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TODAY

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3d.

Hands Off
the Colonial
peoples!

HANDLEY PAGE OUT AGAIN!

By W. A. Court

Chairman — Handley Page Draughtsmen's Strike Committee

LAST Monday 170 draughtsmen at Handley Page Ltd., Cricklewood, London, who had been on strike for thirteen weeks, returned to work.

We returned on the basis of an agreement between the London Engineering Employers' Association and the Association of Engineering and Shipbuilding Draughtsmen. The company agreed to pay a minimum salary of £11 to male technicians and draughtsmen at 26 years of age. They also agreed that trainee draughtsmen who had completed their training should receive a salary equal to draughtsmen of comparable age and merit who were recruited to the drawing office from outside.

The agreement went part of the way to meet our demands. We were further assured that the management would make early arrangements to discuss the trainee scheme with the union with a view to reaching harmonious relationships within the firm.

We accepted in good faith the assurances of the firm that they wanted harmonious relations. However, within one hour of our return to work we drew other conclusions. The treasurer of our strike committee—who, incidentally is also the steward for his department—was transferred to another department. He refused to go and was given until Friday to think it over.

A second member of our committee was taken off a job which he has done for the past few years.

A third member of our strike committee, who had also been our picket organiser, was, according to the agreement, entitled to the minimum rate. However, he was informed he must be put on two months probation before he could qualify.

There was no mention of a pro-

batory period in the final agreement. A few weeks ago the management put forward this suggestion in a letter which we rejected. When we returned to work it was on the basis of verbal assurances that all documents previous to the final agreement were withdrawn. Thus we felt that the firm's actions last Monday, were a violation of the terms on which we ended the strike.

We had no alternative but to call a meeting of the draughtsmen to discuss our position. The firm would not allow us to meet on their premises so we had to meet outside. There, one and a half hours after we returned to work, we decided to continue the strike.

Sir Frederick Handley Page has since informed the factory convenor that he never intended to withdraw the two months probation and that no assurances were given that it would be withdrawn. Further, the manual workers in the factory have been told by the company that if they refuse to work to "black" drawings they will be dismissed.

At a mass meeting of the manual workers on Tuesday, February 9th they decided that if any worker is dismissed then the works as a whole will come out on strike. The shop stewards have informed the management that if our dispute is not settled by 12 noon on Friday, February 12th, the manual workers will meet again to consider further action.

We appeal for support from all sections of the labour movement in our fight against an employer who, the Handley Page draughtsmen feel, has broken faith, not only with the Trade Union which negotiated the agreement on behalf of the draughtsmen, but also with his own representatives who have negotiated on the Company's behalf. In the interests of all those who are employed by the Company; in the interests of the trade union organisation within this important factory, the labour movement must rally all its forces to the support of the draughtsmen and the manual worker involved in this critical and bitter struggle.

Eden Blows Up The Berlin 'Peace' Talks

British Labour and U.S.S.R. Must Meet

WHAT we forecast has happened. The Berlin Conference has deadlocked. An inevitable result considering that the Western Powers went to Berlin determined to proceed with German rearmament as part of their ill-concealed war plans against the Soviet Union.

"From the Western capitalist point of view," we wrote on January 22nd, "the object of these talks is not to establish peace but to put the blame for the continued deterioration in international relations on to the shoulders of the

Soviet Union. It is a diplomatic manoeuvre and nothing else."

All this has been dismally confirmed by the speeches of Dulles and Eden who have outlined a plan for the incorporation of a rearmament Germany into the so-called "European Defence Community."

This "Eden Plan" (in reality a "Dulles Plan") was correctly described by Michael Foot in last week's "Tribune" as "fraudulent from the start"... "put forward in the expectation that the Russians would retort with a flat rejection"... "a disreputable manoeuvre"... "the most serious count against the Churchill Government in the whole of its period of office." And with that harsh judgement we most heartily agree.

It underscores once again the urgent need to rid the country of this Tory Government. For the only chance of avoiding war is to return another Labour Government with a firm mandate to negotiate—not to manoeuvre!—with the Soviet Union.

How should a Labour Government set about this task? What should be its proposals to the Soviet Union on the German and other related questions?

A BASIC PROPOSAL

At the moment, East Germany is out of the capitalist orbit, its land and factories are nationalised. But the West remains, under Adenauer, the capitalist plaything of aggressive German industrialists. Peaceful unification of the two zones is therefore impossible within the framework of the Western Plan for German rearmament.

Not only does the Soviet Union rightly resist this obvious threat to its security, but the workers of East Germany will also have a say—and a big one. The demonstra-

tions last June certainly proved that the East German workers have little love for the political regime in their country—but they also proved that these same workers have no desire to be placed once again under the whip of the now dispossessed landowners and capitalists.

Peaceful unification of Germany can therefore never be achieved while Adenauer has the support of foreign troops stationed in the West. For this reason the first pro-

posal of a Labour Government must be—the withdrawal of all foreign troops from German soil.

Judged by Mr. Molotov's Berlin speeches, such a proposal—which is completely consistent with the best interests of both the German and British peoples—would certainly provide the basis for negotiation with Soviet Russia on the German question. Quite apart from the cost of the occupation, and the added armament that it involves, the presence of British troops in Germany serves no other purpose than to strengthen the forces now preparing war against the planned economy of the Soviet Union.

Should Germany still be decided at that time, there is no doubt that the Eastern Zone would participate in such a conference. With this concrete alternative rearmament before them, workers of the Western Zone would soon demand a Government whose economic policy would permit of such participation. When that happens, the problem of Germany would be solved all time.

Editorial

do has no support in a Labour Government must request the immediate withdrawal of all American troops from these shores.

A MUTUAL PLAN

Whatever we may think of the activities of the present Russian Government, as soon as we must be profoundly sympathetic to the Soviet peoples' struggle to build a planned economy on the backward heap bequeathed them by the Czarist regime. A Labour Government would therefore propose to the Governments of the Soviet Union, China and the countries of Eastern Europe a conference whose object was to plan nationalised resources of all countries, and our own, to mutual benefit of all.

Should Germany still be decided at that time, there is no doubt that the Eastern Zone would participate in such a conference. With this concrete alternative rearmament before them, workers of the Western Zone would soon demand a Government whose economic policy would permit of such participation. When that happens, the problem of Germany would be solved all time.

