

International Bulletin

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RAILWAY STRIKE: POINTS WAY TO FUTURE

Anyone who doubts that the British working class will fight back against an attack on their living standards has been confounded by the railway strike. The sudden and 'unexpected' decision has confirmed the prognosis advanced many times in these columns that trade union bureaucrats will under pressures on the one side from their own rank and file, and on the other from 'unreasonable' behaviour by capitalists or their representatives, be forced to initiate struggles. These struggles will be, of course, half-hearted and have^{as} their aim not so much the defence of workers' standards but the social position of the trade union bureaucrats. This can be seen very clearly in relation to the railwaymen's strike. The emphasis time and time again in statements has been concerned with the 'lack of consultation', Marples' 'insolence' and the 'ignoring of union advice'. Whilst we recognise this and explain it, we must be on the guard against an underestimation of the profound meaning of such things as the railwaymen's strike and the consequent possibilities opened to the growth of the left.

An official strike of the calibre of the railwaymen's is qualitatively different from an 'unofficial' one. Not merely does it bring into action many more people but it brings them into action on a different basis. An 'unofficial' strike is in a certain way a defeat in itself, a recognition of the fact that the rank and file have lost control of their organisation. An 'unofficial' brings into action, generally speaking, only those sections which are already militant, whereas the official strike brings into action and, to certain extent, radicalises workers at all levels. The railwaymen's strike will have brought thousands of workers, especially the young, for the first time into the arena of the class struggle. What is more by its very nature it is much easier to mobilise solidarity from other sections of the workers for such a strike. Another important feature of the railwaymen's strike is the fact that it is a political strike, directed at the Tory Government for political reasons.

It is necessary to understand these basic features of the strike in order to work out a correct strategy in relation to this and many other similar struggles that will take place in the next period. Naturally, marxists will want to influence the tactics of such struggles and oppose by all means the half-heartedness of the T.U. leaders. But they will do this only to the extent that they can convince the workers involved of their seriousness, and anyway to make ones main activity in such struggles a denunciation of the leadership is sterile and will not be understood by the workers. The first and foremost duty in these struggles is fight for the maximum unity of the working class and for solidarity action by all sections of the movement. This will be done not by issuing high-flown declarations but by taking the workers organisations as they are and fighting for action which is both feasible and acceptable to the majority of the rank and file. This will vary from town to town, and from sector to sector, but the action which was taken in Nottingham is a very good example of what can and should be done. This kind of action, which represents the first step of a process, with all its limitations can have many effects. The railwaymen will remember who was on their side and will listen far more readily in the future to the left. On the other hand, such activities change the 'image' of the Labour Party and will attract into its ranks militants who will be natural allies of the existing left.

It is clear that the Tory Government have decided upon a strategy of 'sticking it out' in relation to the railways. This almost certainly will be followed by a 'tough' policy in other fields. No one thinks that the Tories want to provoke industrial struggle at this stage but there are various pressures which make it very difficult for them to get out of such difficulties by making concessions. The tough bargaining on the Common Market and the reliance of the Government on international financial agencies come to mind. Entry into the Common Market will accelerate rationalisation and bring many 'railway workshop' situations. We can, therefore, look forward to many strikes. Marxists must intervene skilfully without either isolating themselves by making 'ultra-left' and sterile phrase-mongering declarations, or failing to use the struggles to criticise the trade-union bureaucracy. Above all the whole process makes it much easier to popularise a socialist solution to the problems of Britains economy.

EDITORIAL NOTE: This issue has again been delayed and made into a double one. Also some reports have been crowded out. The E.B. has taken steps to ensure that all these are published and that weekly production issues.

The Economist of 22/9/62 contained the following review of Ernest Mandel's Traite d'Economie Marxiste. Mandel will be known to readers of the Bulletin as the editor of La Gauche the Belgian left-wing socialist weekly, he spoke at Kessingland camp getting by far the best reception. We understand that question of getting this work translated into English and published in Britain is in hand, no doubt this review will assist this process:

"Marxist economic theory has in the last few decades presented a picture of stagnation and decay. Continental Social-Democrats, German and French have openly renounced the doctrine as antiquated and have yielded some sort of a monopoly on Marxism to Moscow. In Soviet hands the theory has turned into quasi-ecclesiastical canon and undergone almost complete ossification. True, more recently fresh thought has stirred under the dogmatic crusts, but it has not yet had enough vigour to break through.

