

Join the  
**LABOUR  
PARTY**  
**TODAY**

# Socialist Outlook

WEEKLY

No. 97  
[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper]

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1953

3d.

Our Special  
Labour Party  
Conference  
Number

## The Dockers Demonstrate

FOR the second Sunday in succession, a mass rally of 4,000 dockers was held at the Lord Street blitzed site in Liverpool.

The rally was called by the unofficial Port Workers' Committee of the Merseyside to consider what steps could be taken to influence the Union (the mighty T. & G.W.U.) that the need for a wage award is urgent; that the Union should make greater demands for pensions for aged dockers; and a raising of the fall back guarantee (signing on money when unemployed) to a living minimum.

### TORIES MORE SUBTLE

Bill Johnson, leading portworker on the Merseyside, had this to say: "The portworkers are faced with the best organised and the most ruthless set of employers. Aged dockers have not forgotten the hunger days, and how, in the period between the wars, the bosses took advantage of unemployment to cut wages to a minimum. The same system still remains with us. The shipowners will give us nothing unless the rank and file are well organised and capable of demanding and fighting for their rights.

Workers throughout the country now recognise that the old method of reducing wages is being replaced with a more subtle one. The Tory representatives manipulate finances and raise the cost of living, so that when the workers do get a wage award, its value has been offset.

"The unions must then start all over again and submit a further claim and the process is repeated."

### OUR RESPONSIBILITY

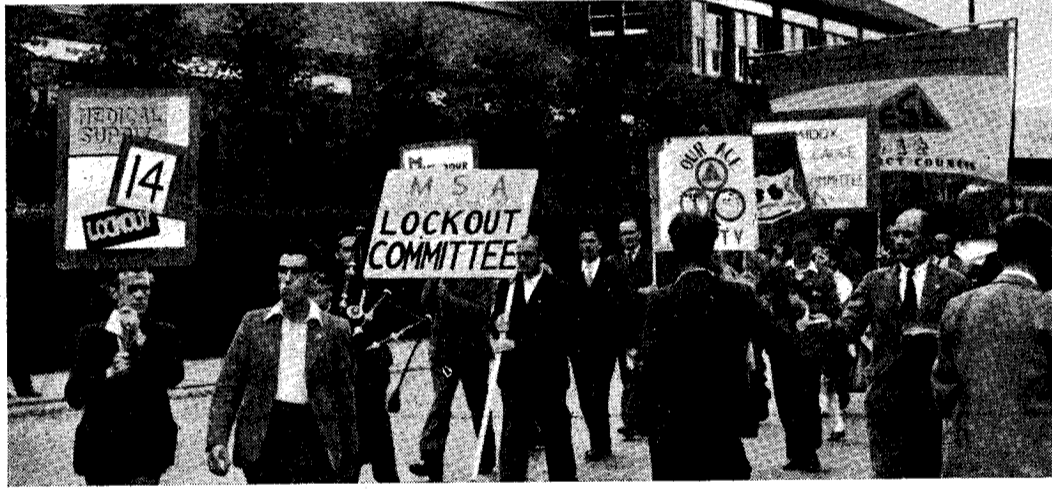
Dan Brandon, Editor of the "Portworkers' Clarion" said: "The leadership of the T. & G.W.U. is

not unaware of this position, and it is their job to educate, organise, and prepare the membership for struggle. In the absence of a lead from the Unions, we, as members, must accept this responsibility.

Representatives from other ports also spoke. The Manchester representative, Mr. Norman, said: "We must not permit sectional interests or loyalties to stand in the way of our desire for unity on this most vital issue."

After the rally, a Liverpool man said "arbitration is a course of procedure which has many complications, not only for us dockers, but also for other Trade Unionists. An award from any of these bodies is after all, an imposition on the workers. For the time being we are forced to await events, but I can assure you we have no love for arbitration. It is a means of stalling for the employer while the price of food goes up."

"Socialist Outlook" understands that weekly demonstrations will be held until a final settlement is reached.



## No Advance Without Public Ownership

### The Biggest Issue Before Conference

ONCE more a Labour Party Conference is faced with a conflict between Right and Left on the issue of nationalisation. Last year, at Morecambe, victory went overwhelmingly to the Left when the Conference decided that the next Labour Government should extend nationalisation to all the key and major industries in the country.

That very progressive decision should, of course, have been included in the N.E.C.'s "Challenge

to Britain"—but it wasn't. All that remains of the Party's decision is the nationalisation of sugar and water, plus the purchase of a few individual firms (note: not industries) "where the national interest dictates".

By thus disobeying a clear instruction from the Party Conference, the N.E.C. has forced on the rank and file an entirely unnecessary fight on a question which was already firmly settled last year. But no-one need be surprised. The opposition have been organising support for their "no-more-nationalisation" policies right from the day the last conference ended.

And now they have succeeded—on a minority vote—in securing the support of the Trades Union Congress for such a policy. The Tory Press has hailed this victory of "moderation" over Socialism and once more the fight comes into the Labour Party.

In taking up the struggle for the extension of public ownership, the Left will re-affirm its faith in

were to reverse the Morecambe decisions, by accepting the water proposals of the "Challenge to Britain" we could expect a campaign against the Left "minority" opinion in the Conference decisions would certainly be invoked to "discipline" and a sharp in struggle would become almost inevitable.

Whatever Margate decides the Tories will never leave the water alone—even if Conference rests content with merely inviting the possibilities of public ownership. For the Tories see in such a decision a victory for the Deakin-Morrison wing, a clear signal to go ahead with plans for placing the ever-moaning burdens of a decayed system on to the backs of the workers.

And when the workers realise as they are already doing—will naturally expect a support from the Party claims their votes at election. Inevitably will grow the idea the only way out of a wages conflict between an employing class and an adamant working class is to take over all of industry and it in the interests of the workers themselves. That way there be room for further industrial conflict.

So, whatever happens at conference, the idea of extending nationalisation is bound to grow more and more support among workers and the Left is bound to grow. By the token, the ideas of the Right "peace" in the factories a price—will become less attractive—even to many of their supporters.

Thus any programme for the extension of nationalisation which doesn't declare firm intention will divorce the Party from the electorate and disrupt its internal

But all this can be avoided every Left Wing supporter at gate puts his back into the fight. Not only are the great majority of Constituency Parties thorough in favour of extending nationalisation, but so, too, are a large number of important Trade Unions.

The powerful Confederation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Unions, for example, is committed to support any demand to nationalise at least the sections of the engineering industry.

"Socialist Outlook" hailed Morecambe decisions as a victory for Socialism inside the Party. For this reason we every success to those who fight at Margate against attempts to water down decisions. Their victory can be our Party a glorious Socialist future. They are the real strength of the Labour Movement. Luck, comrades!

### Their Eyes Are On Margate!

A Labour and Trade Union Movement united to destroy "private enterprise" and replace it with a system of public ownership is the best assistance the Conference can render these striking workers. (Their story is on page 4.)

## Editorial

Socialism as the only practical solution to all the ills and disorders of modern society. The Right on the other hand, will stake its future on a slightly renovated capitalism "seeing us through"—provided we work harder and for less wages!

