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# Socialist Outlook

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1953

3d.

**Homeless  
Take Action  
in Glasgow**  
(See page 2)

## THREE GOOD REASONS WHY

### THE TORIES MUST GO!

#### 1. To Defend the People's Living Standards

As we go to press the engineering industry is coming to a standstill. More than two million workers are answering the call of the Confederation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Unions for a one-day strike in support of their claim for a fifteen per cent increase in wages.

It is more than twenty years since industrial action on such a mass scale was undertaken in this country—yet this is surely only the start. As the Tory Government continues its evil course of throwing the burden of Britain's economic difficulties on to the shoulders of the working people, as it dismantles the Welfare State and consciously permits the cost-of-living to soar, as it throws bonuses to its friends the landlords and the bankers in the form of higher rents, so surely will organised Labour resist in ever more militant fashion.

They are in for a rude shock who

#### FOOD PRICES

This is how prices have increased in two years of Tory Government; from November, 1951 to November, 1953.

Bacon, up by 1s. 1½d.; Bread, (3½lb.), up 3d.; Carcass Meat (1½lb.), up 4d.; Milk (quart), up 2d.; Butter, up 10d.; Cheese, up 1s. 0d.

expected the British working man to meekly lie down and "take it" from this Government of hard-headed businessmen.

Just as the engineers are moving into action in defence of the diminishing wage-pocket, so too will thousands of angry working class tenants take similar action against the landlords' recently ill-gotten rent increases.

Strikes and demonstrations growing in militancy and intensity are inevitable from now on until the Tories are forced out of office and replaced by a Labour Government pledged to protect working class interests in every sphere.

It is therefore the task of the Labour Party to give their full support to these inevitable industrial struggles and to consciously direct them against Labour's chief enemy, the Tory Government.

Millions can and must be drawn into a great anti-Tory struggle; industrial workers on strike for more wages, tenants fighting rent increases, old age pensioners struggling against virtual starvation, disabled miners seeking a decent pension, and the hundreds of thousands of workers bitterly seeking homes for their homeless families.

This vast mass of working people can be drawn into a united struggle against the Tories—if the leaders of our Party will give the movement some direction and political meaning.



The scene of enthusiasm after Lena Jeger was declared elected in the recent Holborn and South St. Pancras Bye-Election. How much greater would be the enthusiasm throughout the entire country if the leaders of the Party were to initiate a real campaign to GET THE TORIES OUT!

#### 2. To Lessen the Danger of World War III

It doesn't need a political genius to see that what is involved in the present spate of notes and counter-notes concerning the possibility of a Four or Five Big Power Conference is nothing less than the question of war or peace.

Not even the most starry-eyed defender of the Atlantic Alliance can deny that this alliance of the Western Powers is directed against the Soviet Union and the countries of Eastern Europe.

Even if it is admitted that the aim of NATO, EDC and the rest of the various pacts and agreements is "defensive" it must also be promptly admitted that the country against whom the "defence" is allegedly required is... the Soviet Union. And indeed it is not denied. Without adequate military forces, or so the story goes, the Soviet Union would march its armies unresisted throughout Europe.

In reality, however, the Soviet Union—had war been its aim—could have done its marching much more easily in 1950-51 when the European capitalist powers were militarily unprepared than it can today. But the Soviet Union didn't march then and, as its present requests for Big Power Conferences show clearly enough, it doesn't want to march now.

In fact, to any sane observer, it is patently obvious that the Soviet Union doesn't want war nor does it wish to disturb the present "status quo" between the nations.

#### THE WARMONGERS

But not so the capitalist powers. Under the impelling leadership of the United States, an unholy alliance is being forged in Europe which includes every reactionary from Churchill and Adenauer down to Signor Pella and General Franco. The rearmament of Western Germany is being forced through although everybody knows that once accomplished this will make almost impossible the peaceful reunification of Germany and thereby practically guarantee war in Europe.

The fact that the Soviet Union is endeavouring to get Four Power Talks BEFORE the rearmament of Western Germany is achieved is

another proof that she at least does not want war.

But the United States has summoned Britain and France to the Bermuda Conference for the express purpose, to quote the authoritative "New York Herald Tribune", of demanding that France "moves urgently to ratify the European Defence Community and thus remove a major road-block in the way of West German rearmament".

#### FRENCH PARALYSIS

France has been singled out for this special treatment because, as everyone knows, successive French Governments have completely failed to secure a parliamentary majority for the ratification of the agreement on West German rearmament. Capitalist France, for all her class hatred of the Soviet Union, fears the prospect of a re-armed and resurgent capitalist Germany on her very doorstep.

Yet without French ratification of German rearmament all the plans of the United States for making Europe into a springboard for an eventual invasion of the Soviet Union are left hanging in mid-air.

The alacrity with which the French Government has welcomed the latest offer from the Soviet Union show that they see in it the possibility of delaying a definitive decision on German rearmament. Indeed, coming at this critical juncture in the manoeuvres of the imperialists, the Soviet Union's offer has thoroughly disconcerted the United States. We must therefore expect that the United States will now bring even greater pressure to bear on France—both politically and economically—to get them to ratify German rearmament before any eventual talks take place.

#### THE PLOT

Make no mistake about it, the capitalist rulers of the United States are quite conscious of what they are doing. They know very well that the rearmament of Western Germany will render talks absolutely abortive and make war almost inevitable. Listen for example to the "Wall Street Journal" on the subject: "It is not reasonable to expect them (the Russians) to unite their zone of Germany with a western zone contributing 12 divisions to an international army directed against them." Of course it's "not reasonable"—and that is precisely why it is being pushed through.

However, as the poet said, the best laid plans of mice and men gang aft a-gley. Between the cynical war plans of the imperialists and their actual consummation lie many difficulties. Quite apart from the mass anti-war feeling of the workers of all Europe, which is perhaps strongest of all in Western Germany itself, there is also real trouble within the capitalist camp itself—especially on this critical question of West German rearmament. We have already seen that the French Government is virtually paralyzed on this issue, but even Britain is not—or rather, need not be—

#### 3. To Bring Peace, Freedom and Friendship to the Colonies

THE true nature of colonialism was revealed in all its naked brutality at the recent trial of Captain Griffiths, young British officer charged with the murder of a forestry worker in Kenya. This gallant gentleman shot in the back two Africans, left them screaming and dying on the roadside then later returned to "finish them off" with shots from his revolver.

The Court Martial found him not guilty.

During the trial, Captain Griffiths told the court that he had

paid 5/- per head to the men of his company for each "Mau Mau terrorist" killed. Other company commanders, he said, paid 10/- per head.

The difference in the amount of blood money is accounted for by the grisly fact that the gallant company commanders kept scoreboards of the dead and ran competitions to see which company could kill the most Africans.

And whom did they kill? Any African found in a prohibited area! Just anyone at all—so long as his skin was black. That too was revealed at this court-martial. Asked by the President of the Court: "You thought you could shoot anyone without questioning him in a prohibited area?" the witness, another gallant captain replied: "I have always understood so."

