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# Socialist Outlook

WEEKLY

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 1954

3d.

An Answer to  
"Leeds Weekly  
Citizen"

by G. HEALY  
(next week)

## Four Thousand Dockers Strike in Hull Threat to Join Blue Union

**FOUR THOUSAND** Hull Dockers stopped work. They are asking to be accepted into membership of the National Amalgamated Stevedores' & Dockers' Union (the "Blue" Union). The change-over was decided at a mass-meeting of the striking Hull dockers last Sunday.

Albert Hart, 26 year old strike committee chairman, read the following wire from Mr. Dick Barrett, National Secretary of the N.A.S.D.U.

"The E.C. of the N.A.S.D.U. has given consideration to the request from the men in Hull with regard to their application to transfer into the N.A.S.D.U. They can see no obstacle to their application. There are certain formalities to be considered and overcome in order to give effect to their request. Forms will be prepared and forwarded as soon as possible to allow the men desirous of joining the N.A.S.D.U. to sign and return to N.A.S.D.U. headquarters.—Barrett."

This message was welcomed with tremendous enthusiasm.

### HOW STRIKE BEGAN

Monday, August 16, will not soon be forgotten at Transport House. It was the start of the strike which has produced this sensational result. The explosion was sparked off when a group of Cardiff men and local men at Hull

were ordered to unload grain by the antiquated and dangerous method known as "hand-scuttling".

This method is so inefficient and objectionable that workers outside the industry will hardly believe that it can still go on. It involves men standing up to their waists and deeper in loose grain in the hold of a ship and shovelling grain into sacks with big metal scoops. These sacks are hoisted

By  
**Dan Brandon**

up on deck and straightway emptied again over the side into barges.

Dockers testified at the mass meeting how dangerous this is. One man at least has lost his life in the grain. Another has recently suffered severe spinal trouble.

The T. & G.W.U. has tolerated hand-scuttling for many years, as long as the men had to submit to it. Now we see a death-bed repentance! For even Mr. A. Bird,

National Dock Group Secretary, has gone so far as to describe hand-scuttling as "a rotten, dirty, under-paid job that should have died with Queen Victoria". This was on the Sunday, when the strike had been going on for six days, after his union's attempts to break the strike had failed, and the men were determined to walk out of the union.

However, the strike committee who went to the union office on the preceding Tuesday got a very much less sympathetic reception. Mr. Patrick Brady, the oldest member of the committee, replied with dignity to the organiser, "If the Union will not move, we shall have to move the Union". Mr. Brady spoke for every Hull docker.

### NOT UNREASONABLE

The strikers lay the blame squarely for the stoppage on the National Dock Labour Board. They are not unreasonable men. They are prepared to negotiate a return to work on the following terms:—

1. The ship in dispute must be moved up to a silo and unloaded mechanically. Mechanical unloading facilities are available. The men will not submit to hand-scuttling simply because the National Dock Labour Board (which prates all the time about efficiency) has not installed machinery which has existed at other ports for decades.
2. Alternatively, they will agree to work the ship as it stands, by the old method—on one condition. This condition is quite simple. Let the Docks District Committee of the Transport & General Workers' Union select 16 of its own members to come along and work the ship by the old method alongside a gang of strikers. But the strikers do not expect the union office-holders and their friends to respond with great enthusiasm!

### NO VICTIMISATION

The strike committee stress that the Hull men will not tolerate any victimisation of the Cardiff men who have struck with them when they get back home to Cardiff.

The eyes of dockers in every port are on these important developments at Hull. Mr. Bill Johnson, member of the Birkenhead Port Workers Committee, speaking at last Sunday's meeting at Hull, said, "In my opinion, the Birkenhead men, who have themselves suffered under the mis-leadership of the Transport & General Workers' Union, will probably follow Hull's lead and apply to join the Blue Union."

### SOCIALIST OUTLOOK NEEDS MONEY

The ban imposed by Transport House demands the biggest protest campaign possible, locally and nationally.

This needs money—as much as you can give us—NOW.

We will do the rest. Take a collection from your friends and workmates. Send what you can to SOCIALIST OUTLOOK, 177, Bermondsey Street, S.E.1.

### DICK BARRETT SAYS:— Hull Dockers Have Right To Transfer

"If the dockers in Hull have made up their minds, if they are determined and are doing it of their own free will, then they have a right to transfer to our union", said Dick Barrett to a representative of SOCIALIST OUTLOOK.

Dick Barrett is the Secretary of the National Amalgamated Union of Stevedores and Dockers—the "Blue Union"—the union to which Hull dockers want to transfer. For seven months the Blue Union has been conducting an overtime ban to establish the principle that overtime is voluntary. Dick Barrett will be moving a resolution on overtime at this year's Trade Union Congress.

Mr. Barrett was asked to com-

### Through Constitutional Channels



Harry Constable, a London docker, one of the leaders of the 1949 dock strike.

Together with two other dockers he was expelled from the Transport and General Workers Union for his part in that struggle.

Asked for his opinion on the situation in Hull, he declared:

"After I was expelled there was an all-London docks strike demanding our re-instatement. Union officials intimidated the men that if I made application to rejoin they were sure no obstacle would be placed in my way. When we returned to work a great number of men were under the impression that I would be immediately re-admitted.

"I myself was informed by officials that if my application for re-admittance went through the constitutional channels they had no reason to believe it would be refused.

"In the five years since then I have made many applications through constitutional channels. At this moment I am making fresh application.

"If the constitution works in this way it cannot hold out much prospect for the Hull dockers."

### Leaflet Against The Ban



Michael Foot, one of the speakers at Thursday's protest meeting against the ban on SOCIALIST OUTLOOK. A full report of this meeting will be in our next issue.

SOCIALIST OUTLOOK has now published in leaflet form Michael Foot's article—"I Call This an Outrage" (TRIBUNE 13.8.54). This is a forthright attack on the ban.

Order your copies from 177 Bermondsey Street, London, S.E.1. Price 10/- per thousand.

### A Leaflet Issued by Hull Dockers Appeal to Merseyside

For many years we dockers of Hull have resented the way the Transport and General Workers' Union has handled our disputes. Time after time we have reported our grievances to the T.G.W.U. only to receive the reply: "There is nothing we can do—our hands are tied."

We of Hull believe the time has come to do some untying; that is, to untie ourselves from the T.G.W.U. and enter the Blue Union. We also believe that the experiences of the Merseyside dockers in the T.G.W.U. are the same as ours in Hull.

We therefore call upon you to defend your interests by joining us and supporting us in our attempt to achieve the unity of dockers within the democratic structure of the Blue Union.

This is not a call for strike action. Merseyside has so often fought alone and given the lead to dockers nationally. We are confident you will not lag behind now.