It is the biggest and most fundamental fight before the Conference. On the outcome will depend many things for the future of our Movement.

If the Right Wing wins, still greater numbers of voters will be repelled from Labour. When confronted with two parties both upholding private enterprise it is inevitable that a great many people will vote for the Tories—the older established firm!

Another consequence of a Right Wing victory would be a deeply divided movement—at a time when the greatest unity will be needed to resist and defeat the attacks of the Tories.

The Right were unable to take any serious action against Bevan and the Left after Morecambe (although they tried hard enough) because the last Conference had bestowed its votes and its great moral authority on the representatives of the Left. But if Margate

## Challenge the Bankers and Landlords!

### ★ Conference and the Housing Question ★

CONSTITUENCY Parties and Trade Unions have tabled 35 resolutions and amendments on housing either in the general section of the agenda or as amendments to "Challenge to Britain".

The resolutions and amendments in their entirety attempt to strengthen the N.E.C. recommendations in "Challenge to Britain" in a Socialist direction. The N.E.C. section on housing has some points of value.

A better use of the existing stock of houses; an extension of municipal ownership of rented dwellings and their modernisation and a vigorous slum clearance.

However these recommendations do no more than touch the fringe of the housing problem because they evade many questions. What number of houses should be built? How shall the industry be organised? What is the answer to high rents and high interest rates? Can the leasehold problem be solved while land is privately owned?

### THE BUILDING INDUSTRY

The industry is inefficient and there has been no real improvements since 1941 when the following was said:

"There has been a failure to define responsibilities, to prevent overlapping of functions and to co-ordinate specialised activities... the work itself suffers, inefficiency and waste creep in, and the high standards of particular specialist groups may be undermined by the low standards of others." (P.E.P. Broadsheet No.

183, 1941, p.4.) Furthermore the London Builders Conference by fixing minimum prices for actual building work also subsidises inefficiency and robs the public.

Building materials are controlled completely by big business. In 1945 Mr. Molson, M.P., quoted in the House of Commons a letter from the head of Mowlem's contracting firm, who said:

"I do not know of a material used in housing of which the

By

Lambeth Councillor  
David Finch

selling price of manufacture is not controlled by a combine, ring or other selling arrangement."

These facts are well known to the Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers who are calling in their resolution "for public ownership not only of building and civil engineering industries but of those industries which manufacture and supply the materials."

Islington (S.W.) and Wandsworth have similar motions.

### HOW MANY HOUSES?

Droysden C.L.P. urges that house building for sale be stopped because the shortage of bricks and cement is slowing down the local authorities' building programme. There is of course, another aspect.

Houses for sale allow the wealthy to step ahead in the housing queue and permit Tory Councils to restrict their own programmes. Geoffrey Bing, M.P., showed this in debating with the Tory chairman of the Hornchurch Housing Committee.

He claimed that in 1952 the Council built only 80 houses while 522 were built for sale.

### RENTS, SUBSIDIES AND INTEREST RATES

It is known by most Labour councillors and a large section of the movement that the housing subsidies just about pay off the interest on the monies borrowed by local authorities. This money goes to the bankers.

In Lambeth for example, on a large building scheme the council has borrowed almost £2 million. Every year it must pay in interest alone £57,782. The Ministry subsidy is £49,027, i.e., less than the yearly interest by £8,755. The deficit is made up by the L.C.C. and the Borough Council.

It is this crippling debt that causes high rents for council tenants.

Glasgow (Kelvingrove), West Renfrewshire, South Dorset, and Ebbw Vale all ask, in one way or the other, for the burden of the interest rate to be taken off the local authorities and made a national responsibility. Understandable as this attitude is, it

would still mean, if put on the Statute Book, that the bankers would be paid—possibly by an increased indirect tax on consumer goods.

Two Birmingham C.L.P.'s urge a bolder way—"that housing and public works loans be issued interest free." This approach cuts out the banker and is the only way to avoid the workers paying. If finance is also controlled by the nationalisation of the Joint Stock Banks and Insurance Societies (as many Divisional Parties request) other problems apart from housing would be solved.

The National Union of Tailor and Garment Workers ask for a long overdue reform—the exten-

sion of the Rent Restrictions Acts to Council and Crown property.

### THE LAND AND LEASEHOLD PROPERTY

It can sometimes take years before a Local Authority can acquire a piece of land and then its price, especially in the towns, can run into thousands of pounds per acre. Also, while land is privately owned the leasehold problem remains.

From the point of view of housing alone land must be nationalised. Many Constituency Parties are urging this be done.

If a composite embracing the main demands outlined above is fought for and won at conference, Margate will have registered an enormous step forward for the movement.

## Margate Starts Our Circulation Campaign

CIRCULATION is a key problem for the "Outlook". It is vital that the political message of our paper be placed before an ever increasing audience of Labour Party and Trade Union members, and an increase in circulation will strengthen our finances.

The Labour Party Conference is the most important political event of the year. All eyes are turned to Margate. The world's press will report and analyse it from the standpoint of imperialism, hoping it will be a

victory for Deakin and his supporters.

"Socialist Outlook" has a different aim! To report and analyse Margate from the standpoint of the rank and file in the struggle for Socialism. The next issue of our paper will therefore be of great importance for the Labour movement. That is why we ask all sellers of the paper to draw up campaign plans for circulating the paper as widely as possible.

"Socialist Outlook" has many supporters who are delegates to

the Conference. Arrangements can be made for them to speak at local "Outlook" meetings, Labour Parties, Trade Union branches, or informal meetings of "Outlook" readers on the lessons of the Conference. Please let us know your requirements in this respect.

The "Outlook" loudspeaker van is ready to assist in running local open-air meetings, either under the auspices or on behalf of Labour Parties. Arrangements can be made on application.

# A Record To Be Proud Of? Facts on Kenya's White Terror

## A Record To Be Proud Of?

PERHAPS no part of our policy statement is more important than that section which defines our attitude toward the people of the colonial countries. Is the next Labour Government once and for all, going to make a clear break with the imperialist past? That is the acid test for Socialism; that is what the world will judge us by.

**INDIA**  
The Labour Government recognised the independence of India and Burma. But even a Tory Government would not have been able to hold these lands in subjugation at the end of the last war. The only virtue that Labour can claim is that it recognised the strength of the national movements in these countries and withdrew its troops, whereas a Tory Government, led by the bellicose Churchill, might have made a last-stand and gone down fighting. One way or another, British rule over India was a thing of the past.

**AFRICA**  
In Africa, however, Labour's record is nothing to be proud of. It is true, while Labour was in power the Gold Coast received a measure of self-government—not without the stout resistance of the Colonial Office, then headed by Creech Jones. In the Coussey Committee discussing the kind of Central Government most desirable for the Gold Coast, by a majority of one Labour decided on a two-chamber system. This majority decision was vetoed by the Colonial Secretary on the grounds that "a central system... might detract from efficiency by isolating in a chamber a relatively limited number of able men whose services are needed in the Legislative Assembly..."

"able men" whom Creech Jones wanted to see in the Legislative Assembly were the semi-chiefs, through whom the Colonial Office had exercised their indirect rule. In the Gold Coast, like India, a measure of independence was achieved because of the strength of the national movement and not because of the benevolence of the British Government. Other parts of Africa continue the sorry tale. The Tseretse Khama affair will remain a blot on the fair record of British Labour.

