

Britain Compelled To Recognize Israel As Maneuvers Fail

Lynd Discusses Pension Plans, Labor Party Plea

By AL FINDLEY

In the absence of an orientation by the Israeli government toward the Arab masses, peace in Palestine depended on the relations between the Israeli government and the governments of Britain, Transjordan and Egypt. Developments have taken place this week involving all three.

When Britain evacuated Palestine, it did so in the hope that in the battle between Jews and Arabs a stalemate would ensue which would weaken both sides and allow Britain to step in as mediator of a peace assuring Britain the bases it wants in the Negev. For the major portion of the struggle, Britain was benevolently neutral toward the Arabs. The victory of Israeli arms and especially the last campaigns in the Negev entirely destroyed this policy. England began an active policy of aid to the Arabs.

Two weeks ago Bevin played his last major card when he attempted an international "incident," using the five British fliers shot down over an Egyptian-Israeli battleground as the "cause." A real hysteria was whipped up, depicting the threat to the Suez Canal and all of Western European imperialist lines of communication. This was primarily aimed at getting U. S. support against Israel.

This maneuver failed. The U. S., which had always swayed with the tide of battle, decided to support the military victor. In addition to power politics and Jewish votes in the U. S., the U. S. government was eyeing the January 25 elections in Israel. Washington was determined to use all its influence to get the most pro-Western government possible in Israel—the strongest power in the Near East (except Turkey). Since Italian elections last year, U.S. foreign policy has learned to key its actions to influence elections. As predicted by LABOR ACTION of January 17, a series of

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growing realization among great numbers that a Labor Party is essential, prevailed throughout the conference.

LYND DISCUSSES CLASSES

A great impetus toward Labor Party support was offered in a speech delivered Saturday, January 22, by Robert S. Lynd, author of the famous sociological study, *Middletown*, and a professor at Columbia University. To say his speech rocked the conference would be putting it mildly. He came out directly for a Labor Party. He told the leaders pointblank that playing ball, as they do, with the Democrats and Republicans, both of which are controlled by the capitalist class, was leading down a blind alley.

His speech also dealt with the dangers of bureaucratic degeneration of the trade unions. He attacked the steel union for working too closely with the steel industry, the garment unions for working too closely with the fashion racket. He said all this to warn the workers to guard against bureaucratic degeneration because of the historic importance of the labor movement.

Lynd mentioned the fact that we are too loose in our terminology in the unions. Lynd charged that class stratifications were glossed over. "I am sorry to say there are classes in the United States. There is a working class, a middle class, and a capitalist class." Lynd spoke in detail on the NAM's new plan of action, to go into effect on February 1. The plan is to capture the minds of the people. Lynd likened this development to the rise of fascism and the aid given it by the capitalists of Germany.

Outside of some innocent remarks in his speech about "democratic planning," his speech, which will soon be printed by the UAW, should be read and studied by all militants.

PENSION PLAN

The panel discussions on social security and pensions revealed that while the UAW is well prepared on the health insurance aspect of the fourth round, the pension plans have

not been developed at all. Such questions arise as: how many will be able to retire right away? where will the initial money come from? will there be a fund corresponding to the mine workers' fund or will it be company-wide? if it is company-wide, will it not chain the worker to the company? how will small plants accomplish pensions? at what age to retire? These and many others are unanswerable at this time.

The membership was determined to go back to their locals and fight for the program outlined by the IEB. However, the directives will have to be more explicit and a central strategy adopted. The first in negotiations are to be Ford and John Deere.

The stimulant toward independent political action resulting from the conference must be followed by the UAW militants. The leadership must concretize its rough formulations. The March board meeting provides such an opportunity.

Forced to Look For New Tricks



ERNEST BEVIN

Recognition of Israel --

(Continued from page 1)

pro-Israeli acts followed. Cuba, a UN opponent of Israel, was pressured to recognize Israel and, most important of all, a loan of \$100,000,000 was granted a week before election.

Such strong support resulted in a public clamor in England and gave courage to opponents of Bevin's policy in all parties. The result has been a change in British tactics. The detained immigrants at Cyprus were released and Britain announced that

she would recognize Israel. France, with revived ambitions in the Near East, jumped the gun and announced immediate recognition of Israel. Between the time of writing this article and its publication, other Western powers will have done the same.

