

Join the
**LABOUR
PARTY**
TODAY

Socialist Outlook

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3d.

Lead with
**LABOUR'S
LEFT!**

Demand NOW a
General Election

STAND BY THE 'TRIBUNE'

THERE is every indication that the Right Wing of the Party are contemplating a further—and even more serious—step against the unity of the Labour Movement.

As we go to press, the National Executive Committee will have before it a recommendation from an organisational sub-committee that the "Tribune" Brains Trusts constitute evidence of a "party within a party".

This is no time for mincing words. If the Right Wing continue with this policeman-like regulation of thought inside the Party, they are headed for the most

Editorial

hostile reception from the rank and file they have ever received. Morecambe will seem like a Sunday School gathering compared to what is to come if action is taken against the Left Wing members of the N.E.C.

THE FACTS

It is essential to be clear from the beginning, to proceed from the real facts—and not from the facts as they may be presented in the "Herald".

(1) All the "Tribune" Brains Trust meetings have been organised at the request of local Labour Parties who have, in fact, openly sponsored them.

(2) The object of these meetings is to explain Party policy to as wide an audience as possible. Sometimes individual speakers have suggested points which they think should be included in Party policy and, so far, Transport House has raised no objections to this procedure. Indeed, they could hardly do so, in view of the policy suggestions recently made in public by people like Herbert Morrison and Hugh Gaitskell!

(3) The Brains Trusts have been a great success. Over seventy meetings have been held during the past two years. Many recruits for Labour have been made and local parties have also benefited financially.

(4) "Tribune" itself has only been prominent in the meetings insofar as it is on sale alongside other party literature, and sometimes a collection has been made to help its funds.

From these facts it is clear that the Party as a whole has benefited from this novel form of socialist propaganda. The present threat to ban such meetings must therefore be seen as an attack on the Constituency Parties themselves.

WHY ALL THE HEAT?

These attacks can only be understood against the background of the Morecambe Conference. The Right Wing will never forgive the Constituency Parties for what happened there. Everything possible is now being done by these bureaucratic gentlemen to avoid going to the country on an election programme based upon the decisions of that conference.

Hence the hullabaloo about "sinister" groups within the Party. Anything to distract attention away from the policy decisions of the last Annual Conference.

In reality, of course, the only sinister group is that of the Right Wing itself which has its organised

network of full time officials entrenched in the Party and the trade union machine who can be relied upon to send in "reports" and carry out the wishes of Head Office. As an example, there has been for some time now an organised policy to prevent known left-wingers from becoming parliamentary candidates.

Rather than accept Morecambe the right wing are now more and more determined to risk the unity of the Party. They don't care about the terrible consequences this can have for the socialist movement in this country.

STAND BY "TRIBUNE"

Local C.L.P.'s must be on the alert as never before. "Tribune", and the M.P.'s who support it, have done a good job in helping local work. Hard-working M.P.'s, trudged the country during wintry weekends addressing meetings after meetings. This is the spirit of the pioneers and should be applauded. We cannot tolerate any attempt to stop this work.

Every reader of "Socialist Outlook" must do everything possible to see to it that his or her local party is 'on its toes' against this threat.

THE LEFT WILL WIN

Nobody must underestimate the bureaucratic powers of the right wing—but this latest move is an act of desperation. People who are confident on policy have no need to act this way.

Local Parties, in alliance with the rank and file of the trade unions, made possible the victory of Morecambe. They have yet to speak! When they do, it will be with a decisive voice. There is no need for pessimism if a majority committee of right wingers meets in the House of Commons and carries this rotten decision. In the last instance, it is what goes on in the Parties that is decisive.

Tories Defend Their 'Merchants of Death'

by Harold
Davies, M.P.



DO you remember the book called 'Merchants of Death?' It was written in the early thirties as a study of the International Armament Industry. In those days we were very sensitive about the sales of armaments, and the cynical Creed of Undershaft, the arms maker, in Shaw's 'Major Barbara' was often quoted by Labour speakers.

In case you have forgotten, here they are, the words of Undershaft:

"To give arms to all men who offer an honest price for them without respect of persons or principles: to aristocrats and republicans, to Nihilist and Czar, to Capitalist and Socialist, to Protestant and Catholic, to burglar and policeman, to black man, white man and yellow man, to all sorts and conditions, all nationalities, all faiths, all follies, all causes and all crimes."

I am reminding you of all this because last week we had an adjournment debate on the supply of jet aircraft to the Arabs and to the Jews in the Middle East. Hugh Dalton submitted that we should not encourage an arms race between the Arab States and Israel. As he clearly pointed out, these countries should be encouraged to spend their resources on raising their standards of living and settling the refugee problem.

The Minister of State, Mr. Selwyn Lloyd, must have had at the top of his brief the Undershaft creed, 'To give arms to all men who offer an honest price for them,

without respect of persons or principles'. He told us that anyway these jets were not required at home, and after all we made a profit out of them, and if we had not sold them to the Jews and Arabs someone else would!

This, of course, is the excuse of the Victorian maiden when the villain 'had done her wrong'. You see 'the baby was only a little one'.

The tension between Arab and Jew is mounting. These Middle East States are one of the flash

THE strike of 2,000 vehicle builders employed by the Austin Motor Company, Birmingham, is becoming a show-down battle between the National Union of Vehicle Builders and the arrogant directors of Austins who have, for many years, rid themselves of active trade unionists under the guise of "redundancy".

Refusing to re-engage previously "redundant" militants when work is available is now common practice among many employers. To put an end to this rotten blacklisting is the purpose of the Austin strike and because of that, it deserves the support of the whole Labour and Trade Union Movement.

U.S. Policy—without the Flannel!

"Referring to your editorial (in the "New York Times"—Ed.), permit me to say that there can be no solution to the foreign trade problems now besetting the world as long as the Soviet Government survives. We may continue our present policy of patching up here and there like the shepherd boy in the Russian story who tried to eliminate a hole in the front of his coat by cutting out pieces from other portions of the garment. Just as in his case the migratory hole

remained in the end, so will our foreign trade problems remain with us unsolved as long as one-third of the world's potential customers remain sealed off from the rest of the world and their rich store houses of raw materials are rendered unavailable to us and other free nations.

The full story was given to me by Bro. Jack Gardiner, the President of the Birmingham District Committee of the N.U.V.B. who is also the militant joint Convenor of the Rover Works. Some other points have been taken from the

Reported By
Harry Finch

(Birmingham Engineering Worker)

official Union reply to the Austin Company's statement.

