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Lead with
**LABOUR'S
LEFT!**
Demand NOW a
General Election

SCOTS LOCOMEN TO STRIKE ON TRANSPORT BILL

Socialist Outlook Reporter

RAILWAYMEN are every bit as hostile to the Tory Denationalisation Bill as the Road Haulage workers—and with good reason. For just as the lorry drivers are faced with a return to sweated conditions for some and unemployment for others, railwaymen will be faced with speed-up, reduction of staff and longer hours to make good the loss of the most profitable section of the Transport industry.

At a conference held in Edinburgh on Sunday, January 18th, delegates representing locomotive men from branches all over the Scottish Region recommended that railwaymen in Scotland take part in token stoppages against the Tory Bill to de-nationalise Road Transport and de-centralise the railway industry.

Under the plan to de-centralise the railway industry each region must pay its way and stand alone as an economic unit. This would particularly affect the Scottish Region (apart from all the other anti-working class features in the Transport Bill), because of the many "necessary" but uneconomic lines in Scotland, especially in the Highlands.

Uneconomic as these lines may be, they provide a necessary transport service to the Highlands of

Scotland which in some cases are the only means of transport in this area. It could mean that these lines will be closed, resulting in redundancy and a general lowering of conditions for the workers in the railway industry.

With these features in mind and the serious effect the iniquitous Tory Transport Bill will have on the transport workers and the working class in general, the delegates recommended the stoppages to the railwaymen of Scotland.

Passed by 14 A. S. L. E. & F. Branches

"That this Conference of Scottish Branches of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, comprising the branches of Aberdeen (Ferry Hill), Aberdeen (Kitty Brewster), Carlisle (Canal), Carlisle (Kingmoor), Corker Hill, Dundee, Perth, Thornton, Glasgow (Palmachie), Glasgow (Eastfield), Glasgow (Parkhead), Edinburgh (St. Margarets), Edinburgh (Haymarket), Edinburgh (Dalry Road), realising that the de-nationalisation of Road Transport and de-centralisation of the railways will create economic chaos in the railway industry and will lead to further closing of (uneconomic) branch lines and a general contraction of the services to the detriment of the public and which in consequence will mean further large scale redundancy in the industry, recommend to the members of the A.S.L.E. & F. and N.U.R. Branches that they should engage in token stoppage of work

Right-Wing Puts Up an Anti-Bevan Smoke Screen Hides a Conflict on Policy

AT a time when Churchill and Eisenhower are openly preparing the Third World War, the right-wing leaders of the T.U.C. and the Labour Party—ably backed up by the "Daily Herald"—have delivered a further blast of hatred against Aneurin Bevan and the left-wing of the Party. This is no "personal" question.

on Sundays as from and including Sunday, March 1st, and to continue such token stoppage each and every Sunday until this Committee of Scottish Branches decide otherwise.

Therefore we call on all Railwaymen to act with us in the token stoppages. In doing so we declare that we are not embarking on industrial action for political purposes but are solely concerned to protect our living standards and general conditions which are manifestly threatened by this measure introduced by the Tory Government, which has only considered the ~~advantage of profit for a few~~ at the expense of service to the public and the workers in the Transport Industry. In order to secure the maximum degree of co-operation and co-ordination with the respective Trade Unions involved, we agree to recall Conference in Edinburgh on Sunday, February 15th."

What is really involved is an attempt by the right wing to frustrate the carrying out of the Morecambe Conference decisions and the policy resolutions of the last Trades Union Congress. *What they don't like is the decision to extend nationalisation.* Behind all this smoke screen of personal abuse, they are hoping to bury that decision deep down and out of sight of the Party. All the internal developments since the October Conference bear this out.

RIGHT-WING CRESCENDO

No sooner had the delegates voted the Bevanites on to the N.E.C., called for a specific list of new nationalisations, and insisted upon a more Socialist course in foreign policy than a Right-Wing chorus headed by Hugh Gaitskell and Will Lawther opened a ferocious attack upon these decisions. Up went the smoke-screen, and a frantic hue and cry



Morecambe platform: Bevan declares Socialism is the only answer—Dalton, Attlee, Summerskill, Phillips look . . . thoughtful.

was raised about the alleged menace of the Bevanite "party within the party".