This is an admission that the "police action" in Kenya is sheer unadulterated terrorism of the entire African population.

Having stolen the land of the Africans and driven them to absolute hunger and despair, the white settlers—aided by Oliver Lyttelton's British troops—are now embarked on a systematic extermination of the entire Kikuyu people.

All Africans are "fair game"—and, to encourage the "sport",

5/- incentive money is paid for every corpse. Meanwhile, Lincoln bombers now roar overhead bound for the Aberdare forests to drop their high explosives indiscriminately on the men, women and children of the crucified Kikuyu people.

The only difference between Hitler's attempted extermination of the Jewish people and the British Government's attempted extermination of the Kikuyu is this: Kenya, unlike Auschwitz and Buchenwald, is not surrounded by barbed wire!

Yet, horrible though it is, this murderous activity in Kenya is nothing new in the bloody history of the British Empire. The Indian people will forever remember the massacre at Amritsar, the people of Burma will never forget the parading of several heads after the Irrawaddy Riots, and in Malaya the name of General Templer will arouse hatred in the heart of every Malayan worker and peasant.

Today the whole colonial world is in revolt against foreign oppression and exploitation. Millions are, as Aneurin Bevan once said, "lifting their heads up to the sun" and refusing any longer to sweat and toil to make rich their white overlords. As a result the British Raj, already forced to evacuate India and Burma, is making a brutal effort to hang on in the rest of the empire.

Where half-hearted attempts to establish a degree of self-government have been attempted by the previous Labour Government, as in British Guiana, there Mr. Oliver Lyttelton is busy restoring the unqualified rule and dictatorship of the City of London.

To do so, he does not hesitate to suspend the constitution and throw into jail "indefinitely" former Ministers in the P.P.P. Government. Only today, we learn that the ruler of Buganda (a province of Uganda with a population of one million Africans) has been summarily deposed by Mr. Lyttelton for expressing opposition to the proposed East African Federation.

But all this shooting, killing, bombing, arresting and deposing will ultimately prove of no avail. The colonial people will fight on despite all the Lytteltons, the Churchills and the officer-caste sadists who serve them. For our movement this is the question: shall we permit ourselves to be dragged into never-ending wars in every part of the globe against freedom-seeking peoples—or shall we assert our full support for those peoples against our common enemies, the British Tories?

There is not much doubt where the rank and file of the Labour Party stands on this question. They are for freedom in the colonies. But with many of our leaders it

Continued on page 4, col 1.

#### An anti-Tory Petition

WE suggested last week that one way of getting the Tories out was for the National Council of Labour—representing all three wings of the Movement—to organise a Monster Petition demanding the resignation of this Tory Government and an immediate General Election.

This suggestion has aroused considerable interest and we would greatly appreciate it if readers would send in their views on the matter.

Continued page 2 col 2.

#### BRITISH GUIANA

by

- Cheddi Jagan
- Janet Jagan
- L. F. S. Burnham
- H. W. Benn

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# Glasgow's Homeless Take Over Empty Houses

GLASGOW Tenants' Associations have given a lead to the whole Labour Movement. Under their leadership, homeless and badly housed families are systematically taking over Glasgow's empty houses.

The procedure of the Gorbals (and other) Tenants' Associations is a model of working class planning and co-operation.

A big "underground" housing list has been compiled. As soon as a house falls empty, it is reported to the Association's Executive Committee. After three months, it is placed on the list as available and a family is warned to stand by for moving in. Families are told their position on the list, allocations being made by the Committee after consideration of all the particulars.

## CO-OPERATION WINS

The Secretary of the Gorbals Association has said that "a wonderful spirit of co-operation has arisen".

After much careful planning, the first families have now moved in. The Committee have amassed a collection of keys, which are tried one by one on the locked door of each house being taken over. When one is found to fit, it is turned by an onlooker, to

prevent the new tenant being accused of breaking in.

Everything possible is being done to win the goodwill of the rest of the community. Families are told that respect from their new neighbours will result in respect for the over-all plan. They are asked to keep their children under strict supervision, to undertake whatever improvements they can afford, and to show their delight at having a decent home of their own for the first time in their married lives.

## WHY THEY MOVED

A description of the former plight of one of the new tenants was given in Scotland's "Sunday Mail" (22nd Nov.). He said: "The house where we were living was beyond description. The

need. We've bought easy chairs, a bed-settee, a single bed, even a standard lamp. The place is beautiful now".

When the empty house was opened up a bill postmarked June, 1952, was found in the letter box. The house had obviously been lying unoccupied for nearly eighteen months.

## A WICKED SCANDAL

Labour M.P.s have said in Parliament that there are about 1,500 empty houses in Glasgow, waiting to be sold. Other towns can tell similar stories, and in many cases the houses are empty for four or five years. It is a crime that this should happen when there are so many families desperately in need of a place to live.

The Tories claim to be anxious

that the existing houses should not fall into a bad state of repair. They are willing to raise rents using this excuse—but what of these empty houses, many of which are undoubtedly going to ruin?

This shows the true face of the Tories, completely uncaring of these terrible "living" conditions.

The police have charged the Glasgow families with trespass. All these people want is a decent home, and they are putting up a splendid fight to get it. No one can have the right to keep houses empty in present conditions. That is the only crime—not the "trespass" committed by the Glasgow workers.

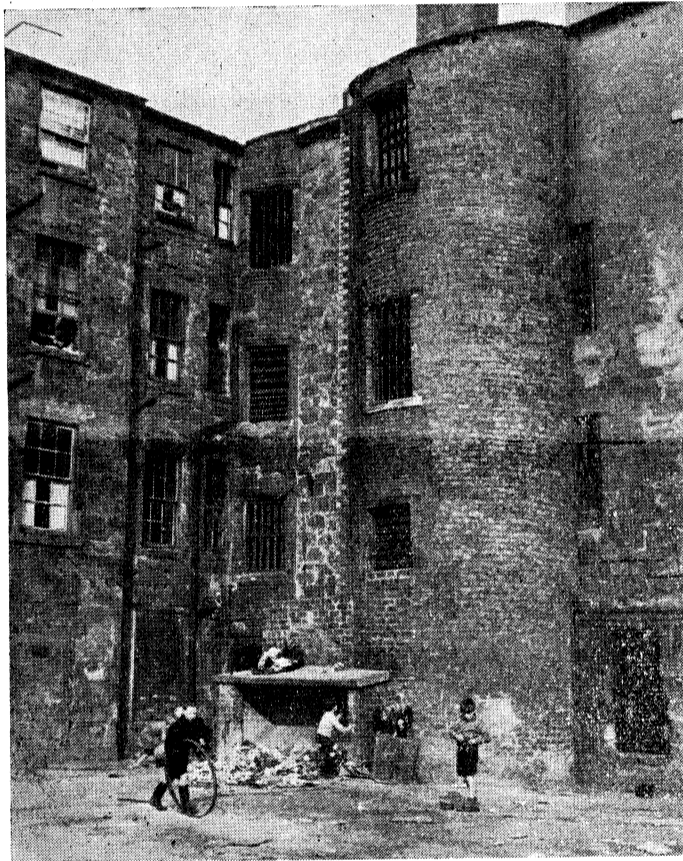
The people of Glasgow should be congratulated on their initiative.

