

# The Week

A NEWS ANALYSIS FOR SOCIALISTS  
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- HARROW C.S.E.
- HULL BY-ELECTION
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- RHODESIA : TORY INTERESTS EXPOSURE

## “IMPERIALISM BARS THE WAY TO PEACE”

BERTRAND RUSSELL

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SUPPORT THE MINERS' M.P.s

A group of M.P.s representing mining constituencies have been trying to put pressure on the Government to modify its disastrous policy towards the coal industry. So far they have met with little success. On the contrary, the Government White Paper on fuel policy which announced that 120,000 miners jobs were in jeopardy was followed by the plans for the 'reorganisation' of the Coal Board's structure. The latter move threatens the jobs of thousands of clerical workers in the industry. In both cases the unions have complained bitterly about lack of consultation. For once we must agree with Lord Robens in characterising the Government's policy as "state capitalist", rather than socialist.

Another disquieting feature is the complaint by the mining M.P.s of lack of action by the leadership of the National Union of Mineworkers. They can scarcely mean the Scottish and South Wales N.U.M.s who have been doing what they can to draw attention to the drift of Government policy. But if the union as a whole has been lulled into a false sense of security by the Government's arguments a big mistake has been made. What is needed is a large-scale campaign against the murder of the coal industry. This is an affair which affects every section of the Labour movement. To allow, in the name of the 'national interest', the neo-capitalist rationalisation of a major section of British industry sets a dangerous precedent. A combined campaign, in and out of Parliament, should be mounted. Above all independent action by the miners themselves is the key. For decades the miners have been the backbone of Labour support up and down the country. Mr. Wilson must be told in completely unmistakable terms that the support is in very serious danger of erosion if he continues along the present path.

WELCOME, SYDNEY SILVERMAN AND TOM SWAIN!

We are extremely happy to report that two more M.P.s have joined our band. Tom Swain, M.P., the vigorous spokesman of the Derbyshire miners, is a most welcome recruit. His strong denunciation of the attack on the mining industry was warmly received by all our readers. Our other new sponsor needs no introduction to anyone - he is Sydney Silverman, the grand old warrior of the left, the man who put an end to the scaffold. We are proud and happy to welcome him.

We are sorry to report the resignation of two of our parliamentary sponsors. Norman Buchan & Eric Varley have both asked us to withdraw their names from our panel. We regret losing them, and hope that we shall remain close allies in many future struggles.



I have referred in previous reports to the militant policies pursued by the Midlands' commercial trade group secretary of the TGWU, Mr. Alan Law. The following report which appeared in the December 10th issue of Motor Transport gives a good indication of how he proceeds:

"Tank hauliers are on the receiving end of the latest bombshell by Mr. Alan Law, the TGWU's unconventional" (sic) "Midlands commercial trade group secretary. During last week, he was busy sending out letters to operators with tank vehicles in his area demanding that they come into line with the new wages and productivity agreements, which the oil companies have been negotiating with the union. His demands aim at an eventual £25 for a 40-hour week, plus subsistence of 35s. a night." (our emphasis).

"His letter calls for a six-stage improvement in basic rates, coupled with a progressive reduction in overtime, in line with the oil companies' 'new deal' for their own drivers. The first stage would have been an increase of around £1 on basic rates with effect from November 29. Hauliers have resisted this to date...Mr. Law expects road hauliers operating from oil installations to pay the same rates as the oil companies, but he makes no mention of those companies' negotiations. It appears that most or all of the major oil companies are throwing overboard the Oil Companies Conciliation Agreement which governed wages of their own drivers and those of contractors....

"Mr. Law's latest offensive was discussed by the bulk liquids functional group of the Road Haulage Association at its meeting last week. Members expressed concern at not being consulted during the negotiations between the oil companies and the unions, and alarm at the unilateral approach, coming as it did from only one area of the country....The full catalogue of demands laid down by Mr. Law in his letter is as follows: an immediate increase of about £1 on basic rates; from January 3, 1966, a reduction of basic hours from 41 to 40 and basic rate increased to £16; from April 4, increase to £19 10s.; from July 4, increase to £21; from November 29 this<sup>year</sup>, overnight subsistence to 35s. per night. These stages would be accompanied, says the letter, 'by a progressive reduction in overtime' and the ultimate demand, it seems, is for £25 for 40 hours' work..."

Mr. Law has shown in the past that he is willing to back up such claims by bringing his members into action. This skilful use of a concession from one set of employers to force a similar one from another section is<sup>the</sup> real art of trade union negotiation.