"However (as a writer in the Times Literary Supplement has remarked) in communism as in Christianity the doctrine is alive not in the church but in the heresies. M. Mandel, a Belgian socialist, is obviously a heretic: the guardians of the Muscovite orthodoxy would certainly excommunicate him as a "revisionist" and "Trotskyist". He is in fact heavily indebted for his ideas to Trotsky and other anti-Stalinist Marxists, to whom he should have frankly acknowledged his debt. But he is an independent thinker, combining an exceptionally wide erudition with a remarkable lucidity and fluency of expression. His treatise is by far the best popularisation of Marx's economic theory that has appeared for forty or fifty years; and it is far more than that - an ambitious, and largely successful attempt to bring the doctrine up to date. The author tests, for instance, Engels's theory on the origins of family, property and state against the rich findings of modern ethnology. He restates the theory of "Das Kapital" replacing Marx's Victorian facts and statistics by contemporary empirical material. Where Marx's analysis, of necessity, centred on western Europe or rather on England M. Mandel surveys the rise and fall of economic systems, pre-bourgeois and bourgeois, on a global scale. In a most instructive series of chapters he assesses the changes in western capitalism that have occurred since the days when Hobson, Hilferding and Lenin presented their views on imperialism. His ideas on the "transitional economy" and on the function and future of political economy will startle many readers - he expounds them in the brilliant and provocative style of classical Marxism.

"The treatise also has its weaknesses. It just fails to come to grips with the "theory of crises" and the problems which the postwar trade cycles present to the Marxist. (M. Mandel, however, argues quite cogently that our economy is periodically confronted by the choice between slump and inflation and that inflation may in the long run become a factor of social instability almost as great as was the old type of slump.) The section on the Soviet economy is unfortunately all too sketchy and indeed outdated: it ignores nearly all the changes that have occurred in the course of the post-Stalin decade. Connoisseurs of Marx will miss in M. Mandel's exposition the philosophical profundity of the original: but others may prefer the "Cartesian" style of the Traite to Hegelian dialectics. But whatever its weaknesses, no student can afford to ignore this very important work. It is to be hoped that an English edition will be available soon."

FINNISH "NEW LEFT" JOURNAL

Delegates to the Helsinki Youth Festival had distributed to them copies of Tilanne (Situation) a left wing socialist discussion journal. The editors had brought out a special issue for the occasion in Finnish, English and Russian. The journal earlier this year published Natalia Tortksy's letter to Khrushchov demanding the rehabilitation Of Trotsky. Some idea of the approach of the journal can be got from the following explanation by the editors:

"Tilanne began to appear in November, 1961. The magazine is published in five ordinary editions and two double editions, whose total number of pages was 280 as of the last issue. Contributors to the magazine include a number of intellectuals who belong, or have belonged to the Finnish People's Democratic League or the Finnish Communist Party, and also workers and independents or other young intellectuals belonging to socialist parties. Many of the contributors are well-known writers and critics. Many belong to the Kiila organisation, a group of independent writers and artists who banded together in 1936 to oppose fascism and war. Forty percent of its members sat in prison during the war against the Soviet Union. The purposes of the magazine are to generate free socialist discussion on theoretical and practical questions, to follow the different directions the workers movement takes, to strengthen cooperation among the workers' movements and to unify the forces of socialism and humanism. "Our point of departure...is the revival of the thinking of the workers' movement and socialism. But the program and tasks of the movement are not determined by some small magazine; workers' organisations do that. But on the other hand...a magazine can ignite, and be of service in, a discussion of principles....necessary for the revival of the movement"

YOUNG SOCIALIST ACTIVITIES

Gorbals and Govan Young Socialists to hold week end school by a Glasgow correspondent

The Gorbals and Govan branches of the Young Socialists are to hold a joint week end school in Late November. Exact details haven't been fixed yet but it is hoped to have as speakers two comrades who are very well-known in the Labour movement, one from Glasgow itself and the other from Nottingham. Details will be announced as soon as they are fixed. The two branches also collaborated in producing a leaflet on the problem of unemployment which they distributed to Trade Council delegates and other trade unionists. We produce extracts:

"Glasgow Trades Council is concerned about the rise in unemployment - and no wonder - 81,000 out of work and the grim prospect of this number growing. The problem is simply stated: the extraordinary boom of recent years has come to an end. Since the recession of 1958, the economies of the major capitalist countries have stagnated, like Britain's or subject to a slower rate of expansion. Technological unemployment has become a growing feature, such as in the United States, and is constantly producing a growing army of men who are more or less permanently out of work....."

But what policy will Glasgow's Trade Unionists propose to deal effectively with this problem? Perhaps the solution campaigned for by the S.T.U.C. leaders and the "Get more work for Scotland" brigade will win favour. It's more than likely: but if it does it will be a resounding defeat for the Labour movement. For the essence of this policy is: "To hell with the workers in Northern Ireland, Wales, Merseyside and Newcastle - our nation comes first.".....

"Unemployment is not new, and long ago socialists had a remedy for it: "If the capitalist class cannot guarantee the means of life to the people then they must forfeit their claim to the means of wealth-production. By socialising the economy we will destroy the profit motive which cause unemployment and so much human misery. We will build a new society which will restore man's lost dignity and give to the world an era of peace and plenty."

"All the propaganda of the early socialists was directed to this goal. they provided a very practical solution to the problem and at the same time educated the people by demonstrating the incapacity of the bosses to rule. Their slogan was:

"W O R K O R F U L L M A I N T E N A N C E ! "

The Glasgow Trades Council should fight redundancy with the same slogan.