Representatives from Hull will speak on this question at 11 a.m. on Sunday, August 29 at Victoria Street, Birkenhead.

### Socialist Outlook

is obtainable every Friday

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In case of difficulty write to us at:

177, Bermondsey Street, London, S.E.1

## Shares in Arms but not in Outlook

By G. Healy

WHAT are the implications of the ban on SOCIALIST OUTLOOK? Various regional organisers have now started to interpret the Transport House directive and it is interesting to compare the hesitation of some with the vile witch-hunting of others.

In one area a "loyalty oath" has been rigged up for OUTLOOK supporters. They are being asked to sign that they will cease being shareholders, stop selling the paper, provide no funds and write no articles. In other words, this means that:

(a) As a member of the Labour Party you can have shares in armaments or poison gas factories, but *not* in SOCIALIST OUTLOOK;

(b) You may write for the capitalist press or, like *Hector McNeil*, make Right-Wing public statements, but you must not write for SOCIALIST OUTLOOK;

(c) You must not sell the paper to other socialists. If they procure copies and argue for the policy advocated in the paper inside the L.P., then they are "associating" and can be expelled.

(d) You may subscribe money to the DAILY WORKER Fighting Fund or any Fund you like, provided it is not for SOCIALIST OUTLOOK.

This monstrous business means, in effect, the withdrawal of all democratic rights from the Left Wing. Take away the name SOCIALIST OUTLOOK and you can substitute any Labour paper.

Small wonder the demand for the withdrawal of this infamous circular is sweeping the Labour Movement. Few issues in recent years have aroused so much protest. Letters stating the case for SOCIALIST OUTLOOK have now been circulated to all C.L.P.s and trade unions. Make sure they are read and acted upon.

The Scarborough Conference must withdraw the ban.

# No Fight In This Report

by our Industrial Correspondent

THE essential starting point for any trade-union general staff when drawing up policy is surely the conditions of the workers they represent. The General Council of the T.U.C. in its introduction to this year's report, certainly mentions the "steady rise in the price of so many necessary items on which workers' families have to spend their income."

Yet they go on to produce a report a great part of which reads like a collection of Government White Papers. More and more the General Council appears to aim at the rôle of economic advisers to Her Majesty's Tory Government.

The top committee of the trade-union movement is fully aware of the economic trends which are causing discontent among the working people.

"The financial resources of British industry rose substantially in 1953", it declares. "Profits went up by eight per cent and dividends by seven per cent. In the first five months of 1954, according to the FINANCIAL TIMES, the profits of the reporting companies increased by 8.5 per cent, as compared with a year earlier, while dividends rose by 23 per cent.

"On the other hand the Index of Weekly Wage Rates rose by three per cent in 1953 (the smallest increase since 1949) compared with a six per cent rise in 1952 . . .

## CAN'T STAND BY

"Trade unionists", says the General Council, "cannot be expected to stand idly by while improvements they have secured are whittled away by inaction on the Government's part, or by attempts by the richer sections of the community to improve their already privileged position."

Quite so! But that sentence is not meant as an appeal to trade unionists to prepare for action. The General Council are appealing to the Tories. In effect they say to them: Stop helping your friends;

stop acting like Tories; you make it difficult for us to persuade workers to be moderate.

"Increases in dividends", they complain, "are bound to act as a continual irritant and to weaken the influence of those who recognise the often temporary nature of the advantages that money wages bring.

The Tories are ruling more and more nakedly as the representatives of their class, serving the interests of Big Business, landlords and food monopolies; the General Council issues — an appeal to the beast to change its nature. And it has no confidence in the future.

It declares: "The uncertainties in the economic situation make it unusually difficult to assess the prospects for employment and living standards during the next 12 months."

What a confession of bankruptcy! Ever since the Tory Government came to power the General Council has been offering it advice. To the workers they have been urging moderation in wage increases, de-

claring more production was the key to the future. Now the general staff of the trade unions declares not only that its policy has been unable to prevent the Tory Government increasing the gap between rent, interest, profit and wages, but that the future also looks bleak.

The General Council shows only that it has no faith in the organised might of the movement it leads.

## A DIFFERENT SPIRIT

However, a different spirit is evident among the resolutions that appear on the agenda of the T.U.C. Most of them show at least an attempt to deal with some of the problems facing trade unions as benefactors' organisations and not advisory committees to aid capitalism.

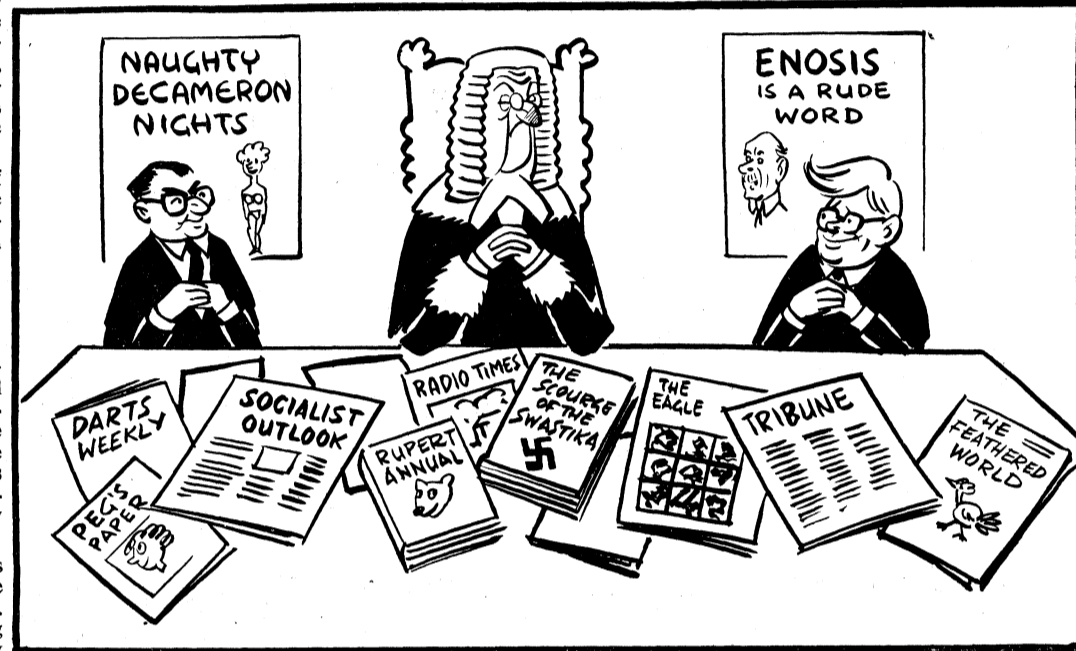
The A.S.W. calls for the current Government economic policy to be "actively resisted by the full power of the Trade Union Movement in defence of living standards."