WORSENING CONDITIONS IN TEACHING

by Ken Bodfish (ATTI)

In the week in which we read of a proposal by a member of the Birmingham Education Committee to increase the working hours of teachers; we hear of unrest in a Manchester Technical College about threats to increase the number of weeks worked in the year. At one Manchester College, already the staff are working 30 consecutive weeks, and at another local college, from next year the staff will be working a 42-hour week year. A poster displayed in one College calls on the members of the Association of Teachers in Technical Institutions to act now. For at a time when the rest of industry is calling for shorter hours and longer holidays, serious threats are being aimed at the conditions in teaching. If this is related to the ominous dilution which is likely to be involved with the introduction of "Instructors" under the new Industrial Training Act, it is clear that unless the teaching unions act quickly teaching in technical colleges will <sup>will</sup> be <sup>be</sup> prepared to the demands of industry rather than to the students' needs.



Arising from the determination of the Young Socialists in Hull to participate in the forthcoming by-election campaign, not as mere canvassing fodder, but on the basis of maintaining the socialist content of the Labour Party's 1964 manifesto a mass meeting of all socialist youth on Sunday, December 5th set up an ad hoc Youth Forum Committee and adopted the following statement:

"A Labour Government should not be judged in terms of its popularity with pollsters or even in terms of its effectiveness in comparison with the morally corrupt crew that went before them. It should be judged solely in terms of what it does to change the bases of our society in a socialist direction.

"That is why we are opposed to some of the present Government's major initiations. In particular:

"1. We oppose the Immigration White Paper, as a victory for racialism which substitutes colour, country and creed for class. We demand full freedom of immigration for workers everywhere.

"2. We oppose the threatened anti-union legislation as being solely in the interests of the bosses. On the contrary,

"3. Let Labour fulfil its rusty promise to nationalise basic industry starting with steel now.

"4. We oppose the Government's gunboat tactics in Aden and their support for American genocide in Vietnam. We demand the withdrawal of troops from both and active support for both national independence movements.

"5. We oppose the Government's union with the bosses, And demand that they take measures to open company accounts to public scrutiny. The workers must be protected from the vicious attacks from the employers and the right wing press.

"We should be able to discuss these points and others affecting the Labour Government and the Party. Only in free discussion can the democratic traditions of socialism be confirmed. We shall fight to keep the Labour Government in office and we shall fight for North Hull to remain Labour and we shall fight to achieve socialism in this country and the world."

The tenor of the discussion which preceded the adoption of this statement reflected the same sense of urgency which has attended the setting up of the Manchester Socialist Conference, and the Centre for Socialist Education. Whilst the immediate purpose of the Youth Forum is to make known the voice of socialism within the Labour Party, at a time when attention will be focussed by the by-election, the healthy converging of different trends within the left upon a common enterprise is worth noting for its wider implications.

Martin Prestage of Oldbury and Halesowen Young Socialists has drawn up a detailed statement on the future of the Labour Party Young Socialists. The statement outlines why the recently adopted constitution will lead to "active members ..(leaving) the movement to devote their energies to the adult movement," and suggests ways of resolving the problem.

N.B. next week's issue will have an extensive summary of this statement.



The first major step has been taken towards setting up a C.S.E. in Harrow, Middlesex. More than twenty socialists - half the number invited - packed the front room of a house in Kenton on Friday, December 10 and unanimously agreed that attempts should be made to launch a local Centre early in the New Year. Following a detailed discussion, they appointed a provisional organising committee, comprising Geoff. Carlsson (Harrow), Peter Jenner (Ruislip), Manuel Macedo (Wembley), Neville Maurice (Harrow) and Paul Russell (Watford).

This committee will produce concrete proposals for the operation of the Harrow Centre, and these will come up for discussion at another informal get-together on January 14 at 56, Salisbury Road, Harrow. In addition, the committee is making arrangements for a public meeting in Harrow in February to which a leading leftwinger is being invited to talk on "Where Labour is going wrong". It is hoped the Centre will officially come into being at this meeting.

Meanwhile, a "contacts register" is being built up so that every Labour Movement organisation in and around Harrow can be circularised with details of all developments, particularly the public meeting in February.

N.B. Readers should contact Peter Jenner, West Middlesex Convenor C.S.E., 13b, Deane Way, Eastcote, Ruislip, Middlesex, for details of activities. Any possible C.S.E. members' addresses should also be sent to him.

#### C.S.E. BRANCHES AND STUDY GROUPS DRAW UP PLANS by Ken Coates

Meetings are now taking place all over the country to form branches of the C.S.E. In Sheffield a branch is being formed on the 19th December, in Nottingham a meeting has been convened for the 17th, in London one took place on the 13th. The newly formed Yorkshire Regional Committee will meet in Leeds on the 18th, as will the national steering committee, in London.