By

Audrey Wise

## ... and this is what they left!

Typical crowded Gorbals Tenements. Tenants of Glasgow have a tradition of struggle. Their famous rent strike of 1915 led to the passing of the Rent Restrictions Act.



dampness gave me asthma, and several of the kids took pneumonia. Baby Mary was only a week old when she caught it, and on the day she was taken to hospital 36 rats were caught on the property.

"Four year old James still has a scar on his finger where he was bitten by a rat. But that was nothing to the cockroaches. My wife and I had to sit up every night to sweep them from the cot. Once I dropped off to sleep and woke to find two on the baby's face.

"You can't realise what this shift has meant to my wife and I. It's all we ever dreamed of. I've been saving a little money during the last few years, and already we've bought all the linoleum, carpets and curtains we

## Editorial Statement (from page one)

united in this headlong rush towards a war in Europe.

However much the leaders of our Labour Party may try to play it down, it is a fact that the Margate Conference did resolve "that there should be no German rearmament before further efforts have been made to secure the peaceful reunification of Germany".

This was a clear instruction to our Labour Front Bench to fight and oppose the American-inspired plan to make a dividend Germany into a military springboard for war against the Soviet Union.

Yet, far from carrying out this Conference instruction, our Labour leadership have, as "Tribune" correctly pointed out last week, not even demanded a debate on the subject!

## MAKE THEM OPPOSE

In our opinion, the Labour Movement must shake up our leaders to a sense of their grave responsibilities in the present international situation. The failure of the French Government to ratify the European Defence Community makes America's European springboard a very shaky structure. The thing would collapse altogether—if our Labour leaders would put up a real fight against this imperialist plan for West German rearmament.

The present tacit coalition with Churchill on foreign affairs must cease. It is not what the movement wants and, moreover, it leaves Churchill free to plot and scheme with Eisenhower against all humanity. On foreign affairs as well as on the home front, task number one for the Labour Movement is the removal of the Churchill Government.

We can no more tolerate unity with the Tories on the question of West German rearmament than we can on the question of the cost of living, old age pensions, or the rents of working class homes. The interests of Tory and Labour are completely opposed at every point—and it is time our leaders recognised that elementary fact.

# 15%

By Jack Stanley

General Secretary  
Constructional Engineering Union

MANY reasons have been forthcoming as to the entitlement by the engineering workers to the 15 per cent wage increase claimed by the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions on behalf of the members of the affiliated unions. As against this certain individuals, some are or were unfortunately connected with the trade union movement, in addition to the employers, are of the opinion at present there is no justification for the claim.

According to past practice of the employers, there has never been any justification for the claims previously submitted on behalf of the workers, and it has only been after intense struggle, and in most cases reference to other bodies, that any advance has been obtained. Sufficient evidence was submitted when presenting the case to prove the justice of the claim, on the basis of increased prices alone, without taking into consideration the necessity to improve the standards of living of the people we represent.

Mention has been made and stressed by the employers that the average weekly earnings is nearly £10 per week, and it should be pointed out that if half the number involved received in bonuses and other payments an additional £2. 10s. 0d. a week, making £12. 0s. 0d., it is obvious that the other half would only be receiving £7 10s. 0d.

If workers have to work unlimited hours of overtime, and expend most of their energy on systems of payment by results in order to obtain a living wage, increasing production at the same time—and the employers' profits—then they are undoubtedly and justifiably entitled to the 15 per cent claimed.

Socialist Outlook

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# The NOT so Pacific Islands

WE have shown the real face of Jamaica in articles in the last two issues of "Socialist Outlook". We gave a picture of conditions there which the Queen will certainly not have seen, and recounted some of its history which the Queen will not hear.

Let us continue our tour around some of Britain's possessions. The Queen is also visiting them, but we will look beyond the idyllic surroundings which will be conjured up by romantic journalists accompanying her.

The Queen is to visit islands in the Pacific which form part of the British Empire. The Pacific com-

By  
A. Banda

prises 30,000,000 square miles. In its vast expanse lie approximately 10,000 islands of varying description. Every one of these islands belongs to one or other of the Great Powers; in them live 2,000,000 exploited souls in nothing like idyllic circumstances.

Excluding the territories of New Guinea, Samoa and Cook Island, which are in one way or another Australian or New Zealand trust territories, "we" own a total of 25,000 square miles of islands. That is an area equal to that of the Dominion of Ceylon. These islands vary from volcanic to coral atoll; from anything a foot high to 10,000 feet in elevation, from an area of almost nothing up to 12,000 square miles in area.

To tell exactly how these islands came into British possession is to tell a tale of ruthless adventurers, unscrupulous traders, whalers, pearl-divers, "bible-punchers" and slave-driving planters.

At the close of the eighteenth century British capitalism launched its whalers and traders into the Pacific. Within a few years nearly all the whales in this ocean had been destroyed. The islands had been stripped of every sandalwood tree, pearl oyster and trepang mollusc which were the chief stock in the China trade. A trail of rape, arson and murder was blazed across the islands.

The most terrible feature in the history of ruthless exploitation of the population of these islands was "blackbirding". This was a term used for the wholesale exportation of island populations, on the basis of a fraudulent contract, to slave in the mines of South America, or to toil in the sugar fields of Queensland. Most victims never returned to their homelands.

When those who were fortunate enough to return told of their treatment there were several attempts on the part of the islanders to deal with the "blackbirders".

On such occasions the Royal Navy could be counted on to lay a broadside into the offending village.

Today big companies such as Lever Bros., Burns Philps and W. R. Carpenter dominate the area. Burns Philps has a virtual monopoly of sea transport.

Let us visit some of these islands in turn. First of all the Solomons. This is the most unhealthy and backward of Britain's possessions; rife with malaria, dysentery and blackwater fever. A trail of blood leads through its history from Spanish invaders to "blackbirders", who denuded whole areas of their population. This generated a fierce hatred of white men who were given short shrift until the Royal Navy sailed in.

Plantations were first begun here by Lever Bros., who ultimately acquired 20,000 acres for coconut growing.

Then came Burns Phillip, Malaita Co., Carpenter Co., and others (including Mission Societies). Soon 60,000 acres were under coconut.

Today, a head tax is imposed on every adult male, compelling him to work at least a few years on the plantations in order to earn money to pay it. To enforce this poll tax there are the hated "tax patrols". In this way the plantations obtain their labour which lives in "line" rooms, working under demoralising conditions on a wage of 10/- a month.

The native workers have fought back against these conditions. At the end of the war there were spontaneous strikes and an autonomy movement known as the "Marching Rule" Movement.

A destroyer sailed to the Solomons and the leaders were arrested with great show of force.