The General Council policy to

meet the threat of an economic crisis is to appeal to the Government to secure more investments by capitalist employers and cut down the profits of the very people who are Toryism's main support. Both the E.T.U. and the A.E.U. support the Confederation plan for engineering on the basis that "Britain's developing economic crisis can only be resolved and the standards of our people maintained by bringing into public ownership decisive sections of the national economy."

Other resolutions show the gap between the leadership of the T.U.C. and those unions pushed to the left by the pressure in their ranks.

This year's Trade Union Congress will again mirror the same struggle as the Labour Party Conference which follows it. That is the struggle between those leaders at the top who want to tie the workers' organisations behind capitalist policies and the mass at the base who seek to re-assert the independence of those organisations and give them a fighting policy.



THE JUDGE IS RIGHT - BAN 'EM ALL

## THE THIRD CAMP MOVEMENT

# An Illusion and a Dream

A European conference of supporters of the "Third Camp" will meet in Amsterdam in the autumn.

This announcement by Mr. Tom Wardle, press officer of the Third Camp Movement in Britain, lends fresh point to the arguments advanced by the Movement's international secretary, Mr. John Banks, in a recent PEACE NEWS pamphlet.\* The scope of this movement, and the support it is undoubtedly attracting among opinion-forming sections of the Left, call for discussion of the questions involved in the columns of every serious Socialist journal.

Commendable in this pamphlet is its exposure of the myth of "collective security". Mr. Banks recognises the era of Teheran, Yalta and Potsdam as the sowing-time of dangerous illusions—illu-

sions of the Arab and Asian nations, and which may soon—so hope its advocates—contain also Western Europe (possibly excluding Western Germany?) and the colonial peoples.

Yet it is precisely this last postulate in the plan—as Mr. Banks himself recognises (page 6)—which can shatter the whole conception. For the only base from which such countries as France and Britain can manoeuvre within a capitalist framework to free themselves from "American domination" is precisely their colonial possessions. Only their remaining colonies give these aged and weakened Powers the capacity to pursue in capitalist world politics anything like an independent line.

But the whole of world history since 1945 indicates the awakening determination of these colonial peoples to rid themselves of their imperialist oppressors—whether "old" (Britain, France, etc.) or "new" (the United States).

Mr. Banks and his co-thinkers would seem to place their faith in a "change of heart"—or "act of statesmanship" on the part of certain Western European statesmen.

More realistic, the Communist Party, which is also trying to wean imperialist France and Britain from the American grip, knows that in return the French and British ruling classes will demand of it that it fulfil its part in the bargain by distorting, misleading and deceiving the colonial movements. If the colonial revolutions could only be arrested, or diverted into harmless "democratic" channels; if the European working class could be comforted by the slogans of a raucous anti-Americanism to accept a reduction in their standards of "national interest"—that is the dream alike of the Kremlin and of the French and British ruling classes. But it is a dream.

Socialists will welcome the candour and the often remarkable

frankness of argument and vision with which Mr. Banks pursues his theme. They will retain, however, their conviction that fundamentally and through this whole period the world will remain divided into only two camps—the camp of capitalism and the camp of the developing working class and colonial revolution.

There is only one way to lasting peace—and that is through Socialism—the end of the camp of capitalism.

# The Landlord's Charter

BEFORE the ink was dry on the Tories' Housing Repairs and Rents Bill, landlords were preparing to despatch letters notifying their tenants of impending increases. The Bill becomes law next Monday, August 30. From then on millions of working class tenants will be expecting to receive notices from their landlords that their rent is being increased.

Many Left Wing members of the Labour Party have argued that to confine the movement of opposition to this Bill only to Parliamentary opposition would not prevent it becoming an Act. They proposed the mobilisation of the whole Labour Movement by the leadership in struggle against the Bill and against the Tories. Experienced has vindicated that policy—the Act is on the statute book and the landlords are preparing to call the tune. Members of the party are now confronted with what to do about the problem of increased rents for the mass of their fellow workers.

What is the value of advice bureaux? The fact must be faced

## BEVAN & GAITSKELL

The following A.E.U. branches in Birmingham have passed resolutions protesting at the A.E.U. Executive Council's decision to support Mr. Gaitskell for the position of Labour Party Treasurer.

King's Heath 2, Bromsgrove, Halesowen, West Bromwich 3, Old Hill, Small Heath 2, Birmingham 9, Birmingham South, Birmingham 4, Sheldon 1, Birmingham East have registered their protest in this way.

The Birmingham District Committee has fully endorsed the sentiments of a great number of Birmingham branches.

## by Labour Councillor

that the Acts are so heavily weighted against the tenants that the advice bureaux will have but a limited value if they confine themselves only to legal advice. However, if they are regarded as an integral part of the Labour Party they can be of assistance.

For example: in a number of cases the landlord's claim that he has spent the statutory amount necessary to claim an increase will be untrue. If the bureaux recommend tenants in such properties to take legal action, some, perhaps the majority, will be reluctant to chance losing and paying costs. The bureaux can help in finding the necessary money to fight these cases.

For this purpose the C.L.P.s must rally the local trade union movement and the rank-and-file of the Labour Party. If it is made plain to landlords that the Act is to be vigorously fought, the movement may yet be able to check the most unscrupulous of them.

The bureaux must, in conjunction with the trade union branches and Co-op. Guilds,

# RAILWAYMEN WANT ACTION

"DEEPLY enraged" by the failure of the Transport Commission to give members of his union a substantial increase in wages Mr. Baty boldly announced that he was prepared to negotiate. He thus launches the A.S.L.E. & F. on another circuit of the wages roundabout, putting off the fight for another two or three months.

The leaders of the N.U.R. meanwhile continue to vacillate and seek an interview with Sir Brian Robertson, Transport Chief, in the hope of what?

Rank and file railwaymen are definite in their opinions. There should have been strike action at Xmas when the situation was fav-

ourable and there should be decisive action now before more ground is lost in the fight to maintain wage levels. This feeling has been demonstrated by the resolutions passed calling for strike action. Last week-end the important Manchester N.U.R. District Council instructed the N.E.C. to call a strike.

A significant factor is that the official price index has shot forward again after a period of stability, with a rise of three points in two months and now stands at 43 per cent above 1947. There can be no doubt about the connection between the price index and the refusal of the Transport Commission to pay railwaymen decent wages.