A NEW ALLIANCE

From past experience we no doubt that the United States would strongly resent this kind of activity by a British Labour Government and would do its utmost to frustrate it. For this reason we should be obliged to our own interests, to enter into defence arrangements with all non-capitalist countries in the world.

Such, in our opinion, is the minimum that could be expected of a Labour Government in the present situation—but it is enough to shatter the present plans of the American monopoly whilst bringing renewed hope and peace to the common people of all lands. Let us therefore reiterate the "disreputable manoeuvre" of Eden and go on to rouse the people to remove the Government which gave Eden his instructions.

Is Gold Coast To Be Another Guiana?



KWAME NKUMAH
His party expect to win every seat in the coming Gold Coast elections

E.T.U. Strike is Labour's Big Chance

★ United Support Can Bring Victory ★

By Sam Goldberg

THE E.T.U. has called out 1,500 contracting electricians in Manchester this week to replace the Merseyside men who have now returned to work after their one-week strike.

On Merseyside the electricians culminated their strike with a demonstration, banners flying, through the streets of Liverpool. They were joined in the march by workers from the Confederation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Unions and the National Federation of Building Trades Operatives in the area.

The significance of this joint

demonstration of electricians, engineers and builders who at the moment form the vanguard in the wages struggle cannot be over-emphasised.

LABOUR WAKES UP

There is a growing awareness in the Labour Party as well as in the Trade Unions, that the E.T.U. must receive unqualified support for its leading role in the wages struggle. Says "Tribune":

"The Electrical employers' propaganda is aimed at undermining the E.T.U. leadership. Should they succeed it would not be a defeat for the communists, but a defeat for the entire trade union movement. The building workers are about to re-enter the field. It is in their interests that they should re-enter it in an atmosphere of optimism and success."

Last Sunday's "Reynold's" says the same thing:

"To the electricians, the builders, the busmen, the engineers and the shipyard workers, all with wage claims in, I say: 'Keep on fighting back'. Already powerful allies are coming to your aid. The Parliamentary Labour Party, led in this case by the Trade Union M.P.'s, is to bring the wages issue before Parliament... But don't relax your efforts on the industrial front... The wage-

earners will get exactly as much justice as they have the strength, unity, and determination to win."

The real issues involved in the electricians' strike could not have been put more forcefully than by these two Labour papers whose sympathetic response is but a part of a growing volume of support which the E.T.U. is receiving.

UNITY IS PRACTICAL

The unity demonstration in Liverpool can be an immensely powerful weapon in the wages battle if it is extended throughout the entire country. For one thing, the solidarity of the engineers and builders with the electricians on strike is not only an instance of collective support registered by Trade Unions whose wage claims are affected by the outcome of the struggle; it is also solidarity given by the very unions whose sympathetic action could immediately determine the result.

If in workshop, factory and building site, the Confederation and the N.F.B.T.O. refused to permit the engagement of electrical contractors unwilling to meet the E.T.U.'s claim for increased pay, the electrical employers would be forced either to capitulate or more and more of them would sign in-

dependent agreements with the E.T.U.

Such action is not only an indispensable condition for victory for the E.T.U., it is also a guarantee that the wage claims of these unions would be promptly and hastily met.

COUNCILS CAN HELP

Similar support could be given by the Labour Party to these strikes.

Labour-controlled Councils could refuse to give work to recalcitrant electrical contractors, giving their orders instead to the British Electricity Authority—a nationalised concern.

The promise of "powerful allies" coming from within the Parliamentary Labour Party by raising the wages issue in Parliament is, of course, excellent—if the promise is resolutely kept. But an even more important task falls on the shoulders of the Parliamentary Party.

It is true, as the Editor of "Reynold's" says, that "only the unions can maintain your standard of life so long as the Tories have a majority in Parliament." Therefore, even more important for the Parliamentary Labour Party is the task of—forcing the resignation of the Tory Government!

But the Tory Government will

Here's How YOU can help the Electricians

Resolutions of support from other Unions are encouraging the strikers and are all printed in the weekly strike bulletins.

Get your Union Branch and your Labour Party to give its support and financial assistance to the E.T.U. All resolutions and monies should be sent to: W. Stevens, General Secretary, E.T.U. Hayes Court, Hayes, Bromley, Kent.

FIVE SHARE £10 PRIZE

FIVE readers share the prize of £10 in our Nationalist competition. They are B. Eldridge (Slough); Janet G. (London); Pearl Jacobs (London); J. Jacobs (London); W. Punt (London).

Each of these readers sent in an entry which disagreed only one detail with the measures selected by the panel. They were:

Heavy Engineering, Chemicals, Iron and Steel, Road Haulage, Passenger Transport, Land, Building Supplies, Aircraft Manufacture, Banking and Machine Tools.

Next week we shall publish an analysis of entries.

Will the Gold Coast be another Guiana?

ON April 27th, 1953, the people of British Guiana elected 18 members of the Peoples' Progressive Party to the 27-man House of Assembly. On October 6th, 1953, little over 6 months later, the British Government suspended the Guiana Constitution and deposed the elected Ministers. The colony is now ruled by a non-elected Government faithfully serving Big Business and the Colonial Office. Now look at the Gold Coast.

A much bigger country, not an isolated "outpost of the Empire" in South America, but the most advanced of a whole network of British colonies in the vast continent of Africa, the Gold Coast is of tremendous importance to Imperialism.

After a long and bitter struggle, six million people have secured a measure of self-government with the popular mass party—the Convention Peoples' Party—having a majority of the seats in the Legislature. Kwame Nkrumah, the present Prime Minister, was actually elected to office while still in jail for his anti-imperialist activities—a factor which together with the simple life he leads, endears him to the people and makes him a genuinely popular hero.

As in Guiana, so in the Gold Coast, foreign capital has a tremendous vested interest. Bookers is the name in Guiana which symbolises foreign capitalist exploitation of the country's resources, sugar, timber and bauxite. In the Gold Coast it is the United Africa Company, Cadbury's, Fry's and others which exploit that country's mineral resources and its famous cocoa crop.

VESTED INTERESTS WORRIED

Next May there will be a general Election in the Gold Coast when, for the first time, every one of the 104 seats will be elected and the Government will be formed entirely of elected members. There will be no appointed members (as there are here), no free places for the chiefs for business interests.

The enthusiasm of the Gold Coast people for complete self-government, for an end to foreign domination of the country, is boundless and expresses itself in fervent support for the C.P.P. which is confidently expected to win EVERY ONE OF THE 104 SEATS next May.