WHAT ARE THE FACTS

John McHugh, a vehicle builder and former chief shop steward at Austins, was sacked last September with 775 other workers as "redundant". The union contested this sacking at the time. Austins promised to re-engage the redun-

dant workers when suitable work became available.

Since then, the N.U.V.B. has fought for McHugh's re-engagement at no fewer than three Central Conferences, one Works' Conference and one Local Conference, proving conclusively that work was available for McHugh, but a 'failure to agree' was recorded. McHugh himself has twice written out engagement forms but has never been offered any job.

Yet the Union has proof that 43 new vehicle builders have been started. The firm actually placed a requisition on Selly Oak Labour Exchange for vehicle building labour, yet McHugh, a skilled vehicle builder, was not re-engaged.

The Austin Company claim that the Union is seeking preferential treatment for shop stewards. This is a lie. The Union is merely asking for the same rights for McHugh as for other redundant workers.

In a reply to Don Chapman, M.P. for Northfield, on February 10th, Mr. Harold Watkinson stated: "Of the 775 Austin workers sacked last summer, about 400 were re-engaged by the firm 140 found other jobs, and the remainder were mostly due for retirement."

Thus McHugh, who is NOT due for retirement, stands out as virtually the only one who has been deliberately kept out.

There can be no clearer proof that Austins are deliberately victimising a man for his trade union activities.

ENTER THE PRESS

As usual, the capitalist press in Birmingham and elsewhere is conducting a vicious campaign against the strikers. They have produced mythical "Shop Stewards' Committees" who condemn the strike, but the names of these so-called shop stewards are never given.

They have stated that McHugh, in any case, does not want to go back to Austins, which, Jack Gardiner informed me, is a deliberate lie. One "gentleman", Mr. Wardman, Managing Director of Air Industrials Ltd., whose clerical workers are at the moment on strike against his victimising seven of their number, has offered McHugh, in the columns of the press, a £20 a week job!

No worker is deceived by these tactics, but they show the lengths to which the employers are prepared to go, in order to break the strike.

WHY IT'S IMPORTANT

The future existence of Trade Union Shop organisation is involved in this strike. If workers are fearful that their elected shop stewards can at any time be sacked as "redundant", and then not re-engaged, people will be frightened to stand for election as shop stewards.

Furthermore, this strike comes after a series of victimisation struggles all over the country. Workers are fast reaching the conclusion that no workers at all shall be made redundant. This is, in fact, the policy of the Austin Shop Stewards' Committee.

Ten thousand Austin workers have been made unemployed by this strike, but there is complete solidarity between the strikers and the unemployed. The 300 shop

THE WEEK IN WESTMINSTER
The remainder of Harold Davies' column is on page 3.

Austin Strike Exposes The 'Redundancy' Racket Big Fight Against Victimisation

stewards in this giant factory have pledged full support to the strikers and are going to organise collections. All trade unionists should do likewise.

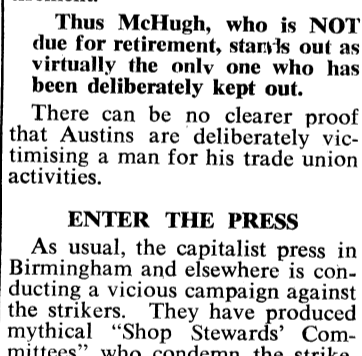
ALL MUST HELP

Resolutions of support should be sent to trade union executives, and local Labour Parties should express their solidarity with the Austin strikers' fight, which is not just for McHugh—but for the whole movement.

I asked Bro. Jack Gardiner what he thought were the chances of success. "We cannot lose", he said. "Provided the men stick together—and they are sticking together—nothing will stop McHugh being reinstated."

No Free Rides for O.A.P.'s say B'ham Tories

Mr. and Mrs. Sutton of Coventry Road, two of Birmingham's old age pensioners who support their Labour Council's scheme to provide free rides on the City Transport for the old people during off-peak hours.



BIRMINGHAM Tories, opposing the free rides scheme, claim that the old people are too proud and independent to want "charity". "Our old age pensioners' club" says Mrs. Sutton, "want a better supplementary pension and increased pensions. But free rides are something we have been fighting for for a long time. Twenty-two other municipalities have already introduced this concession for the old folk. It's about time Birmingham Corporation did something for old people who have worked hard all their lives".

Mrs. Sutton recently addressed a meeting on this question and spoke personally to the members, many of whom were Tories. They were all in favour of the measure. One of them told her "I shall always pay on the buses if I can, but that doesn't mean that I think we don't deserve free rides".

Mrs. Sutton, aged 82 and still an active socialist, was recently presented with an illuminated address by the Sheldon Labour Party "in recognition of her lifelong service to the cause of socialism".

"Tell you young readers" concluded Mrs. Sutton "that the best thing they can do for the old age pensioners is to join their local Old Age Pensioners' Federation branch, and help in the fight for a decent pension for the old people".

THE WEEK IN WESTMINSTER
The remainder of Harold Davies' column is on page 3.

Chiang Kai Shek

The Story of an American Puppet

GENERALISSIMO CHIANG KAI-SHEK, was born into an anti-Emperor family, was strictly brought up by a pious mother, was intensively trained in the tenets of Confucius and Buddhism, was a close follower of the Father of the Chinese Republic—Sun Yat Sen, and deeply felt himself to be the heaven-sent saviour of his country.

Yet his record of violence, killing, corruption and evil matches that of any of the world's worst tyrants.

In his presidential address from the Shu Ming, Chiang said: "The wisdom of heaven is reflected by the wisdom of the people and the reward or punishment by heaven is based upon the judgment of the people". No doubt he would like to forget that statement, for it is precisely the judgment of the people which has forced Chiang to seek refuge on the American-protected island of Formosa!

Chiang's family were land-owners and well-to-do salt merchants. He first became a revolutionary nationalist due to his family's centuries-long opposition to the Manchu conquerors of



THE "PEANUT"
(The late U.S. General Stillwell's contemptuous name for Chiang.)

reactionary warlord butchered the insurgent workers.

Weeks later the workers rose again and heroically seized control. True to their policy of not disrupting the 'bloc of four classes', the Communist Party ordered the suspicious workers to put away their arms. The result was tragic history.