The Tory railway management, along with the Churchill Government, argue that substantial increases in wages can only be met by increasing rail fares and rates generally. Transport being a key industry and its cost entering into the price of all articles, the lifting of railway wages would make inevitable the raising of prices generally to the detriment of the export drive and producing more trouble in the rest of industry. So argues Toryism.

by P. Morris

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## A SOLUTION

There is a solution, but it is one which the Tory Government will take only if it is forced to do so; that is, to cut or suspend the shareholders' payments. All other schemes are utopias or would react against the workers generally and should never be advocated by railwaymen.

Mr. Campbell, General Secretary of the N.U.R. calls for the payment of £125 million made as profit by the railways during the war and pocketed by the Government of the day. Mr. Campbell may as well call for the payment

## TORIES PREPARE FOR SHOWDOWN

Time is not on the side of the railway worker. The Tories will draw out negotiations to prepare for a showdown later. Last week's

Continued on page 4

## Old People Will Suffer

AFTER February, 1955, hundreds of London's Old Age Pensioners will be "on the bread line". This has been decreed by the Tory Minister of Food, who has instructed the L.C.C. to close all its civic restaurants—29 in number.

Many London workers who have to travel considerable distances to their place of employment will no longer be able to get a hot mid-day meal at a reasonable price, which means they just won't get a hot mid-day meal. They will have to pack bread and whatever they can find to put on it.

"Bun and tea" lunches are already the staple mid-day meal of many London clerks and have frequently been the cause of much comment on the detrimental effects to health which such inadequate meals produce. The closing of the civic restaurants can only add to this problem, but of course Mr. Gwilym Lloyd George is concerned with Food, not Health.

## AXE ON POOREST!

True to the policy of Toryism, the Food Minister brings down the axe on those who feel it most, and while the workers manage on sandwiches the Minister and his friends will continue to enjoy in comfort their well-prepared lunches in their private clubs with something rather stronger than tea to wash it down.

By this bureaucratic order to close the restaurants the aged will be especially affected unless alternative arrangements can be made to supply them with mid-day meals. Something like 6,000 meals are supplied weekly to old and infirm people in their own homes via the Meals on Wheels service. The old folk pay 10d. for their dinner, the balance of 8d. being made up by the council.

The same price applies to Old Age Pensioners visiting the restaurants for a meal. When the restaurants close where will the Old Age Pensioners get a meal for 10d.?

## SEVENTH OCCASION

This is the seventh occasion on which a local authority has been compelled to close its civic restaurants and in nine other cases restaurants have been closed "on the advice of the Minister". The reason given of course is that these public enterprises do not make enough profit. By closing the civic restaurants which supply reasonably-priced meals competition against private enterprise, where profits are notoriously high, is reduced.

This is in line with the Tory policy of cutting the social services and publicly controlled concerns. It is in line also with Tory opposition to government subsidies on food, school meals, school milk and milk for expectant mothers and infants, etc.

If the Tories get away with the closing of civic restaurants which supply cheap meals to the workers and subsidised meals to the old folk, then we can expect that the next attack will be on the children and the axe will fall on the school meals service and cheap milk schemes.

J.S.

By C. Cole

sions which have already yielded their bitter harvest of disappointment and frustration, characterised by popular opinion in the phrase "Cold War".

There has developed since the war, as Mr. Banks points out, a situation totally different from the state of affairs which existed before 1914—or even before 1939. In a fairly detailed survey of events since 1945, he traces the emergence of what for him are two power blocs—the U.S.A., which has retained until recently, the unchallenged leadership of the capitalist world; and the U.S.S.R. and its satellites and allies in China and Eastern Europe.

Of recent months there has grown, however, the idea of the Third Camp—a camp already to some extent shaped by the leaders

\*The Third Camp, by John Banks (Pearce News, 4d.).

More than that is involved in a movement against higher rents. A real campaign and a fight against landlordism can bring down the Tories—and it is high time.

# BIG BUSINESS THREATENS A LABOUR GOVERNMENT

## American Newsletter

### Witch Hunt Law Cripples Unions

IN the ECONOMIST of August 21 there is an article entitled "Needless Scarecrow". It is a warning to the whole Movement what to expect from the Tories and their friends when the next Labour Government is returned to office.

The article states that "thinkers" in the Labour Party now admit that public confidence is necessary to promote economic prosperity; in doing this they find themselves faced with a dilemma. This dilemma arises because the Labour Party does not inspire confidence in business circles; the reason for this lack of confidence, according to THE ECONOMIST is because the Labour Party "spends so much of its time making grimaces at capitalists and business administrators of all kinds that they tend to get nervous when it is in office."

#### A REPETITION OF 1931

This nervousness leads the capitalists to take steps to protect themselves, and THE ECONOMIST predicts that such steps would lead to an economic crisis being precipitated upon Labour again taking office. To quote the article:

"There is therefore a haunting fear in the Labour Party that in the first few days after its next return to power there might be a rush to buy imported goods and to send capital out of the country, that millions of pounds might slide out of the country down the merchants' and bankers' ramp."

It is explained that this did not happen when the Labour Government took office in 1945 because it inherited a large number of war-

By **J. Harney**

time measures which enabled it to exercise a certain amount of control over the economy. But now, THE ECONOMIST reminds its readers, the situation is different. Three years of Tory Government have been sufficient to remove and relax all those controls which impeded the flight of the businessmen in 1945; the next Labour Government will find a very different state of affairs "because the crows will find it much easier to take wings." The crows being, of course, the capitalists of the country.

An easy solution to this problem is suggested by THE ECONOMIST. That is, that the Labour Party should set about regaining the confidence of the capitalists; this "... would require the party to set about reassuring the business community and wooing its confidence. It would involve Labour speakers, from both wings of the Party, in declaring that, while they remained socialists, they would do nothing doctrinaire or vindictive or ill-considered." It suggests that the Labour Party should stop using all the old slogans of the class war—which it uses at the moment "without really meaning them"—and concentrate its ener-

#### Fighting Fund

What is new in this month's figures is the heart-warming response from individual readers—many of them new—who have sent money to help us fight this infamous Transport House ban. But what's happened to you regular collectors? Some districts show up well, but there are still far too many comrades suffering from end-of-the-month-itis. Send the cash in, comrades! AND SEND IT NOW!

Our thanks to: West London readers, £6 3s. 6d.; Leeds readers, £5; South-West London readers, £3 7s. 6d.; Islington readers, £3 4s. 3d.; Birmingham readers, £2 13s. 6d.; Platts readers, £2 10s. 3d.; Westminster readers, £2 10s.; Norwood readers, £1 19s. 6d.; East Salford readers, £1 15s. 9d.; Edinburgh readers, £1 4s. 6d.; Nottingham readers, £1; J.F.L.O., £1; P.J.S., £1; Ashton - under - Lyne readers, 18s. 6d.; West Salford readers, 18s. 6d.; Cypriot readers, 10s.; K.M.D., 10s.; A.R., 10s.; A.W.S., 10s.; H.F. 6s. 6d.; R.J.D., 6s.; Sunderland readers, 6s.; H.E.B., 5s. 3d.; J.E.L., 5s.; R.J.J., 4s.; D.E.P., 3s. 6d.; J.H.J., 3s.; H.J., 6d.; W.J.T., 6d.