Big Business is naturally worried, very worried. And now comes the ominous similarity with British Guiana.

Mr. Jagan's P.P.P. was assailed in the Guiana Opposition Press as "communist-inspired", "dictatorial" etc., etc. In the same way

the Opposition Press in the Gold Coast is trying to smear and discredit Nkrumah's C.P.P. "Communism" can hardly be the weapon since the most well-known communist in the Gold Coast has formed a "Muslim" Party which is in active opposition to the C.P.P. So the line of attack is "... corruption in high places."

At the moment, a Commission of Enquiry under the chairmanship of Justice Korsah is investigating allegations of corruption and bribery among high officials of the present Gold Coast Government. Central figure in this investigation is the Prime Minister, Kwame Nkrumah who is alleged, among other things, to have accepted a £40,000 bribe and a present of a Cadillac car.

Nkrumah has strenuously denied all these allegations and huge mass meetings are angrily de-

Not if Labour Acts Now says John Lawrence

nouncing anyone who dares repeat these allegations.

PEOPLE UNDISTURBED

Gifts—or "dash" as it is called in West Africa—was a tradition in the Gold Coast long before the C.P.P. formed the Government. What is more, it was Nkrumah himself who first demanded an investigation into the extent of this practice. That the trial is having little or no effect on the popularity of the C.P.P. has been wonderfully demonstrated by recent Municipal Election results.

Of the 24 seats in Kumasi, the C.P.P. won 20 and the Muslim

Party 4. The Opposition Parties all lost their deposits.

In the Accra elections the C.P.P. has won 24 out of the 27 seats.

Deprived of any possibility of preventing the C.P.P. coming to power next May, the Opposition is now trying desperately to get the General Election called off. Just how this move is viewed by the C.P.P. can best be gleaned from the following report which appeared on the front page of its daily paper the "Ghana Evening News" on January 28th.

"The latest plot by the minority splinter groups to

sabotage self-government for the Gold Coast was revealed here last night. ... feverish preparations are in progress to table an "opposition" motion asking that the General Elections should be suspended or postponed until the release of the Korsah Commission on Braimah's resignation... the minority reactionaries have now realised there is no hope for them in the General Elections and they feel such a motion would enable them to make certain tendentious statements about the C.P.P. leaders and the Government and also give them opportunity to make more allegations under the cover of parliamentary privilege. The G.O.P.A. (amalgamation of all the opposition parties) has definitely decided to do everything to delay the General Election to allow the Congress and other minorities to spread more vile propaganda about the C.P.P. leaders."

unqualified support of the British Labour Movement.

Recent events in China, Malaya, Burma, Indo-China and British Guiana demonstrate that the nationalist struggle under today's conditions, because it mobilises all sections of the exploited masses, inevitably at some stage or other, combines with the social struggle and thus gives leadership to the working class. That will ultimately be the pattern of development in the Gold Coast as well.

Meanwhile Lyttelton and the Tories (as well as some thinly-veiled imperialists inside the Labour Party) have shown that they will not tolerate the coming to power of genuinely mass popular parties in the colonies. That is the lesson of Guiana. To make sure it doesn't happen also in the Gold Coast, British Labour must be as vigilant as are the masses who support Kwame Nkrumah.

George Padmore's Name Cleared

The name of George Padmore, life-long African socialist and determined fighter for African Freedom from Imperialism, has been smeared in the Braimah Commission of Enquiry now taking place in the Gold Coast. We publish below important correspondence on this matter between Mr. Padmore and the Commission.

22, Cranleigh House Cranleigh Street, London, N.W.1.

January 3rd, 1954.

The Honourable Mr. Justice Korsah, Chairman: Commission of Enquiry, Accra. GOLD COAST.

My Lord:

I have just returned to London from abroad and have had my attention drawn to certain aspersions which have been made about me before your Lordship's Commission, and I am accordingly compelled to address this letter to you.

2. In a Reuter's despatch from Accra published in "The Times" of December 30, 1953, and other British newspapers, the following statement appears:—

"Mr. Koi Larbi, Mr. Braimah's counsel, asked if it were true that a Mr. George Padmore, in London, had negotiated a contract with a Dutch housing firm at 5 per cent commission and then offered to split the commission with Dr. Nkrumah's Convention Peoples' Party. The Prime Minister denied this."

3. I wish to state quite categorically that this is a malicious and wicked innuendo, and a baseless lie.

4. That my name should be drawn into this inquiry with its implications of bribery and corruption, can have only one interpretation. As a close friend of

Dr. Nkrumah and supporter of his cause for Gold Coast independence, it is an attempt to smear my name and reputation and, by association, to besmirch the honour and reputation of the Prime Minister.

5. That Mr. Larbi, a member of what is supposed to be an honourable profession, should use his privileged position as Counsel for Mr. Braimah to cast aspersions upon the character and reputation of others, is disgraceful. It is particularly reprehensible in the actual context of the terms of reference

of the Inquiry, and I am forced to interpret Mr. Larbi's innuendo as a political manoeuvre.

6. I want to state that if your Lordship's Commission thinks it will serve any useful purpose, I am prepared to present myself before the Commission.

7. In view of the fact that Mr. Larbi's innuendo has been distributed throughout the world by Reuter's News Agency, I reserve the right to publish this statement in the Press.

In attending upon your reply, I have the honour to be, My Lord, Yours respectfully, (Signed) George Padmore

Reply to George Padmore's letter to the Gold Coast Commission.

Office of the Braimah Enquiry Commission, c/o, Private Post Bag, Accra. 12th January, 1954.

Sir, BRAIMAH ENQUIRY COMMISSION

I am directed by Mr. Justice Korsah, Chairman of the Commission of Enquiry into Mr. Braimah's resignation, to acknowledge your letter of January 3rd, 1954, the contents of which have been noted by the Commissioners.

2. I am to inform you that no affirmative evidence has been ad-

duced before the Commission in support of any allegations made against you; it is not therefore the view of the Commissioners that they would be justified in calling upon you to present yourself before the Commission. 3. A further communication will be addressed to you should these circumstances alter to any material extent. I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient Servant, E. B. S. ALTON. SECRETARY TO THE COMMISSION

The Chairman of the Commission has now warned counsel that he will not tolerate Mr. Larbi using the Commission as a means of making false allegations against people. Good though it is, it is a pity it was not done before the false allegations against George Padmore were sent out to the press of the world.