**Imperial Justice**  
The Commander-in-Chief, the African Command, General Erskine, has decided to send Sgt. Jeremy Allen of the King's African Rifles and the two other officers of the King's African Rifles are not guilty of the crimes made against them by the Evans, earlier this year. A fully attested dossier, containing photographs and statements, Mr. Erskine alleged that two Kikuyu were taken to a lonely spot of the Kiambu reserve and killed.

Persians nationalised Anglo-Iranian Oilfields, he ostentatiously despatched troops to the Mediterranean as a threat to the Persians. Here is no record to be proud of but, rather, one to make us hang our heads in shame. Among the best resolutions under the heading of "Colonial Policy", are those from Guildford C.L.P., Liverpool, Garston C.L.P., Ruislip-Northwood C.L.P., Liverpool T.C. and (Borough) L.P. and an especially good one from the Wimbledon C.L.P.

Socialist colonial policy is perhaps best summed up in the following resolution from Birmingham (Borough) L.P.

"That this Conference, recognising there can be no peace where a policy of White supremacy is maintained, calls upon the Labour Movement to conduct a campaign for the full and unconditional freedom of all colonies and countries under British jurisdiction."

"As a first step in this campaign, demands should be made for the withdrawal of troops from Kenya, Malaya and Egypt."

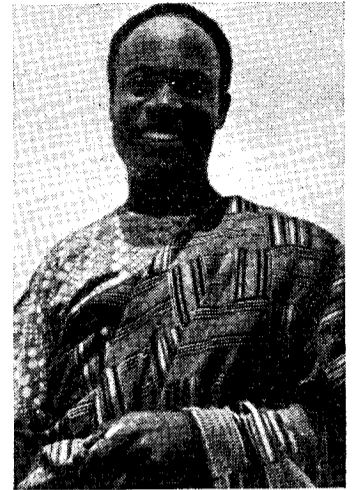
There should be little difficulty in using this excellent resolution as a basis for a composite resolution with which all 18 Constituency Parties who have resolutions on colonial policy on the Agenda could agree.

Those who had hitherto abstained from voting, that is mainly the politically backward, also voted predominantly C.D.U.

It can be assumed that the majority of the additional S.P.D. votes, about 700,000, came from former K.P.D. (Communist Party) voters while the remaining 300,000 represent the S.P.D. vote of those who went to the poll for the first time. But as the S.P.D. undoubtedly lost about 200,000 middle class votes to the C.D.U., the total number of votes cast for the S.P.D. by people who were

IT is almost a year (October 21, 1952) since a state of emergency was declared in Kenya.

To stem the outbreak of "terrorism" (a word well known to the peoples of Ireland, India, Malaya, Egypt and elsewhere) we find that the Government of Kenya employs forces from the Lancashire Fusiliers, Cheshire and



"To assert that certain people are capable of ruling themselves while others are not yet 'ready', as the saying goes, smacks to me more of imperialism than of reason."—Kwame Nkrumah, in a speech to the Gold Coast Legislative Assembly, July 10.

## Labour Could Stop This!



The young Malayan girl was still alive when the picture was taken—she died ten minutes later. She had been shot by a British jungle patrol and carried in—alive and terribly mutilated—tied to a pole like an animal. The ropes can still be seen on her wrists.

A British conscript in Malaya sent us this gruesome picture which so horribly epitomises the Templer Terror.

This terror results inevitably from the Tory foreign policy. Labour must break with this policy. To speak out against it is to speak in the name of the oppressed peoples of the entire world.

Royal East Kent Regiments, an H.Q. Brigade, additional troops from Uganda and Tanganyika, naval and air forces, extra police, armour and dogs, and recently, forces with fresh experience in crushing colonial revolts, the Black Watch from Korea and the King's African Rifles from Malaya.

**WHAT ARE THE FACTS?**  
The compelling reason for the draconic measures in Kenya is to protect the interests of foreign finance capital.

Among the new companies registered in Kenya were 52 in 1938 (capital £763,000); 221 in 1950 (capital £8,749,000); 248 in 1951 (capital £12,526,000). Among the various combines are branches of I.C.I. and Unilevers. In industry, commerce and agriculture there is a total foreign capital of £200 million.

Before the arrival of the white man the native of Kenya looked upon the land in the same way as the air he breathed. It was necessary for his survival but there was plenty of it and private property was a term unknown. Today 3,000 white settlers own, with secure tenure, 16,700 square miles of the best land; 5½ million Africans have 52,000 square miles of the rest without security of tenure.

The Europeans cultivate less than a tenth of what they own. One company, East African Lands and Development Co., acquired 310,000 acres in 1920, which have since been sold bringing at times dividends of 100 per cent.

The wage picture can be gleaned from what the Government pay skilled workers, £2 10s.—£15 per month; unskilled £1—£2 10s. The minimum wage for a white stenographer is £50 per month!

The conditions of the workers were vividly portrayed by Leslie Hale on his return from Kenya. In the House of Commons (December 16, 1952) he said: "I have in my hands a contract... made under the Resident Labourers' Order... dated 21st July, 1952... for three years, which cannot be terminated by the worker... It does not provide him with any food... It restricts the crops he can grow on his little bit of land... it refuses to allow him to own cattle of any kind... if he has a lad of 16, that lad must work for the employer or... go elsewhere. The name of the employer is Mr. Michael Blundell, the leader of the European members of the Legislative Council... The following figures give a

picture of the social services. Expenditure in Government schools in 1949: per pupil per year, Europeans £100, Asians £18, Arabs £3, Africans £2!

Number of beds in Government and Mission hospitals: Europeans 1 bed for every 102 people, Asians 1 bed for 623, Africans 1 bed for 768!

About one in three Africans gets any kind of schooling at all, and most of these get only about two years. Needless to say education is compulsory for Europeans.

Representation in the Legislative Council is as follows: 42,000 Europeans—14 elected members and 25 Official or nominated members; 158,000 Asians—4 elected members (non-Muslims), 2

**By Tim Enright**

elected members (Muslims); 24,000 Arabs—1 elected member, and 1 nominated member; 5,500,000 Africans—2 Official members, 6 nominated members (none elected).

Up to June, 1953, "security" forces are reported to have killed 1,350 Africans and to have wounded about a quarter of this number. The difference between the two figures is ample commentary on the Colonial Secretary's categorical denial in the House of Commons that in the prohibited areas everybody was regarded as an enemy and promptly shot.

Four hundred and thirty were shot "while resisting arrest or after being challenged to stop." Two hundred and forty-one were killed



Nine C.L.P.'s are asking Conference to review the N.E.C.'s wholesale proscription policy. West Salford want a Final Appeals Court of non-N.E.C. members to hear appeals against N.E.C. disciplinary decisions.

in "Operation Buttercup", June/July, 1953. (Admittedly "Buttercup" is a prettier name than some of the others used, e.g., "Operation Ratscatcher" and "Operation Starve", in hunting down colonial peoples.

Since the emergency, 82,840 people have been arrested, 8,975 released at once, 38,947 screened and released, 28,912 screened and tried, 6,006 awaiting trial in custody.