Total for August, £39 6s. 0d.

gies on raising the standard of living of the poor.

In case this may seem a little contradictory THE ECONOMIST points out that:

"... the countries and periods in which the standard of living of the workers has risen most rapidly have been the periods and countries in which profits of enterprise have also been rising most rapidly."

Coming from such an authoritative source, this article will serve to indicate that the apparently pacific acceptance of the 1945 Labour Government by the capitalists was not due to the kindness of their hearts, but to physical controls which limited their activities. This fact has long been recognised by some members of the Party, even though its implications were not fully comprehended.

#### NO RETREAT

The "solution" offered by THE ECONOMIST must be rejected out of hand. To adopt it would mean that the Labour Party would cease to think in terms of social change and would become a Party of reformism—of seeking to make capitalism work in order that the workers receive more of the crumbs which the rich brush off their table. It would mean that the Labour Party would lose any semblance of Socialism which it at the present retains and would become a glorified Liberal Party—which is precisely what THE ECONOMIST and the capitalist class wants.

The real solution lies in a different direction and it lies entirely with the Left Wing, for only the Left Wing is capable of providing the basis for overcoming the situation envisaged.

The first task of the Left is to fight now to strengthen its position in the Party—for only this can prevent any chance of a repetition of the 1931 sell-out of MacDonald and the Right Wing. Whilst seeking to strengthen its position, the Left must take every opportunity of raising within the Party the situation which will be likely to confront the future Labour Government. It must ensure that the rank and file are familiar with what is to be expected and are not taken by surprise with a swift movement of events which is likely to leave them confused and open to mis-direction.

ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE  
The fact that THE ECONOMIST is able, without any qualms, to

envisage the capitalists taking certain steps in order to demonstrate their lack of "confidence" in a Labour Government—steps which amount to economic sabotage—raises issues of some importance. For if it is acceptable that the capitalists should use the weapons of capitalism against a Labour Government it is acceptable that the workers should take action in all fields in support of a Labour Government. It means that THE ECONOMIST and the capitalists will be in no position to whine if the working class uses every weapon at its disposal in order to establish a Socialist Government.

The fight against Tory sabotage is therefore the same fight as that being waged within the Party for the preservation and restoration of Socialist principles and policies. It is only against a Labour Government pursuing Socialist policies that the capitalists would act in the manner suggested by THE ECONOMIST—for with a Labour Government of the Right there would be no need for such action by the capitalists because a solution would be reached in the manner suggested by THE ECONOMIST.

As Harold Wilson said at the Margate Conference last year: "... however important finance may be, manipulation of the financial system can never be a substitute for socialist policies in trade and industry." It is up to the Left Wing to see that such policies are formulated and carried through—by whatever measures may be necessary in the face of capitalist sabotage.

production must be increased by all possible means in order to overcome the persistent post-war shortages. From now on, further expansion should be closely geared to market demand, without however, losing sight of nutritional requirements".

In other words, the doctor by implication exhorts the U.S. producers of the "burdensome unsold stocks" to produce in future only what can be absorbed by the market at a fat profit to the (owner) producers—to gear their output closely to "market demands". The "nutritional requirements" of the Asian, African and Latin American masses are remembered as an unpleasant afterthought—something which "must not be lost sight of".

Socialists should insist on the removal of all embargoes on East-West trade. They should step up the campaign for the immediate recognition of the right of all nations to self government and the development of their own resources.

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in conjunction with the prophecy that "burdensome unsold stocks in North America would continue to throw their shadow over world trade for years to come", it assumes the character of an indictment of the world system of capitalist-imperialism, which can produce to abundance but which cannot feed the hungry.

MAIN AREAS OF HUNGER  
Main areas of hunger, points out F.A.O. Director-General Cardon in his foreword to the Report, are Latin America and the Far East, where production, despite a record Indian harvest, "remained substantially less than before the war".

Per capita production, according to the Report, was four to five times greater in North America than in the Far East, the Near East and Africa. Surely some means could be found, a reader of the Report might ask himself, to transfer some of the "burdensome unsold stocks" to the areas where "production remained substantially less than before the war".

This is a problem insoluble within the confines of a capitalist economy. Proof of this is contained in that section of the Report which deals—significantly enough—with prices. "The demand", its authors state, "for agricultural products in 1953-54 was well maintained, but the growth of surplus stocks is in itself evidence that the growth of consumption did not fully keep pace with increasing production".

Only in Japan, whose capitalists have advanced some way, under the aegis of the occupation, along the road to the refurbishment of their economy, was there a noticeable improvement in the level of consumption over the past year.

Of the other countries of the East, it is remarked that "there is ample scope for further increases in the world trade in rice, of which the per capita consumption was less than it was 15 years ago."

NO SOLUTION  
The business of the Report, as befits that of any of the impotent "social service" departments of the imperialist military machine (the "United Nations"), is merely to relate the facts, and prove and illustrate them by statistics. No programme is advanced to resolve the grave problem which the Report raises, of which Dr. Cardon remarks: "If we fail in its solution, the social consequences will be serious indeed".

It is clear, however, that two approaches to the problem, two lines of development, are possible. The capitalist approach is exemplified in Dr. Cardon's comment: "The time has passed when food

production must be increased by all possible means in order to overcome the persistent post-war shortages. From now on, further expansion should be closely geared to market demand, without however, losing sight of nutritional requirements".

In other words, the doctor by implication exhorts the U.S. producers of the "burdensome unsold stocks" to produce in future only what can be absorbed by the market at a fat profit to the (owner) producers—to gear their output closely to "market demands". The "nutritional requirements" of the Asian, African and Latin American masses are remembered as an unpleasant afterthought—something which "must not be lost sight of".

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Total for August, £39 6s. 0d.

## Half The World Undernourished

"FULLY half the world's people is still inadequately housed, clothed and nourished", states the annual report of the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation.

The disclosure is alarming enough in itself. But when taken

By **C. Brent**

in conjunction with the prophecy that "burdensome unsold stocks in North America would continue to throw their shadow over world trade for years to come", it assumes the character of an indictment of the world system of capitalist-imperialism, which can produce to abundance but which cannot feed the hungry.

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is only against a Labour Government pursuing Socialist policies that the capitalists would act in the manner suggested by THE ECONOMIST—for with a Labour Government of the Right there would be no need for such action by the capitalists because a solution would be reached in the manner suggested by THE ECONOMIST.