One reason for the change of policy by Britain is that Bevin hopes for a joint British-U. S. policy that will insist that Israel give up Negev territory yard for yard in exchange for Galilee, Jerusalem, Jaffa and other areas not given to Israel by the UN. Britain hopes thus to recoup partially, through the good offices of the U. S., and by "friendship," what it could not get by hostility.

PEACE TALKS

Peace negotiations between Israel and Transjordan have been going on for a long time. Abdullah has always been the one Arab ruler most anxious for a peace that would enable him to rule Arab Palestine and build a greater Syria under his rule. One of

the Mufti as ruler of all Palestine. The Negev battles completely destroyed the Egyptian armies in Palestine. As a result, Egypt, the most vociferous advocate of war, was forced to be the first to sit down at the peace table with Israel.

The Rhodes agenda included these points—status of the Egyptian garrison surrounded at Faluja for three months, withdrawal and reduction of forces and delineation of armistice lines.

ARMED TRUCE LIKELY

The negotiations were secret, but it was announced that agreement on the release of troops had been reached. Optimistic statements as to ultimate success were circulated. But the conference and the release of troops were bogged down by the question of boundaries. Israeli officials seem quite willing to give Gaza and a small strip of coastal territory to Egypt, but Egypt insists on more.

It is fictitious in the present relationship of power to differentiate between armistice agreements and peace treaties. Lines drawn now will probably be the final ones. Since Egypt cannot give up all of the Negev without risking the violence of the Moslem Brotherhood, it is unlikely that any final agreement will be reached.

The most probable development is for an extended period of armed truce for a number of months with the Israeli government attempting to play Abdullah and Egypt against each other.

BASIS FOR PEACE

Immediate peace in Palestine and its beneficial results of freeing the infant country from the burdens of war and allowing it to concentrate on the settlement of new immigrants can be greatly aided by the adoption of a line of action that will appeal to Arab masses and cut the ground from under the warmongers in the semi-feudal governments. Concentration on dealings ONLY with governments MAY bring ultimate peace but at a high price. A realistic policy of putting pressure on the governments by actions that will lay the basis for an Arab movement in opposition to the war and for peace that will serve the interests of both the Jewish and Arab masses will greatly hasten the arrival of a durable peace.

There is still time and a burning need for such action. In the first place, this means a reversal by the Jewish labor movement of the present governmental policy toward the Arab refugees. The refugees must not only be allowed back but a real effort must be made to WELCOME them. The useless sufferings of these people acts as a deterrent to peace and can poison the future relations between Israel and its Arab neighbors.

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Gross Revenues

1948	1947
\$33,042,000	\$28,546,000
59,697,000	50,427,000
175,002,000	161,029,000
276,056,000	247,683,000
52,536,000	46,226,000
64,213,000	58,089,000
25,029,000	22,950,000
115,598,000	102,170,000
48,332,000	42,627,000
26,807,000	23,061,000
21,781,000	20,675,000
17,492,000	14,208,000
77,991,000	69,970,000
20,595,000	16,629,000
102,716,000	95,447,000
31,986,000	27,967,000
50,292,000	45,352,000
34,043,000	31,459,000
198,910,000	180,115,000
124,840,000	111,865,000
95,375,000	82,918,000
9,356,000	7,942,000
22,070,000	19,361,000
49,231,000	43,655,000
13,370,000	11,794,000

2 months ending September 30, 1948.

NEXT WEEK:

An analysis of the elections in Israel
—by Al Findley.

the main reasons for the incompleteness of this development was that Abdullah did not want to be the first to make peace and lay himself open to the accusation of betraying the fight against Israel—a charge repeatedly hurled at him by Egypt.

Last week, with the opening of the Rhodes conference between Egypt and Israel, the Israeli and Transjordan talks began to shift from the military to the political level. Dickerings is said to center on the partitioning of Jerusalem, the size and nature of the corridor to the sea, etc.

Egypt had hoped to come out of this struggle as the leader of Arab nationalism and had hoped to block Abdullah's ambitions by installing

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