We will have a brief look now at Nauru and Ocean Island. These have deposits of phosphates invaluable as fertilisers for Australian and New Zealand farmers. These deposits, have been exploited for half a century. They are worked by the British Phosphate Commission, employing 1,000 imported Chinese labourers.

Here in the scurry for profits the native population suffered the ravages of disease and ruthless exploitation. It declined to one sixth of that of pre-European times.

Next week we will visit Fiji and Tonga.



"A BUNCH OF THE BOYS WERE WHOOPING IT!"

by Harold Davies, M.P.

I looked down from the Gallery into a well of push and gilt as the Lords gave us the "show" of the week on Commercial Television.

It may have been almost heresy, but I wandered through the Lobbies towards the Lords rehearsing my "party piece" for a Labour Concert: "The Shooting of Dan McGrew". I was meandering up the stone steps to the Members' Gallery muttering: "Back of the bar, in a solo game, sat Dangerous Dan McGrew", when booming over my head, I heard the voice of Lord Hailsham proposing the motion to reject the Government's proposal for commercial television. Here was Quinton Hogg at his best, concentrating on what he could do for the people, not what he could do them for.

His eloquence seemed to be a little too vivid and boisterous for the sedate Chamber of the Lords. None of the noble gentlemen had need to use their hearing aids. In any case the Whips were on and we all knew the result. The Lords in rebellion were defeated by some 70 votes.

Members from the Commons crowded into every available space. Huddled in an arc on the steps around the throne were some twenty of them, including Herbert Morrison and Edith Summerskill. The Lord Chancellor seemed to be so overwhelmed by his own arguments that he discovered that Shakespeare would live on even if we had commercial T.V. He turned Gresham's Law on its head. "The bad will not drive out the good". This was the second day and by this time I was back on my Dan McGrew again. I had one last look at the gilded Chamber and, like the Kikuyu who had been shot, I shuffled out saying: "There's men that somehow just grip your eyes, and hold them hard like a spell". . . . By now the spell was over. I knew that we had more serious things to think about soon. Like War and Peace or Work and Want.

## INDUSTRIAL DISEASES BILL

The Minister of Pensions introduced this Bill with the main purpose of extending the provisions of the Pneumoconiosis and Bysinosis Benefit Act of 1951. It will enable many people who hitherto

did not come under the Workmen's Compensation Acts or the Industrial Injuries Scheme of 1948 to get benefit. Many grievances that have been of long standing are now remedied, but as Tom Brown, M.P. (Ince) said, the amount of compensation, 20s., was not enough. "I am wholeheartedly and strongly opposed to the amount of 20s. After these men have waited all this time for elementary justice they should be offered more than this paltry sum". Tom Brown told us of his years of work since 1922 when a Special Committee tried to deal with this problem of Dust Diseases in the mines. Now, "it has taken us 31 years to bring this Bill about".

Both Tom Brown and Harold Finch are experts in these questions of compensation and dust diseases in the mines. No one has worked harder than these men to bring the problem to the fore in the House and at last as Harold Finch says "What he, (the Minister) was not able to do under the Workmen's Compensation Act he is now able to do under the Industrial Injuries Act. He is able to do it because there is a fund at his disposal".

Harold wanted the flat rate raised for partial incapacity from 20s. to half the recognised payment for full incapacity under the

Industrial Diseases Act, namely 55s. He hoped that this could be done in the Committee stage. Douglas Houghton pointed out that this Bill would not have been possible had Labour not changed the principle of compensation in the 1946 Act. Ronald Williams (Wigan) warned the House that this Bill by no means solves all the problems ("it merely adds another little piece to the picture") and he shared the dismay of his colleagues that the amount was so small.

All these strange dust diseases and skin disorders are well known in the mining, cotton and pottery districts. This fight for the "forgotten men" at least has been recognised. Let us hope that more can be done to prevent these things and meanwhile fight for higher partial compensation.

## STILL IN WONDERLAND

Dick Crossman accused Eden of misrepresenting the Notes from Russia on Power Talks and hoped that the House would have a chance to Debate Foreign Affairs before the Prime Minister went to Bermuda. But, like Alice in Wonderland, following the rabbit we know not to what, we may be committed in these Talks. We shall soon be singing Carols about "Peace on Earth" and "Good will toward men". It is just as bad as whistling in the dark.

We mess about with letters of the alphabet like N.A.T.O., E.D.C. O.E.E.C. The letters shift and change but the minds of the reactionaries remain just the same. History teaches them "nowt".

What Should Be Labour's Foreign Policy?

# The Challenge of Foreign Affairs

By  
Tom Braddock

A single sheet of paper about foolscap size printed on both sides was issued to delegates on the second day of the Margate Conference. It was headed: *Annual Conference 1953, Resolution on Foreign and Commonwealth Policy.*

No amendments were allowed to this statement and, as local organisations had never seen it before, no delegate was mandated to vote either for or against it. Nevertheless, a vote was taken and the statement carried. It has now been issued to the movement, to the country and to the world as the Labour Party's Foreign and Commonwealth Policy.

Against the above background

it is, to say the least, an extravagant claim to make on behalf of a statement which the majority of Labour Party members took absolutely no hand in shaping. For this reason I propose to write a series of articles to show the real evolution of Labour's Foreign Policy over the past few years.

In April of 1952 a pamphlet called "Problems of Foreign Policy" was issued by the N.E.C. It was described as a policy discussion pamphlet and its object, described in a foreword by Morgan Phillips, was "to assist all sections of the Movement to play their full part in the making of policy". Parties were asked to send expressions of opinion to the N.E.C.

On page 1 of the pamphlet the following words occur: "Socialism faces its greatest and most urgent challenge in international affairs". The party as a whole responded to this challenge. Meetings and discussions took place, I should say, in every constituency, and expressions of opinion were sent to Transport House by the dozen, and a record number of resolutions on the subject were sent in for the 1952 Morecambe Conference mostly critical of the policy the Labour Government had been following on foreign affairs.

One would have expected that these resolutions would have been the basis of the future Foreign Policy to be decided at Morecambe, but no, for reasons that can be understood in the light of later events, the N.E.C. in June of 1952 issued their own statement on Labour's Foreign Policy for consideration by the Morecambe Conference.

It was a recapitulation of the policy that the Labour Government, from 1945 onwards, had been pursuing under the guidance of Mr. Ernest Bevin the then Foreign Minister.

It contained statements in support of the Korean war, of agreement to co-operate with the United States of America through the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation; it expressed a preference for close association with the U.S.A. and Canada rather than with European countries; it condemned Chiang Kai-Shek and expressed its confidence in the leadership of the Indian Government in Far Eastern affairs. It supported the war in Malaya and it stated that Britain must guard the interests of African people.

The statement expressed doubts about arming Western Germany but the only limitation proposed was that France and other N.A.T.O. nations should be armed first.

In presenting it to the Morecambe Conference, Mr. Hugh Dalton used these words: "The document which I present to the Conference is an attempt by the outgoing National Executive Committee to make a contribution to this (the removal of the menace of war) and to point the way towards a peace which shall endure". Note that all Dalton claimed for the document was that it was a contribution of the outgoing N.E.C.