Chiang unleashed a bloody terror. All workers organisations were destroyed.

At another stage in his career, the present puppet Emperor of Formosa butchered the heroic workers of Canton with a ruthlessness unsurpassed in history. After the Shanghai shambles, Chiang married into the Soong family by divorcing his first wife. He was now closely linked to the most powerful banking and capitalist group in China.

CLASS BEFORE NATION

S. I. Hsuing in a flattering biography of Chiang, gives seven separate instances from 1927 to 1936 where Chiang concludes a truce with the Japanese invader or rival warlord or, after a momentary victory, proceeds against the Communists and peasant land seizures. He has always put capitalist interests before national unity and independence.

The subsequent story of Chiang's 'struggle' against the Japanese invader, paralleled in many other countries too, is of the national struggle being subordinated to the class struggle against the workers and peasants.

In brief, through birth, training, personal and property relationships Chiang is the natural leader of a ruling class incapable of a sustained all-out struggle against imperialism. As paid agents of foreign exploiters the Chinese capitalists could not bite too deeply the hands that helped them against their common enemy, the workers and poor farmers of China.

The real tragedy, however, has been the continuous class collaboration policies of Mao Tse Tung and the Communist International—whenever, that is, the Kuo Min

CHINA a real lead from Leeds

Alarmed at the recent actions of Eisenhower, the City of Leeds Labour Party (seven Constituency Parties), urges "the entire Labour Movement to organise demonstrations and meetings of protest to prevent, by every means in its power, the dispatch of British troops or supplies to assist in any hostilities against China".

Tang would allow them to cooperate

From 1946 onwards, the Chinese C.P. began to break with these coalition policies. The peasant land seizures occasioned by the utterly corrupt Chiang regime, combining as they did with America's aggressive foreign policies forced the party of Mao Tse Tung to a break with the old policies of collaboration. Chiang spurned all appeals to co-operate and he was completely routed and his armies smashed.

Since 1946, the revolutionary sweep in China has deepened and broadened. In theory still clinging to the old policies (even today, capitalist interests are represented in the Chinese Government), the Chinese C.P. has, in practice, and more weakened and destroyed its former allies. The campaigns against waste and corruption have become campaigns against capitalism itself.

On the land also, the experiences of the struggle have forced the Chinese C.P. to intensify its anti-capitalist policy and modify its collaborationist tactics. This was well illustrated in a previous article in the "Socialist Outlook".

Now, in alliance with Eisenhower, Chiang Kai-shek hopes to succeed in 1953, where Denekin and Churchill failed in 1919. The only result will be a still further deepening of the Chinese revolution—whether the Chinese C.P. agrees or not. Chiang Kai-shek and all he stands for is doomed.

British Overseas Investments

| Country | Nominal Capital Invested (in £ millions) | 1938 | 1950 | Change |
|------------------------|--|------|------|--------|
| Australia | 520 | 270 | —150 | |
| Canada | 420 | 161 | —259 | |
| South Africa | 199 | 160 | —39 | |
| British Central Africa | 73 | 92 | +19 | |
| India | 388 | 63 | —316 | |
| Pakistan | | 9 | | |
| Malaya | 67 | 69 | +2 | |
| Argentina | 268 | 40 | —228 | |
| Brazil | 164 | 64 | —100 | |
| Chile | 63 | 44 | —19 | |
| Germany | 45 | 45 | — | |
| Japan | 50 | 47 | —3 | |
| Mexico | 66 | 40 | —26 | |
| United States | 268 | 124 | —144 | |

AFRICA AND MALAYA

★ The economic basis of Tory policy ★

THE inglorious collapse of a once-proud Empire and the secondary role played by Britain in contemporary world affairs is being sharply emphasised with every fresh development in the international political arena.

Churchill, who once declined to be the King's First Minister to preside over the liquidation of the British Empire, appears to have

By O. Jayaratne

taken on that mantle once again precisely in order to complete that task.

A few economic facts from a very conservative source will perhaps help to round off the story. Oscar R. Hobson, Financial Editor of the "News Chronicle", writing in the Ceylon "Daily News" of a recent date, analyses the financial status of Britain in the contemporary world.

WORKSHOP OF THE WORLD

The heyday of British prosperity was on the eve of World War I. United Kingdom capital invested abroad was estimated to be £1,300 millions in 1885 and £1,600 millions in 1895. At the turn of the century capital was being exported at the rate of around £200 millions a year. At the outbreak of World War I, Britain's overseas

The economic decline of the British Empire is well set out in this article reprinted from the Ceylon Socialist paper, "Samasamajist". It reveals the basic economic reasons for the present ruthless war in Malaya and the insistence on Central African Federation despite the mass opposition of the African population of those territories. There is big money at stake. It is a last ditch stand for the once-proud Empire builders.

In the light of the economic facts revealed, how mad are those of our leaders who would tie the future of British Labour to the preservation of this out-moded, cruel and blatantly imperialist system. Britain's future lies with a working class movement which will break decisively with the bonds of Empire, place its considerable resources—especially in man-power—at the service of the once-enslaved masses of the colonial world and together with them build up a world-wide socialist system of society.

Kingdom Overseas Investments" estimates the total British overseas investments for 1950 at £2,000 millions—a reduction from the 1938 figure of £1,525 millions.

However, this figure only takes into account the sales of overseas investments. To understand the actual decline of Britain's economy it is necessary to consider the vast sums borrowed abroad during this period. In respect of the sterling balances held by other countries, she owes £3,500 millions, and rather over £2,000 millions in respect of loans by the Governments of the U.S. and Canada.

Hobson maintains that the Bank's survey does not take into account Britain's large direct investments abroad. Even so, Hobson has to admit that Britain is currently saddled with an enormous debt that has condemned her, in turn, to play second fiddle to that colossus of contemporary imperialism, the United States of America.

In the table set out in cols. 3 and 4, the changes in British investment in individual countries is revealed. The figures have been culled from the Bank of England's "studies".

LAST DITCH STAND

The only significant increases are in British Central Africa and Malaya. Indeed, it is no exaggeration to say that, faced by the rapid dwindling of her capital markets, Britain appears to have pinned her last desperate hopes on her investments in these two countries.

World War I, however, made the first breach in Britain's position as the world's creditor. Several hundred million pounds worth of U.S. and Canadian investments, in particular, were sold to raise dollars, and over £1,000 millions were borrowed from the U.S. However, these loans were in great part offset by considerable loans to Britain's European allies, and, after many years of wrangling, the debts on either side were tacitly written off.