Preparations for the read-in on incomes policy are already well-advanced. John Palmer, of 2, Clock House Mead, Oxshott, Surrey, is already in touch with a number of contributors, and would like to hear from others. He proposes to convene a seminar of contributors to the read-in late in January. The papers read by these contributors might be taken as a basis for the range of topics to be covered in the read-in.

A very comprehensive document on workers' control in municipal transport has been received from the Hull group. This may well be a model for the other centres, in that it shows how the creative application of socialist principles to practical problems can be tackled by a group of trade unionists. It is to be hoped that this excellent document can quickly be published.

A comprehensive register of lecturers for the Centre is now being prepared. A most encouraging response has been received to the initial circular which has gone out. There is little doubt that the Centre will be soon able to call upon the widest range of expertise ever made available to any socialist education enterprise in Britain.

THE C.S.E. DIRECTORY: This has not appeared in the last two issues because of space reasons and to get some stability in the list. We will be publishing it again as soon as space permits, and then when it is stable regularly on the inside of the cover. For this purpose we would like to receive the names of all those willing to be convenors during next week.



A disturbing trend is now plain in the Labour Party. As the Government moves closer and closer to the right, so the old policy of "tolerance" which came in with Mr. Wilson appears to have fallen aside.

Latest addition to the ranks of the expelled is popular Councillor Brack, of Islington, who has been clobbered by the notorious Islington Labour Group, whose approach to politics has more in common with Clore and Cotton than Keir Hardie. Like Ken Coates, he has been expelled for "writing an article." This flimsy (and totalitarian) pretext is, of course, used to conceal the real reason for his exclusion, which is that like Ken Coates, he was insisting that the councillors should carry out agreed socialist policies. We are glad to report that there is a justified outcry in the London Labour Party about this savage attack on democratic principles. It is to be hoped that the Islington councillors will soon find that they have burned their fingers, just as the Nottingham aldermen are beginning to do.

Witches are foregathering at a higher level in the Party, also. Under the famous principle "set a witch to catch a witch" Sara Barker has been whistled up with her coven to perform various satanic rituals in Croydon and Epsom where John Palmer and Constance Lever have just been ruled ineligible to stand as parliamentary candidates. Protests should flood in about this latest piece of bureaucratic gerrymandering. Under Mr. Wilson's regime, the practice of imposing categories of second-class membership was supposed to have been brought to an end. Now it has reappeared.

Reports in the Nottingham newspapers have it that Sara's conical hat and broomstick have been seen parked in other places, too. It is alleged that her organisation sub-committee is to ask the NEC for permission to investigate the Nottingham City Labour Party. Bulk supplies of holy water are being laid in at the Labour Party offices at 265, Ilkeston Road, Nottingham. But those people who have observed Sara at work will also ensure that large numbers of protests arrive at Transport House and the Nottingham City Labour Party, against any such authoritarian move.

The right wing councillors in Nottingham have been making increasingly insistent calls for the winding-up of the City Party there. This would give them a free hand. Sara Barker's scarcely graceful intervention into an already tense situation cannot help matters in the slightest, and can only succeed in increasing the danger of losing two highly marginal parliamentary seats. The proper course for the NEC is to insist that the councillors carry out their mandates, and thus encourage the processes of local democracy.

But perhaps this would be seen as inconsistent with certain national events which have been taking place recently.....

U.K. BOTTOM OF EUROPE'S HOUSING TABLE

from Dave Windsor

A recent survey by the O.E.C.D. shows Britain at the bottom of the table of European housing efforts. The figures being for (1) new houses per 1,000 population in 1964; (2) ditto for 1961-63; and (3) spending as % of National output 1961-63. In each respect Britain is bottom of the list of advanced countries: Sweden, 11.4, 10.2 & 5.3; W. Germany, 9.8, 9.6 & 5.6; Holland, 8.3, 6.8 & 4.0; France, 7.6, 6.8 & 4.8; Italy, 8.1., 6.7 & 6.1; U.K. 6.9, 5.8 & 3.1. With the U.K. only spending half as much as Italy on housing and only building half as many houses as Sweden pro rata let nobody blame the immigrants for the housing shortage.



The Ruskin Students' Action Committee on Rhodesia have issued a statement which should be seen in relation to the discussion on what should be done about Ian Smith. The main piece in the statement reads:

"A gang of thugs led by Ian Smith has illegally seized power in Rhodesia and is using armed force to consolidate its position. Tens of thousands of men and women are denied their basic human rights and liberty by being forcibly restricted and imprisoned without trial. When the desperate people of Rhodesia, who are citizens of a British colony, attempt to protest at this tyranny and oppression, they are savagely put down by Smith's fascist apparatus of force - barbed wire, gas bombs and bullets.