Conference also had before it a composite resolution on Foreign Policy based on the dozens of resolutions that had been sent in from Constituency Parties and Trade Unions from all over the country and which did, therefore, represent the democratically arrived at view of the party as a whole. This composite resolution was in the following terms:

"This Conference urges the Labour Party to be on its guard against the danger of supporting anti-working-class forces in international affairs, the recognition of Franco's regime being a case in point.

It declares that we can best serve the cause of peace by sticking to our distinctive Socialist principles and refusing to subordinate them to pressures.

In particular, the Conference urges (a) the promotion and expansion of East-West trade and (b) resistance to the use of our military strength as a means of enforcing territorial changes in Eastern Europe or elsewhere.

Finally, it deplores the condemnation of the risings of the oppressed peoples as Soviet-inspired plots, and affirms that peace can best be secured by seeing that maximum aid is given to undeveloped areas".

This is of course a very different point of view from that expressed in the N.E.C. document introduced by Hugh Dalton.

In winding up the discussion James Griffiths, speaking for the N.E.C., tried to get the composite resolution withdrawn. He said, "Our view as an Executive is that the best course for this Party and for this country and for the world would be served if the document was accepted and all the other resolutions withdrawn or remitted to the Executive".

The Conference did not accept Griffiths' advice and carried the composite resolution, but unfortunately it accepted the document as well. It did not realise that this left the N.E.C. with a chance of basing its policy on the document and not on the composite resolution.

Conference was warned of the danger of this by the Holborn delegate, John Lawrence (Editor of "Socialist Outlook") in these words: "I ask Conference to support all the composite motions and to reject the document... The N.E.C. statement is full of contradictions and ambiguities."

Of course one might have thought that the new N.E.C. containing the newly elected Bevanites would have preferred to accept the democratically arrived at composite resolution rather than the contribution of the outgoing N.E.C. But no, the Resolution on Foreign and Commonwealth Policy, thrust on the Margate Conference without consultation with the Constituency Parties and without chance of amendment, stems directly from the 1952 N.E.C. document and has no relation at

all to the 1952 composite resolution.

It is in fact a far more dangerous statement than the one so properly condemned by John Lawrence at Morecambe. For instance, at Morecambe the following resolution was carried on the subject of Federation of African Territories:—

"This Conference, convinced that the decision of Her Majesty's Government about the proposed Federation in Central Africa between Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland will be regarded both in this country and in Africa as the acid test of the sincerity of its Commonwealth Policy, and having grave doubts about the trends of present negotiations, resolves that there be no Federation in Central Africa without education, full consul-

tation, and agreement of the population in these territories".

Here again James Griffiths asked that it should be withdrawn or remitted to the N.E.C. Nevertheless Conference passed the resolution and it therefore ranked as Labour Party Policy.

Note, however, the words in the 1953 Policy Statement:—

"Labour opposed the creation of a Central African Federation... it has, however, become law. Labour will continue to exercise vigilance to ensure that the interests of the African people are safeguarded within the new Federation".

These words are a complete reversal of Labour Policy on this matter and in effect, a betrayal of our African comrades. I will give further examples of this kind of thing in subsequent articles.

★ Star Letter ★

## A Cloud of Dust

LAST July, 45,000 men and women in Britain, including 6,000 in Wales, were denied unemployment benefit when the Tory Government allowed Section 62 of the Insurance Act to lapse.

Nearly all were disabled. At intervals of not more than six months they have had to satisfy a local tribunal that they are "genuine" cases. After 30 weeks on unemployment pay they are now thrown on to the National Assistance Board, in the interests of Tory "economy".

In some cases their income has been cut by as much as £3 a week.

A majority of these workers in Wales are suffering from lung diseases (pneumoconiosis, etc.). They, and other disabled workers, deserve better things than the continuation of unemployment benefit at the discretion of a tribunal made up of a worker, an employer, and a lawyer—but even this is now denied to them.

The Tories have now introduced a bill to give those partially disabled by lung diseases a 50 per cent disablement benefit. Tory M.P.s hailed this in the House of Commons as "social justice", etc. Labour members opposed this blatant trickery.

It is a case of giving back with one hand what has been taken away with the other, and giving only to a small section of the disabled. Victims of the mining lung diseases are entitled to a full industrial injury pension, without conditions. All long term unemployed must have the right to benefit.

The Tories are very interested in making economies at the expense of the helpless victims of capitalist accumulation, but they never dream of tackling the real waste luxury living, big tax free expense accounts for directors, stock exchange gambling etc.

Peckham John Goffe

## KING COPPER

THE results of two of the four copper mines in Northern Rhodesia have just been announced. They are Mufurila and Roan Antelope, controlled by the Selection Trust group.

At the annual meeting of the Mufurila Company, the chairman stated that as a consequence of the three week African strike, higher royalties, cash bonuses and wages, operating costs had increased by 27 per cent to £109 8s. 3d. per ton.

This still left a profit margin of £135 5s. 1d. per ton which provided a gross profit for the year of £12,424,375.

The figures for Roan Antelope are similar—a gross profit of about 12 million.

In his speech, the chairman attacked the wage award made by an Arbitrator following the strike. He attacked it, not so much because of the financial effect on the companies, but because of the unfortunate effect it would have on the Central African Territories as a whole.

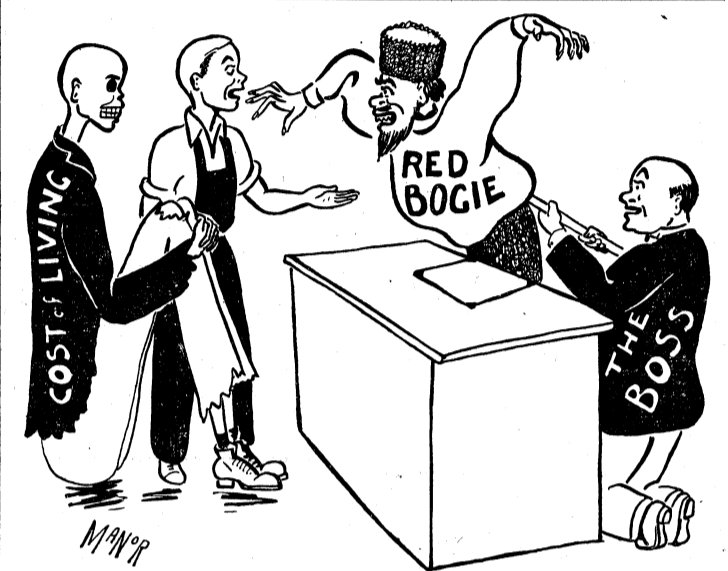
In other words, any wage increase must be resisted despite the companies manifest ability to pay because it threatens the whole cheap labour policy of the industrial colour bar throughout Africa.

On this colour bar this particular copper baron uttered a word of warning—"Yet nothing is clearer than that the present situation is untenable, nor is the inevitability of change likely to take place under conditions of gradualness". But he had no real solution to the problem to offer.