N.B. We have also been informed that the Woodside Young Socialists have been active in a solidarity campaign with the railwaymen, issuing many thousand leaflets and participating in joint activities with them.

Blackpool Young Socialists new programme of activities by GB (Blackpool)

At its last meeting the Blackpool Young Socialist branch had a programme presented to it by a comrade from the adult party. This was adopted but is in my opinion pretty insipid. It consists mainly of Hotpot suppers, games evenings quiz evenings, etc. Only three of the evenings being set aside for political discussion. A visit was decided to Thornton Y.S. and another to Southport Y.S. However there are some hopeful signs: it has been agreed to have a visit to the local Y.C.N.D. branch, and at my suggestion we will be contacting the Preston New Left Club. On the other side it was decided to visit the civil defence H.Q. in Blackpool. There is also to be a discussion about taking up local issues which affect youth, e.g., recreational facilities and youth unemployment. There is a shift to the left in the branch, a couple of right wingers have stopped coming and another two members are becoming more left wing. A comrade has agreed to get 6 Young Guards to sell in the branch.

Ilkeston Young Socialist launch recruiting drive.

The Ilkeston (Derbyshire) branch of the Young Socialists has brought out a leaflet which it is distributing in a campaign to get new members. The text reads:

Ilkeston Young Socialists believe that your future is for your own making. And invite you to help make YOUR future through the strength of the Labour Movement.believe that tomorrow's world depends on the clear thinking of all young people today. People's opinions as individuals are little considered but united through the Labour Movement can carry weight and influence.gives you the opportunity to express your ideas, to listen to other people's ideas and to enjoy social activities.....

Coming events Speakers will talk on such subjects as :- unilateralism, the colour bar, the common market, nationalisation, socialism.

(ed. note : slightly shortened and rearranged for space reasons)

SOUTH NOTTINGHAM C.L.P. VOTES LEFT.

At its meeting to mandate its delegate to National Conference the South Nottingham Labour Party, a stronghold of the right-wing which is now being challenged, supported a left position on most matters. Concentrating on the most decisive issues, the left succeeded in getting support for the following: Resolution No. 17 challenging N.E.C.'s non-endorsement of Parliamentary candidates, the Sheffield Hallam resolution on the setting up of an Appeals Committee, Resolution No. 140 from the Draughtsmen's union opposing entry into the Common Market, No. 176 calling for a general election on the issue and the convening of European Conference of Labour, The T. & G.W.U. resolution reaffirming opposition to all tests, Resolution No. 192, from the Constructional Engineers calling for a vigorous programme of public ownership, etc., etc. The Party also supported seven left nominees for the constituency section of the N.E.C. and four left wingers for the women's section. The delegate was mandated to vote against the proposed 'guilt by association' amendment. However, the left suffered one defeat when the meeting voted against supporting the Fire Brigades Union resolution on unilateralism, although the defeat was a narrow one.

BLACKPOOL NORTH VOTES LEFT ON EVERY ISSUE

by B. (Blackpool)

At a special meeting to mandate their delegate to National Conference the Blackpool North C.L.P., mandated its delegate to vote for every left wing resolution without exception and by big majorities. The left was particularly satisfied with this achievement as the delegate is a right winger (and we have a guarantee, via another Blackpool delegate, that the mandate will be obeyed). On the N.E.C. voting the following were supported: Benn, Greenwood, Castle, Mikardo, Griffiths, Crossman and Driberg, but on the women's section it was decided to support Braddock, Hart, Lee, Jeger and Herbison.

A move to vote against all the present members of the conference arrangements committee because they had rejected the Blackpool North conference resolution was defeated on the argument that these people had only abided by the rules. The delegate was instructed to vote against the 'guilt by association' amendment, but a move to abolish the women's section on the N.E.C. was lost. Other decisions were: support for the idea that the Parliamentary Leader of the Labour Party should be voted for by M.P.s and candidates, unanimously for the appeals tribunal, in favour of the Horsham resolutions on adoption of Parliamentary candidates and George Brown, against raising Y.S. age limit to 29, in favour of political discussion on Young Socialist Federations, for N.A.L.S.O. representation on Y.S. committees, for a separate conference for C.L.P.s and for the Woodside resolution on Young Socialist democracy. The latter led to the only real political fight of the evening - a right wing Young Socialist opposing support for the resolution on the grounds that Keep Left was run by the S.L.L. and that its supporters were thugs. However, when it came to the vote his was the only vote against.

Ed. note: This report has been shortened a little for space reasons.

NOTTINGHAM BOROUGH LABOUR PARTY LEFT VICTORY

Nottingham City Labour Party had its meeting to mandate its delegate for Conference the Thursday before Conference. The meeting was poorly attended for a number of reasons (one being that it clashed with Centre 42 activity). The left was in a big majority and consequently on all issues, unilateralism, against the witch-hunt, against the Common Market, for a European conference of Labour, etc.... The right wing made use of the poor attendance to imply that the results would have been different otherwise. However, the way the meetings have been going over a period of time indicates that this is not so. A different note was struck when a left wing delegate from the floor suggested a demonstration be organised by the party in support of the Railwaymen's strike on the day of the strike. This proposal was enthusiastically supported by one of the delegates who had voted with right during the meeting. The secretary said that it was impossible for her to do the organising work for the demonstration as she would ~~be~~ ^{was} at the Conference. At this stage, left wing delegates offered to help and it unanimously decided to put a number of left wing delegates in charge of the demonstration. A full report of this demonstration will be included in next week's Bulletin.