For 12 harrowing months the Kikuyu, long regarded by anthropologists as one of the mildest tribes in Africa, have been dragooned and blasted mercilessly. And all the time the hysterical white settlers, terrified lest their long years of grinding exploitation of slave labour may be suddenly and violently brought to an end, have been shrieking for more and more repression.

Masses of men, women and children have been hauled off to concentration camps and their villages destroyed. This is Templer's policy imported from Malaya.

The closing of schools; banning of freedom of speech, movement, press, meetings; the gallows—these are the order of the day. The leaders of the Kenya African Union, now suppressed, lie in gaol. ("The objects of the campaign against Mau Mau were really to destroy and wreck the Kenya African Union..."), a statement issued three weeks before the emergency was declared. Peter Evans, an Irish lawyer, has been deported for exposing the Black-and-Tan thuggery of the police. Men are castrated and women have their breasts scalded with boiling water. A people who gave themselves over in good faith to the protection of the Crown are blasted mercilessly from the air. ("Aerobatics performed by R.A.F. planes over Niakuru this morning were regarded by local Africans as victory rolls celebrating a new turn of the tide against Mau Mau."—M.G., September 19).

Slavery has been imposed under a law which compels an African, under a penalty of six months' imprisonment, to work 90 days a year, paid or unpaid.

The Left in Britain have a tremendous responsibility. In them now lies the last hope of the Kikuyu people. The Margate delegates must make a bold and firm stand and demand a halt to a massacre which is the direct responsibility of the British people.

"It is not Mau Mau that is stalking Africa, but poverty."—Sir Leslie Plummer, M.P.

# German Workers Not Defeated

THE result of the German Bundestag elections has completely confounded the prophets. Neither did the S.P.D. (Social Democrats) win a considerable victory, as had been expected, nor did many former C.D.U. (Christian Democrats) voters shift their allegiance further to the right.

The C.D.U. came out of the elections as the undisputed winner. All the same, the S.P.D. was able to gain about one million votes. Compared with the results of the previous Bundestag elections in 1949, the other capitalist parties have lost more than four million votes, of which rather more than two million went to the G.V.P. (neutralist party of the former Minister of the Interior, Heineemann, and the former deputy of the Centre Party, Helene Wessel), the Nationale Sammlung (conglomeration of nationalist and right wing splinter groups), and the B.H.E. (refugee party without political conceptions and class tendencies), while the remaining two million votes were cast for the C.D.U.

Those who had hitherto abstained from voting, that is mainly the politically backward, also voted predominantly C.D.U.

It can be assumed that the majority of the additional S.P.D. votes, about 700,000, came from former K.P.D. (Communist Party) voters while the remaining 300,000 represent the S.P.D. vote of those who went to the poll for the first time. But as the S.P.D. undoubtedly lost about 200,000 middle class votes to the C.D.U., the total number of votes cast for the S.P.D. by people who were

entitled to vote for the first time must have been about half a million, the majority of them young people.

The S.P.D. has gained votes in almost all the constituencies where the population is predominantly working class. These gains vary greatly according to the locality and are in places as high as 50 per cent. to 100 per cent. An examination of the total membership of the Trade Unions leads to the conclusion that the overwhelming majority of the organised workers voted S.P.D.

The result of the elections of September 6 is, therefore, a clear expression of the process of polarisation within society by which the two main classes, capitalists and working class, group themselves in the C.D.U. on the one hand, in the S.P.D. on the other. In the fight for the bourgeois vote the C.D.U. has won a great victory. It was able to attract the bulk of the politically indifferent middle class.

This success was due to what the lower middle class and middle class masses within the government coalition—of which the C.D.U. is the strongest party—consider the economic recovery of the federal republic, and last not least to Adenauer's personality. Their economic position is at present so favourable that they shy away from any change. They desire to maintain the present apparent economic and political stability and wish to shield themselves against any element that might disturb the existing order of things. That applies to the extreme right wing parties and neo-Fascists on the one side and to the working class movement on the other.

Many hundreds of thousand of

C.D.U. votes came from refugee circles whose anti-Russian feelings have, by reason of their stay in the Russian zone of occupation, been changed into anti-Socialism. In their opinion a policy of the strong hand, as practised by Adenauer, is the only guarantee for their eventual return to their

**KARL BRUCHNER**  
Reports on the  
GERMAN ELECTIONS

home provinces, whether such a policy results in war or not.

The weak and loosely defined policy of the S.P.D., on the other hand, which has remained contradictory and ambiguous in all major political issues, did not attract the lower classes of society outside the working class proper.

Only a determined Social Democrat policy which ruthlessly shows up the so-called German "economic miracle" for what it is; a war and pre-war boom, which more-over explains to the electorate the problem of peace or war with all its consequences and which, finally, differentiates itself clearly from the capitalists could have attracted a part of the middle class and the politically indifferent or immature workers away from the capitalist parties.

Although the S.P.D. did lose in the fight for votes and parliamentary seats, it must be stated that it has suffered no defeat as the political organisation of the working class. The almost nine million votes cast for the S.P.D. show, for the first time since 1914, the concentration of the vast majority of the working class vote in one single party. This means that the S.P.D. in spite of its weak and shameless policy is the workers' only alternative to the capitalist

parties. In this sense, the result of the elections is clearly positive because it means a further step forward in the political development of the working class.

But you should not run away with the impression that this statement, based on objective considerations, is meant to be an excuse for the bad policy of the S.P.D. in the past, or for its tepid and uninspired election campaign. On the contrary, it shows up all the more clearly the many omissions and mistakes and the guilt of the Social Democratic leadership. If one can speak of a defeat then it has not been suffered by the working class but by all those of the S.P.D. who were afraid of a progressive policy and who tried to endear themselves to the middle classes and endeavoured to make their political attitude more capitalist than the capitalist himself.

What was needed was a purposeful policy which would have made the workers conscious of their own strength. A clear opposition to the Western treaties and all rearmament and war plans, an open declaration of solidarity with workers on strike in their fight against the police and state authorities (some of which were administered by Social Democrats) would have made the S.P.D. a magnet attracting not only those amongst the workers of Christian tendencies who voted for the C.D.U. but also those who supported the moribund Communist Party or the middle class neutralists represented by the G.V.P.

During the recent workers' revolt in the East zone, the helplessness and passivity of the S.P.D. and the Trade Unions it largely dominates, which even went so

far as to support Adenauer's propaganda, left all political initiative in regard to this mighty post-war event to the capitalists. Thus many were induced to consider the Adenauer Government as the liberator of the "brothers and sisters" in the East.

The election result confronts the S.P.D. with a completely changed parliamentary situation. During the mandate of the last Bundestag, its opposition, which throughout was confined entirely to Parliament, had at least formally some semblance of justification. As things are at present, an opposition of a purely parliamentary nature has become meaningless. Now, any fight put by the S.P.D. in Parliament is of value only when it is supported by the extra-parliamentary action of the masses.

The fate of the working class is decided not by the number of parliamentary seats but by the results of the fight outside Parliament. The S.P.D. has received a clear mandate from the German working class. It can not shirk its duty without losing the support of the workers.