In the 1920's Britain once again resumed her role of exporter of capital. Despite a slackening of the rate of investment in the 1930's, on the eve of World War II, it was estimated that Britain's overseas investments amounted to over £3,500 millions.

DECLINE AND RUIN

It was World War II that finally undermined the foundations of British Imperialism and converted her from the world's creditor to an inglorious debtor. The Bank of England's "United

Nevertheless, these countries too, have been sucked into the vortex of anti-imperialist revolt. It is not strange, therefore, that it is precisely in these last "bastions" of empire that Britain has today concentrated her reserves of military strength, and decided to fight back the rising tide of colonial revolt. But current events show that she is fighting with her back to the wall. It is a losing battle, and the last outposts of empire have already begun to crumble.

Time was when British statesmen could proudly declare that they ruled an empire on which the sun would never set. That proud boast has now become one of the forgotten sayings of history.

Nine Million (out of 11 million) Have No Votes!

Malan's 'Democratic' Farce

NINETEEN FIFTY-THREE is General Election year in the Union of South Africa. It is, however, an election which will affect only a small proportion of the people.

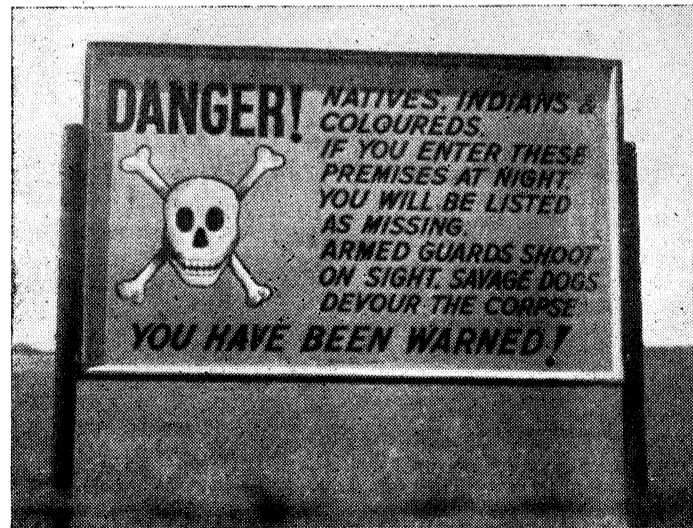
Out of the total population of 11,418,349, only the 2,372,690 "Europeans"—or 20.8 per cent. of the whole, enjoy adult franchise. To all intents and purposes the other eighty per cent. are voteless.

True, the 8 million Africans are "represented" in Parliament by three M.P.'s. and four Senators (all white), but they can do little against the 156 M.P.'s. and 44 Senators elected by the all-white electorate.

Both the present Government Party, the Nationalists, and the official opposition, the United Party, will direct their election appeals exclusively to the white voters. The Black man will be only a pawn in the game.

The Nationalists, representing the reactionary interests of the Afrikaner farmers, make no bones about where they stand. For them there can be "No equality in Church and State" between white and black. Their record in office is one of unparalleled brutality. With their policy of "Apartheid" they have gone out of their way to humiliate the African people and to perpetuate their economic and racial oppression.

The United Party, traditionally the parliamentary representatives of the Chamber of Mines, and the guardians of the interests of



A signpost boldly displayed on a white man's farm facing the main road leading to Vereeniging, Transvaal, South Africa. Here are the REAL terrorists in Africa!

British Imperialism in South Africa, are no less determined to maintain "White supremacy". Indeed, they prepared the ground for the current policy of "Apartheid" by emphasising the "Kaffir-Coolie-Communist" danger in their propaganda preceding the 1948 General Elections.

Africans, Coloureds and Asiatics in South Africa have learned in the hard school of life that they can place no reliance on either of the two white ruling class parties. More and more they are learning to depend only on their own organised strength. With all "constitutional" paths of protest closed to them they are, of neces-

TORIES ASK MALAN FOR HELP

"Reynold's News" (22/2/53), reports that General Harding, Chief of the British General Staff, "is to have discussions on the use of South African troops" in Kenya.

duced two measures, which it hopes will be effective in curbing the growing revolt of the oppressed peoples.

The first Act, the "Public Safety Act", in effect gives the Government unlimited power to proclaim what amounts to Martial Law in peace time.

The second measure, the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, makes it an offence throughout South Africa to protest against any law or to incite anyone else to protest.

If anyone does this, they would be liable to three years' imprisonment, or a £300 fine, or ten strokes with a Cat O' Nine Tails (or any two of these).

What is more, anyone found in the company of a protester against a law when the "offence" is committed, will be presumed guilty until he proves his innocence. Anyone not paying their fines within 48 hours may have their property seized.

By these acts of terrorism, the Malan Government hopes to quell the awakening African people. They hope in vain! Nearly 10,000 "Resisters" have already shown that they do not fear the white man's prisons or even corporal punishment. These draconic laws will only strengthen their determination to fight on for the right to live as full citizens in their own land.

C. Van Gelderen

No War On China!

A Rally of the Labour Movement

★ organised by 'Socialist Outlook' ★

HOLBORN HALL—SUN. MARCH 15th—2.30 p.m.

Sydney Silverman M.P. Dr. S. Jeger M.P.

Harold Davies M.P.

Admission 6d.

Coronation Vandalism in the Abbey

Closets in the Cloisters!

IN this country, as in all others which have a history, a certain pride and a great interest is taken in the products and handiwork of our forefathers.

It may be these works came into being to pander to the vain-glory of King, Bishop, or slave dealer; may be those who toiled to produce the buildings or monuments lived under the iron heel of a despotic power or class. These conditions are, if not actually forgotten, put into the background of our thoughts as we admire for themselves the products of the skill

By Tom Braddock

and craft of architects, stone and wood carvers, metal and glass workers. They are an enduring testimony to the skill and artistic prowess of those who created them. And many of the finest examples are our cathedrals and church buildings.

In these cases veneration is added to admiration by those who profess the Christian faith, these buildings are to them an eternal testimony to the glory of their God—at least, so we are told.