SHEFFIELD PROTEST AGAINST YOUNG SOCIALIST WITCH-HUNT by a Sheffield correspondent

At its meeting on September 20th, the Hillsborough (Sheffield) C.L.P. were addressed by Dave Davis, the Y.S. National Committee member for the Northern region who has been suspended by Transport House. After listening to him there was a unanimous decision to press Transport House to reinstate him pending formal charges.

BANK OF ENGLAND QUARTERLY BULLETIN GLOOMY ABOUT BRITAIN'S TRADE PROSPECTS

The following extract from the Commentary in the September issue of the Quarterly Bulletin of the Bank of England paints a gloomy picture of Britain's economic prospects in the immediate period and indicates that the Tories have far from resolved their difficulties.

"...Despite the continued expansion in continental Western Europe, the slower growth in North America and some restraints on activity in other industrial countries have limited total demand for primary commodities; and at the end of July prices of these commodities were still falling. Thus, although the volume of trade in them may have risen, the producing countries' incomes are unlikely to have benefited much. Among overseas sterling area countries, Australia and South Africa continue to have a strong balance of payments but some others notably India, still experience difficulties.

"The future course of world trade quite largely depends, as always, upon the policies pursued by the main countries. At present there prevails some contrast between the situations in North America on the one hand and in continental Western Europe and Japan on the other; in the former, policy is having to meet problems of under-employment, while in the latter it is increasingly concerned with problems of rising costs. The very existence of this contrast suggests that the main disequilibrium in trade and payments is on the way to solution; but at the same time, and bearing in mind the weakness of primary commodity prices, it suggests some approaching restraint upon the growth of world trade, at a peculiarly inopportune time for the United Kingdom. Speedy solutions to problems of under-employment, consistent with maintaining external strength, may not be easy to obtain if treatment elsewhere of rising costs were to prove very difficult without some restrictions of home demand. It is the task of international economic co-operation, highly developed as it is, to minimise any adverse change in the growth of world trade; and if this task were made too difficult by doubts about the adequacy of exchange reserves and international credit facilities, it would be for international discussions to resolve them...." (our emphasis)

TREND OF WORLD TRADE FAVOUR INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES AND PENALISES UNDER-DEVELOPED ONES

The latest Treasury Bulletin for Industry contains material on the "Trends in World Trade" which shows clearly how the terms of world trade are operating against the underdeveloped countries.

"Between 1950 and 1961 the value of world trade doubled and its volume increased by 85%. There have been two slight interruptions to the rise: exports fell by 1% in volume in 1952, and by 2% in 1958, with slightly larger falls in value. The fall in 1952 was confined to food and raw materials, while the 1958 fall was mainly in the volume of manufactured goods. These were only short and shallow hesitations in a strongly persisting upward trend. During this period exports have been rising considerably faster than production - the production of primary commodities rose by two-fifths and of manufactures by about 70%.

"In 1952 exports of food and raw materials were about 13% less than exports of manufactured goods at current prices. Since 1952 both have risen in volume at about the same rate. In value terms, however, manufactures have risen much more rapidly, as the price of manufactures has been rising while primary product prices have tended to fall:

	Export prices (1953 equals 100)		
	1950	1955	1961
Manufactured goods	86	99	110
Primary products	102	102	90

"The growth of the trade of the under^{dev} developed areas of the world has recently been much more rapid than that of the under-developed areas.

	Import (volume) 1958 equals 100		
	1950	1955	1961
Industrial countries	64	87	133
Other countries	71	92	110
	Exports (volume)		
	1950	1955	1961
Industrial countries	62	88	127
Other countries	78	91	118

Since 1955 the volume of imports into the industrial countries has tended to rise faster than the volume of their exports, while the exports of the under-developed areas have been rising faster than their imports. In value terms however, these movements have been offset by changes in the terms of trade, which have become more favourable to the industrial countries, less favourable to the other countries....."

to be continued in the next issue

INTERNATIONAL CADRE SCHOOL OF THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL

This Summer the European Bureau of the I.S. of the Fourth International organised an international cadre school in the French language for leading cadres of our movement in Europe. The school was highly successful. Twentyfive comrades were present, coming from France, Italy, Germany, the Iberian Peninsular and Belgium. The main courses were given by members of the I.S. and the E.B., and had three subjects: (1) A historical experience of the building of a revolutionary mass party in Europe: the German C.P. 1918-1923; (2) the inner relations between colonial and European revolution; (3) new economic developments of European capitalism.

