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(Next week)

**U.N.O.
A Story of
Treachery**

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U.N.O. FARCE EXPOSED

Rationing by Purse

ON Monday last the meat markets had their first day of unrationed trading for 14 years. "Free enterprise" spread its wings and away went the working class housewife's joint.

In London shops some prices doubled. The "Evening Standard" reported fillet steak up to 6/- a lb. from 3/4d. the previous week. Pork was up by 1/2d. a lb.

The Tory press had prepared the housewife for the gates of paradise to be opened when meat came off the ration. The B.B.C. in "Women's Hour" enthusiastically told her how to cook the various cuts of meat which were soon to be available. But, instead of entering paradise, the working class mother has found herself with increased

problems for her slender purse, and driven back to recipes which dress up the scrag ends and cheaper scraps of meat.

Meanwhile, there was joy in the clubrooms of London's West End. "Many London clubmen celebrated the end of meat rationing by ordering grilled steaks and chops for lunch today" said "Londoner's Diary" in the "Evening Standard."

For fourteen days the East India and Sports Club had been testing new infra-red grills. The Cavalry Club was preparing its electric grill for the best rump steaks to fill the stomachs of its well-off customers. The Constitutional Club prepared to open its grill room.

The Tory government had liberated the appetites of the rich and once again served its class at the expense of the workers.

Lessons for Labour

CONSIDER carefully the recent statements on Guatemala made by John Foster Dulles, the American Secretary of State and spokesman for America's rulers.

Dulles declared to a press conference last week that the first conversation he held with Churchill and Eden when they visited Washington was not about Europe and Asia but about Guatemala. Mr. Dulles "spoke in terms of the highest appreciation of Britain's role in the climatic last few days of the Guatemalan crisis" ("Manchester Guardian," July 2).

Dulles thus went out of his way to praise the attitude of the Tory government in aiding the crudest and most naked imperialist rape of recent years.

Another answer to those in the Labour Movement who suffer under the illusions that Tory leaders can "speak for peace" at international conferences. Another answer to Woodrow Wyatt who told us Eden was pursuing a socialist foreign policy. *Labour must shed all illusions in Toryism and continually expose its foreign policy.*

Dulles told reporters of the "world-wide anxieties that rested upon the United States as the antagonist of the world-wide conspiracy now being run by Russia and China."

Over the past weeks, articles in the "Socialist Outlook" have made plain which power conspired in Guatemala. In fact, any honest intelligent reader of the general press could not but draw the conclusion that the conspiracy against Guatemala was hatched, not in Moscow, but in Washington and carried through by Washington's mercenaries.

As a pick-pocket shouts "stop—thief" to cover his own misdeeds so U.S. imperialism shouts "beware conspiracy" to cover up its very own, very real, world-wide conspiracy to make the world safe for capitalism and colonial repression.

In his nation-wide radio and television address in America on June 30 Dulles attacked the "Communist conspirators" in Guatemala for "operating in the guise of reformers."

What a lesson for the Right Wing of the Labour Party. The policy of the American government toward Guatemala shows that nothing but a complete and utter subservience to the war-aims and plans of Wall Street will guarantee freedom from denunciation as "Communist conspirators."

Either all-out opposition to the war-plans: or complete subservience. There is no middle course.

GUATEMALA: the Facts

THE overthrow of the legally-elected government of Guatemala was the work of the U.S. State Department. Nobody with an ounce of political intelligence will now deny this. The evidence is overwhelming.

But this is only one side of the picture. The United Fruit brigands had many allies in the imperialist world. Their staunchest was undoubtedly the United Nations Organisation. Here lies a great lesson for British Labour. Let the shabby record speak.

On June 18, Senator Lodge chairman of the United Nations Security Council, was fighting tooth and nail to have the question of Guatemala deferred for 48 hours.

"I hope I will never live to see the day when a small country comes to the U.N. and asks for protection and is greeted with the question: What's the hurry?"