Such a building is Westminster Abbey, certainly a most glorious example of the skill of man, and one would have thought its tradition would have made it a building held sacred in the minds and hearts of all professing to be the followers of Christ Jesus; the carpenter's son, the good and the meek, the friend of the oppressed, who lived his short life in sim-

licity and who died, as did, and do, so many good, meek and simple men, a cruel death at the hands of the religious and military leaders of his day.

What then is to be said about the brutal acts that are now being inflicted on that noble building, Westminster Abbey. There it stood in reasonable peace and security, surrounded by its well kept grass lawns, broad pavements with out-buildings and cloisters to give to all who have eyes to see and hearts to understand, religious or irreligious, the deep satisfaction of seeing and walking in a place of beauty and abounding interest.

NOBLE SACRILEGE

Now its doors are closed, its lawns are torn up, its railings broken, its windows taken out, its noble proportions disfigured with steel and timber gangways and stands.

Railway lines are laid down its magnificent nave, Henry the VII's chapel is turned into a builder's office, and its cloisters have become spaces for w.c.s. and urinals for the motley crew of nonentities and boobies who claim for themselves the status of noble and great. What a Niagara it will be when all the chains are pulled!

Outside, a garish erection, with twelve beasts attached, is being set up at an estimated cost of £55,000 which means in reality, nearer £100,000.

The noble and the great cannot enter an Abbey like this as ordinary people do. Money must be spent for them, they must have special seats; they cannot sit like an ordinary congregation but must be raised up tier on tier. They are the mighty and they must have seats accordingly.

WHY THIS VANDALISM?

Is the Queen going to be better crowned because this great and holy building—great as a building and holy because this Christian country and its bishops say so—is disfigured with trumpery additions stands for purse-proud noodles and w.c. suites for their convenience? Of course not! the whole set-up is part of the money-making debauch that the Coronation ceremony has been turned into.

A WARNING

We should not be surprised, of course, that traders and huxters act as is their nature. After all, Jesus Himself had to turn such like out of the Temple at Jerusalem. What is surprising is that a so-called Christian nation should tolerate the degradation of one of its Abbeys in such a way and for such an occasion.

I say nothing now about the cruelty of flaunting such wealth and pride in the nation's face when the millions of our people are enduring continued toil and uncertainty. I will say only this; a nation that does allow such abominations is making clear that it is a nation whose time is short in the world of today. Let us think, before it is too late.

Another T.G.W.U. Militant Under Fire

JACK LAPPIN, militant Leicester transport workers' shop steward, is the subject of yet another attack by the officials of the T. & G.W.U. Region Five Committee have recommended to the Executive that Bro. Lappin be suspended from holding all office in the union.

We understand that the decision followed a letter from Mr. Deakin to the Regional Committee outlining Jack Lappin's "unofficial" activity in connection with the recent rank and file struggle against the de-nationalisation of the Road Transport industry. Bro. Lappin was the Chairman of the Nationalised Shop Stewards' Com-

B.R.S. men oppose new Deakin move

★ Threatened Victimisation of Sonny Read ★

A GREAT gulf exists between the rank and file of the T.G.W.U. on the one hand, and Arthur Deakin and the full-time officials on the other. That was made quite clear at a crowded meeting of Road Transport workers in the Bethnal Green Town Hall on Sunday last.

The meeting had been hurriedly called by the London Shop Stewards' Association to bring to the notice of the rank and file members that one of the leading London Shop Stewards, Bro. Sonny Read, had been summoned to appear before a special committee of inquiry to examine his activities in associating with other London and Provincial Shop Stewards.

This action by T.G.W.U. officialdom is seen by the men as a reprisal for the energetic campaign which the stewards have waged—and are still waging—against the Tory de-nationalisation bill.

If Mr. Deakin's officials do take

any action against Sonny Read it will still further inflame the bitterness which exists. The attitude of the men is perhaps best summed up in the remarks of Charlie Minns, the Chairman of the Road Haulage Executive Advisory Committee of the T.G.W.U. "There have been many small disputes in depots where stewards have asked officials to come in—and the offi-

They had successfully resisted the attempts to put a lot of "snoopers" on the road to spy on the drivers. This had been the first time that transport workers had got together for a purely Transport question.

They had, through pressure on the Union officials, forced the setting up of the R.H.E. Advisory Committee. It's our Union, said Bro. Langley and he appealed to all members to attend their branch meetings and take an active part in branch life. "The bottom is all right, but the upper crust is rotten."

Officials who do little or nothing—and stewards who are no more than "ticket holders"—were attacked by Bro. Robinson. "Idea of Union" he said, "is to protect yourself. Without it, in many depots, we should be jumping through little paper hoops". Therefore it was necessary to defend Bro. Read from the unjustified attack of Officials.

Bro. Read had done nothing detrimental to the Union, its policy, or the conditions of the transport men, Harry Webster claimed. In collaboration with other Stewards he had fought to get good conditions and safeguard them. Let us tell Arthur Deakin, he said, not to sort out Bro. Read as an individual. "Let him have none—or the lot of us."

Reported by our Industrial Correspondent

Officials have failed to get any satisfaction. As a last resort the local steward has got in touch with Sonny Read as the Secretary of the London Shop Stewards' Association. Sonny has come down with perhaps one or two other stewards. Immediately the reaction of the officials has been 'Here comes the mob. Toffee won't do now. We'll have to do something'."

"What Crime has Bro. Read committed?" asks Albert Langley, another member of the R.H.E. Advisory Committee. The organisation of the London Shop Stewards had been in large part the work of Bro. Read—and these shop stewards had been able to get things done for the membership.

TRADE UNION LEADERS SAVE THE TORIES!

SPeAKING in the debate on the third reading of the bill to de-nationalise Road Transport, Mr. Bob Mellish, Labour M.P. for Bermondsey, said that "the Minister owed a personal debt to the trade union leaders for restraining their members from taking direct action against the Government while the Bill was being discussed . . ." ("Times" 17/2/53.)

Were the Tories grateful for this service? Not at all, said Mr. Mellish, "they only sneered at them for not making stronger protests." There's a lesson there, isn't there, brothers!

D.C. THOMPSON MEN STILL LOCKED OUT

By Frank Allau

NINETY-ONE year old David Coupar Thomson newspaper proprietor, was forced by a magnificent trade union campaign, five months ago, to withdraw his hated document which every employee had to sign undertaking not to join a union.

But the autocratic old man had another trick up his sleeve. He refused to reinstate the 71 Thomson men on strike in Glasgow and the 15 union members dismissed in his Manchester works.