At the same time, the participants at the school gave a series of lectures, devoted to: the class struggle in Northern Italy and especially the recent Fiat strike; the fight against the fascists by the Paris students; the problems of atomic world war; the Angolan revolution; the Negro struggle in the U.S.A.. These lectures as well as the main courses were followed by a lively discussion.

The school reflected the high political level and the great degree of integration in the real mass movement reached by our cadres in Europe. The main courses will be published by the European Bureau of the I.S.

SAMASAMAJA YOUTH STATEMENT ON HELSINKI FESTIVAL from Samasamajist (27/8/62)

The following letter was sent by G.C. Perara, secretary of the All Island Congress of the Sama Samaja Youth Leagues, to the Secretary of the Moscow Youth Centre, dated 26/8/62.

Dear Comrade,

The All Ceylon Congress of Sama Samaja Youth Leagues gladly accepted the invitation to send a delegation to the Youth Festival at Helsinki and as you are aware, nine members of our organisation attended the Festival as part of the Delegation from Ceylon. You are also aware that our delegation dissociated itself completely and publically from the attack made on the Festival by a section of the Ceylon delegation led by Mr. Homa Dabare. In fact our delegation issued a statement to the press denouncing Mr. Dabare's action. This statement received much publicity in the world press and coming as it did from a Ceylonese group, helped to counter Mr. Dabare's anti-Festival propaganda.

In face of these facts, it is with the deepest regret that we have to protest to you against the treatment to which a member of our delegation, comrade Marshall Perara, and a colleague of his from the Fourth International movement have been subjected at the Festival. These comrades distributed at the Festival, as they had every right to do, the leaflet which the Fourth International Secretariat had issued for the occasion. As you are aware, our organisation is affiliated to the Lanka Sama Samaja Party, Ceylon section of the Fourth International. Finding that there was opposition from some quarters to the distribution of this leaflet, comrade Marshall Perara and his colleague met 3 members of the International Preparatory Committee regarding the matter. These members of the I.P.C. told our comrades that they could distribute the leaflet a little away from the Festival Halls.

However the Festival guards, who were all members of the Finnish Communist Party, still did not allow the distribution. Thereupon our comrades met a Polish comrade of the I.P.C. who agreed to have the matter fully discussed at the I.P.C. meeting of 4/8/62. He fixed the morning of 5/8/62 to communicate the I.P.C. decision. This Polish comrade met comrade Marshall Perara on 5/8/62 in the morning and informed our comrade that the I.P.C. had read the leaflet and that it was not anti-Festival, but that it should be only distributed outside the Festival Halls. The Polish comrade also explained that perhaps the Finnish guards had thought that the leaflet was anti-Festival. Our comrades then asked for a note in the Finnish language permitting distribution outside the Halls. The Polish comrade promised to bring the note, but did not turn up.

On 7/8/62 our comrades were asked by the Festival guards not to distribute the leaflets anywhere. Accordingly, our comrades left the leaflets some distance away and came back, without any leaflets, in order to search for one Mr. Garcia of the I.P.C. to discuss the matter. Then a whole set of about 12 Festival guards pounced on our comrades, manhandled them and, finally, took them to the Crime Police Station at Helsinki. The Finnish police released our comrades who had committed no crime or wrong whatsoever.

We have to protest against this indefensible behaviour of the Festival guards and the failure of the Festival Organisers to ensure the necessary protection to our comrades. We have further to protest against this wholly undemocratic denial of the right to disseminate our views to those present at the Festival, especially after the leaflet has been accepted by the I.P.C. as being

continued over/

William Worthy, foreign correspondent for the Baltimore Afro-American, was sentenced Sept. 17 in Miami, Florida, federal district court to three months in prison and nine additional months on probation. At the trial last month Worthy was convicted of reentering the U.S., his native land, from Cuba without a passport. For visiting China as a journalist in defiance of the State Department travel ban, Worthy's passport was revoked in 1956. Worthy posted a \$1,000 appeal bond with the Florida court and the Workers Defense League announced that it will carry an appeal up to the Supreme Court, if necessary, on grounds that citizens have the right to travel at their own risk without government prohibition.

At a spirited open-air rally in New York City's Harlem the Saturday before Worthy's sentencing, a crowd of some 750 heard 20 leaders of the Negro community speak in his defense. These included Paul Zuber, attorney for the Englewood, N.J., movement; James Farmer, national director of C.O.R.E.; Percy Sutton, president of the New York N.A.A.C.P. branch; Alan Morrison, New York editor of Jet and Ebony; Alex Prempeh of the Black Nationalists; Daniel Watts, chairman of the Liberation Committee for Africa; and Richard Parrish treasurer of the Negro American Labor Council. Parrish served as chairman of the rally. Supporters included Black Muslim leader Malcolm X, AME Bishop D. Ward Nichols, Rev. Milton Galamison, I ssie Davis and Ruby Dee.