He went on to talk of Federation—"this is a development greatly to be welcomed", and concluded with a note of self-congratulation in having secured the companies change of registration to Rhodesia which greatly reduces the taxes they have to pay!

These plaudits of the self-satisfied financier must be contrasted with the breaking of the promises made to the African in the Federation scheme. Already in Northern Rhodesia the settlers are sabotaging the agreement for adding two African representatives to the powerless Territorial Assembly. One of the two parties fighting the election (in which only the adult section of 200,000 white population can vote, while six million Africans are excluded) is openly advocating apartheid, the other, while believing in the same things, prefers to call it "partnership".

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# The Industrial Front

### M.S.A. STRIKE REACHES TWENTY-FIVE WEEKS

THE Park Royal Shop Stewards Council recently wrote to the management of the "Medical Supply Association" Acton, London—where workers have been on strike for twenty-five weeks.

The Council asked the managing director if he would be prepared to receive a small deputation to discuss the dispute. They received a reply stating that the firm were very anxious to reach a solution to the dispute but considered it a domestic affair and would be prepared to meet a deputation elected by the ex-employees.

A mass meeting of M.S.A. workers agreed that the Lock-out Committee should inform the Managing Director that if he was interested in negotiations he should get in touch with the Trade Union officials, or alternatively, with the Conciliation Officer of the Ministry of Labour.

The Committee informs "Socialist Outlook", there was a stoppage of two-and-a-half hours at the firm of Frouds and Sons, which had supplied M.S.A. in the past. The workers there alleged that the firm was still supplying the Medical Supply Association in secret. After negotiations, the management of Frouds and Sons gave an assurance that they would cut-off all supplies in future.

It appears that the M.S.A. management are attempting to persuade their suppliers to deliver again by suggesting that the dispute is over. The Lock-out Committee is asking all trade unionists in the firms which were suppliers of the M.S.A. before the lock-out to continue to operate the instruction of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions which 'blackened' this firm.

### DEAKIN, MIKARDO AND THE GENERAL COUNCIL

THE General Council of the T.U.C. apparently believes that Mr. Deakin and other privileged ones at the top are the only members

of the Labour Movement allowed to express criticisms of others. Outside the circle "gobs" are to be kept tightly shut. The Council's conception of democracy in the movement would appear to be—up here we can say what we like, down there you can also say what we like.

Contrast two decisions that were made at the last meeting of the General Council. Firstly, there was the case of Mr. Arthur Deakin. At the Labour Party Conference, Mr. Deakin described the "plan for engineering" drawn up by the engineering unions as the worst abortion ever conceived in the mind of man. Engineering leaders, and the rank and file, expressed anger and resentment at this, particularly as Mr. Deakin's own union had subscribed to the plan.

The Confederation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Unions wrote to the T.U.C. asking them for their attitude to the plan in view of Mr. Deakin's speech.

The T.U.C. General Council decided to inform the Confederation that it had neither the authority nor the desire to question the right of any organisation to appoint and to instruct its delegates to Labour Party Conference.

Thus the case of Mr. Deakin was dismissed, the court deciding it had no wish, nor was it competent, to try it; but was in obvious sympathy with the defendant.

Not so in the second case the General Council considered that of Mr. Ian Mikardo, M.P.—Ian Mikardo had also criticised the action of a section of the Labour Movement. So much he had in common with Arthur Deakin, although, unlike Arthur Deakin, Ian Mikardo did not criticise an action in which the organisation he represented had participated. But Ian Mikardo committed the unforgivable sin—he criticised the General Council of the T.U.C.

In an article in "Tribune" on November 6th he discussed the T.U.C. General Council circular on British Guiana. Like many

thousands of trade union and Labour Party members who were ashamed at this circular, he noted that it uttered not one word of criticism of the Tory Government's actions in this colony. He further attacked it as taking a line directly opposed to that of the Parliamentary Labour Party.

The case of Mr. Mikardo, however, was not given the same delicate treatment by the General Council as that of Mr. Deakin. Post haste from its meeting the Council sent a letter of protest to the National Executive Committee of the Labour Party, conferring at the same time in another part of Transport House. According to the "Manchester Guardian" of November 26th, the council reminded the executive of its earlier protests about articles in "Tribune" and of the N.E.C.'s resolution condemning them. It wanted to know what action the N.E.C. was prepared to take on this article.

The N.E.C. decided to withhold comment on the General Council's letter until after its next meeting. If at its next meeting the N.E.C. decides to reject this letter it will be acting in accordance with the wishes of the whole rank and file of the Labour Party and trade union movement. Not only is there a widespread disgust at the General Council circular, but the rank and file are a little tired of trade union 'grandees' who believe that democracy begins at the top and ends there.

### STRIKE AGAINST CHEAP LABOUR AT HANDLEY PAGE

ON Monday, November 9th, 170 draughtsmen and technicians came out on strike in Cricklewood, London. They are employed in the aircraft design department of Handley Page Ltd.

Their strike followed a complete breakdown of negotiations which had been in progress since last July. In these negotiations the Association of Engineering and Shipbuilding Draughtsmen had been attempting to secure the management's agreement to the Union's minimum London area wage rates.

"This agreement is sought as a

guarantee against the introduction of cheap labour—in the form of trainee draughtsmen—into the Design Offices and not as a means of securing a general wage increase", says a statement issued by the strike committee. "Only a small proportion of the membership at the firm would, in fact, benefit financially from recognition of these rates".

The workers have no objection to the introduction of trainees, but are demanding that when they finish their training period they receive the rate for the job.

The management and the employers association have always resisted agreeing to minimum scales for draughtsmen in the same way as minimum rates are agreed for manual engineering workers. Now that trainees are being introduced the draughtsmen find they have no agreement to prevent them being used as cheap labour.

The statement of the strike committee declares:—

"Before resorting to strike action to draw public attention to their grievances, members of the Association, through their established and properly elected committee, used every endeavour to reach an amicable agreement to end the dispute. But, in spite of five meetings between the management and the Union, no settlement could be reached because of the management's unreasonable attitude".

Last week the other two thousand workers at this Handley Page factory threatened to walk-out when it was alleged that blackleg labour was being used in the design department. The walk-out was cancelled when the management gave a guarantee not to use blackleg labour.

W. A. Court, chairman of the strike committee and Prospective Labour Candidate for Enfield West, told "Socialist Outlook" that the morale of the strikers was high. After three weeks, none of the original strikers had gone back, in fact, one or two who had worked at the beginning of the strike were now out with the rest.

# Our Readers Write . . .

## Don't Worry, Comrade

In the May 23rd, 1953 issue of the "Outlook" you published a speech made by Keir Hardie in June 1911. In a foreword you said: "Why are such speeches not made today. Has the Monarchy become less reactionary—or have the leaders of the Party become more respectable?" You didn't suggest the answers, because they are obvious.

Even so many of us accepted that publication of such a speech and the articles which appeared at the same time, could only mean that the policy of the "Outlook" was to seek the abolition of a Royal Household as this can certainly have no part in the Socialist State we aim to achieve.