This was followed by Mr. Attlee's demand in the House that the Bevanite M.P.s. disband their group and the rules were altered in the midst of elections to the front bench to favour Right-Wing candidates. The Bevanites complied under protest against these illiberal acts.

The emboldened Right-Wing then further unfolded their line of nestling closer to the Conservatives. T.U.C. chairman Tom O'Brien saluted Churchill's visit to Washington. Lincoln Evans accepted a knighthood from the very Government which is tearing down the nationalised industries, including iron and steel of which he is Union secretary. And Attlee at Rangoon justified Lyttelton's policy in Kenya despite its condemnation by Asian Socialists.

All these moves to the right have been accompanied by harsh public denunciations of Bevanism by the T.U.C.'s Big Four, Arthur Deakin, Tom Williamson, Sir Will Lawther and Sir Lincoln Evans. These attacks have mounted in fury while the N.E.C. has been proceeding with the task assigned at Morecambe of drafting a general election programme which MUST contain a list of "key and major industries to be taken into public ownership".

In clear opposition to the Morecambe mandate, Herbert Morrison has been proclaiming that the National Executive should not produce a definite list of new nation-

alisations but merely a "general mandate". At the recent joint meeting of the T.U.C. and the Labour Party Executive, Lincoln Evans and Aneurin Bevan expressed sharply divergent views on this issue of further public ownership. A section of the Right-Wing on both bodies opposes any immediate extension of nationalisation. The present clash between the Right and the Left must be viewed in this setting.

"TRIBUNE" ATTACKED

Right-Wing strategists have apparently seized this occasion to curb the Bevanite leaders who want to see the Morecambe decisions implemented. Taking an article in "Tribune" as a pretext, the T.U.C. called upon the National Executive, assembled at the same time in Transport House, to proceed against the Bevanite paper for criticising certain Union leaders. The N.E.C. majority passed a resolution "strongly deploring the attacks" and saying that "articles of such a character deflect the movement from its real purpose and create a situation in which personalities become more important than principles."

Do "Tribune's" articles submerge "principles" in unwarranted attacks on "personalities"? Quite the contrary. "Tribune" voiced the opinion of every Socialist in the country when it disapproved of Lincoln Evans' acceptance of honours from a Government engaged in a direct assault upon his own Union and its membership. To condemn O'Brien's unauthorised

● Continued page 4, Col. 1

Hands Off China!

THE Americans—or rather the Generals and Big Businessmen who rule that great country—have decided to extend the Korean war to the mainland of China itself. All of mankind now trembles on the brink of the Third World War. That is the meaning of Eisenhower's decision to remove the American Seventh Fleet from Formosa.

The President's claim that he is merely "ceasing to defend the shores of Red China" is the most sickening humbug yet issued from the White House. Under the protection of the United States Navy, Chiang Kai-shek has been permitted—and materially aided—to build up an armed force of some 600,000 men. American Generals have trained the staff officers and American factories have produced Chiang's military equipment.

In fact, this army on Formosa is an American force in all but the name, specially trained to be let loose on the Chinese mainland at the appropriate time. And, according to Eisenhower—now is the time.

Chiang Kai-shek represents all that was rotten and corrupt in the old Chinese society. In a civil war which raged for a quarter of a century, the workers and poor peasants finally routed Chiang and his landlord-capitalist forces and

drove him to his last refuge on the island of Formosa.

And there he has sat like some great vulture—the counter-revolution personified—waiting to swoop down and tear to pieces the new, decent, basically socialist society which the great Chinese people are so laboriously building.

Now, bogged down in Korea—the land they have crucified—Chiang's American backers have given him the all-clear to attempt a landing in China.