"What would you do if you saw a gang of thugs beating up a law-abiding citizen? You would send for the police. This is what the British Government must do in Rhodesia. It must send for the police and say 'go to Rhodesia, arrest the law breakers, protect the Queen's subjects and restore legal government'. Since Mr. Smith's thugs are heavily armed, you would not want to send unarmed policemen against them. Therefore, Mr. Wilson must send in an armed police force, able to protect themselves in the lawful execution of their duty. The weak and oppressed people of Rhodesia can look only to Britain to free them from tyranny....."

The statement, which contains a good deal of factual material on conditions in Rhodesia, can be obtained <sup>from</sup> Ruskin Students' Action Committee on Rhodesia, The Rookery, Old Headington, Oxford. It is planned to bring out regular material on Rhodesia so a contribution towards the cost would be appreciated.

RHODESIA: A COMMENT ON LAST WEEK'S ARTICLES

by John Holland

The two views on Rhodesia in The Week of December 9th differ significantly. Chris Farley preserves illusions about the prospects of anti-imperialist action in Africa by this Labour Government. Mr. Wilson has already made his choice in Southern Africa. He is in favour of imperialism continuing to dominate that whole region in the same way as he operates the dictates of capitalist interest in Aden, Vietnam, Malaysia and British Guiana. The only reason for which he will send troops to Rhodesia is to protect the Smith regime from a popular, revolutionary uprising.

Dave Windsor's article is moving towards a socialist alternative. The question is "how can the African people of Rhodesia be assisted?" Not by United Nations camouflage of any prospective invasion force, because that organisation has shown its class colouration in the Congo. The Kaundas and Nyereres will not invade Rhodesia except to maintain themselves in their insecure position as Africa's rising national bourgeoisie. The only socialist solution to the Rhodesian problem must embrace the national resistance movements of the whole of Southern and Central Africa. Sanctions could not succeed because the Labour Government was not prepared to close all the borders of Rhodesia by a total blockade. It is not just a case of oil through Mozambique but of a bloc of four racist regimes: Rhodesia, Angola, Mozambique and South Africa. Such a bloc can only be defeated by overthrowing their Governments. A serious approach to sanctions against Rhodesia always posed this question.... We must call upon the Russian and Chinese governments to arm the workers and peasants of Southern Africa. "One man, one gun" is the only way towards "one man, one vote" for Rhodesia. Socialists in the Labour movement in this country must immediately consider plans for industrial action against the reactionary policy of the Wilson Government which helps nobody so much as Ian Smith and his fellow racists.



I have been asked to write to you on behalf of a number of groups, and bring to your attention the following item...A free folk-song concert was held in the Myer Music Bowl (Melbourne) on Sunday 28th November. The concert was organised by a number of groups who believe that there is a need for far greater intellectual and also spiritual understanding of the vistas opening up before youth - both the terrible dangers and the splendid opportunities. To this end, young people were given the chance for public self-expression in the idiom which they themselves have chosen - the folk song.

Between 8,000 and 10,000 people crammed the lawns of the gardens to listen to a three-hour programme of "Folk Songs with a Message - Songs of Peace and Love" from twelve leading Australian folk singers. During brief interludes, the Reverend David Pope drew attention to the moral dangers to peace and Dr. Jim Cairns, prominent left wing Labour Member of Parliament, referred to the political threats to peace. Both speeches were followed with close attention and drew appreciative applause from the audience.

The Reverend David Pope outlined the pressures, both direct and implied, used to discredit those who hold unpopular opinions and those who oppose Government policy. He spoke of the ease of the use of the label "Communist", pointing out the danger of forgetting the human being obscured by the term. This was related to the callous use of terms such as "megadeaths" and such as "savage brutality" compared with our "wise severity". This is certainly a contradiction of morality, he said, in that it casts the enemy as totally inhuman and forces as totally human.

Dr. J. F. Cairns, speaking of the political threats to peace, indicated firstly that he would not speak of politics in the normal sense of the word. He said that Australia is a country in which it is easy to be free if one wants to be. "Not enough of us want to be free," he said. "Every person who wants to be himself, speak, act and sing for himself is pressed back into line. In Australia, we have to be normal. Anyone who is unconventional is thought of as a bit of a rat-bag. We have a right to resist these pressures and threats which inhibit freedom. We need a kind of resistance movement." Dr. Cairns also said that we <sup>have</sup> a right to protect Australia from external threats. "But we have no right to go thousands of miles away from Australia into somebody else's country claiming we are defending ourselves," he added.