The situation is clear. Here capitalism—there the working class. It is no longer possible to avoid the issue. It will fall upon the combined forces of all Socialists to make sure that the S.P.D. fulfils its mission.

**Socialist Outlook**

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

Telephone: HOP 4554

Editor: John Lawrence

# A Political Guide To Margate

By Tom Braddock  
Labour M.P. Mitcham 1945/50  
Delegate from Wimbledon C.L.P.

THE Labour Party Conference at Margate this year, as has already been recognised, is facing a very tough job.

It has to deal with "Challenge to Britain", ordinary resolutions, amendments to Constitution, amendments to Standing Orders, amendments to Model Rules and amendments in connection with Labour Groups and Regional Councils.

It will be found on examination that decisions to be made in connection with "Challenge to Britain" are largely duplicated in the ordinary resolutions,

certainly on all the important matters that the Conference will possibly have time to deal with. All questions of policy will therefore be covered in the discussion on "Challenge to Britain".

The following synopsis puts into the shortest possible form the decisions that delegates will have to make if time is available. In many cases there are various ways in the resolutions of dealings with the problems presented, but this short statement focusses attention on the principle under discussion. If, for instance, it is decided to eliminate the Women's Section on the N.E.C. there are all

sorts of ways of allocating the five seats to other sections of the Party. This allocation, however, is of secondary importance compared with the principle involved.

In dealing with "Challenge to Britain" page numbers are used; in dealing with all other matters page numbers and the name of the Party presenting the principal amendment are quoted. In most cases there are other parties making proposals of a similar character.

It is hoped that this attempt to summarise the task before Conference will be of use to delegates and parties.

## "Challenge To Britain"—Direction of Policy to be settled

- THE CHALLENGE. Page 1.
- THE PROBLEMS WE FACE. Page 2.
  - Should it be stated that it is not a full Socialist Programme?
  - Instead, do we want a clear statement
    - 1. To break with capitalist America.
    - 2. To nationalise banks and main industries.
    - 3. To withdraw troops from Colonies and assist Colonial workers in their fight for Socialism?
- THE COLD WAR. Page 5.
  - Do we want to stop it, also armaments, and to open up trade with the East?
- EXPANSION AT HOME. Page 8.
  - Do we want more Social Ownership as called for at the Morecambe Conference?
- MORE FROM OUR LAND. Page 15.
  - Do we want land or part of it publicly owned?
- SOCIAL SERVICES. Page 20.
- SOCIAL SECURITY. Page 23.
  - Do we want fully adequate benefits?
  - Do we want charges abolished immediately?
- HEALTH. Page 24.
- HOUSING AND BUILDING. Pages 25 and 26.
  - Do we want it organised as a publicly owned service?
  - Do we want it in?
- EQUAL PAY. Extra.
- CONCLUSION. Page 27.
  - Do we want another statement?

### AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

- Do we want Trade Union (i.e., affiliated members) to be members of local party only, i.e., their votes cast only through local party? Page 8. (Walton C.L.P.)
- Do we agree with N.E.C. amendment to take out "Dominions and Dependencies" and put in "Commonwealth Overseas"? Page 7.
- Do we agree that a bare majority shall allow proposal to be put into Party Programme instead of two-thirds majority as now? Page 8. (Lambeth.)
- Do we agree to reduction in power of T.U. votes and increase in power of Constituency Party votes? Page 8.
- Do we want a Constituency Party annual conference before the normal one? Page 8. (Nottingham.)
- Do we want the Deputy Leader of the Parliamentary Labour Party to be a member of the N.E.C.? Page 10. (National Union of Seamen.)
- Do we want any check put on the power of the N.E.C. to proscribe organisations or expel parties or members? Page 10. (various.)
- Do we want an increase in membership fee? Page 11.
- Do we want increased T.U. contributions paid direct to the Constituency Parties in accordance with number of affiliated members? Page 12. (Newport.)
- Do we want a time limit on all speakers at annual conference? Page 12. (East Renfrewshire.)
- Do we want to make it possible to change constitution at any annual conference? Page 12. (Willesden.)
- Do we agree with N.E.C. amendment to add words "and powers" after the word "duties" when the duties of the N.E.C. are specified? Page 13.
- Do we agree to make it possible for N.E.C. to organise funds etc. for any party object? Page 13.

### STANDING ORDERS

- Do we want Conference at Whitsuntide instead of in October? Page 15. (Bishop Auckland.)
- Do we want a longer period between the handing in of resolutions and the date of the Conference? Page 15. (N.E. Durham.)
- Do we want to continue the special division for Women on the N.E.C.? Page 17. (various.)
- Do we want them elected by Constituency Parties and not by the whole Conference? Page 18. (Enfield.)
- Do we want the five members (now women only) added to Constituency representatives? Page 18. (various.)
- Do we want T.U. and part to Constituency?

- Do we want any party to be able to nominate any party member for the N.E.C.? Page 18. (Manchester, Clayton.)
- Do we want League of Youth to have representatives on the N.E.C.? Page 17. (various.)
- MODEL RULES
  - Do we want men to have special organisation as women have now? Page 20. (Houghton-le-Spring.)
  - Do we want to insist on all officers, delegates, candidates being individual members of the party? Page 20. (Thurrock.)
  - Do we want Ward Committees to appoint delegates direct to Management Committees? Page 21. (Epsom.)
  - Do we want a "Men's Section" instead of Ward Committees? Page 22. (Jarrow.)
  - Do we want expulsion of members to be approved by Constituency Party before it can be effective? Page 23. (Rother Valley.)
  - Do we agree to N.E.C. proposals on Page 25?
- LABOUR GROUPS
  - Do we want to prevent absolutely members of Council Labour Groups being chairmen or vice-chairmen of Local Council Committees etc? Page 26. (Rotherham.)
- REGIONAL
  - Do we want Regional organisations to be able to consider and deal with national affairs? Page 27. (Luton.)

The following are extracts from a letter sent to Mr. Attlee by the 1690 Branch of the T. & G.W.U. We hang our heads when we read of the position in Kenya. Workers being killed and wounded and shut up in concentration camps, reminds us of Hitler's reign of terror. We read with dismay and horror that between March 27 and July 6, 1,062 Africans have been killed, 349 wounded, 223 prisoners. This we suggest, Comrade, is nothing more than extermination of the working class in Kenya. Trade Unions are being smashed and workers are forbidden to organise. We soon see the reason for the reign of terror when we unearth the names of the biggest land owners in Kenya.

## We Hang our Heads . . .

The situation in Malaya also causes us alarm and we draw a parallel with the position in Kenya. We are aware that the Government of U.S.A. are controlled by big business who realise that their country is the last bulwark of capitalism in the world, and are desperately trying with all the means at their disposal to halt political and economic evolution. We refuse to be drawn into a world war of such magnitude, where there is a very great possibility of human life being wiped out. We feel Comrade, that the time has come when the Labour

Party must firmly reprimand (the U.S. imperialism) and say "Dollars do not buy friendship. Intimidations breed hatred. We know now who were the real aggressors in Korea, and if you want to invade China then you can certainly do it alone. We, the workers of Great Britain, refuse to act any longer as the first line of defence for U.S.A. big business. We have recognised China." We pray that you do not listen too much to certain Trade Union leaders who have surrounded themselves with yes men, they can't hear our voice, they don't speak for us. September 10, 1953.