The Scandal of 'Private' Schools

PEOPLE all over England have been shocked by disclosures in a recent court case where the headmaster of a private grammar school at Ringwood, Hants., was sentenced to gaol for offences against school-children.

At his trial it emerged not only that he had a long record of such offences, but also had been head of other private schools!

Then there was also the notorious school at Bexley, Kent, which the "Sunday Pictorial" has been exposing, run by the impostor Father Ingram. And in the House of Commons recently, a Labour M.P. alleged that most of the masters in one private school had served gaol sentences!

How is it, people ask, that such men, of such dubious morals, can operate private schools? Can't anything be done to stop them? And if so, why isn't it done?

To the first question, the answer is that anyone can operate a private school in this country. As George Tomlinson said once, "It's easier to open a school than to open a fish and chip shop"—but while he was Minister of Education he never took action to clean up the private school problem. Well, to do him justice, his Ministry did issue a circular in

January 1949 saying all private schools would be inspected; but the circular didn't say by when).

WHAT CAN BE DONE

There are several things that can be done.

One way would be to make it illegal for any parent to have his child(ren) educated at a school that wasn't a State school; and wouldn't there be a fine how-d'ye-do from the bastions of privilege, the "public" schools, if such a statute did get on the Book? For don't forget that the so-called "public" schools, Eton and Harrow and Marlborough and Winchester and the rest, are only private schools. Any school is a private school in England if it's not a State school.

If you're going to admit the existence of private schools, then aren't there elementary safeguards that can be taken to ensure that the people who run them are decent folk whose morals and abilities are sound? Yes, indeed, there are.

To begin with, the 5,100-odd private schools in England fall into two categories: the recognised and the unrecognised. The former is the smaller, with only about a quarter (1,322) of the total.

Recognised schools are those which the Ministry of Education have inspected and which provide a satisfactory level of education in buildings which satisfy premises and sanitary standards.

In these schools, only properly qualified teachers may be employed; and no teacher can get a job in a recognised school if he's been sacked from a State school for moral or professional misconduct. Also, recognition means the teachers there can join the teachers' superannuation scheme; and parents of pupils can apply to their local education authority for help in paying the school fees if the children have to attend the private school because the I.E.A. doesn't, for example, make provision for them in its own area.

WHY NOT COMPULSORY?

If recognition safeguards the interests of private school pupils

By Peter Ibbotson

Hon. Secretary, National Association of Labour Teachers

(and teachers too for that matter) why doesn't the Ministry make recognition, or application for recognition, compulsory? There is the provision in the 1944 Education Act for the Minister to do just that—by making an Order in Council to bring Part III of the Act into operation. But Miss Horsburgh claims that to operate Part III would give her department "too much work". But her department's not too busy to undertake the unessential task of

increasing teachers' pension contributions!

Meanwhile, with application for recognition remaining at the discretion of the proprietor of a school, the unrecognised private school flourishes; with perhaps unqualified staff; or with teachers who can't get a job in a State or recognised school because of some shady past.

PRIVILEGED AGAIN

The private school system is based on privilege. The 'pukka' private schools charge over £300 a year in fees; Eton, Winchester, for example. The tinpot academies may be backstreet establishments with an unqualified dame as the only teacher; but no matter how tinpot, the private academy is going to reflect what the parents of the pupils there misguidedly think is the glory of the "public" schools.

I'm not exaggerating—I've had too much to do with the product of these tinpot academies, especially the unrecognised ones, to need to exaggerate. As to what a Labour Ministry can do—if we as Socialists start right now on propaganda for the operation on Part III of the Education Act, that'll be something.

Better still, of course, we should try and get the Party to accept the principle of no non-State education. We should discourage

fellow party members from sending their children to schools outside the State system.

There are plenty who do, alas. They bolster up the "public" schools and private unrecognised schools by sending their children to them; forgetting, or perhaps ignoring, the treatment meted out by "public" schools less than 25 years ago to members of their staffs who dared publicly to espouse the Labour cause.

PROD THE COUNCIL

There is one thing that a strong-minded local education authority could do; but the operative word is strong-minded. I've only come across one case where it has been done.

The Education Act says in section 36 that it's every parents' duty to see his child gets efficient fulltime education. If a L.E.A. finds a private school with an unqualified teacher and poor conditions, it can direct the parents of the pupils there to send their children to a school where they will get an efficient fulltime education.

That method can work, but only where the private school is particularly bad. However, if you've any dreadful private schools near you, it's always worth a more or less gentle prod at your county council representative to get the matter raised at Education Committee level.

Janet Jagan's Letter From Guiana

SYDNEY KING, former Minister of Communications under the P.P.P. Government, has sued the Superintendent of Police in charge of the New Amsterdam Police Station for 25,000 dollars for wrongful imprisonment.

He and the four others had been held in the country police station for two and one-half days without charges until order for their detention was signed by the Governor under the Emergency Orders. Two others have sued for 10,000 dollars each, while Mr. King's mother has sued for trespass and damages over an incident involving a police raid on her business premises.

The P.P.P. has embarked on an intensive house to house campaign of registering municipal voters. Voting for the Georgetown Town Council is on a restrictive franchise based on property or rental qualifications. At present, Mr. Burnham, Chairman of the P.P.P. is an elected member of the Council. The Party hopes to put up several candidates for the December elections.

Mr. B. H. Benn, Secretary of the banned Pioneer Youth League and Executive Member of the P.P.P., was taken off a boat at Bartice and searched by police, who released him soon after. Following Mr. Benn's visit to Bartice, police raided several homes.

Nine of the nineteen persons charged by the Police with disorderly behaviour and wheeling cycles on the pavement on January 13th were convicted by the Magistrate and fines totalling 87 dollars were imposed. The police dropped their case against one and the balance would be heard later. The incident of the arrests occurred on the night after the release from detention of the four Party members.

The departure and the return of the Governor from British Guiana to London has caused little discussion or interest by the 'man in the street.' The most discussed subject today is that concerning the return of the Party Leaders, Jagan and Burnham. People are anxiously anticipating their return and are making preparations to welcome them home.

Birmingham Readers are cordially invited to hear G. HEALY SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14th at The "Tamworth Arms" Moor Street, at 7.30 p.m. Subject:— THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION: ITS AFTERMATH: RUSSIA TODAY

Socialist Outlook

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

Telephone: HOP 4554

Editor: John Lawrence

Ominous Talk About British Honduras

By A. Banda

BRITISH Honduras is the only British possession on the mainland of Central America where it has a common frontier with Mexico and Guatemala.