Sponsoring this concert were: Victoria Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, Australian Labour Party (Victoria Branch), Vietnam Day Committee, Australian and New Zealand Congress for International Co-operation and Disarmament, Melbourne University Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, Melbourne University Folk Music Club, Melbourne University Democratic Socialist Club, Youth Campaign Against Conscription, Blackburn Women for Peace, Unitarian Peace Memorial Church.

There is much with which to be satisfied about this concert. We can be satisfied with the number of prominent people willing to be associated with this function...with the singers willing to give their services free, and with the great number of people willing to spend an afternoon listening to songs and messages of peace and, in some measure, committing themselves to the free expression of protest.

\* secretary of the Australian Vietnam Day Committee, 34, Morrah St., Parkville, Victoria, Australia.



New Jersey is a state somewhat larger than Wales with a population of over six million. It has all Wales' variety from the depression, slum-ridden industrial cities which border on New York City to the beautiful, rolling green hills of the west-centre (the home of wealthy New York ex-urbanites) to the flat, sandy Atlantic Coast, rimmed with garish resorts. The state was the site of a gubernatorial election this November which may be of interest to the British left.

The principals were incumbent liberal Democrat, Richard Hughes, and the Republican nominee, Wayne Dumont. Dumont, a personally unpleasant hatchet man after the manner of your Tory leader, Heath, only without a sense of humour, panicked in the face of almost certain defeat and turned his campaign into a McCarthyite smear. Early this year at a Vietnam Teach-In at state-supported Rutgers University, Professor of History Eugene Genovese stated that as a Marxist he did not fear an NLF victory in Vietnam; he welcomed it. Genovese's statement was received enthusiastically by his large student audience but, not surprisingly, he was pilloried outside the University. Largely because of Dumont, the furore did not die out. After the Rutgers Board of Trustees defended Genovese against rightist demands for his dismissal on the basis of academic freedom, Dumont demanded that Hughes pressure the Board into reversing the decision. Hughes refused and endorsed the Trustees, carefully assuring everyone that he deplored Genovese's viewpoint as much as Dumont.

Dumont pressed the matter: Hughes was not a Commie, himself, mind you, but was suspiciously naive on the subject; Genovese was a traitor and should be prosecuted under the 1918 Sedition Act. Rightist organisations such as the American Legion threw in behind Dumont and kept the state jumping. A little red scare in Trenton, the capital, saw a few political hacks calling for the head of an official in the Johnson anti-poverty programme who participated in an anti-war demonstration. A Catholic College, St. Peter's in Newark, felt constrained to absolve itself publically from the action of a faculty member who put up bail for a Catholic anarchist who burned his draft card. All of which looked like the early fifties all over again.

Hughes remained favourite to the end; he had been a competent enough governor in the American political context. But, much to everyone's surprise (Hughes was rhapsodic and Dumont, despite his offensiveness, almost pitiable), the vote was a landslide, a 350,000 plurality, twice the most sanguine predictions. The Democrats swept both houses of the legislature for the first time since 1913.

It was no victory for libertarianism. A poll of New Jerseymen on the Genovese question showed 51% agreeing with Dumont's point of view and the remainder divided between supporting Hughes or uncommitted. But at the same time, it was a defeat for McCarthyism. Red-baiting did not win for a change although even the old smear master, Dick Nixon, showed up late in the campaign to anoint Dumont with his brand of chrism. Dumont's repudiation hints that the old bogey-man of American politics may not be so effective in keeping the American left from reaching the public in future. Lest British friends pooch-pooch the development, they should recall how effective red-baiting has been in paralysing the American left in the past.



LORD RUSSELL'S MESSAGE TO THE FIRST SOLIDARITY CONFERENCE  
OF THE PEOPLES OF AFRICA, ASIA AND LATIN AMERICA

I send my most ardent greetings to the long awaited First Solidarity Conference of the Peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America. It is fitting that the Conference should be held in Cuba, for Cuba has achieved a socialist revolution, the first in the Americas, in the shadow of Goliath. Against all odds, Cuba, led by the 26 July Movement and Fidel Castro, has defeated decisively one of the most cruel imperialisms - namely United States imperialism. In the present phase of world history, American imperialism has come to be the main source of exploitation and oppression in the world. The U.S. owns and controls nearly 60% of the world's natural resources, but contains only 6% of the world's population. This is the basic reason for the starvation level of existence experienced by nearly two-thirds of the people of the world. To protect this cruel system of plunder, the United States has created an unparalleled war machine.

