan to cover a particular area each week.

There will be plenty of outdoor meetings this year. Make sure at each one someone is selling the paper. At all Wards, L.O.Y., Trade Union branch meetings, see that the "Outlook" is always available.

We must get more papers among the "men at the bench". Contact shop stewards. Get them to take a few copies into their factory every week. Organise regular sales outside big factories.

How many newsagents in your district are selling the paper? Get it on display at as many newsagents as possible. It will help when canvassing. Then the name will not be new, people will have already seen it.

Few reports or ideas have been sent in. Your suggestions and experiences are invaluable. Let us have them. We shall be able to judge how things are going.

FIGHTING FUND

The state of the Fund is very disturbing. A few days to go and only £35 18s. 2d. has been re-

ceived. We need £34 1s. 10d. more to hit the target of £70.

This is very serious, comrades. The Fighting Fund is the life-blood of the paper. Unlike the capitalist press we cannot rely on financial help from advertising. No doubt many comrades have been waiting till the end of the month before sending monies in. Don't delay any longer. Put it in the post immediately.

We are sure there are many new readers who would like to help. A guarantee of any sum, no matter how small, will help to maintain our target.

Come on, comrades. It was a magnificent effort last month. Hit that target again. Keep up the 1953 spirit. Let us resolve to reach that £70 every month.

buy the 'SOCIALIST OUTLOOK' EVERY WEEK from your newsagent

New Readers 9 'Outlooks' for 2/-
Write: Socialist Outlook, 177, Bermondsey St., S.E.1.

WHO SAID THIS?

THE Editorial Board offer a prize of £1 1s. for the correct answer first received. Address replies to: Editor, Socialist Outlook, 177 Bermondsey St., S.E.1.

"We must not forget the fact that corporate action, collective action, public regulations, public control, development of social services, good in themselves, leave, nevertheless, the essentials of the capitalist economic basis of society untouched.

It is the task of Socialism to touch that economic basis of society, to alter it, to revolutionise it by substituting public collective ownership not merely for economic undertakings here and there, but extending the principle of public ownership of land and economic undertakings to such a point that the nation is in all essentials the master, the director, of the means whereby the nation lives.

There is a limit to how much social reform, how much social expenditure for the amelioration of the lot of the working classes can be insured within the limitations of the system of the private ownership of land and capital.

If you develop that budget and that expenditure beyond a point so that you begin to upset the stability of the social order, and the capitalist financial system, you will have to face a mess.

Socialism in this country must be ordered, I do not presume to judge as to other countries; certainly not Russia. It may well

be that the Russian type of development is right for that country. I do not regard it as possible to patch up the capitalist system, to increase the social services to such an extent as to make life good, secure, and prosperous within the capitalist order. Otherwise we should be assuming that the capitalist system can give us all the economic and social advantages of a Socialist Commonwealth.

You will have to have your General Election. If you are in a muddle, if I know the British people, then I believe that they will vote Conservative and go back to what is called tranquillity, you will be out for five years; maybe for ten. And then you will be permitted to start the process over again a little more gently. I do not know what you think. It does not appeal to me.

So please remember that the Socialist who thinks that he can have all the economic, industrial, and social advantages of Socialism out of a capitalist society is foolish, thoughtless and above all is committing the greatest mistake of paying a great compliment to the capitalist system. If the capitalist system could give us all these advantages, why bother about altering the system? It is precisely because the capitalist system cannot give these advantages that we must go on to the Socialist system. It is important also as the really basic thing that is going to bring about the peace of the world."

Outlaw War

It has been said: "Misguided patriots slaughter while dodgers of the column accumulate wealth and honours. These shapeless charred corpses that were dragged from wrecked ships tanks and aeroplanes are food on which profiteers batten. War has become a malignant humbug and should be cut out of human endeavours as a cancerous growth."

Then the flood of youth would cease to flow for the riches for a few, the cascade of tears the people shed for their loved ones would become a thing of the past; the world a little nearer the heaven we hear so much about.

Hythe, Kent F. G. R. Philpott.

"A Democratic Coronation"

Mr. Shinwell has said that "to make it a really democratic Coronation" the procession should include scientists, nurses, miners, farmworkers, steelworkers and railwaymen.

Send the dockers to the Coronation

On a fine June day,

Send the dockers to the Coronation

On unemployment pay,

Send the dockers to the Coronation

To rejoice with heart and soul,

Send a mighty procession

To support workers on the dole,

G. H. Terry.

(South Lewisham Labour Party)

Where Is British Labour Going?

THE issue of "Labour Review" just out contains an article: "Where is British Labour Going?" by G. Healy which is worthy of study by every Labour Party member. The author dismisses the superficial theory that the present differences in our party are due to the clash of personalities and ambitious individuals.

Morecambe was seven years in maturing and in his article the social ingredients which have gone

to make the present situation are brilliantly outlined.

He asserts that the Fabian gradualism of the Labour Party right wing has been tried and found wanting by the rank and file. In three or four pithy sentences he sums up the dilemma of the Welfare State: "The people wanted and expected Socialism; they were given Welfare Capitalism. The substitute has turned out to be extremely unsatisfying. The Tories naturally hate whatever welfare is in it, although they thank their lucky stars for its capitalism. The workers like the welfare, but the capitalism prevents them from solving their vital problems."