On June 19, this same senator,

likely to cause bloodshed". It asked all members of U.N.O. in the "spirit of the Charter" to abstain from giving assistance to such action.

At the time these empty words were being spoken, the small army of Guatemala had not fired a single shot. Aid in the form of arms and equipment had already been given to the rebels by Washington and its puppets in Central America, while the Guatemalan government had been prevented from purchasing arms by the American boycott.

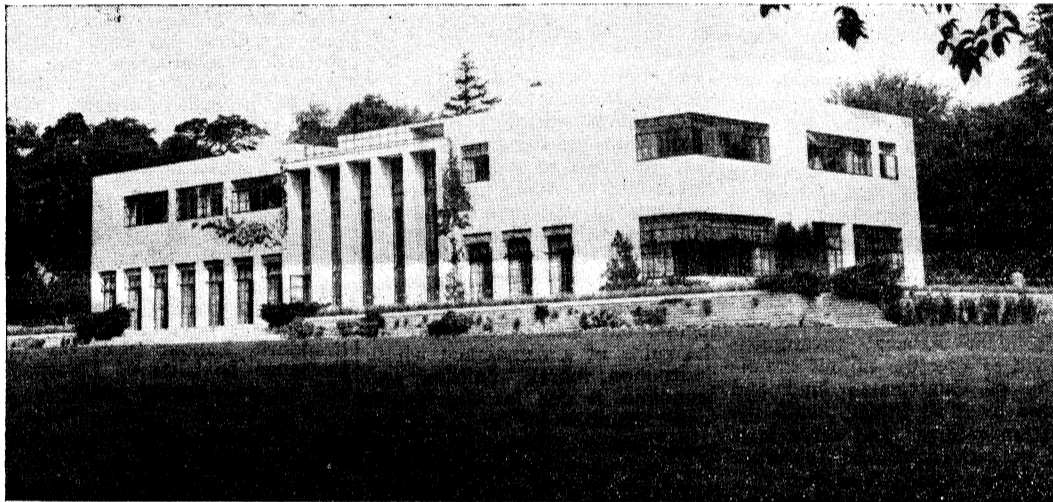
On June 22 the Arbenz government called upon the Security Council to enforce its unheeded two-day "cease-fire" resolution. This request was castigated by

Senator Lodge as part of the "Soviet conspiracy to meddle in the Western Hemisphere." He demanded that the U.S. dominated Organisation of American States should send a delegation to Guatemala to investigate the charges.

Finally, on June 25 the Security Council, by five votes to four ruled the Guatemalan question off the agenda. France and Britain abstained.

The U.N. action on Guatemala stands in sharp contrast with the action it took on Korea. In the brazen Dulles-sponsored invasion of Guatemala the U.N. stalled, then finally dumped the whole question—claiming it was a civil war. Contrast that with Korea. In the genuine civil war in Korea, the U.N. could not move fast enough to approve Truman's "police action."

In Guatemala and Korea the situation dictated different tactics. U.N. at a command leapt to the service of the American State Department. In all situations it thus remains true to its original purpose—an international front and a servile tool of Wall Street's drive to conquer the world.



The class that can afford to live in mansions like this are the people the Tories represent. They have no fear of a rise in meat prices or a cut in housing subsidies.

The Unholy Alliance

SIR HARTLEY SHAWCROSS is an open supporter of the plan for a South-East Asia Alliance. Speaking at Coventry last Sunday he declared: "If the nations of that part of the world want to associate in some organisation for collective self-defence and economic co-operation it is the plain duty of America and this country to support them."

Sir Hartley Shawcross ignored the facts. It is precisely the nations of that part of the world who have been resisting such an alliance. With wide-spread opposition to this imperialist alliance among their populations, the Indian, Burmese and Indonesian governments have so far refused to be included in it, despite the pressure of the big capitalist powers. Now the British, American, New Zealand, Australian and French governments are forced to build the groundwork for their Asian Alliance—alone.