## Arms and the Child

WHEN Montgomery opened the Radio and Television Show at Earls Court he went into some detail about the cost of Army and other services equipment.

Just a few thousand here and there for an odd tank or two.

The absurdity of wasting money on non-productive articles must strike home again and again to all of us. What a shocking waste of the nation's resources to keep producing more and more vicious war machines and to keep alive people who are just as vicious, the colonels, the coppers and the capitalists, particularly these last who are responsible in the last analysis for the maintenance of all the others.

While reading a book called "The Health of the Nation" (by Dr. S. Leff) I found the urge to shout "Let us think creatively, not destructively; peacefully, not war-mindedly." For under the heading "Care of the Child" I found some very interesting information.

Half the deaths of children up to one year are caused by premature births. Premature births are caused, to a large extent, by poverty and would decrease if "preventive treatment of a general character was extended, e.g. improvement in economic, social and educational status of the poorer classes" (Report of 1949). "The Maternity in Britain Report 1948" considered that malnutrition was probably an important factor in producing premature births.

With adequate nourishment and decent living conditions, the "evidence goes to show that the mortality or still birth rates could be reduced by one-third to half and if they were there would be a saving of about 15,000 babies each year in England and Wales alone."

Now how can the basic needs for this state of affairs be achieved?

By spending more on guns, on war against Koreans and Africans, on building a stronger police force. The question has only to be put this way for its absolute absurdity to be obvious.

The attitude of mind that considered it profitable to spend money on these things will obviously worry about mother losing their babies and perhaps damaging themselves.

But care of mothers and babies means good and plentiful hospital accommodation or home nursing. These are not productive investments to the profiteers of the world.

They are not even a necessity for our governments who will waste money on a display of British war strength—Haven't we just seen a huge (larger than ever before) fly-past of our aircraft, bombers and fighters. Didn't we all hear the magnificent review of the fleet—mainly battleships of one sort or another?

The money spent on these plays alone might have saved hundreds of babies.

Why then do we applaud the other but do nothing about the other? It is time the ordinary folk showed our governments that there are better ways of spending the surplus which the workers produce.

"The child is father to the man. What a situation when we leave the child to die through lack of necessities and kill off the man who escaped this with weapons war!"

Mrs. Nora Emme

## Labour's History

## No. 17. A Famous Old Bailey Trial

# Dockers Defend Right to Strike

THE history of dockland tells about grinding poverty, hard times, hard work, and sometimes no work at all. That is one side of the picture. But it tells also of angry protests, valiant and violent strikes and the advances made by the men subjected to such conditions by capitalist greed.

We portworkers have a past to be proud of in our strivings for a better life. We have to contend against powerfully entrenched enemies, employers and ship-owners, hostile Governments, unsympathetic and even antagonistic Union officials, who have often been in league with one another against us, yet never have we flinched when desperation or duty drove us on to the picket lines. Our reputation with fellow workers at home and abroad is unmatched by any other section of British labour. Yet as every docker knows from his daily experience, our experience goes on. Much work will have to be done before we and our families can enjoy a secure and adequate livelihood, be assured of decent working conditions on the job, and enjoy our democratic rights as members of organised labour.

The history of the 1305 fight is one of those outstanding events of our past which should remain a part of the memories of every portworker of the dock. It owes to the sacrifices and sufferings of the generations before us on the docks. The events that led up to the arrest were the result of the struggle of our fathers by their actions, education, and enough to protect what they had won.

The arrest of the seven Dockers has become one of the most celebrated events throughout dockland. In February 1951 seven portworkers' leaders were arrested on orders of Sir Hartley Shawcross, Attorney General of the Labour Government.

Six of the seven men—Johnson, Harrison, Dickens, Timothy, Cowley and Constable were apprehended at their meeting place, the White Hart Inn in the East End of London.

The seventh man, Crosbie, was arrested at his home in Liverpool

and brought down to stand trial in London with the other six. Four of the seven men were from London, one from Liverpool, and two from Birkenhead. They were taken to Bow Street and charged with conspiring to incite dockers to illegal strikes. They were then remanded on bail of £10 each.

Before the arrests, many London Dockers had been on strike in support of an unofficial stoppage on the Merseyside. The men were accepting an award of 11s. 6d. wage increase (that had been offered by the T. & G.W.U.) and the portworkers were incorporated in their Charter.

The London dockers had decided to return to work but when they heard of the arrest on the following morning the whole situation was transformed. Seventeen thousand dockers in London refused to report for work. Thus the dispute which had been generated by economic demands became a political protest against the application of Order 1305.

to return to work but when they heard of the arrest on the following morning the whole situation was transformed.

Seventeen thousand dockers in London refused to report for work. Thus the dispute which had been generated by economic demands became a political protest against the application of Order 1305.

### THE BACKGROUND

The Port Workers Committees of London and the Merseyside were the most influential and energetic amongst the bodies formed by the rank and file of the Trade Unions. They actually directed these large strikes involving thousands of men in a vital industry. This was a situation which the Trade Union Right Wing and the Labour Government found quite intolerable.

The previous December, the Labour Government had arrested the unofficial leaders of the gas workers who had been heavily fined after pleading guilty. Having succeeded in punishing the unofficial leaders of the gas workers, the Right Wing went on to arrest the unofficial leaders, and the central core of militants on the port workers committees.

The Left Wing of the Labour movement was angered and alarmed by the use of emergency regulation Order 1305 to suppress the men directing the struggle against the Right Wing leadership of the T. & G.W.U. which was the main pillar of support for Labour's Right Wing.

In support of the slogan: "Our Lads In the Dock: We Come Out of the Docks" 8,000 to 11,000 men stopped work each time the seven had to appear in Bow Street or the

Old Bailey. Police tried to interfere with their freedom of speech by preventing processions, and arresting demonstrators.

### THE SEVEN DOCKERS IN BOW STREET

On Friday, March 16, when thousands of dockers outside the court demonstrated their solidarity with the arrested men, a magistrate demanded the abolition of 1305 if the seven were committed for trial at the Old Bailey.

Each of the seven men made fighting speeches from the witness box in Bow Street. They were cheered again and again by the dockers in the public seats. The magistrate warned that if they cheered persisted he would clear the court.

After leaving the court on bail the accused dockers were carried

Continued on page 4, col 1.

The hard-hitting paper which is written and produced by rank and file dockers.

Portworkers' Clarion THE VOICE OF BRITAIN'S DOCKERS Price 2d.

Order from: DAN BRANDON 9 Exmouth Street, Birkenhead

Having Read my first copy . . .

HAVE just read my first copy of "Socialist Outlook" which was passed on to me by hand Saturday. I enclose herewith description form, duly filled in, together with postal order for 10d. and shall be glad if you will arrange to send me a further two copies.

Being an Irishman, your article "Sins of the Fathers" especially interested me, and reading it brought back many vivid memories of my own childhood in the 1930's. The article on George Lansbury and the Poplar Labour Councillors is also very enlightening, as my knowledge of the history of the British working class is rather patchy at the moment. I would like to see more articles of this character.