The existing "mixed economy" is unworkable on Socialist lines. "The private sector," says Healy, "not only far outweighs the public part but subordinates and exploits it for its own anarchic, profit-seeking aims."

As a result of their experiences, the rank and file of the labour movement are demanding more nationalisation and a clear Socialist alternative to Conservatism. This forward movement has come into head-on collision with the old leadership and its paralytic policies. The article states a profound truth: "Every genuine mass movement which ossifies at the top can renew its vitality only through the resurgence of new ideas and fresh forces from its midst. This is what happened at Morecambe." That is the answer to those who have denounced the rank and file contemptuously as being an unthinking mob.

BOLD PROGRAMME NEEDED

Perhaps the most thought-provoking section is that dealing with the future programme of the Lab-

our Party. Needless to say, the author is for a bold programme expanding public ownership. He is also for a consistent Socialist foreign policy but points out that the broad left wing has not yet arrived at that.

Worthy of very serious consideration is the point that a new Labour Government would almost certainly take office in a period of crisis. The movement will not tolerate fair weather Socialists who park their principles during a storm. That is the road ending in MacDonaldism.

IMITATE PIONEERS MORE

The article breathes optimism in the victory of those forces striving to make the Labour Party an effective instrument of Socialist purposes. Supporters of "Socialist Outlook" will heartily endorse its conclusions. "Let's celebrate the pioneers less and imitate them more" it cries, and concludes that the left wing Socialist pioneers of 1952 will no more be daunted by misrepresentations, abuse and bitter internal struggle than were the pioneer Socialists at the turn of the century.

READ

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Labour Review No. 4

The crisis in the British Labour Party
The Communist Congress at Moscow

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Britain's Youth Must Not Be Sacrificed Every 20 Years

must confess that at times I read the utterances of some of our M.P.'s, and Trade Union leaders, it seems to me that the Right and Left are as reconcilable as if they were different parties—in their attitude to policy, at any rate. And in policy, affecting as it does the paramount question of Peace and also our foreign trade and therefore our economic interests, it seems to me, the most important plank in the list platform; even the Welfare State depends indirectly on its policy.

Sometimes yearn for a really Socialist Party that will renounce

Readers write—

and colossal armaments, save our youth of our country from being slaughtered every twenty years, devote to trade what is now expended on tanks and bombs, build homes, schools, colleges, universities, hospitals and all that is needed in a country worthy of being called a democracy; and end hereditary privileges for good.

I have seen two wars now. By miracle we were saved in the 15 war from the carnage of 18 with its Paaschendaes. Carnage took place on the front and we, I think, devote to trade what is now expended on tanks and bombs, build homes, schools, colleges, universities, hospitals and all that is needed in a country worthy of being called a democracy; and end hereditary privileges for good.

Am I forgetting the sufferings of our own people; indeed political views are those I begin as a way of preventing the city of war and all the it involves. Our youth must be sacrificed again. It seems to me to read of a garrulous old man talking of war as if it were a game. Said one recently, would next time be against a class side.

It seems that the lives of our (and girls) mean little to these men; and I doubt whether the of ordinary working people considered of any importance our High Tories. Perhaps I

+ WORLD NEWS + in Brief

THE MENACE OF PEACE

THE Tokyo correspondent of "The Economist" for January 17th, makes the following observation on Japan and the Far East.

is not too much to say that the Korean war ended tomorrow some improbable understanding with the Soviet Union resulted in easing of world rearmament, a superficially resurgent but serious economy would follow.

The candid headline, "Peace in Korea," which appeared once in a Tokyo daily paper during a deceptive Panom session, still best expresses the attitude of Japanese industry towards the hot fighting and the cold war.

a crystal-gazing prediction of 1953, one frank economist, Mr. Katsuta, chief of the influential Katsuta Economic Research Institute, has blandly anticipated major developments in United States international policy, which spread trouble not only in the Far East but also in Manchuria and the Chinese mainland and

which will improve Japan's position."

VOTE FRAUD IN ITALY

FOLLOWING a stormy six-week debate and a final session lasting three nights and two days, the Italian Chamber of Deputies passed an electoral reform bill submitted by the De Gasperi government.

This bill makes two important changes in the system of voting for the general elections in April. It empowers parties to form joint lists so that their votes can be counted together and provides that any party or group of parties getting one vote more than half the electoral votes cast shall receive nearly two thirds of the seats in the Chamber.

This fraudulent measure has been designed to ensure that De Gasperi's Christian Democrats get an unshakable majority and retain control over the government for the next five years. Although this manipulation of electoral procedure by the party in power transparently violates democratic representation, it has been undertaken in the name of the defence of "democratic institutions."

The bill was rammed through over violent protests from the parties of the Left which stand to lose most from its application. Communist and Nenni Socialist Deputies conducted a bitter delaying action to prevent its passage which culminated in clashes around and inside the Chamber of Deputies and protest strikes by workers throughout Italy. Over 2,000 demonstrators against this unconstitutional measure were arrested.

The bill now goes to the Senate.

Small Adverts. (1/- per line)

DR. C. E. HARMAN, ALF LAYLOR (Holborn delegate), report on Vienna Peace Congress. Holborn Hall, 7.30 p.m., Thursday, February 5th. Chair: Tom Chapman (A.E.U.).

NOTTINGHAM SHARE-OLDERS. Next meeting to be held at Foresters' Hall, 10, Grey Street, Friday, January 31st, at 7.30 p.m.