As a result, his agreement to end the ban on trade unionism, which has lasted since 1926, is worthless. For, with the most union-conscious men outside the gates who will be bold enough to join or recruit for the union inside?

And there—to the astonishment of many—the situation lies. The longer this state of affairs continues the worse it grows, as the workers will naturally try to get other jobs. It is particularly galling since not long ago all the trump cards were in our hands.

THE HISTORY

A campaign which had started in a small way with regular leaflet distribution at the doors and steady "underground" enrolment over two years, grew to a movement involving the T.U.C. General Council itself.

A nation-wide boycott of his many publications ("Thomson's Weekly", the "Beano", "Dandy" and 13 others with a weekly circulation of five million) began.

DIRECT ACTION

When the firm sacked a union member who had been employed for 31 years at their Glasgow works, the printing unions made the dispute official. Nor did they pull any punches.

Workers in the wholesale news-

agents refused to distribute his publications. Railwaymen would not handle his bundles of papers. Lorry drivers at big paper works objected to loading rolls of paper onto their lorries for Thomson's. And the whole works came out on strike in their support. The Transport and General Workers' Union gave its members powerful backing.

When D. C. Thomson took the printing and transport union leaders to court on the grounds that they were causing a breach of contract with other firms the union men won.

If they had lost it would have meant the end of the freedom to strike in this country. It could have been argued, for instance, that a pit strike was illegal because it was causing the Coal Board to break its contract to supply coal to other industries.

As Arthur Deakin told the T.U.C.: "We are not going to be saddled with another Taff Vale judgement."

So Thomson's raw materials could not come in: his finished products could not go out.

There is no doubt the Dictator of Dundee was losing. The great campaign was costing him thousands of pounds a week. Then, by appearing to give way, he induced the unions to call the fight off. Whereupon he pulled victory out of defeat by an unfair blow after the gong had gone, by refusing to reinstate the union men. Naturally the condition of "no victimisation" had been taken for granted.

RE-OPEN THE CAMPAIGN

If we do not act now we are not only jettisoning these courageous workers who risked their jobs for their principles. We are failing the whole T.U. movement.

The T.U.C. appeal to the Prime Minister was a waste of precious time. Even if Churchill wanted, he could not force the press proprietor to take his employees back.

Only one thing can do that: re-imposition of the full campaign until the reactionary old gentleman gives way. This, I know, is the view of many members of my own union, the National Union of Journalists and of the other unions in the Printing and Kindred Trades Federation.

David Coupar Thomson may be a powerful individual. But he is not strong enough to defeat nine million trade unionists.

* This judgement of the House of Lords in 1901, awarded £23,000 damages against the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants for the loss incurred by the Taff Vale Railway Company in an unofficial strike by members of the union the previous year.

Choir Finest Hour

Fifty-five Coronation seats are to be allocated for members of the Trades Union Congress General Council and their wives. —Press Report.

We shall represent the Workers
Who toil by Hand and Brain;
We shall represent the Heroes
For Empire vainly slain.

And by the Unknown Warrior's Tomb
Where death's real emblems lay,
With Royal Pomp we shall parade
On Coronation Day.

We shall represent "the Council"
For whom young Conscripts Die,
Crushed by the Yoke of Empire,
Beneath an alien sky.

We shall represent O'Brien,
And Churchill emulate;
This will be OUR "Finest Hour",
Kneeling to Crown and State.

Percy Allott.

Spreading the Word in Glasgow

"I give the paper away when done with it, sometimes to Bill, sometimes to Al . . . then, I watch anyone who reads the 'Forward' or 'Worker' in the library—and if they take a little time at it I give them the paper.

The 'Worker' is next to the 'Express', and a lot go to it until whoever is at the 'Express' is finished and then they hop on to it. So one has to watch where one sows his seeds—as I don't want to supply them with (waste) paper . . ."

Glasgow Docker.

The above is printed without alteration (except for the word "Waste"!), and it shows the determination of some of our readers to enlarge our circulation.

We suggest also that the 'Outlook' be asked for at the libraries, and so be considered for placing on the stands or shelves for the benefit of those who may wish to 'Hop' from the 'Worker', or other paper, to something different.



THE 'OFFAL' TRUTH

ON Saint David's Day this year, the son of the great 'Welsh Wizard', the great Welsh Minister of Food, known in the House of Commons these days as the 'Wizard of Oz', namely one oz. of this and one oz. of that, has told you that he will remove controls on prices and meat content of sausages.

Then, I fear, consumers will learn the 'offal' truth, and the dear old Webb milk sausages will be a thing of the past. For a' that and a' that, its coming yet. Nay, brother, it's here, 'rationing by the purse'.

Fred Willey told us during a prayer, relating to different food-stuffs, that the legitimate on-the-ration-purchases to-day of bacon amount to about 70 per cent. or less of the ration entitlement. This, of course, is due to the price. He continued, "When this present Government took office, cooked and boneless gammon was priced at 4s. 2d. per lb. That is now selling for 8s. per lb., and as for the uncooked and boneless gammon which now comes off the ration, when this Government took office that was being sold at 3s. and 3s. 1d. per lb., and it is now

by Harold Davies, M.P.

being sold at 5s. 8d. and 5s. 9d. per lb."

Elaine Burton made the point that the levelling up process in expenditure on food which took place under the Labour Government is being destroyed. She quoted some cogent remarks from the National Food Survey Committee, which tells us that in 1936-37 the average food expenditure in this country was 8s. 11½d. per person per week. In 1950, it was 14s. 6½d.

In 1936-37, the difference between the expenditure of the different income groups was 10s. 10d., and in 1950 it was 4s. 1d. This shows a considerable levelling up. As I said the other week in this column, the Housewives' League is strangely silent these days!

NEW CALL-UP MEETS THE SPRING

Yes, the Spring is almost here, when men's thoughts turn to signs of new life. Not so the Tory Gov-

ernment. We have been presented with the White Paper Statement on Defence for 1953.

Britain is already carrying a bigger burden of Defence than any other of her Commonwealth countries or the European Allies, yet the burden is to be increased. Despite the fact that the arms programme is cut, Mr. Churchill has decided to increase the manpower and the burden of military service.

This White Paper lays it down that every youngster of eighteen must be liable to serve two years as a conscript full-time, then follow up with 3½ years part-time service, and on top of this he must stay on the register for another 5 years, during which he may be called for full-time service anywhere during an emergency!