In this part of the world the "Times" correspondent has discovered an impending constitutional crisis. The colony is to have a new constitution before the middle of this year in which only nine of the fifteen member legislature will be elected. This means that for any one party to secure a majority it must win at least 8 out of the nine seats. A well-nigh impossible task.

But unfortunately for Whitehall, the "Times" correspondent considers that this impossibility will in fact be achieved by the **People's United Party** which is—again according to the "Times"—a "left-wing, anti-British, and anti-colonial" party with no evidence to show that it has communist affiliations or that any of its members are members of the communist party.

It remains a matter of regret to the "Times" correspondent that British Honduras should have been allowed to remain so backward and neglected that it has produced this phenomenon of a one-party popular movement, "a working class movement," to quote his own words, that "has caught the imagination of a certain section of the population which before had hardly been politically conscious".

Closely linked with the P.U.P. is the only trade union federation in the colony—the **General Workers Union** with a membership of 6,000 in a total population of 60,000.

This is a formidable combination for the imperialists to tackle—especially in the explosive setting of the Guiana events and the events in Guatemala where a liberal government has pushed through certain land reforms much to the detriment of American imperialist interests.

BOUNDARY DISPUTE

The Guatemalans have a long-standing boundary dispute with Whitehall, dating back to 1859 when Britain violated the terms of the Boundary Convention of that year. By law, all Honduras should have belonged to Guatemala since 1821 when Spain pulled out of South America. Ethnically and culturally, Honduras is Latin American.

It is therefore not surprising that Guatemala is accused in imperialist circles of being "under communist influence" (land reforms!) and of proving a "potential base for further infiltration of non-communist countries."

Experience teaches that this kind of talk presages a more violent interference by the imperialists, not only in Honduras—but in independent Guatemala as well.

GUM AND DOLLARS

What kind of place is British Honduras? Fronted by brackish Cays (lagoons), along the whole length of its coastline and covered inland by dense steaming mosquito-ridden tropical forest, Honduras is notoriously unhealthy. Its population of 60,000 is made up

of negroes, Maya and Carib Indians, mixed Spanish-Indians and East Indians.

The chief industry is naturally timber which is ruthlessly and indiscriminately exploited, and Chicle gum—the base of all chewing gum. Most of its trade is with the United States and its economy is completely "dollarised."

When employed, the timber workers (who are seasonal workers) take home 5 dollars a week—3 of which are spent in the logging camps leaving 2 dollars for the family. The work is unhealthy and back-breaking.

Huge Corporations like the Belize Estate and Produce Company virtually control the life of the colony, owning as much as 1,200,000 acres of land, one-fifth of the total land area! Crown land has been sold to these giants at 3.5 dollars an acre or rented to them at 30 cents a year!

It requires a large capital outlay to exploit the timber resources and therefore Honduras are virtually excluded from the land. No wonder that the workers of Honduras are so united in their determination to be rid of parasitic foreign capital.

Man and his Inventions

★ Mr. Gaitskell Again Makes Himself Look Silly ★

TELEVISION variety received a boost this week when Gaitskell and Butler appeared in the first of a series of British Council Productivity films.

Said Mr. Gaitskell, "We must organise work intelligently and be ready to use the latest ideas, and to drop customs and conventions that stand in our way."

By **Jim Allen**

couldn't agree more, but for very different reasons.

Working together intelligently and using the latest ideas and conventions is quite a tall order under the present system. A book I've just read, "Men, Machines and History" (By S. Tilley), hammers home this truth.

MEN AND MACHINES

In this book, of less than 300 pages, Tilley is concerned with the history and growth of machines. From the mass of facts and figures presented in this book, I give a few samples.

The first patent for a mechanised cotton-picker in the U.S.A. dates from 1850, and by 1937 over 900 patents had been filed. Yet cotton was still picked entirely by hand.

Concerning one machine that can pick in 7½ hours as much as a good hand-picker in five weeks, reducing labour by 75 per cent, the U.S. Government report "Technological Trends" comments: "Fear of over-production, with consequent shattering of existing price levels, is deterring the introduction of the automatic cotton-picker invented by the Rust Bros. . . . The inventors are themselves (!) withholding its application, except for trial on a co-operative farm in Mississippi, and in the Soviet Union where the problem of unemployment does not exist."

In the same publication, C. C. Furness writes, "A superior electric lamp which it is estimated would save users 10,000,000 dollars a year, has been invented, but not put on the market."

The same writer continues, "I know of one metallurgist who made his own safety razor-blade, sharpened it, and nitrated it and has used it daily without re-sharpening for two years. Naturally the razor-blade manufacturers are not interested."

In 1934 the American Bell Company controlled 9,234 patents of which they were using only 4,225.

A Federal Commission investigating this concluded that 3,433 of the remainder were socially useful

RANK and file engineers are now awaiting the result of Monckton's Court of Inquiry on their wage claim. It cannot be said that they are waiting very anxiously, for the initial offer of a measly 4/- to the railwaymen prevents any illusions. If the Court recommends any increase at all, it will be meagre.

Yet, when recommending a claim for a 15 per cent increase, the General Council of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions fully realised that this substantial increase was imperative. The speeches of some of the leaders however, wouldn't give that impression. (All the following quotations are from the 1953 Report of the Confederation.)

'NERVOUS NELLIES'

For instance, the President, H. C. Brotherton, said he was convinced that it was "not possible in the foreseeable future to negotiate an all-round increase . . . in the sense of a plain application for wages. To do so would inevitably mean involving ourselves in a major dispute."

THE ANSWER

He believed he knew "the implications surrounding the present economic situation . . . he could not imagine the A.E.U. agreeing to a standstill on wages. Whilst

but were suppressed by the company to protect their interests against competitors (Tilley's book, page 200).

MODERN TIMES

The last example of "Free Enterprise" is taken by Tilley from the "Daily Mail Year Book" (1952).

"The jet propulsion of aeroplanes hung fire until war demands gave Sir Frank Wittle his chance. As far back as 1907 at the first model aeroplane competition in England, I watched a little machine fly through the air driven by rocket propulsion. But it was not until Hitler ordered the spending of millions on experimental work that the dreaded V-2 rocket went soaring sky-wards."

Well, here are just a few reasons why I consider Mr. Gaitskell is wrong when he calls for more production. Under capitalism inventions and increased production are used to increase profits, not to eliminate toil.