At one point in the meeting, when donations for the defense were being given, police stopped the collectors. Worthy took the microphone and said: "You want to know where the enemy is? there it is in uniform. The F.B.I. has tried to stop this rally. Uncle Toms have tried to stop it. But the police can't push around up here like they do in Albany, Georgia." The collection continued and the police retreated. In his speech, Worthy drew cheers when he declared the revolution had wiped out racial discrimination in Cuba and pointed across the street to the Hotel Theresa where Fidel Castro had stayed in 1960. He said he was being persecuted because he told the truth about Cuba. He said this was the time for militancy and unity among black people and that he would fight his case from coast to coast.....

S.W.P. NOMINEES FILE PETITIONS IN NEW YORK ELECTIONS

from Militant (24/9/62)

New York, Sept. 21: Winding up a six-week petition drive, the New York local of the Socialist Workers Party today filed 22,000 signatures with the Secretary of State in Albany, N.Y., to put its candidates on the ballot in November's gubernatorial elections. New York State requires 12,000 signatures of registered voters from independent candidates seeking state posts. A minimum of 50 signatures must be obtained in each of the state's 61 counties. The S.W.P. exceeded the minimum requirements by 10,000 signatures.

The slate of socialist candidates includes Richard Garza for Governor, Sylvia Weinstein for Lieutenant Governor, Carl Feingold for United States Senator, Leroy McRae for Attorney General and Allen Taplin for Comptroller. All candidates will speak at a kick-off election rally Saturday night Sept. 22, at 116 University Place. Defense of the Cuban Revolution against the hysterical and slanderous campaign whipped up against it, by President Kennedy, Congress and the daily press will be one of the campaign issues highlighted at the meeting.

U.S. OPPOSITION TO HYSTERIA OVER CUBA

based upon Militant reports

Over 500 people picketed the United Nations building in New York City on Sept. 17 protesting against U.S. threats against Cuba. The demonstration was organized by the Fair Play for Cuba Committee. An advertisement calling for the U.S. Government to accept mediation in its dispute with Cuba was placed in the New York Times of Sept. 16. It was placed there by, among others, Emil Mazey, United Auto Workers secretary-treasurer; Rev. Donald Harrington of New York's Community Church; H. Stewart Hughes, Harvard professor and independent candidate for U.S. Senator in Massachusetts; Homer Jack, a leader of the Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy; ex-Congressman Charles O. Porter of Oregon; David Riesman, leading sociologist; and Norman Thomas.

Samasamaja youth statement continued/

not anti-Festival. We have to point out that it is precisely this kind of incident and this unworthy denial of democratic rights which assists and feeds capitalist propaganda against the Youth Festival and against Socialist countries and the Socialist Movement. We have to add that our comrades refrained from public protest at the time and contented themselves with reporting to us because the anti-Festival forces were at the height of their activity at the time.....

ANOTHER LETTER FROM ZANZIBAR

Dear Comrade,

Thankyou for your letter of 21st August, 1962, and for having published news of our struggle. This will undoubtedly help us.

The situation at home is still tense with our beloved leader of the oppressed Comrade Babu, still behind the colonial prison.

Though most of the detainees have been released, except three, yet the released are under restrictions. I enclose a copy of ^{the} Restriction Order and a letter from one of the released Comrades to the Colonial British Resident.

The British Resident is still reluctant to lift the emergency. Hence at any time he can arrest and detain any of us. However, we believe united action will force him to lift the emergency.

The tension is also increasing, by the delay of our Independence which we are determined to achieve this year, under F.P.T.U. slogan of "Uhuru na Vitendo", i.e., Uhuru and Actions. Positive actions. We are confident to lead the masses onwards to Independence.

With fraternal greetings,

Yours in the struggle,

Quallan

Deputy - Director International Dept.

P.S. News just reached from Prisons, is that, Comrade James Bugengo, one of the remaining detainees has started "Hunger Strike" from 20th August, 1962. This is a good step which will educate the masses.

Ed. Note: Although this letter is dated 25th August and was sent airmail, we have only had it a few days. Moreover, the copy of the Restriction Order and the letter referred to in the text were not in the envelope. It seems almost certain that the letter had been tampered with. We have written again to the comrades. In the meantime comrades should do everything they can to support the fight of our comrades in Zanzibar. Concrete steps are underway in this respect and readers will be informed.

THE STRUGGLE IN SOUTH WEST AFRICA

from Contact of 6th Sept.

Windhoek: The political struggle in South West Africa is entering a new phase as more and more people become aware that the struggle for South West Africa, in the final analysis, depends on their own efforts and that any effort being made outside for their cause is only supplementary to their own. Until recently, it was generally believed by some that the United Nations would ultimately succeed in removing the territory from the South African Administration without any active combat against the Administration by the people themselves. In opposition to this belief, a strong appeal is being made by the South West Africa National Union in leaflets circulated all over the territory "to replace reformism in : struggle with the militant and revolutionary method and carry the struggle beyond petitioning for concessions and mere 'improvements of conditions'."