For ten years a young man can be under the control of a Government for military service.

No other ally of Britain has anything like this. The Labour Movement must fight this regimentation of our youth. Nothing can undermine the productivity of Britain more than this uncertainty which for ten years will be a consequence of Tory rule for our youth—if Labour lets this White Paper become law.

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Emergency Conference Welcomed

Our readers write

YOU emphasise quite correctly in your last editorial, the danger of war arising from the latest aggressive moves by the U.S. Republican administration towards China. Your call for a special emergency conference of the Labour Party is most important, because a number of questions arising from the Far East situation are posed for the Labour movement.

At Morecambe, I moved (on behalf of the Norwood C.L.P.), an amendment to the main policy resolution. The amendment among other things, asked the next Labour Government to withdraw from the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. The amendment was defeated, due I believe, to confusion over the role of the American Democrats, who were in power at that time. Denis Healy said: "Wall Street has lost every American election for the last 20 years and it will lose this one."

It can be argued, and proved, that the Democrats are not fundamentally opposed to the Republicans. However, what is important now is that Wall Street did win the last election and are fully represented in Eisenhower's Government.

The confusion in the Party over the policy of the Democrats may be relegated to another discussion, but it is quite clear that the Republicans intend to extend the war. The clauses of N.A.T.O. can be interpreted in such a fashion that should China retaliate by attacking Formosa, and the U.S. Seventh Fleet is involved, or even if only American servicemen on Formosa are involved by an attack on the island, then it is possible (if not probable) for the other signatories to be drawn in. (Article

4 states: They will consult together whenever, in the opinion of any one of them, the territorial integrity, political independence, or security of any one of them is threatened.)

It must be clear how dangerous the situation is when the agreement has such widely interpreted clauses. The present Republican Government needs only to be involved in a minor incident in the area defined by the pact (a very large part of the world) or to invent an incident, for World War 3 to commence.

The Republicans have shown they intend not only to defeat the Chinese revolution but to "liberate" the peoples of E. Europe and Russia. The Labour movement cannot support such a war and such a policy. Consequently it is most essential that N.A.T.O. is re-discussed by the Labour Party as soon as possible so that the Party may reverse the decision taken at Morecambe.

A special emergency conference must do some "new thinking" on this aspect of Foreign policy, as well as declaring its opposition to Eisenhower's programme of reinstating capitalism in China, Russia and Eastern Europe.

Norwood. D. Finch.

★ CHINA AND THE BRITISH COMMUNIST PARTY

In your editorial, "Hands Off China!" (Feb. 6th), you speak of the "new decent, basically socialist society which the great Chinese

people are so laboriously building". It is universally recognised that the leadership of this new society comes from the Communist Party.

But on your back page Philip Williams states, "Labour's Left is rapidly learning the strategy necessary to fight the Right Wing. It will have nothing to do with the Communist Party or its stooge organisations".

This strikes me as rather contradictory advice, for what you ask us to praise in China, you tell us we must not touch with a barge-pole in Britain. Are you scared? Sheffield. Ruth Bradley.

We are not scared, comrade. We concede to nobody in our complete support for the magnificent revolution of the Chinese people. But, lacking the mass support of the Chinese C.P. and tied hopelessly to the changing needs of Soviet diplomacy, the small British C.P. can in no way be compared to the mass party of Mao Tse Tung.

Furthermore, the past errors of Mao's Party (some of which are outlined in the article on Chiang Kai-shek on page two), would not have been committed, and much misery and bloodshed avoided, had the Chinese C.P. been free from Stalin. Therefore, we think the British workers need not only a mass socialist Labour Party taking its place in the struggle against world imperialism—it also needs complete political independence from the present rulers of the Soviet Union.—[Editor.]

enormously increase the communal wealth and so shorten the hours of work, and the working life, that a society of really cultured human beings becomes rapidly possible.

WORLD DOMINATION—FROM A SPACE PLATFORM

BESIDES the enormous expenditure on the atom and hydrogen bombs, the American Government is spending billions of dollars on a less publicised operation—"Projection Satellite". The idea is to fire a four-stage rocket-ship 400-500 miles into space where it will circle the earth like a satellite planet.

The meagre information so far available about this plan suggests that the rocket will carry a crew of 80, will derive its fuel and power (once in position), from solar energy, and will maintain its position automatically from instruments sighted on two or three stars.

It is expected that the rocket will be ready in four or five years. Its purpose? To dominate the earth! This is officially admitted.

The earth revolving below once every twenty four hours will place every spot on its surface within range of its rocket-powered atom bomb torpedoes. This is not a picture conjured up by some madman in an H. G. Wells romance. It is an officially sponsored project for World War Three.

There is not the slightest doubt of the feasibility of this plan, and still less of the speed with which it is being put into operation. In space, such a satellite would be invulnerable except to other rocket ships, while the amount of energy required to fire a rocket from it to the earth would be far less than that required to reach and destroy it.

Man's first expeditions were in search of food. The circling of the planet took place because of merchant capitalism's search for trade. Now Imperialism is compelled to conquer space . . . in order to destroy the world in its effort to smash the Soviet Union and rising masses of colonial workers.

'SOCIALIST OUTLOOK'
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Hang Together or be Hanged Separately!

Discussion Article
By George Miller
(London Lorry Driver)

I AM a trunk driver employed by the British Road Services, operating from Royal Mint Street, London. I also happen to be a member of the works' committee, and as such am determined that my suggestions shall be made known to the community.

I have been in transport all my life and I know what I am talking about. When I hear some of my fellow-workers talking about the "good old days", believe me it makes me feel sore. There was nothing good about them at all. I know what it is to want. I have suffered hardship through no fault of my own. The soup kitchens are still remembered by me.

I am determined to fight all the way to stop those days coming back again, days that I hoped had gone forever. Now I can plainly see them looming up ahead of me, and believe me I want to see every driver, mate, clerk, fitter and loader unite together to fight for ourselves.

WE MUST UNITE

If we want to save our industry, our jobs and our very existence, that is what we have got to do. Stand together, stop bickering and face the real problems that confront us today, such as de-nationalisation and the proposed increase in the speed limit. Don't leave it to the other fellow. Play your part, attend all the meetings called by your Shop Steward and support him so that he can carry your voice forward.