The author of this book is compelled by the facts he has collected to state, on page 189, that "The form of society has a very great effect on the rate of inventions, and that a form of society which in its young days encourages technical progress can, as a result of the very inventions it engenders, eventually come to retard further progress until a new social structure replaces it."

It is high time that the Labour Movement organised this "Operation Replacement!"



SO TIRED!

WE listened to the Chancellor of the Exchequer expounding on the virtues of the Commonwealth Conference, or at least some of us did. As Butler rose to his feet to deliver his brief on the Debate the House started to empty and his back-benchers sauntered for the double-doors.

In any case the "Economist" had already described the communique that came out of Sydney as "A jumble of contradictions in eight pages of double talk and bad grammar". So off most M.P.'s went to the double-doors leading out of the Chamber. I sat, king of all I surveyed, below the gangway on one otherwise empty bench.

As Walter Elliot once said in the dark "thirties" the Government was unsteady, unhappy and tired even of itself. No more do we hear the Gospels of Ottawa that reverberated through a hungry Britain in 1932. To-day the Tory Party are top-notchers for Free Trade and rowing hard to the Niagara of Convertibility.

The Chancellor put a lot more faith in the Randall Report than I did. I reported that Commission last week. I said that the Commission was "licked" before it started. There is no hope of prosperity in such a wandering report. Yet it is brought up as a sacred relic in the search for

by **Harold Davies, M.P.**



answers to capitalism's dilemma. **Hugh Gaitskell** hinted at the tiredness within the Tory Party. He said: "We know that there is a great deal of discussion going on about who is to succeed the present Prime Minister, and we know that the Foreign Secretary is in trouble about Egypt. I warn the Chancellor that if he is not careful he will be in just as much trouble over Imperial Preference and Commonwealth trade." **Frank Beswick** wanted to see

one customs union for the Commonwealth and one balance of accounts for the external trading of the area. If we are to get the necessary mobility of men and money Frank Beswick believed all these things essential. I commented to a well known Tory on the indifference that seemed to be shown to the Debate. "Yes" he said, "I have never known it to be like this. What the hell is coming over the place?" I think I know the answer, Do you?

THE JAPANESE PACT

The Japanese people must live. Do those who object to the present Trade Pact just follow a blind resentment? British textile and Pcttery exporters are worried and bitter because there appears to have been no real consultation with these manufacturers before the Pact was made.

With American help Japan has built up her competitive power and so too has Germany. Some £210 million of goods will pour into the Colonies this year. Many ranges of consumer goods will now pour into Britain such as toys, pottery, textiles, electrical gadgets, etc.

While we would not object to cheap goods going into the Colonies to help those with such low incomes, nevertheless, it would be suicidal to have to meet a flood of cheap pottery and textiles.

This pact is not a natural freeing of Japanese Trade. As long as America foolishly insists on the Chinese Market being closed to

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Japan, we must fight this fool pact in its relation to English ports. Again a point worth noticing that we are making this pact at the moment when there are to be large increases in the price of coal here at home. This will be another difficulty that home industry will have to face. At least they must hurry to make their industries more efficient. In meantime some of us may not be so sure of the wherewithal to do

What real steps are being made to see that Japan accepts decent Trade Union conditions? The price that we must demand from America for this Pact is that there shall be no restrictions on East-West Trade. This humbug must cease. As long as Japan is forced to buy dollar coal instead of getting her supplies from China, her most natural market so long too is there little hope of any increases of real wages for the Japanese workers. By opening up the China Trade we do more good for the workers of Japan than just letting in some £3 millions of goods into the British Market. It would be interesting to know if American financial business interests knew about the Pact before their British counterparts?

The Labour Movement, without exaggerating the possible consequences of this Trade Pact, must make it clear that they have had enough of these silly restrictions on East-West Trade. At least our currency is not strong enough to look the dollar in the face that is no reason for us to allow it to be kicked in the behind. That exactly what limitation in Chinese markets means.

Both British workers and manufacturers must expect more competition from Germany and Japan but why should we handicap ourselves in the race for markets closing off nearly half the world to trade.

Engineers Must Face The Idea of Strike Action



Mr. Matthews had said we should look at the state of the industry, he preferred to look at the state of the workers in the industry. We were living in an age where prices were continually rising and the position was becoming intolerable for many families. Their standards of life were deteriorating and it was necessary for the trade union movement to keep themselves aware of the problem.

"He did not want a repetition of 1922 but if we determined eventually to make application for

By **Norman Dinning**

an advance in wages on a reasonable basis and the employers challenged us we would have to face up to the problem. If the employers thought we were not prepared to scrap and came forward with suggestions of reductions, the Confederation might be driven into an unbearable situation and might find itself locked-out under circumstances considerably worse than they were at the present time. Knowing all the implications and difficulties we could not escape the problem but would have to proceed warily.

"With regard to the argument that a small sum of money could determine whether a contract came to this country or somewhere else, he felt that if the Confederation pursued a policy of limiting the members' standard of life or wages on that basis it was an intolerable position."

J. Stanley drew attention to the fact that those who now suggested a restriction on wage applications were some who had opposed an expansion of Britain's trade and the removal of restrictions which had lost us a £10 million contract with China for locomotives.

J. Scott, identifying the percentage increase as a stage nearer the new wage structure, said, "The

day of just going to the Employer asking for something and expecting to get it, was past. The sooner this was understood together with the realisation that if we wanted something we had to fight for it the better it would be for everybody."

HOW TO PREPARE

It is quite clear that the leaders knew the struggle they would confront us and developments since have confirmed it to the hilt.

A major dispute demands major action, and it is the duty of the leaders to say very clearly to our membership that only a full-scale battle will meet the situation. This is the first step in the preparation for the battle itself.

The attitude of the N.U.G.M. and T. & G.W.U. leaders is acceptance of the economic law of the bosses' own system which condemns the workers to falling living standards and ultimate unemployment. They even fail to understand that without the major battle the trade unions themselves will be undermined and unemployment will embrace Trade Union officials also!

The battle for the 15 per cent must be faced. Bro. Tanner has pointed out that it means a 3 per cent increase in production costs. The state of the market prevents passing it on in prices. It has to come out of profits. That is precisely why the bosses are ready to fight.

Our Readers Write . . .

Watkinson's Wind!

Nationalisation and Socialism

With reference to your nationalisation competition, I have, as a regular reader of your paper, been given great satisfaction because you have up to recently advocated a policy of total nationalisation.