This spirit of initiative has culminated in a strong anti-apartheid move by the people of Rehoboth and in moves to unite the major political organisations in the territory. In Rehoboth, a mass meeting was convened to discuss the constitutional development of the Rehoboth Gebiet on the basis of their Patriarchal Laws, as opposed to the government's proposed Transkei-type constitution for the Gebiet. Not only was the desire of the people to get rid of the South African Administration stated strongly, unity with the people in the rest of the territory was expressed. The immediate programme is to evacuate all White officials from Rehoboth including the magistrate (called "Captein" in Rehoboth), the vacancies to be filled by Rehobothers. All the rights of legislation and administration should be vested in the Basterraad. For speedy development of the country, technical assistance could be secured from United Nations through its specialised agencies.

Political leaders in Rehoboth are convinced that Rehoboth has every right to secede from the rest of the territory and have its own sovereignty. Their conviction is based on history: Rehoboth had a written constitution under which the people lived as a sovereign nation. They have never been conquered but only asked for German protection and they can qualify under International Law to form a state for they have all requirements such as a common boundary, the population unity and organization. This move is motivated by the present political situation created by the apartheid South African Administration: in an independent and democratic South West Africa they will not disassociate themselves from their fellow countrymen.

ANOTHER TROTSKY PAMPHLET AVAILABLE: "Leon Sedoff - Son, Friend, Fighter" is now ready. Written shortly after the death under mysterious circumstances of Trotsky's son who was General Secretary of the Fourth International; it is a moving and important pamphlet in connection with history of our movement. It costs 6d (9d post paid)

THE LABOUR PARTY AND THE COMMON MARKET - A SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE IS NEEDED

The Labour Party must approach the Common Market from a SOCIALIST POINT OF VIEW rather than from the point of view of what is good for British capitalism. So far the arguments of both the 'entrists' and the 'non-entrists' in our ranks have suffered from the lack of a class approach. Proof of this is seen in the fact that Labour Party members in the FORWARD BRITAIN MOVEMENT find themselves on the same platform as representatives of the TRUE BLUE TORIES, whilst the LIBERAL PARTY makes an appeal to the members of the LABOUR PARTY COMMON MARKET COMMITTEE to join their ranks.

The Common Market represents the attempt by a group of West European capitalist states to meet the world situation of the 60's. Its aim is to strengthen and consolidate capitalism as against the workers, in face of the Soviet bloc, and against U.S. capitalism and in face of the colonial peoples fighting for their independence and for the development of their countries. THAT IS WHY SOCIALISTS CAN HAVE NO TRUCK WITH THE COMMON MARKET.

We explain elsewhere how we consider the Common Market strengthens capitalism against the working class, but the Rome treaty contains devices which are aimed to prevent the workers in any country carrying out real measures of socialisation. It aims to intensify the cold war by consolidating the divisions of Europe into blocs and its anti-Soviet character is not disguised. Britain's entry would make it the world's biggest importer of basic raw materials and former colonial countries fear the growth of the E.E.C. as facilitating neo-colonialism. They believe that the existence of such a large capitalist importing bloc will lead to one-sided terms being imposed upon them. This fear is confirmed by the growing trend of the 'terms of trade' against primary producers.

It is not a question of getting more favourable terms of entry but of SOCIALISTS OPPOSING THE COMMON MARKET OUTRIGHT. If the Tory Government takes Britain in (which seems almost certain) LABOUR SHOULD UNEQUIVOCALLY STATE ITS INTENTION OF TAKING BRITAIN OUT WHEN IT IS RETURNED TO POWER. Any other policy is, in practice, a disguised form of support for the Common Market, that is, support for a basically anti-working class alliance of West European capitalists.

The alternative held out by many opponents of the Common Market (from Beaverbrook to the Forward Britain Movement) of consolidating Commonwealth ties is neither a socialist policy nor realistic, unless it is based upon a SOCIALIST BRITAIN. Commonwealth links represent on the one hand economic colonialism and, on the other, a form of trading which is declining. Since the end of the second world war trade between industrial countries has greatly increased whilst that between industrial and under-developed countries has declined relatively. This pattern could only be reversed by a British government carrying out a socialist policy of giving massive and unfettered aid to under-developed countries (and especially Commonwealth ones) to industrial themselves.

On the other hand socialists agree that Europe needs uniting and that national boundaries are a relic of the past and an unnecessary hindrance to industrial and social development. But this development must be a socialist one if the contradictions of capitalism are not to exert themselves again. THAT IS WHY WE POSE THE ALTERNATIVE OF THE UNITED SOCIALIST STATES OF EUROPE AGAINST THE CAPITALIST EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY.

Some will say that to put this idea forward is utopian at this stage. But really the whole development of the Common Market, the talk by various capitalist classes of the necessity of planning (including that of Britain) shows that this is a living question of the day. Much needs to be done to propagate this conception and to work out the means of achieving it. The development of the European Economic Community and the possibility of Britain's entry offers the solution because it poses sharply the question of the unity of the European working class. FROM UNITY IN ACTION WE CAN AND MUST GO TO UNITY IN POLITICAL PURPOSE AND UNDERSTANDING.