We have been badly let down by the leaders of our Trade Union and Labour Party leaders whom we expected to stage a fight on our behalf. Now as a suggestion against de-nationalisation, what about putting it on a co-operative

DANGER!

The Fighting Fund is very low—much too low for safety. As we go to press, the total so far for the month is only . . . £25 18s. 3d.

The next few days are vital. We need another £44 1s. 9d. to reach that monthly target of £70.

Please don't delay in sending in your contributions and collections.

LIVERPOOL FIGHTS FOR FREE SPEECH

Reported by J. G. Marsh

THE Liverpool Labour Movement is up in arms against the Tory-dominated City Council. Delegates representing thousands of workers attended a Public Protest Meeting last Saturday and pledged their organisations to fight against the City Council's refusal to let the Philharmonic Hall to the Merseyside Unity Theatre for a showing of cultural films.

The discussion at the Protest Conference made it quite plain that the organised workers of Liverpool will not tolerate these attempts to deprive any organisation of the fundamental right of assembly and free speech in civic halls.

Mr. G. Dawson, secretary of Unity Theatre, stated that they had presented plays like "The Scab" by working class writers—as well as the classical works of Shakespeare, Moliere and Chekov. He exposed the attempt to dub the Theatre "communist dominated" by pointing out that it had members from the Labour, Liberal and even the Tory Party.

Councillor Jack Braddock, another speaker, said that the Labour group on the Council had always resisted attempts by anybody to interfere with the traditional democratic right to state their case in civic halls. "We will not tolerate any infringement of these rights which have been won over many years of bitter struggle," he said, and he assured the

audience that the Labour Party would "reverse this foolish action of the Tories."

Councillor Howell James, secretary of the Liverpool Co-operative Party, said in his remarks: "What is the cause of the growing intolerance in Liverpool?" "Is it," he asked, "because Liverpool is the nearest port to America?"

He strongly denounced the McCarran Act and the witch hunt in America which, he said, seems to be spreading to this country. First there was a ban on the Communist Party's use of Civic Halls, next came a ban on the China Friendship Association, then the ban on the recent Bevan Meeting—and now the Unity Theatre is a victim. "Unless we make a firm stand," said Howell James, "the Labour Party and the Trade Unions will soon be denied the use of Public Halls."

The Tory banners are not democrats, he said. "They are afraid of allowing others the opportunity to state their case because they realise it is a better case than their own."

A speaker from the A.E.U., Mr. Kelly, quoting the words of Tom Mann, "Agitation is an essential element of progress," said that the ban could only be beaten by agitation on the part of the organised workers. A resolution of protest carried unanimously showed that the assembled delegates were in agreement with the sentiments of Tom Mann on this score.

They quote a statement made by Bro. B. Gardner at the Final Appeal Court last October, that between January 1951, and August 1952, the A.E.U., E.C. paid strike benefit in 72 cases out of the 85 brought to their notice, despite the fact that the vast majority were embarked upon without E.C. approval.

The second meeting on February 22nd decided to arrange a mass meeting of A.E.U. members to which a member of the E.C. will be invited to give reasons for the refusal of dispute.

These workers feel there is more at stake than the mere money value of the dispute benefit. They are fighting to make the union more responsive to the rank and file and a more effective instrument for defending and advancing the members' interests.

Our brothers in free enterprise, I am sure, would not fail to answer our call, for after all we are all transport workers and we all belong to a union whereby we pledge loyalty to each other. They helped us in the "snooper" dispute, and there are a lot of free enterprise firms which have staunch trade unionists.

The London Shop Stewards' Committee have 'had a go' and failed because they say they did not have the full support of the rank and file members. I don't believe that is entirely true in its entirety. The trouble is with the stewards who haven't supported their Committee. Let me say this to my brothers: if your steward doesn't show fight, and is not militant on your behalf, throw him out and put somebody there who will look after your interests. Somebody who will not stand for all the "flannel" that the officials dish out—like telling us to let the Tories de-nationalise, with no concern for what is going to happen to the workers. Just accept it, they said, and we will build the constitution around it!

There's a slogan which I have heard in my depot: "Hang together or hang yourselves individually"—and that is perfectly true. I therefore appeal to every transport worker to get united and see that we don't hang ourselves.

If every transport worker were to say today: We are not going to let them de-nationalise and we are very determined about it, and we shall unite to that end—what real strength we should have!

Small Adverts.

(1/- per line, minimum 3 lines.)

NOTTINGHAM SHAREHOLDERS. Next meeting will be held at Forester's Hall, Peachey Street, Friday March 6th, at 7.30 p.m.

BIRMINGHAM SHAREHOLDERS. Next meeting, Sunday, March 1st, at 7.30 p.m., "Tamworth Arms", Moor Street. Business items followed by important discussion—"No War On China". All "Outlook" readers are invited.

Britain-China Friendship Assn. To all Manchester readers . . . Demand

'NO WAR ON CHINA' at the important Public Meeting Friday, March 6th—7.30 p.m. ONWARD HALL (Deansgate), MANCHESTER

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Coming Soon . . . One Man Factories?

A CHEMICAL factory producing thousands of tons of products a year and employing only one worker is now a fact in the United States. And even this one worker is not strictly necessary.

The BBC and the Communications industry have for some years

By Sam Goldberg

employed automatic monitor stations with no workers at all! Yet have relayed information conveyed by land line or radio from a central station.

In 1949, the journal of the American Instruments Manufacturers predicted that present techniques employing servo-mechanisms and automatic controls would, if applied throughout American industry reduce the demand for labour by 75 per cent. And some idea of these new techniques of automatic control can be gauged from a recent article in "Electronics" for September 1952.

A food canning plant passes its

products through nine stages, filling, cooking, sealing, labelling, etc. Different products passing through the factory on conveyor belts, have to pass into the same line and receive the same treatment in certain cases as for other products.

This shunting is simply accomplished by magnetising the base of each can with a certain number of North and South poles and scanning the base of each can with a revolving pick-up head as used in tape recorders. The number of cycles produced is thus a function of the can's contents and destination, and it is then automatically shunted into the right conveyor line by electronic relays as though it were a goods wagon.

These techniques applied under the system of private enterprise and private profit would result, as indicated above, in 75 per cent. of the working population being unemployed! The quest for private profit allied to modern techniques of production can only bring horrible suffering to the masses of "redundant" workers.

But these techniques applied for the good of the community that is, applied under socialism, can

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