It appears from the competition you are running, that your policy has altered considerably.

The competition asks readers to state which ten industries should be nationalised under the next Labour Government. I believe and hope that the next Labour Government will be a real Socialist Government, pledged to smash Capitalism.

Therefore, I see no other course open, than to follow the policy pursued by the Russian Workers' Government in 1917.

The following decree was published by "Pravda" on the 28th November 1917. "In all Industrial, Labour, Financial, Agricultural, Transportation, Co-operative and similar enterprises employing wage workers, there is introduced workers control of production. The workers shall establish control through their elected agencies, such as the mill and factory committees, shop foremen's councils and the like.

The workers' control bodies shall have the right to supervise production and to set a minimum output to each enterprise."

This in my opinion is the correct policy for the "Socialist Outlook" to advocate.

Battersea E. A. Halsey
Editor's Note:

The introduction of a law establishing workers control in all industry has always been consistently advocated by this paper—and still is. However, we must point out to our reader that, contrary to popular belief, the Bolsheviks in 1917 did not nationalise all of industry at one blow. On the contrary, the law on workers control was, at least in its early stages, designed to prevent sabotage by private enterprise of the plan of the Workers' Government.

Another Point of View

For some weeks past the "Socialist Outlook" has been promoting a Competition "Win £10 for 3d." May I point out that Socialism has nothing whatsoever to do with the winning of a sum of money. Socialism is a system of Society in which production is according to necessity as opposed to the present day system of production for profit.

With Socialism, Competition for money would be unnecessary and our competition could mean nothing but profit for some if only for the winner. Of course, we realise we live in a Capitalist World and we all have to live according to Capitalist practices. The fact that Money Competitions exist under Capitalism is because the people see no hopes of getting the things they need—all the time

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we have to work for other people's profits.

I do not expect to see Competitions for Money in a Socialist newspaper. Leave this sort of thing to the Capitalist press such as the "Daily Express", "Daily Herald," etc., etc.—The thing for the "Socialist Outlook" to do is teach Socialism to the people in order that we may get a sufficient number of people to understand, and so desire, such a system of Society.

London, S.E.14 W. J. Barrett

The Tories and Requisitioning

The article in your January 29th issue on the action of the Westminster City Council regarding requisitioned premises is a further indication of the intentions of the Tory Government.

Over the last few months, Housing Authorities have been under constant pressure from the Ministry of Local Government and Housing—by means of reports and circulars and many other more subtle ways—to force the issue of de-requisitioning. The latest method is the large number of refusals by the Ministry to Local Authorities who want to spend money on necessary repair and maintenance, the refusal often being coupled with the instruction—RELEASE!

Apart from this typical Tory approach to the housing of the workers, what are the other issues involved?

- (1) The excessive cost to the Treasury of requisitioning.
- (2) Outside the inner-London area, the very few requests for de-requisitioning received from owners.

The first is undoubtedly correct. Why? Regulations instituted in the war period, and amended in 1948, covering the compensation rent payable to owners are, in most cases, completely out of balance with the real value of the property, especially large-type old property.

In addition, the dilapidation compensation payment assessed on some released property has been simply fantastic and has, in itself, been as great as the total value of some older properties released recently. Here, then, is the real picture!

The Tories traditionally look after the interests of the landlords. In requisitioning they have looked after them so well that it is now costing too

much! Consequently the landlords do not want their OLD PROPERTIES released!

The next Labour Government must give back to Local Authorities the original powers of requisitioning, completely eliminate the present formulae on compensation payments, institute a method that is fair to the workers who pay the rent, differentiate between good property and bad, and confiscate the bad property at pre-war site value.

In the meantime Labour Councils must withstand the Ministerial pressure to release requisitioned property. Leave the Tory Government to do its own dirty work! and the answer will be with the workers at the next General Election.

Enfield E. McKenzie

Atom Bomb Leaflet

Dear Editor:
Can you not put in leaflet form the recent article by Professor Hyman Levy—"A Scientist Looks at the Atom Bomb"—which appeared in your issue of January 29th?

Professor Levy spoke the absolute truth when he said: "We have to speak out now—or we shall be silent for ever."

Yours fraternally,
Liverpool C. Barker

Editors Note:

We should be delighted to print Professor Levy's article as a leaflet. The only obstacle is, yes, you've guessed it, money. Will some of our readers send a donation to help cover the cost?

Congratulations

"Manny Get Your Gun". What a Leader! What a Smasher! What an exposure of the bankruptcy of socialist thinking among the Labour leaders! More than ever it reveals the urgent need for a "purge" in the Parliamentary Labour Party and a review of prospective candidates.

Keep it up comrade, until once again true Socialists sit on the Government benches and our Flag assumes its true and deepest hue. But, not this time dyed with the blood of the common people, but figuratively speaking, with that of the Tories.

S. R. Pearson Grimsby

'MISSION TO MADRID'

A Review of Maurice Orbach's Timely Pamphlet

FOR a rapid survey of life and conditions in Franco's Spain it would be hard to beat Maurice Orbach's "Mission to Madrid."

This is not the Spain of the tourist agency posters, with glamorous señoritas against a sun-flecked background, but the Spain of the working class, the veterans of the civil war of 1936-38 and their sons and daughters. Maurice Orbach went to Spain at the request of the International Brigade Association and the Aid to Spanish Youth Committee. The primary purpose of his visit was to make enquiries regarding the fate of Tomas Centeno and eleven other socialists who were arrested in February of this year.

From his enquiries it was quite clear that Centeno had been brutally tortured by his fascist gaolers before his mangled body was turned over to his brother and twelve year old son on February 22nd.

"...the international disquiet occasioned over Centeno's death the resolutions passed and representations made were responsible for his eleven associates not being brought to trial..." writes Mr. Orbach.

This is the answer to those who maintain that such resolutions and expressions of international solidarity are useless.

* "Mission to Madrid" by Maurice Orbach. Published by The International Brigade Association and Friends of Republican Spain 3d.

Maurice Orbach visited other socialist prisoners and he writes of their joy at this visible sign of comradeship from the British Labour Movement.

Franco's gaols are filled with such prisoners. So much so, that the Madrid Provincial Prison at Carabanchel, which is designed to hold 3,000 prisoners when completed, already houses some 3,000 prisoners, though it is only 20 per cent constructed.

Everywhere he went in Spain, he found the people seething with discontent. "Every working Spaniard to whom I spoke, grumbled about living conditions."