It was therefore, with some misgivings, I read the lines of verse from Percy Allott, which proved as they are, actually condone the existence of Royalty.

Surely Comrade Allott can hardly believe that readers of the "Outlook" are credulous enough to believe that the Queen is totally unaware of the deplorable conditions under which most of her subjects live, at home and in the colonies. And, even if it were so, how does he propose to acquaint her of the true position? By delivering regularly copies of the "Outlook" at Buckingham Palace or at which any of the far too numerous Royal Residences the Queen may be staying?

Let us recognise the truth of what Keir Hardie said in that courageous speech in 1911, "Kingcraft and priestcraft are used by the cunning and unscrupulous to veil truth from the eyes of men" and act upon it.

Cleethorpes S. R. Pearson

Editor's Note: The "Socialist Outlook" opposed the recent Coronation tomfoolery because we do not support privilege of

## COLONIES (from page one)

is quite another question. They, we must admit to our shame, seem content to protest from time to time at the "excesses" yet line up solidly with the Tories on the fundamental question of maintaining the colonial peoples in subjection and misery.

They "protested", for example, at the suspension of the Constitution of British Guiana—yet advised Labour Parties not to provide a platform to the victims of Mr. Lyttelton's imperialist aggression.

While the Tories remain in office, the colonies will remain vast areas of misery increasingly leading to open war and the sort of horrors we are now witnessing in Kenya. It is another urgent reason why the Tories must go—but the Labour Government which replaces them must write large into its programme: **Full and Immediate Freedom to all Oppressed Peoples.**

## A XMAS PRESENT WITH A PURPOSE

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any kind and have repeatedly suggested that Labour's programme should include the abolition of both the House of Lords and the Monarchy. Percy Allott subscribes to that point of view. However, like most writers of satire, he occasionally, it seems, is badly misunderstood.

## ★ Ballot For Strike

The article by Cllr. H. Finch "Wages Front—What Next?" has my full approval. Like Bro. Finch I am Chairman of a Shop Stewards' Committee and as these committees over which we preside have for years negotiated piece-work and overtime agreements locally it is no wonder that we feel concerned at the proposed national action in this field.

As Bro. Finch points out such action would be protracted. That, in my opinion, would react on the Trade Union movement. There is a tendency to be critical of punitive measures against the employers who, as stated by our Brother, would not hesitate to lock us out if such action as a ban on piece-work and overtime created an uneconomic working of their factories.

Far too much publicity has been given to the total amount of an engineers wage packet without stating the hours worked to attain that amount. Nor do the jugglers

## FIGHTING FUND

The Fighting Fund is over £30 short this month. This sounds a warning note. We appeal to our readers to make a special effort in December to pass the target of £100 and help to make up this shortage.

It is essential that we get the full amount every month, and up to now you have responded splendidly. Make a gift for the "Outlook" your Xmas priority so that we can keep up our good work.

The following donations are gratefully acknowledged: Bethnal Green readers 42/6; Hackney readers 34/9; Sunderland readers 7/6; Bebington reader 7/-; St. Pancras readers 14/-; Cypriot readers 10/3; West London readers 161/9; Leeds readers 191/6; Leicester Socialists £1; C. V. Caine, Manchester, 5/-; Enfield Engineers 37/6; Tottenham readers 113/6; Ashton under Lyne readers 24/-; Mrs. L. G. Pond 11/-; Bermondsey readers 18/3; R. J. Johnston, Manchester, 4/-; R. & M. £6; 2 London Printers £6; E.N.V. readers 37/6; Nottingham readers 92/9; Islington readers 21/-; Birmingham readers 77/-; R. T. Shelley readers 22/6; Wolverhampton readers £1; Bethnal Green readers 28/9; Platts Workers 11/9; Platts Buster 39/-; Salford A.E.U. members 11/-; J. Wilcock 6/-; Manchester and Salford readers 28/2; St. Pancras readers 4/-.

Total £67.1s. 11d.

with figures mention the stoppages from the packet. Tax is deducted and heavily deducted, from packets which, taking taking purchasing values into consideration would not have been paying tax before the war. A man with a wife and two children would not have paid tax on £4 10s. 0d. before the war. Today an engineer would have to earn £11 0s. 0d. to spend to the value of pre-war £4 10s. 0d. and from his £11 0s.0d. he would pay a substantial tax.

Bro. Finch mentions the local reactions and I feel the same as he does the shop steward is being asked to do the impossible by supervising a ban on piece-work and overtime so let us do the job clean and ask the Confederation to get those ballot papers out for a national strike without the alternative of Arbitration. On the latter, submitting our claim to Arbitration would be abortive and raising hopes that don't exist so either we fight or we don't, if we don't then **God help the Engineers.**

Manchester W. D. Burgess

## ★ Suggestions?

Yes, the Tories must resign—but what then? I suggest Mr. Attlee to be persuaded to go to the House of Lords, Mr. Morrison—the "Jolly-old-Empire man"—should be given a back seat, John Strachey should be asked to read his own books, Shinwell to refresh his memory with some of the speeches of Keir Hardie and Bruce Glazier—and some other Labour M.P.'s to retire to a monastery and wash dishes.

Liverpool E. Barker

# Thar's Gold in Them Thar' Mills . . .

## ★ Spotlight on the Press ★

This is one of a series of articles on press profits currently being published in "The Journalist", the paper of the National Union of Journalists.

ON November 3 the value of the shares of Albert E. Reed and Co., Ltd., newsprint manufacturers, rose a million pounds on the Stock Exchange in the space of a few hours.

The £1 ordinary shares started the day at £4 18s. 9d.—already an impressive testimony to the profitability of paper—and finished at £5 12s. 6d., an increase of 13s. 9d. per share on 1,500,000 units.

The reason for this sudden boom in Albert E. Reed's stock was the announcement of a half-year interim dividend of 10 per cent. Last year's interim was only 7 per cent. "It is an admission", wrote Alexander Thompson in the London Evening Standard, "that huge profits are being earned again at paper-making."

Note that little word "again". Everybody knows that huge profits have been made in newsprint since the war, but last year, when prices tumbled helplessly from the crazy heights reached in 1951, it was thought the honeymoon was over.

### DOUBLED IN PRICE

At one point earlier this year, Reed's shares stood at "only" £2 17s. 3d.

They have, therefore, doubled in price in a matter of months, from

a total market value of about four million pounds to one of eight millions.

Put another way, if you had been able to buy one thousand pounds' worth of Reed's shares early this year and had sold them last month, you would have netted a tax-free capital gain of one thousand pounds.

This is a remarkable transformation. At the annual meeting on July 6, the chairman, Sir R. Reed, was only cautiously optimistic. In the financial year ended March 31, 1953, he said the company had come through "probably the most serious and difficult time ever faced by the paper industry".

So serious and difficult, in fact, that the net profits of Albert E. Reed and Co., that year, after paying all taxes and other claims on the gross income, corresponded to only 111 per cent. of the share capital.