As Harold Wilson said at the Margate Conference last year: "... however important finance may be, manipulation of the financial system can never be a substitute for socialist policies in trade and industry." It is up to the Left Wing to see that such policies are formulated and carried through—by whatever measures may be necessary in the face of capitalist sabotage.

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THESE Americans who looked to the liberal Democrats to "stop McCarthy" are to-day virtually numb with shock. For the first time in American history a political party, the Communist Party, has been outlawed by a Congressional vote. Additional legislation has been enacted that lays the basis for outlawing the unions. This deadly assault on civil rights was rammed through Congress by those who have paraded as friends of labour and opponents of McCarthyism—the liberal Democrats.

The events of the past week in Congress underscores the folly of entrusting the fate of a threatened democracy to capitalist politicians, no matter how "liberal". It also demonstrates the terrible price that must be paid by those in the ranks of labour that attempt to escape the blows of the witch-hunt by supporting and aping it.

BIRTH OF WITCH-HUNT  
The witch-hunt was born under a Democratic administration. The first prosecutions of the Communist Party leaders under the Smith Act, which makes ideas a felony, was initiated by the Truman administration. The Smith Act itself became law under the Roosevelt regime.

The Democrats have never recovered from the impact of waking up one fine morning to find themselves victims of the witch-hunt they had spawned, with the McCarthyites and Eisenhower Republicans joining forces to club them with the charge of "twenty years of treason".

It is this that inspired the criminal activity of the Democrats during the past week. They propose to halt the attack of the Republican majority on them by establishing the precedent of outlawing political parties by act of Congress! One need not be a prophet to predict that they will pay even more dearly for this than for their previous crimes. In frenzied flight from their first Frankenstein's

Witch-hunts of necessity start out with a small minority as the first target. Unless stopped right there, they can only grow until they menace the existence of organised labour itself. The old joke about the young girl who wasn't worried because she was only a "little pregnant" applies fully. Those who support or even condone a "little" witch-hunt are laying their own heads on the chopping block for the big one that always follows.

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IN JORDAN five weekly newspapers were suspended last week for attacking the new Government.

IN BAVARIA, where metal workers are on strike, the management of Siemens recommended to the government that "roving pickets" moving from one plant to another be barred from travelling in public buses and street cars, or from hiring their own mass transport.

KING PAUL OF GREECE is making a tour of Greek islands. The Greek Press Ministry has refused to give assurances that correspondents would not be roughly handled by the police during their coverage of the tour.

Nearly 80 kings, queens, princes and princesses will accompany him on the trip.

A VIETNAMESE GENERAL has warned Bao Dai to stay away from Viet Nam. General Nguyen Van Xuan said on August 19: "No one can guarantee his safety in Viet Nam. The first gesture of the Assembly which the people want will be to dethrone the Emperor."

THE MINISTER OF LANDS IN SOUTH AFRICA—Mr. J. G. Strydom—made last week what THE TIMES called "a scarcely veiled warning to English-language newspapers in South Africa."

"To people who urge equality," he said, "whether they are newspapers, ministers of religion, or anything else, I say that the white race has been here for 300

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## Spontaneous Protest

In a report from Seoul on August 19 the United Press correspondent described a "mass protest" against the American decision to withdraw four divisions from Korea.

"One hundred thousand Seoul residents" he cabled, "were shaken out of their sleep at dawn to-day

by police and block leaders, who ordered them into Seoul city football stadium.

"The sleepy demonstrators passed a three point resolution, printed in advance in Korean and English, protesting the withdrawal and urging a 'march north' against the Communists."

IN GERMANY there have been strong protests directed against the British Army of the Rhine. The parliament of the Lower Saxony Land held a special session last Friday to discuss the situation. Protests are directed against the B.A.O.R. because of damage done by troops to crops and forests, because fresh areas are being requisitioned for training and because of the holding of autumn manoeuvres during the harvest season.

THE EASTERN AFRICA COURT OF APPEAL on August 17 criticised the Kenya Police Force and Government. It spoke of the "danger that the police force in Kenya is tending to become a law unto itself."

IN FRENCH RULED MOROCCO a general strike was backed by the nationalist Istiqlal (Independence) Party. French troops and police of French-sponsored Sultan Mohammed Moulay Ben Arafa cordoned off two native areas near Rabat on

August 19. They were searching for nationalist "agitators".

The police are still holding some 1,800 Moroccans, seized in Port Lyautey and Fez three weeks ago.

AT VERNON, ALABAMA, in the deep south of America, a grand jury has returned 60 indictments charging widespread election irregularities, in West Alabama.

The jury said some 200 witnesses unfolded "incredible and astonishing stories" of buying and selling votes, illegal absentee voting, voting in more than one county and "of names of dead persons still on the poll more than 27 years after the death of those persons."

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years. . . We in this generation will fight to the death to maintain the white man's leadership in South Africa."



# More Protest at the Ban

## Readers Forum

Correspondence should be as brief as possible and addressed to The Editorial Board, 177, Bermondsey St., London, SE1

MY Socialist outlook may rarely have coincided with that of the SOCIALIST OUTLOOK, the "Socialist Outlook".

But my Socialist outlook never envisaged the proscription of newspapers purely on political grounds.

Believing that the public are the best people to "proscribe" by their refusal to purchase newspapers they don't want—thereby making continued publication impossible—I am completely opposed to this ban.

Frank Meade,  
Editor, Labour's Voice  
Newspapers.

### ★ NEC Makes Another Reader

After reading of the N.E.C.'s ban on SOCIALIST OUTLOOK, in last week's NEW STATESMAN, I ordered a back number from my local newsagent. I must confess that I had never heard of your paper and was rather interested to see what all the fuss was about.

This morning I received the August 13 issue of SOCIALIST OUTLOOK and was pleased with what appears to be a genuinely independent militant, left wing weekly newspaper. Consequently I am putting in a regular order for your paper—I wonder how many more new readers Morgan Phillips has gained for SOCIALIST OUTLOOK.

St. Ives. New Reader.

## Railway Review Protest

AN editorial in last week's RAILWAY REVIEW made the following comments on the N.E.C. attempt to ban the OUTLOOK.

No doubt interfered with the National Executive's decision to proscribe "Socialist Outlook".

Whatever the faults of this lively little paper, and it has said things which had not "the quality of prudence", the clumsy attempt to dictate what Labour Party members should or should not read is an astonishing decision.

No member worth his salt as a free thinking socialist will take the slightest notice of the ban. To treat adults in this manner is surely to insult them.

Most Labour Party members are able to judge a newspaper without the aid of Transport House.