Wages are low and the cost of food high. A garage mechanic, for example, receives 20 pesetas a day (110 pesetas to the £1). This is only a little more than the same type of worker in Britain gets in an hour. A skilled building worker gets just over 5/- a day; miners get less. A docker gets under 4/- a day.

Bread costs 1/7½d. for 2.1/5lbs; milk is 8½d. for just over ½ of a pint. A small tin of Nescafe, which in Britain costs 3/3d., is 10/10d. The official unemployed figures hover around the 100,000 mark, but there are thousands of people without working permits in Spain, who are not included in these figures.

Fourteen years after the civil war, there are still people living in caves, around Madrid... "there are hundreds in Madrid living in shanty towns, in condemned hovels, hardly removed from the 12th century."

While the workers are housed in these indescribable conditions, there is no shortage of luxury hotels and expensive apartments for the well-to-do. Franco fought to make Spain safe for the landlords and capitalists and he is carrying out his programme on the backs of the workers.

IT is nonsense to think we are in the midst of a great wave of strikes and industrial unrest. That is what Mr. Harold Watkinson, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour, told his listeners in a broadcast last Saturday. He then revealed the "truth about the industrial situation." "We were bound to go through a tough period of industrial bargaining when the cost of living stopped rising" and with "the end of a sellers' market," he declared.

If Mr. Watkinson really believes that the cost of living has stopped rising he should try living on a working class budget. But perhaps he agrees with the fatuous statement made recently by the "Manchester Guardian". "The virtual end of rationing," it declared on January 4th, "with plenty in the shops has increased the price of shopping, if not the cost of living."

It is sufficient for the working class housewife that the "price of shopping" has increased. Whatever the statisticians may say to the satisfaction of Tory politicians, she knows that a rise in the cost of necessities—butter, cheese, marmite, tea, meat, coal, etc.—is eating into the wage packet.

The truth is that the cost of necessities have steadily risen over the past period. Wage increases, on the other hand, have been slowed down, and fewer workers have received them. According to the Ministry of Labour Gazette, 8,937,000 workers received increases in 1953, as against nearly 11 million in 1952 and just over 12 million in 1951.

Mr. Watkinson, however, followed the line of his chief—Sir Winston Churchill—who last Saturday wrote to the Tory candidate in the Hull bye-election. Sir Winston said we were "vastly better" under a Tory Government. "Wages have risen by an average of about 4 per cent more than the rise in the cost of living." According to the statisticians themselves—that was in 1952. The Organisation for European Economic Co-operation in its pamphlet—Economic conditions in the United Kingdom—states that, during the first nine months of 1953, wage rates rose by just over 2 per cent while retail prices rose by just over 1 per cent. But the same pamphlet declares that personal consumption in Britain has been falling. Let the statisticians square this with their assertions that prices have remained stable. "The end of the sellers' market,"

said Mr. Watkinson "made it impossible for employers to add an automatic increase each year to the cost of production."

The employers can no longer pass wage increases on to the market as they could when the post-war sellers' market was wide open for their products. Hence their stiffening before wage demands. Increases now must come out of profits at a time when employers' interests demand a cut in labour costs. After all, they are in business to make profit as Mr. Watkinson very well knows, having been a director of several engineering firms.

Fiercer competition, is behind this "toughness" in industry. That is why the unrest cannot be just a passing phase. For the employers must attempt a more intensive exploitation of labour and resist any efforts of the workers

to maintain their living standards.

The wages movement which occupies the stage today is different to others in the post-war period. That is because it not only involves more workers but because it takes place with the background of a trade war, and a threatened slump as a result of the American decline in production. The present unrest and militancy may ebb and flow from section to section, but it cannot subside. It can only increase until one of two things happen. Either the employers will carry through their offensive to reduce living standards by breaking and demoralising the labour movement, or the Labour Movement will use its full power to end the Tory Government and substitute a Labour Government with a full Socialist programme.

Bill Hunter

'There'll Be No Better Book This Year!'

THERE has just been published in this country a book called "Let there be bread" by an American writer, Robert Brittain.

It has a foreword by Lord Boyd Orr who says: "There will be no peace in the world as long as half its people suffer from hunger and poverty, knowing that food in abundance is entirely possible. This book gives the most complete account I have seen of what can be done with modern science to create a world of plenty."

These words, coming from a man like Boyd Orr, indicate the importance of the book. Better still, it requires no special knowledge on the part of the reader to appreciate the expert understanding of the proposals put before him by the author. And what are the proposals?

In ten chapters, the reader has put before him ten avenues for human endeavour, each one of which can provide the human race not only with inspiring work and achievement but with the certain result that in each field of development a contribution to human happiness and security is guaranteed. A guarantee not based on theory only, but backed by example and experiment that has actually taken place and which is there for all to see, if we could only but move our eyes and thoughts from war and destruction to peace and life.

The ten opportunities are as follows:—

- 1. The bringing back into use of millions of acres of land in the temperate zones which were once as fully cultivated as other lands in the same zones but which are now waste land and desert.
- 2. The growing of food in the arctic and cold regions of the

world, a development shown to be possible by the work done in the U.S.S.R.

- 3. The cultivation of millions of square miles of land in the tropics now only waiting drainage and clearance.
- 4. The bringing under cultivation of land in every country in the world now regarded, for no real reasons as marginal land.
- 5. The cultivation of the resources of the sea for food production. Fish is recognised as a good and healthy food; up to now we have given no thought to its real potentialities.
- 6. The rivers of the world as a mainspring for the production of food and power.
- 7. The elimination of disease and its consequential waste on all crops now produced.
- 8. The elimination of the waste inflicted on crops now produced.
- 9. The harnessing of the tides and the winds for heat, light and power.
- 10. The application of scientific knowledge to the development of plant life to make crops, plants and roots grow in a manner most useful to mankind. The changes that have been brought about on the sugar-beet in recent years are used as an example.

Each of the ten avenues listed above opens up a vista of endeavour and possibility the description of which would fill a single issue of this paper. It is all there for the reading, an inspiring and invigorating experience for anyone to go through. Get the book, get it into your local library. Read it, talk about it. All the waste and fear that now goes into armaments and the brutalising of boys and men in regiments can be directed to material welfare and human decency.

We will get no better book this year.

Tom Braddock

* "Let There Be Bread" by Robert Brittain, published by Spalding & Levy Ltd., 28-29 Southampton Street, W.C.2., price 12/6d.

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