A net profit exceeding 100 per cent. seemed modest to Sir R. Reed, because in the previous year, his net profit represented 214 per cent., and in the year before, 257 per cent.

Of course, Albert E. Reed's did not pay out these fantastic figures. Their total ordinary dividend last year was 20 per cent., and was the same the year before. Enormous balances stand in suspense.

### BUMPER PROFITS

In the bumper year 1951-2, Albert E. Reed's trading profit topped £6,673,000. The previous year it had been £4,326,000.

Last year, characterised apologetically by Sir R. Reed as "a year of very severe deflation," it was down to £2,608,000. In spite of the chairman's disappointment, however, that was the third highest profit ever recorded by the company.

Now the 10 per cent. inter dividend indicates that profits will be up again this year.

The decline last year from super-duper profits to merely super profits—a drop, as it were, from Everest to Kangchenjunga—reflected itself in directors' emoluments, which at £26,983, were the second lowest for several years.

Over the past five years they have averaged £32,000. The directors' best year was 1950-51, when they paid themselves £49,764. This is additional of course to the dividends they receive as shareholders. There are eight directors.

### SUBSIDIARY CONCERNS

In addition to papermills operated under their own name, Albert E. Reed and Co., own London Paper Mills Co., of Dartford and Empire Paper Mills Ltd., Greenhithe, as well as firms marketing and distributing paper.

They manufacture wrapping papers as well as newsprint, but newsprint is the goose that lays the golden eggs.

### MAD SIR WALTER

Most of the newspapers on Saturday, November 28th showed a picture of a 33 year old Jamaican laying his jacket in the mud before the Queen. British readers were obviously being asked to appreciate his loyalty to Queen Elizabeth and concern for her comfort.

This modern Sir Walter Raleigh was certainly not appreciated in Jamaica, however. The New York Herald Tribune reports that a British officer dived quickly, picked up the coat and thrust this young Jamaican aside. The would-be Sir Walter was immediately arrested on a "lunacy" charge. He was released after a medical examination.

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on the Early Trade Union Struggle and the Founding of the Labour Party

Sunday, December 6th, 7.30 p.m.  
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# Burn the Books, Sir!

## The 'Logic' of Witch-hunting

DO I understand, sir, you deny Robin Hood was a rascally red? That doughty democrat Joe McCarthy knows the way to deal with all this red propaganda in our schools and libraries—sack the teachers and burn the books!

Why these red revolutionaries are everywhere sir! I have made it my sacred duty to investigate my local library and what do I find? If not outright communism then rebellious criticism and dangerous thoughts.

You'd think Simon Templar, alias the Saint, was a safe man wouldn't you? But no in "Knight Templar" he raves. "We've had enough of war. Fighting is for the strong—for those who know what they're fighting for, and love the fight for its own sake. We were like that, and yet we swore that it should not happen again. Not this new fighting—not this cold-blooded, scientific maiming and slaughter of schoolboys and poor grown-up fools herded to squalid death to make money for a bunch of slimy financiers."

Of course the Irish are mutinous dogs in any case, but Oliver Goldsmith should be kicked out for his contempt of our old nobility in "The Deserted Village."

"Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,  
Where wealth accumulates, and men decay:  
Princes and lords may flourish, or may fade;  
A breath can make them, as a breath has made;  
But a bold peasantry, their country's pride,  
When once destroyed, can never be supplied."

Robert Burns has always been suspect, as a so-called "poet of the people". His books should be burnt. Look what he wrote: "Why should we idly waste our prime

Repeating our oppressions?  
Come, rouse to arms, 'tis now the time

To punish past transgressions.  
'Tis said that Kings can do no wrong—

Their murderous deeds deny it:  
And since from us their power is sprung,

We have a right to try it,  
Now each true patriot's song shall be

Welcome death or libertie."  
In fact sir, all poetry should be burnt, for it's riddled with revolt.

All this dangerous thinking is encouraged by those prating

liberals like Wickham Steed, who writes in "The Press":—

"It is freedom to criticise that is essential to liberty in civilised communities; or as a distinguished British civil servant put it not long ago, it is 'the right to tell the Government to go to Hell.' Without it there can be no guarantee of personal freedom and no certainty of progress, no protection against the arbitrary whims of fallible dictators and no effective exercise of private judgment."

Sir, shooting is too good for 'em. Obviously some sinister

### Henry Dubb's (Jnr.) (Bad) Advice Service

master mind is behind all this seditious and blasphemous. I thought it might be Francis Bacon, who long ago wrote:

"Above all things good Policy is to be used, that the Treasure and Monies in a State be not gathered into few hands; for otherwise a State may have a great Stock and yet starve: And Money is like Muck, not good except it be spread."

Having delivered in all this socialist muck sir, I was glad to get out into the fresh air. Returning home I tried to steady my nerves by reading the Good Book. Imagine my consternation Mr. Editor, when in Leviticus, Chapter 25, it describes the year of Jubilee when every 50 years all land sold through poverty was to be returned, prisoners freed, debtors forgiven and the law against usury more strictly enforced.

Deuteronomy was worse, sir, for every SEVENTH year is the Lord's Release:—"Every creditor that lendeth ought unto his neighbour shall release it" [Ch: 15 v.21].

The books of the prophets were terrible too. Isaiah thunders, "The Lord will enter into judgement with the ancients of his people, and the princes thereof: for ye have eaten up the vineyard; the spoil of the poor is in your houses."

What mean ye that we beat my people to pieces, and grind the faces of the poor? saith the Lord God of hosts" [Ch: 3 v.14-15].

The New Testament was even more horrible! In the Old Testament Moses led a successful strike of the brickmakers, but Jesus not only preaches the Lord's Release

[Luke Ch: 4] but threatens:—"But woe unto you that are rich! for ye have received your consolation."

Woe unto you that are full! for ye shall hunger. Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets" [Luke Ch: 6]. And adds:—

"Give to every man that asketh of thee; and him that taketh away thy goods ask them not again."

This sir, would prevent Churchill denationalising the industries those grabbing Labour people took over!

All this has been too much sir, and in turning to my friend next door for comfort, I'm told that these Scriptures are taught in the schools by the law of the land!

Furthermore the scripture syllabus includes Acts Ch: 2 "and all that believed were together, and had all things common."

And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need."

Senator McCarthy must investigate the Christians and make them sign the loyalty pledge. Its about time your Transport House proscribed the Church as a fellow-travelling outfit. You socialists ban that chap Jagan from your platform, don't you think it's high time you banned all Christians as well? After all their leader was crucified for subversive activity.

Henry Dubb (junior).

## Socialist Outlook

### FIFTH ANNIVERSARY MEETING

Chorlton Town Hall, All Saints, Manchester  
SUNDAY, 13th DECEMBER, 1953 at 2.30

Speakers:

Roland Casasola  
E.C. of Amalgamated Union of Foundryworkers

Harry Constable  
London Docker—One of the Dockers leaders at Old Bailey Trial, 1951

Gerry Healy

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