To be logical the National Executive ought to forbid all members reading all newspapers that have been critical of Labour policy. That would include the millions who daily read the capitalist press. It would also forbid Labour Party members writing for the capitalist press, including Mr. Attlee, Mr. Bevan, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Morrison, in fact practically all the leaders of the Labour Party who in the past have done so.

And what about Mr. Crossman's association with the "New Statesman" and Mr. Strachey's holding in the "Spectator"?

Indeed, the list of individuals and newspapers which could well be banned is so long and comprehensive that if the policy were to be operated we should get the Labour Party expelling itself en bloc and the press closing down because the ban had halved their circulation.

One paper we nearly forgot, "Tribune", has often published stuff which had not the "quality of prudence". Certain people dislike, probably fear, "Tribune" more than they do "Socialist Outlook".

Sometime, if the decision is not ridiculed by the Party Annual Conference, up might pop the idea, no doubt overlooked up to now by those behind the attempt to crush criticism, that what is sauce for the goose "Socialist Outlook", is sauce for the gander, "Tribune", or any other troublesome bird.

### Newsagent Supports

The N.E.C.'s proscription of SOCIALIST OUTLOOK is a grave violation of Party democracy. Whether members agree with your paper's policy or not, it behoves everyone to assist in your campaign to lift the ban.

In my capacity as a newsagent I wish to make it known that I'm prepared to supply your paper to anyone living within a wide radius of Newcastle-under-Lyme. I am a former secretary of Newcastle Labour Party and organiser of the Tailor and Garment Workers' Union.

Newcastle-under-Lyme  
Fred Nicklin, J.P.

### ★ Right to Read

Every member who signs a membership form agrees to accept the policy of the Party (not necessarily agree). This is perfectly reasonable when fighting an election but the N.E.C. or anyone else have no moral (or other) right to tell me what I shall read, think, or say at private party meetings.

When canvassing, I often have to propound, or defend, party policy with which I personally disagree. I pride myself on being big enough to accept majority decisions, even though I agree with the minority.

Incidentally, I disagree with quite a good deal of your views,

## Abolish Piecework Raise Youth Rates

I COULDN'T help thinking how close many of the grievances of lads in the Building Industry are to those of lads in Engineering, when I read the article by Barry Feddy (SOCIALIST OUTLOOK July 2).

I have made a study of the reports of the A.U.E. annual youth conferences, the eleventh of which was held this year.

A brief outline of the resolutions discussed at these eleven conferences will, I think, serve to indicate what the young engineers consider is wrong with their industry.

First and foremost, resolutions  
SAYS  
ENGINEERING  
APPRENTICE

asking for increases in apprentices' wages have been passed at EVERY youth conference. When you look at the rates of apprentices in Engineering, you can only agree that such demands are modest and not unjustified.

The rates at present are:		
at 15 yrs old	38/1d.	
" 16 "	46/3d.	
" 17 "	54/4d.	
" 18 "	73/5d.	
" 19 "	86/1d.	
" 20 "	101/6d.	
for a 44 hour week.		

101/6d. for 44 hours work, for a lad who has already served four years at his trade, and in many cases, is doing exactly the same work as a skilled man—this really is exploitation of labour.

Closely linked with the demands for increased wages, are demands for the abolition of piecework by apprentices. Piecework is a system, that in 99 per cent. of the cases, gives absolutely no recognition of trade training. There are many cases, of lads having been on one job for a large proportion of their apprenticeship, with no training to be skilled men.

Young engineers have also demanded better training facilities, both technical and manual. At six conferences, including the last 3, resolutions have been passed asking for an increase in the building of Technical and County colleges.

Another subject which has been discussed with much heat

but I will back the campaign to ban the ban on S.O.  
Exeter. G. Radmore

### ★ Kill E.D.C.

Those of us who differ about whether or no Germany is a special case, a neurotic among the nations of Europe, could argue endlessly as to whether it is safe to withdraw all foreign troops and let the German workers themselves overcome the problems of resurgent Nazism.

The events of the last few weeks would seem to indicate the emergence of a new spirit among the proletariat of that unhappy country and we should not underestimate its importance, but only time will show how far the latest developments are the visible signs of a new upsurge of Socialist feeling rather than the result of a desire to receive a larger slice of the fruity cake of industrial productivity.

In the meantime we should waste no time arguing amongst ourselves but devote all our energies to the task of rousing mass opposition to E.D.C. in any shape or form. It is now up to all of us in every party and branch to press home our attack and kill E.D.C. stone dead.

Once we have accomplished that we shall again have a breathing space in which we may continue the argument as to what constructive plan we can work out with our German comrades for the

## Abolish Piecework Raise Youth Rates

and vigour over the past 6 years has been conscription. All apprentices have some ideas about this subject, but up to now they have not yet developed and asked for the correct demand—abolition.

Although abolition has had some support, the bulk of the support has been for a reduction, which is official union policy, and therefore all the thought and energy of the lads has been directed in these channels.

I have up to now dealt with three subjects only. This is because these are the three that have most consistently turned up at conference—but I must add that year after year, resolutions have been passed dealing with a host of grievances. The diversity of these is surprising—hours of working, payment during sickness, holidays with pay, recruitment and training of juveniles (this is a sore point), night working, voting age—these are just a sample of the many that have turned up. And we must realise that these resolutions are initiated by the lads on the shop floor—they are not "officially" appointed resolutions.

It is possible to add many more conditions that the lads are dissatisfied with, some of which are not discussed at conferences—using apprentices for making tea and running errands for instance are two problems that crop up all over the country.

We have to think seriously what we are going to do to alter these grievances. We are told quite frequently at conferences by the A.E.U. Executive Committee that the employers, especially the smaller owners cannot afford to implement many of our demands. Perhaps this may be true but we should not be asked to suffer because of other people's inefficiencies.

The industry must be re-organised. So I urge all the lads, whilst continuing to press their demands, to realise that the only real solution is—The nationalisation of the Engineering Industry—that is, support for the Confederation Plan PLUS workers' control.

future of Germany and Europe.

Let us step up the assault on the hidden menace of E.D.C. and provide an effective answer to the frightened men of Transport House who are now openly revealing their fear of imminent defeat on this tremendous issue. It will take more than a mean and shabby veto on SOCIALIST OUTLOOK to silence the voices of those who refuse to carry on from where Hitler left off.

Carmarthen David E. Painting

### ★ Australia Witch-hunt

Anybody who wishes to understand what the witch-hunt really means and where it ends cannot do better than consult the reports of the appearance of Australian Labour leader, Dr. H. V. Evatt, before the "Royal Commission on Espionage" in that country.

There the Petrov defection has been used by the reactionary Menzies-Fadden government to whip up a smear campaign against every kind of non-Conservative opinion—including and especially the Right-Wing Labour leadership.