Capitalist competition in the field of exports means periodic attempts by the capitalist class of each country to better its competitive position by reducing its workers wages relative to those of competitor countries, thereby reducing its costs of production. This tendency is intensified in a set up like that of the Common Market and especially in those countries with relatively higher wages, that is why Britain can expect such attacks. The Tory 'wages pause' policy, N.I.D.C. and, the most blatant of all, N.I.C. are examples of what we can expect (this is not to say that we accept the argument that Britain's competitive position is weakened by high wages, British exports have lagged because of the backwardness of British industry and because of constant inflationary pressure caused by the colossal ARMS EXPENDITURE)

Various estimates have been made of the possible effects of Britain's entry into the Common Market. In this small leaflet we will not go into all these arguments but on one thing they all agree: that entry will mean a thorough reorganisation of the whole structure of British capitalism. Those sections of British industry which are backward and out of date will be subject to a tremendous competition and go under eventually, and those sections which are most modern and competitive will expand as their markets increase. Both these processes will mean that hundreds of thousands of workers will lose their jobs and (if they are lucky) move to other parts of industry. As trade unionists, we know that any rationalisation under capitalism, organised either by the state or by private industry, will always be done in such a way to weaken the working class, in a callous way and at the expense of the workers. Anyone who doubts this only has to look at the way the Tory Government is now rationalising the railways.

The Common Market also means that coordination and cooperation between the various capitalist classes is stepped up. This will be intensified if Britain joins. Rationalisation will be carried out by international monopolies or supra-national bodies like the European Coal and Steel Community. If, for example, British miners are engaged in a struggle to increase their wages or against redundancy they will face not merely the strength of the National Coal Board but the strength and resources of the European Coal and Steel Community. Under these circumstances, protest action or a strike would be much less likely to be effective. The only answer to this will be to ensure unity between the British miners and those of Germany, France, Belgium, etc. The same applies to other sections of workers. TO A UNITED FRONT OF WEST EUROPEAN CAPITALISM WE MUST COUNTERPOSE A UNITED FRONT OF WEST EUROPEAN WORKERS.

The situation of the workers movement in West Europe is one of divisions both between the movements of the various countries and within the countries themselves. THE BRITISH LABOUR MOVEMENT WHICH HAS THE GOOD FORTUNE TO BE THE MOST UNITED IN WEST EUROPE IN THAT IT ONLY HAS ONE TRADE UNION CENTRE AND ONLY ONE MASS WORKERS PARTY CAN TAKE THE INITIATIVE IN OVERCOMING THIS DISUNITY.

Let our party and the T.U.C. take the initiative in calling a conference of European labour which would be open to all genuine mass workers organisations regardless of political and religious colouration: the unions affiliated to the I.C.F.T.U., those affiliated to W.F.T.U. (which in France and Italy are by far the biggest), the big Christian trade union confederations of France, Belgium and Holland, and the various independent trade unions. The aim of this conference should be to work out a common plan of action in defence of workers conditions and for full employment for all workers in West Europe. As a step towards this aim the existing international bodies must be made to work in a public way - at present no one knows anything of the activities of, for instance, the second International, or the various industrial internationals, e.g., the transport workers. We must demand that these bodies become viable organisations in defence of workers' standards.

In the meantime we must endeavour for unity in all actions; every time workers of the 'Six' go into action, either politically or industrially, the movement in this country must support them, conversely, every time the workers of Britain are engaged in struggle we should, as a matter of course, ensure that the appropriate workers' organisations in the 'Six' are consulted and asked for their assistance.

This may seem an elementary question but we are sure much needs to be done in this field - this year the German workers and the Italian workers have been engaged in a whole series of wages struggles, we would pose the question: HOW MANY BRITISH WORKERS HAVE EVEN KNOWN ABOUT THESE STRUGGLES, LET ALONE BEING AWARE OF THE ISSUES OR KNOWING WHAT THEY COULD DO IN SUPPORT OF THEIR CLASS BROTHERS? To the British worker one of the worse crimes is that of 'blacklegging' but how many times in the past have workers 'blacklegged' purely and simply because the NECESSARY MEANS OF ENSURING INTERNATIONAL UNITY OF THE WORKING CLASS IS LACKING. As the integration of industry and capitalism in general grows this question becomes more and more one of urgency. Today the old socialist slogan: WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE! is more important than ever before.

This small leaflet is aimed to help discussion of the issues involved in the entry of Britain into the Common Market. We do not pretend to know all the answers and will welcome any comment on what we have had to say. However we would urge all readers to fight in their unions and Labour Parties for the policies we have outlined, but a last word: THE COMMON MARKET IS AN ATTEMPT TO SOLVE THE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF WEST EUROPE BY CAPITALIST MEANS IT WILL LEAD TO A WHOLE PERIOD OF POLITICAL REACTION UNLESS WE ANSWER IT WITH A SOCIALIST SOLUTION TO THOSE PROBLEMS. We of the Labour Party have a key role to play in this which no one else can do.