Is there any honest man or woman in the Labour Movement who still believes the Korean war is being waged "against aggression"? If there is, then surely this latest move of Eisenhower must convince him that the Korean

Editorial

war is—and has been from the start—the biggest and bloodiest attempt at counter-revolution since Deniken and Wrangel terrorised the peoples of Russia in 1918.

Churchill knew all about it when he visited Eisenhower and how he must have laughed when he received O'Brien's message of good wishes. But Churchill won't talk, because he—like all capitalist politicians—hatches his plots behind the backs of the people, in the dark, shrouded by the curtains of secret diplomacy. With perhaps a few diplomatic reservations, Churchill will go along with America's war on China and no one who knows the counter-revolutionary record of the 'hero of Archangel' should be surprised.

But Churchill's efforts to put the clock back in 1918 were frustrated by British workingmen and women, by the Labour Movement, by the London dockers who refused to load his munitions ships. And that, fundamentally, is how he will be frustrated today.

Our Labour Movement won't stand for war on China. Conference after Conference has demanded recognition of Mao Tse Tung's Government as the legitimate Government of China. (What some of our Right-wing leaders will stand for is, of course, quite another question.) But the duty of every socialist is clear. We must refuse to go along with this dastardly war plan. We must insist that our Movement breaks the bonds that tie us to Churchill and, through him, to Eisenhower, Chiang Kai-shek and the Third World War. We must cease all further co-operation with the Tories in foreign affairs.

That means that we must demand a withdrawal of British troops from Korea. We can't oppose Chiang's war on China and at the same time continue to support another sector of that same war in Korea.

This is no time for smart talking to dodge the issue. Literally, the fate of the world is at stake. "Socialist Outlook" has opposed the Korean war from the start because, on the part of all the great powers, it was a war against the common people, a counter-revolutionary war. With all the sincerity at our command, we appeal to our readers to fight against the extension of this war.

In our opinion, the leaders of our Party must issue this ultimatum to Mr. Churchill: Either

you refuse to go along with Eisenhower or—Labour will consider itself free to take every action necessary to frustrate your American war plans against China.

Such a step requires the full and conscious support of Labour's millions of supporters. For this reason we ask all local Labour Parties and Trade Unions to demand of the N.E.C. that it call a Special Emergency Conference to decide the line of action to be followed in the event of a war on China.

Floods ARE preventable

FIFTY years ago the sinking of a passenger ship in the North Sea, and the loss of hundreds of lives through the sea breaking through flood barriers, would not only have caused sorrow and regret but would have roused public opinion to find the cause of the disaster.

Today, these things come and are forgotten in a few weeks. After all, a single bomb will do just as much damage and kill many more people.

We no longer value human life, wars have made us callous in such matters. Moreover, it pays bigger dividends to go in for human slaughter than to safeguard and preserve life. Atom bombs and coronations can be taken up with great enthusiasm, these things pay off big profits, but the preserva-

tion of barriers against tide and flood can be left to chance.

Death and disaster has come to our East Coast people because the barriers against the flood have been neglected. We have had neither labour, material nor money to devote to such things. Ministers of the crown admit this when they state that great efforts must now be made to make these barriers safe and strong.

Look at the photographs, read the accounts, everywhere the banks have been breached by the tide and the flood. Had they held, the people would have been safe. They gave way because labour and material were not used to keep them in good and proper condition. The water did not flood over the top, it knocked holes in them. This was possible because upkeep had been neglected.

Who cares about human life? It

is so much nicer to make a mess of Westminster Abbey and waste timber and steel on coronation seatings, also it pays off a better profit. What do the lives of several hundreds of ordinary people matter so long as the brass hats get a good show and the dressmakers have a good turnover in coronation robes.

In the old days such disasters would have been regarded as a sign of God's anger; we know better today, but is it not true, nevertheless, that these poor people's lives and homes have been sacrificed because we are worshipping false gods, slaughter by war and vain glory by coronations, instead of peace, decency and the safeguarding of the lives of ordinary men, women and children, to say nothing of cows, sheep and pigs.

Tom Braddock

WHAT THE CHINESE
REVOLUTION LOOKS LIKE
(See 'Letter from China' on page 2)