One can commend Dr. Evatt's courage in coming to the defence of the two members of his staff—Mr. Alan Dalziel and Mr. A. Grundeman—who have borne the brunt of the McCarthy-type campaign around "Document 'J'", alleged to have been written by Communist journalist Rupert Lockwood. But it cannot be forgotten that the former Commonwealth Labour Government, like the Labour administrations in several States, must bear the responsibility for having initiated the witch-hunt.

The lesson for us in Britain—particularly now that McCarthyism has made its open and formal appearance within our own Party—is too obvious to need underlining. Let us learn it—and campaign all the more vigorously for the withdrawal of the ban on SOCIALIST OUTLOOK.

Wafford reader.

### A.E.U. Protests

BIRMINGHAM District Committee of the A.E.U. passed the following resolution at its last meeting, held Tuesday, August 10.

"This District Committee expresses its disgust at the recent circular issued by Morgan Phillips.

"Such action is a direct attack on the freedom of the press and is contrary to the declared aim of the Labour Party on the rights of minorities to express their point of view.

"If successful, the National Executive of the Labour Party will be in a position to proscribe any journal within the Labour Party that does not happen to agree with the N.E.C.'s political view.

"We call upon the Executive Council to immediately demand that this circular be completely withdrawn."

Several Birmingham A.E.U. branches have passed similar resolutions and have forwarded copies to the Birmingham Borough Labour Party, the N.E.C., the A.E.U. Executive Council and the Birmingham Trades Council. Councillors, aldermen and prominent members of the Labour Party have expressed their opposition to the ban. It is clear that it is only a matter of time before all Labour organisations in Birmingham register a mighty protest against this N.E.C. gag.

### ● Continued from page 2

ECONOMIST—the voice of Big Business—made that clear.

"The authorities," it declared, "should now hurry forward with the emergency measures that will be needed to face—they should not be deterred by cries that these may also be interpreted as measures that will be needed to break—the grave possibility of an autumn or winter railway strike."

The thing is to upset the Tory plans and for this a serious fight is needed. Railwaymen should unite to demand a stop to the payments to shareholders and the acceptance of the unions' plans for a decent wage structure. No more arbitration but strike action to force the acceptance by Toryism of the rights of railway workers to decent wage levels. That is what rank and file railwaymen are demanding.

## People, Places and Politics

By Cassia

### WHO ARE THE GUILTY ?

THE publication of Lord Russell's book *The Scourge of the Swastika*, has raised sharply the question of German rearmament in the columns of the British press. It has also been the occasion of violent anti-German outbursts of the most vicious character.

This book, as suggested by its title, is a record of the crimes committed by the Fascists of Germany: the Nazis, who used the crooked cross as their symbol of horror. This fact is conveniently overlooked by many who review the book; they talk, as does Anthony Greenwood in last week's *REYNOLDS' NEWS*, of "12,000,000 people murdered by the Germans", and of "a dead mother with her baby pinned to her breast by a German bayonet".

I would recommend all those who have allowed themselves to be worked up into a frenzy of race-hate to read a book published by the Left Book Club some seven years ago. It is *The Darker the Night, the Brighter the Stars* and was written by a German worker. It is the story of how the German workers began fighting against the "Brown Terror" years before many people in Britain became aware of its existence—the author himself was thrown into a concentration camp in 1933 because of his underground activities against the Nazis.

It tells how the German workers continued to fight against Hitler even when British statesmen were flirting with him and while Molotov was drinking champagne with Ribbentrop in Moscow. It is a reminder that the German workers began fighting years before anyone else.

In the foreword to the book it states "... the guilt is great, but it does not stop at the frontiers. And the chief criminals are not to be found in the factories, in the mines and in the fields." How I wish some members of the Labour Party would remember that!

### EXPULSION MORGAN ?

I WRITE this column in the SOCIALIST OUTLOOK with my Party card at stake. Yet I may write in any other paper with complete assurance that I will not suffer the penalty of expulsion. I can even do the same as Morgan Phillips did last Saturday—write

### Labour Parties Protest

Blackley D.L.P. has "strongly protested" against the ban and urges the N.E.C. to reconsider its decision.

Bury and Radcliffe C.L.P. has stated it "cannot accept the principles laid down" in the N.E.C. circular.

Dalkeith L.P. has unanimously condemned the circular and demanded withdrawal on the grounds that it "interferes with the liberty of the press, infringes upon the right of democratic debate within the Party and introduces an atmosphere of witch-hunting and intolerance in Labour's ranks, and gives satisfaction to the Tories."

East Kilbride L.P. also unanimously denounced the "decision of the Labour Party N.E.C. to outlaw SOCIALIST OUTLOOK and all those connected with it". Their resolution calls the ban "a stranglehold on intellectual freedom."

These are only a few of the many protests that are being made in Labour and trade-union organisations up and down the country. We would be pleased to have reports of others from our readers.

Is the "SOCIALIST  
OUTLOOK" in your  
Local Library?

If not—ASK FOR IT!

for the most anti-Labour paper on sale in Britain—the DAILY TELEGRAPH—and still retain the benefits of Party membership.

But if I discovered that such papers were prepared to accept political articles from me I would know that the time had come for me to change my Party membership card for one issued by the Tory Party. I wonder if Morgan Phillips will take the hint?

### "REVOLUTIONARY" ARMY

THE diplomats of the bourgeoisie are brought up in shrewd circles—they are taught exactly when to open their mouths and when to keep them shut—but they occasionally make a mistake.

The U.S. Ambassador to Guatemala obviously made a mistake when he reported in Washington recently that the "Revolutionary Army" which did the dirty work for the imperialists in Guatemala had disbanded. The reasons for this, according to the Ambassador, were that "most members were farmers and businessmen who have gone back to their work".

No wonder the capitalists of the U.S. supported that revolution!

### QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

This space was reserved for the comment of the Communist Party journal *WORLD NEWS* on the banning of the SOCIALIST OUTLOOK. They said:

## Socialist Outlook Bazaar

COMRADES, one sure way in which to answer the Transport House circular is by raising money for the paper. And one of our chief money-raisers—as well as a first-class opportunity to pick up many fine bargains for your Xmas shopping—will be the SOCIALIST OUTLOOK bazaar, to be held in November.

Every reader of the paper, in any part of the country, can help in this work by getting in touch with the Bazaar Committee secretary, C. Brent, at 145b, Ashley Gardens, London, S.W.1. Specially needed at the moment are WHITE TAPE and anything in FELT. A more specialized appeal goes out from a comrade making puppets for the toy stall—she wants puppet heads.

Finally, will all readers who still have their holiday ahead of them remember their paper and BRING BACK A GIFT, however small, for the bazaar? Send all your offerings to me at the above address.

C.B.

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