I had the pleasure of knowing Miss Annie Lansbury for a short time before her death and on several occasions she spoke of her memories of those early days when her father and his colleagues were leading the fight for Socialism in East London.

It has come to my notice that on October 20 at Poplar Civic Theatre "Guilty and Proud of It", a dramatised account of the Poplar riots of 1921 is being presented. At the present time with the great of the Tories to amend the Rent Restrictions Act and increase rents, many lessons can be learned from the stand taken by Lansbury. Grimes. Rainham.

# Our Readers Write . . .

## Margate and Franco Spain

The Americans are negotiating with Franco for the establishment of war bases in Spain. Simultaneously, pro-Franco pressure groups in this country are working to obtain British support for the admission of Spain into the United Nations. If these sordid intrigues are successful, Franco's position will be strengthened and his reign of terror against Spanish Socialists, Republicans and Protestant Christians will be more ruthless than ever.

The Labour Party should not remain inactive any longer. Let the Margate Conference boldly declare Labour's hatred of Franco's abominable tyranny, its unswerving opposition to the admission of Fascist Spain into U.N.O. and, not least, its fraternal sympathy with the Spanish Republicans and anti-Fascists in their terrible sufferings. I also earnestly hope that the 1953 Conference will call for a complete trade boycott of Franco Spain.

F. Turner.  
Member of Wallasey Labour Party.

## Reality in Dreamy Devon

If you were one of those lucky persons who spent your holidays in the West Country this summer the beauty of the Devonshire and Cornish seaside will probably be easily recalled to mind.

The artist and photographer, in particular, will also remember the placid beauty of the harbours and ports where the anchored fishing boats and yawls provided good material for paintings and photographs.

But, behind this seemingly pleasant tranquility and laxity, there lies a story of degeneration in the West Country fishing industry.

Despite the efforts of the Tories to revive this declining industry with the recently announced plans for marketing inshore catches now being formulated by the White Fish Authority there seems very little likelihood of the fishing communities thriving in the future.

Recently I visited many fishing villages and towns in Devon where I continually heard the same story of rapid decrease in the number of fishermen and vessels throughout the county. Numerous old seamen told me that it was too late to improve their lot with "Fancy Parliamentary acts which only help the vast fishing companies at the expense of the individual fishermen".

This may seem too exaggerated and pessimistic to some readers but I can assure them that these sentiments were reiterated wherever I went.

At a fishing village near Exeter I was told that about 15 years ago there were more than 40 vessels operating regularly from there. Now this place has degenerated into a muddy and stagnant gutter of the commercial fishing world and there are only a couple of full time fishermen living in the village nowadays.

This is neither an isolated or

exaggerated case for all over the West Country young people are leaving the small towns and villages to work in the larger cities where there are larger wages and easier working conditions.

P. Jackson. Exeter.

## Lessons of the E.T.U. Strike

The outcome of the E.T.U. "guerrilla" strike has several lessons for the whole Trade Union movement. It must now be clear that the Tories and employers are determined, as far as they can, to maintain the wage freeze. To have awarded a wage increase to the electricians would have meant opening the flood-gates to the miners, dockers, engineers and railwaymen.

This indicates that a most determined struggle must be waged if we are to smash the Tory policy, which then may very well lead to

the downfall of the Government.

The question must therefore be put whether a limited struggle ending in a court of enquiry, was the correct tactic for the E.C. of the E.T.U. to adopt. The contracting electricians certainly were prepared to battle. So much so, that pressure and even threats by the Union leadership were necessary to get those workers at Earls Court who had been awarded 3d. an hour, to go back.

Elsewhere the workers were only waiting the word to come out—they were never called out. At the mass meeting in London the workers only reluctantly agreed to go back (with a minority vote recorded and a substantial abstention) on the understanding that the struggle was not yet over.

The Court of Enquiry is being used by the press and the employers to witch-hunt the E.C. After the Court of Enquiry which investigated the Austin strike no worker could surely expect much else!

At the same time the employers

have taken action (Manchester) to victimise members. The workers have gone back, certainly not beaten, but confused and worried because the outcome of the strike was not a wage award but a vicious witch-hunting Court of Enquiry. Many feel the Union leadership could have won out if they had extended the struggle among the contracting electricians and even if need be to workers in supply (power stations) and have campaigned for financial support in the Labour movement. A victory was worth sacrifice and worth a fight, not only because of the need of contracting electricians for an increase, but because of its industrial and political implications—the strengthening of the wages front and the weakening and possible downfall of the Tories.

The next time the contracting electricians come out they must ensure a different outcome. If other sectors of the T.U. movement take action before that (as is probable) they must see that their leaders go all the way.

A London Spark.

## A REAL CASE FOR A SUBSIDY

The big capitalist press is subsidised indirectly through advertisements. Our press is subsidised openly by its readers who realise the need for spreading its influence in the fight for Socialism.

Every month we need at least £100 in our Fighting Fund.

With only eight days to go we still need £52. Unless our many friends rally round, we shall miss our target for the first time.

So send in your donation NOW. We rely on YOU—we are sure you will not fail us.

## Socialist Outlook

is obtainable every Friday

## From Your Newsagent

(Price 3d.)

In case of difficulty write to us at:

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

## Should We Pay Compensation?

ERNEST JONES and T. W. Douglass fortunately agree on at least one point: that the nationalised industries ought not to have to pay interest out of revenue.

Jones wants to "stop the payment of interest to the ex-shareholders", Douglas to "place the cost upon the nation".

One can readily understand why Douglass advocates the latter course. If railmen demand more pay they can always be met with the argument that it is not a commercial proposition—since the railways must run at a profit. I find myself in sympathy with Douglass's intention, but also support Ernest Jones and feel that many "Outlook" readers must be in the same quandary. Why be so outraged at placing the cost upon the nation? Is that not where it already tends to be in any case?

As the law already stands, the nationalised concerns fall mainly into two categories: First the self-financing public corporations, second, the 'dependent' corporations, i.e., those relying on state contribution or subsidy. The self-financing ones—e.g., the N.C.B., B.E.A., Gas Council, Transport Commission, Bank of England, etc., must ensure that revenue "taking one year with another" meets all interest, taxation and other charges. They must run as commercial, trading concerns. The others, e.g., B.O.A.C., B.E.A.C., the Colonial Development Corporation and Overseas Food Corporation likewise—but with some form of subsidy.

But in all cases it is laid down in the Acts that the principal and interest on stock issued as compensation for original acquisitions must be Treasury-guaranteed. (Subsequent issues—capital expansion—may be guaranteed.) So, in fact, these interest payments can already become part of the National Debt structure. But even with no legal backing, the Treasury would still have to see the stockholders satisfied.

From the above, it is clear that we have a good case when we denounce those who try to keep wages down so that the undertakings may be run at a 'profit' or, without becoming 'insolvent'. T. W. Douglass appears merely to be trying to strengthen that case. But those of us who also support Ernest Jones's opposition to compensation, as such, should be clear where our position leads. Today

it leads directly to the abolition, or at least the complete reconstruction and revision, of the entire National Debt structure. The weakness of Jones's argument lies in the facts that he pretends to be against only the "ex-shareholders" when in fact this "equity-holder" is dead, the public corporations have turned his capital into fixed interest bearing Government-backed stock.