In the course of history there have <sup>been</sup> many cruel and rapacious empires and systems of imperialist exploitation, but none before have had the power at the disposal of United States imperialists. 3,300 U.S. military bases are spread over the globe to prevent the victims of exploitation from resisting the domination of U.S. capitalism over the wealth of their country and the fate of their people. During the past three years alone, paratroop interventions, marine landings, assassinations, coups d'etat and the corrupt bribery of public figures have comprised the main outlines of U.S. policy in the world. It should not be forgotten that the arms budget imposed on the world by the U.S. war machine exceeds the national product of Africa, Asia and Latin America. It must be noted that U.S. capitalism has required war production of such magnitude that it constitutes more than 50% of all economic activity in the United States. 77 cents of every 100 spent by the U.S. Government are for military expenditure. Billions of dollars of contracts are supplied to the military by large industry annually, and the leading military figures are on the boards of directors of the companies supplying the contracts. This system of rapacious exploitation is the main enemy today of the wellbeing of the people of the world. I have campaigned over many years in support of world peace and have sought to mobilise opinion against the cold war and the arms race. Anyone conversant with the facts today must acknowledge that the cold war and the arms race are the responsibility of the United States.

In Latin America, a band of reactionary generals, at the instigation of the Central Intelligence Agency and the U.S. Ambassador in Brazil, Mr. Lincoln Gordon, crushed the democratic government of Joao Goulart. In Argentina, American tanks smashed the civilian government of Arturo Frondisi, solely because this conservative spokesman for middle class interests was insufficiently subservient to U.S. capitalism. Brutal military putsches have been imposed upon Ecuador, Bolivia, Guatemala and Honduras. For decades the United States armed and supported one of the most barbaric and savage rulers in modern times, namely Trujillo. When Trujillo no longer served their interests, they allowed him to suffer the fate of Ngo Dinh Diem, but the United States remained the enemy of the people of the Dominican Republic, as can be seen by the arrogant military intervention to crush the brave revolution of April, 1965. The fact that this naked aggression is condoned by the United Nations, and the ability of the United States to escape expulsion from the United Nations for its gross violation of the Charter demonstrates that the United Nations has become a tool of American aggression of the kind displayed in the Dominican Republic. All my sympathy lies with the struggle



of the people of the Dominican Republic, which continues at this very moment.

In the Congo, mercenary troops, acting for Belgian and American interests and shamelessly supported by the British Government, have killed indiscriminately every living villager in the path of the advancing mercenary armies. The dregs of American militarism have been used for this purpose : the mercenary soldiery of South Africa and of the Cuban counter-revolution. In the Middle East, United States and European oil interests force poverty and tyranny on the people. British imperialism, relying on the military and financial power of the United States, is showering the people of Aden with napalm and high explosives in an attempt to suppress the popular movement. In Southern Africa incalculable riches are taken out of the copper belt of Rhodesia and of South Africa, and the fascist states of Salazar and Verwoerd survive through NATO arms. In South East Asia, 50,000 troops prop up the puppet state of Malaysia, and right wing generals, with United States' money, have taken control of Indonesia. Throughout the South China Seas, every patriotic and radical force is gaoled and persecuted by the imperialist powers. The United States boasts of its intrigues in the Maghreb. It brazenly publishes its plans to subvert all nationalist governments. The Central Intelligence Agency, which is only one of nine such agencies in the United States, maintains a budget fifteen times as much as all diplomatic activity of the United States Government. This is a predatory imperialism and nowhere has it been more cruel and reckless than in Vietnam. Chemicals and gas, bacteriological weapons and phosphorus, napalm and razor bombs, disembowelment, dismemberment, forced labour, concentration camps, beheadings, elaborate torture - every species of cruelty - has been employed by American imperialism in Vietnam. Clinics, sanatoria, hospitals, schools, villages have been relentlessly saturated with fire bombs : and still the people of Vietnam resist, after 25 years of struggle against three great industrial powers. The people of Vietnam are heroic and their struggle is epic : a stirring and permanent reminder of the incredible spirit of which men are capable when they are dedicated to a noble ideal.

The 3,300 military bases distributed throughout five continents, backed by the immense war production machine of the United States, constitutes a world system of oppression. They also represent the true threat to peace and the true source of the danger of world nuclear war. This Conference must consider fearlessly the means of destroying this imperialism and of achieving world peace. I have supported peaceful coexistence, out of the conviction that conflict in a nuclear age can only be disastrous. This conviction was based on the hope that the U.S. could be persuaded to come to an agreement with the socialist and communist countries. It is now painfully clear that U.S. imperialism cannot be persuaded to end its aggression, its exploitation and its cruelty. .... Wherever there is hunger, wherever there is exploitative tyranny, wherever people are tortured and the masses left to rot under the weight of disease and starvation, the force which holds down the people stems from Washington. Peaceful coexistence, therefore, cannot be achieved by requesting U.S. imperialism to behave better. .... The system which oppresses the people of the world is international, coordinated and powerful; but it is hateful and oppressive and in various ways resisted by the people of the world.