That is the reality. While we must use the agitational value of this real demand which is coming not from us but from the ranks of the workers—the demand to cut off the "ex-shareholders"—we should never dodge where it leads. If we do, we open the door to the attacks made by the Morrisons, etc., who can always prove how

impossible it is to attack these "ex-shareholders" without revolutionising the whole credit system. I believe that readers like T. W. Douglass are genuinely concerned at the thought that by advocating the cessation of interest payments we are advocating the disruption of the economy without knowing it. And Ernest Jones has done nothing to reassure him. I believe that the difference between the two positions may not be as wide as it first appears. For, if both agree that we must fight for wage increases despite possible "insolvency" in these industries we are already on good ground. Second, both must agree that without a

Labour Government we will not achieve more than that on the question of compensation.

Given a new Labour Government, the prime question becomes nationalisation and re-nationalisation. That raises the question of compensation. Having moved forward since 1945, today's situation demands that this be solved along with the problem of the huge national debt. A new Labour Government which proves its Socialism by further nationalisation policies need not worry unduly about its compensation policy. As T. W. Douglass probably agrees, it would be extremely useful to go on nationalising and buy civil peace through compensation payments, avoiding serious money problems. The test of Socialist intentions would be the scope of the nationalisation plan. By stating an intention to review the national debt, a Labour Government which had a Socialist nationalisation programme might very well do as T. W. Douglass suggests. At such a price, peace would indeed be cheap. However, I personally do not think we can buy peace in that way.

In the meantime, and until we get a Government which proves its intention to move rapidly towards the socialisation not merely of the so-called basic industries but of industry (as our principles demand), it is the duty of the left wing of the Party to support these demands from the rank and file in industry—the demands which expose the farce of interest payments to the parasites at the expense of wages to the producers.

R. Hood

## ★ Star Letter ★

## Two 'Black' Jobs in Acton

Reported by Fred Emmett

THE General Council of the T.U.C. opposed a motion at this year's Congress which requested the General Council to "prepare a scheme . . . indicating a method for joint action" against employers who victimise workers for Trade Union activity.

How out of touch with reality are these men of the General Council. Even while they met in far-off Douglas, Isle of Man, Trade Union members were taking action against just such employers in part of London's industrial belt at Acton.

For 15 weeks, 80 Medical Supply Association workers, supported by the A.E.U. and the Sheet Metal Workers Union have been on strike following the sacking of seven workers as "redundant", among whom were the chairman and another member of the works committee.

And for four weeks, 30 draughtsmen employed by the Middlesex Tool and Gauge Co. have been on strike after their "corresponding member" (or shop steward) was sacked and a statement made by the firm that they were repudiating the agreement with the Draughtsmen's Union.

Both strike committees show the way in which the T.U.C. could initiate methods for joint action which could stamp out these victimisations. For they are getting work for these two firms "blackened" throughout the country.

The M.S.A. strike committee is sending delegates to firms who supply material—both for use and for resale—and not without success. Already, their committee informed me, workers at British Oxygen are preventing gas from being supplied. Workers at Enfield Rolling Mills have stopped the supply of metal, at Dare Inglis of Tubular Furniture and so on through a long list.

The M.T.G. Draughtsmen, in their latest "newsheet" publicly thank workers in Bristol Aeroplane Co., Pressed Steel Co., Standard Motors, Glacier Metal, Hawker Aircraft, Rotol, and De Havilland Aircraft. These workers have "persuaded their management not to place further contracts with M.T.G."

They also say that the "Management have admitted . . . that by our united action we have put the company in a serious position."

All these strikers are determined to win. How much easier would their victory be if the T.U.C.—in the name of every Trade Unionist—were to give its full support. To proclaim boldly to the working men—don't touch anything for these firms. Then, as was demonstrated in the D. C. Thomson dispute, nothing would move. Even where, as can easily happen, small rat-shops and one man concerns can make the stuff, it would not be transported.

Knowing this, any employer would think twice—and twice more, before embarking on the road of victimisation of workers for Trade Union activity.

But if the T.U.C. will not act in this way, the rank and file will nevertheless support their shop stewards in taking action along these lines.

All messages of solidarity, and financial support should be sent to the respective strike committees at the joint headquarters at Faraday Hall, Faraday Road, Acton, London, W.3.

Footnote: At the M.T. & G. half a dozen "blacklegs" are still working. Jack London's "Portrait of a Scab" which was printed in "Socialist Outlook" of August 28, has been issued in leaflet form by the Strike Committee to the delight of many workers in Acton.

## DOCKERS (from p. 3)

Down Bow Street on the shoulders of their supporters amid the cheers of encouragement and the singing of "Land of Hope and Glory, Mother of the Free".

Amongst the demonstrators outside Bow Street were Building Workers, Electricians, Engineers, and others who had been sent from their respective jobs to offer support if it was required. Birkenhead and Liverpool dockers also arrived by car and coach having travelled all through the night.

## THE DOCKERS AT THE OLD BAILEY

The seven dockers made their appearance at the Central Criminal Court on Tuesday, April 3. The proceedings continued for eight days with the defence being conducted by Rose Heilbron, K.C. and Mr. Wilson, K.C.

At the close, the seven dockers were discharged by Lord Goddard, the Lord Chief Justice. Hundreds of dockers cheered the released men to High Holborn, and scenes of wild rejoicing took place at their acquittal.

And Shawcross looked astounded. Then his head is bended low. At last the judge he turned and said:

"I'll have to let them go. And right throughout the country, As every docker knows, When we win this dockers charter, We will bless this lovely Rose. (Mersey Mike)

This was a great day. A victory not only for the dockers but for the whole Trade Union movement. Needless to say, Order 1305 was moved soon after and we became free men again in England. The dockers fought for, and won, the right to strike!

## New Readers

Take Out a Special Subscription

9 'Outlooks' For 2/-

Buy a subscription for yourself - and for your friend(s)

Please send "Socialist Outlook" for ..... to the name and address below. I enclose P.O. ....

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

Normal Subscription Rates: 1 year, 19s. 6d.; 6 months, 9s. 9d., 12 issues, 4s. 6d.

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

## Who Owns 'Socialist Outlook'?

The "Socialist Outlook" was first produced in December, 1948. It is owned and published by the Labour Publishing Society Ltd.—a co-operative society registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act.

Anyone who is a member of, or is eligible for membership of, the Labour Party can, by purchasing a £1 share, become an owner of the "Socialist Outlook".

The Officers and Committee of Management are elected at an Annual General Meeting, and they appoint the Editorial Board.

The present Chairman of the Society is Jack Stanley, General Secretary of the Constructional Engineering Union. Bob Streetley, for many years a well-known member of Bermondsey Labour Party, is the Vice-Chairman. Tom Braddock,

Labour M.P. for Mitcham (1945-50) and now chairman of Wimbledon Labour Party, is the Treasurer. The Secretary is Lambeth Councillor, Toni Mercer.

The aim of the "Outlook" is quite simple: to assist the rank and file in securing a Socialist policy for the Labour Party. If you agree with this, why not become a shareholder?