Our responsibility at this Conference is to forge a united and coordinated resistance to this exploitation and domination. The popular struggle of oppressed people will remove the resources from the control of U.S. imperialism and, in so doing, strengthen the people of the United States itself, who



Lord Russell's Message to the Cuba Conference continued /

are striving first to understand and second to overcome the cruel rulers who have usurped their revolution and their government. This, in my view, is the way to secure peace, rather than a tenuous and immoral acquiescence in U.S. domination, which can neither work nor be tolerated by humane men. If the Soviet Union, in its desire for peace, which is commendable, seeks to gain favour with the United States by minimising, or even opposing, the struggle for national liberation and justice, then peace will not be achieved. ...

The great opportunity before this tri-continental Conference is to forge a new International of resistance to oppression, in complete sympathy and support for the people of the United States itself, who are nobody's enemy and who will, one day, play the decisive role in destroying U.S. imperialism and creating the conditions of a lasting peace. It is my deepest hope that these aims may be advanced by this Conference and that our vision of a better world will be furthered. This furtherance depends on our just assessment of the enemies of mankind. We know the situation in which we now are and we know the goal we wish to achieve. But we cannot get there by hopes and illusions. War and oppression have a long history in human affairs. They cannot be overcome except through struggle. A world free of exploitation and foreign domination, a world of wellbeing for the masses of people of all continents, a world of peace and fraternity, has to be fought for. This is the lesson U.S. imperialism teaches us. It is not a palatable lesson, but nothing will be accomplished by ignoring it.

The danger of nuclear war will not be averted through fear of United States' power. On the contrary, the more isolated the wielders of power in the United States become, in the face of world rejection of their values and resistance to their acts, the more likely we are to succeed in avoiding a nuclear holocaust. It is the illusion on the part of U.S. imperialism that it can accomplish an aim and defeat people by the use of such weapons that constitutes today the main source of nuclear danger. But when the people of Peru, Guatemala, Venezuela, Columbia, Vietnam, Thailand, the Congo, the Cameroons, the United States, Britain - all the people - demonstrate and struggle and resist, nuclear power is of no avail. It will destroy its user. Let us join together to resist U.S. imperialism.

Bertrand Russell - 27 November, 1965.

EAST HAM N.U.R. ASKS EXECUTIVE TO SUPPORT VIETNAM COMMITTEE by Len Nicholas

The East Ham branch of the National Union of Railwaymen/<sup>has</sup> requested the N.E.C. of the union to consider the aims of the British Council for Peace in Vietnam with a view to supporting the Council. In its resolution, the branch asked that should support be agreed then the N.E.C. should: (1) send a union delegate (or delegates) to future council meetings; (2) <sup>examine</sup> the possibility of financial support for the council; and (3) contact N.U.R. Members of Parliament regarding the M.P.s' Ad Hoc Committee for Peace in Vietnam which is at present supported by some 100 Labour and 2 Liberal members of the House of Commons.

The British Council for Peace in Vietnam aims to secure peace on the basis of the 1954 Geneva agreements which recognise the independence, sovereignty and Unity of Vietnam, and the right of the people in the north and south zones to determine their own future, and to unite without foreign interference. It also demands the cessation of American bombings of North Vietnam and asks Britain to dissociate itself from American action in Vietnam.



## RHODESIA: TORY INTERESTS\*

The debate on Rhodesia at the Tory Party conference revealed strong emotions. Whatever may be the future course of events, the business ties with Rhodesia of many influential members of the Conservative Party are bound to be a factor in the case. At least two members of the Conservative Shadow Cabinet are on companies with interests in Rhodesia. Mr. Maudling (deputy leader of the Shadow Cabinet...) is a director of the Dunlop Rubber Co. which has a tyre factory at Bulawayo. He is also a director of Associated Electrical Industries which has subsidiary companies operating in Rhodesia. Mr. Boyd-Carpenter ("Housing Minister" in the Shadow Cabinet...) is a director of London Country Freehold and Leasehold Co. which in addition to owning 10,000 key flats in London has been expanding into Rhodesia via a wholly own subsidiary owns and manages offices and flats in Salisbury.

There are several other Tory MPs who are directors of companies with interests in Rhodesia. Sir J. Eden (Bournemouth West) is a director of Aberdare Holdings, an engineering group which owns South Wales Ltd., operating in Rhodesia, Sir J. Barlow (Middleton and Prestwich) is on the Calico Printers Association which has a subsidiary, Cepea Rhodesia. Mr. A Costain (Folkeston & Hythe) is deputy chairman of Richard Costain, whose subsidiary, Richard Costain (Africa) Ltd., operates in Rhodesia. Sir J. Langfold Holt (Shrewsbury) is on James North and Son, which is associated with James North (Rhodesia) Ltd. Mr. J.H. Osborn (Hallam, Sheffield) is on the Sheffield steel firm of Samuel Osborn and Co. which owns Samuel Osborn (Rhodesia) Ltd. Sir G. Wills (Bridgwater) is on Williams and Williams (Reliance Holdings) which owns Reliance Metal Windows (Rhodesia) Ltd. Mr. John Smith, newly elected MP for the City is on the Ottoman Bank which is involved in Rhodesia.

..There are many influential Conservative peers who are on companies with interests in Rhodesia. Imperial Chemicals Industries has two ex-cabinet members on its board of directors - Viscount Amory, who was Chancellor of the Exchequer under Macmillan, and Viscount Chandos, who was Colonial Secretary under Churchill. ICI's associate company in Rhodesia is African Explosives and Chemical Industries (Rhodesia).

The Earl of Kilmuir, Home Secretary under Churchill, is chairman of Plessey Co. which has a subsidiary operating in Rhodesia. Another Conservative peer, Viscount Harcourt, has just joined the board of Plessey. Lord Aldington who was deputy chairman of the Conservative Party Organisation from 1959-63 is chairman of National & Grindlay's Bank, one of three main British clearing banks involved in Rhodesia. With Aldington on National and Grindlays are Lords Colgrain and Lloyd. Aldington is also chairman of GEC which has a Rhodesian subsidiary; he is also a director of John Brown and Co. which has a half-share in Rhodesia Alloys. With Aldington on John Brown is Lord Clitheroe, a former chairman of the Conservative Party Organisation, who is also a director of Union Miniere du Haut-Katanga the Congo giant. Also on John Brown is Conservative peer Lord Aberconway.

Earl de la Warr, who was Postmaster General in the Churchill Government, is on the Standard Bank which has 100 branches (out of a total of 1,100) in Rhodesia. On Standard also is Sir G. Harvie-Watt, former Tory MP. Mr. Paul Emrys-Evans, former Tory MP is on Barclays DCL which has 6% of its branches in Rhodesia. Viscount Watkinson, Minister of Defence under Macmillan, is managing director of Schweppes which has a subsidiary in Rhodesia. Also on Schweppes is Tory peer Lord Rockley. Viscount Eccles, Minister of Education under Macmillan, is on Courtaulds, which has subsidiaries in Rhodesia. Conservative peer Viscount Caldercote is on the board of English Electric which has interests in Rhodesia. Viscount Tenby, Home Secretary in Eden's cabinet, is on Associated Portland Cement which owns Salisbury Portland Cement Co; Lord Errol of Hale, Minister of Power under Home, is on British Plaster Board (Holdings) which owns Allied Rhodesian Manufacturers. ...Last but not least the Marquess of Salisbury himself has had close connections with Rhodesia in the past. From 1957-61 he was a director of British S.A. Co.

\* From Labour Research, Dec., 1965, 1/3d p.p. 78. Blackfriars Rd., London S.E. 1.



THE WEEK :  
: 54 Park Road : Lenton : Nottingham.  
:

15th December 1965.

1965 has been a year of constant expansion for "The Week". Our readership has doubled and the number of correspondents and sponsors has constantly increased. We can now call on reports from individuals in all parts of the world.

Our attempts in the first three months of this year to have "The Week" printed commercially failed owing to a shortage of working capital, and we are now making plans for 1966 in order to improve the appearance of the publication and the servicing of your subscription.

In January, we intend to move into new premises from which "The Week" will be produced and despatched. This has been made necessary by shortage of space and the increased amount of work involved. We are also intending to introduce new equipment in order to commence lithographic printing and to control the mailing list by addressograph equipment which will, we hope, prevent inaccuracies in our mailing procedure which have caused inconvenience to some of our readers. We also require collating equipment, stapling machines, guillotines, filing cabinets, a new typewriter and other equipment if expansion is to continue.

All this requires money! We have managed to finish the year on a more or less even keel (although there may be a small deficit), but we need a considerable amount of finance to fulfill our plans for the first months of the New Year. Christmas brings many calls on one's resources, but we hope that all our readers will see fit to send us a modest Christmas box in the business reply envelope enclosed for your use.

May we also ask that those of our readers who owe us money for their subscription, or for copies obtained on sale-or-return, can settle their account this month.

Meanwhile, we thank all of our readers for their support during the last year, and we hope that with your help we will be able to obtain the equipment and machinery necessary to provide a better service in the coming year.

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