It is no longer possible for any Labour leader to hide support for this unholy Alliance and lull the movement by declaring it is only being "examined." As Winston Churchill declared after the Washington talks it is being prepared immediately and the preparations are clear to all.

The rank and file of the Labour Movement must demand from our leaders a forthright denunciation of this pact for the preservation of imperialism in Asia.

Dr. Cort

Last week, Mr. Chuter Ede, said in the House of Commons that Dr. Cort suffered from "residual poliomyelitis, residual tuberculosis, dangerous allergy and marked myopia."

Dr. Cort is the young American lecturer which the Tory government is attempting to expel from this country in flagrant violation of the rights of political asylum. "In what army" asked Chuter Ede, "would a man suffering from these be any use at all?"

The Home Secretary, Sir David Maxwell-Fyfe, replied that this was an irrelevant consideration.

Coventry Proved Right in Civil Defence Debate

"If war should come" said Sir David Maxwell-Fyfe, "the consequences would be infinitely more horrible than any which either ourselves or our enemies experienced in the last war, and it would be foolish to attempt the impossible task of providing immunity."

The Minister is absolutely correct, and it is a damning

By
G. HEALY

indictment of Toryism that under such circumstances they march gaily on towards preparing a third world war.

Last Monday's debate in the House of Commons reinforced one hundred per cent, the opposition of Coventry City Council towards Civil Defence. "Coventry," remarked Mr. Crossman, "producing two-thirds in value of Britain's arms would be destroyed on the first day. We know we are for it."

Replying to a question from Chuter Ede on atomic weapons as to how far the "cloud will travel before it ceases to be a danger to human life," Maxwell-Fyfe said: "There are great differences of estimation and not sufficient clearly known results of experi-

ments for me to dogmatise." In other words there is absolutely no defence because nobody knows the magnitude of the destructive powers which could be released.

If there is any doubt about this listen once again to Maxwell-Fyfe. "If ever an attack with atomic weapons were made on this or any other habitable country,

the loss of life, the suffering and material losses would be such as to constitute a tragedy without parallel in history."

The attitude of people like Chuter Ede claiming that what we need is better civil defence is not even treated seriously by the Tories. At bottom it is a shameful trick to fog up the genuine concern of Labour's supporters. Sir Hugh Lucas-Tooth, Home Office Under-Secretary, when asked about above ground control rooms with telephone landlines admitted that these might not be effective in war, "they are useful as stimulating interest" he said, "and it would be wrong to abandon them altogether." In other words it is just a question of propaganda to line up the corpses. Behind this cynical verbal smoke-screen the Tory militarists prepare the war.

There is no adequate civil defence protection for the next war. The only real defence is an all-out struggle now against the preparation of this war. Such a struggle requires Labour to stop trying to outdo the Tories in pious talk about "better civil defence". Let the Tories bear the responsibility for their criminal actions in preparing the war.

The action of Coventry City Council deserves warm support, and was not in any way seriously repudiated in the Parliamentary debate. If other Labour Councils would give support a big step forward in the fight against war would undoubtedly result.

Going on Holiday?



You'll be bringing back presents for your friends, we guess. Then don't forget that very good friend of yours the "Socialist Outlook." Bring back a present for the Christmas Bazaar and send it to Lorna Corbett, 145b, Ashley Gardens, London, S.W.1. or give it to your local "Outlook" seller.

Tories Slash Subsidies

by Cllr David Finch

AFTER an easy victory in steering the "Rents and Repairs" Bill through Parliament, the Tory Minister of Housing is free to turn his attention to other tenants. Over the past year he has cut the repairs allowance for requisitioned premises, continued to instruct local authorities to release an increasing number of these properties and has been applying pressure to push up their rents, and harrising Labour councils who have shown little enthusiasm to "review" them.

Subsidies on each house completed by local authorities on or after April 1, 1955 are now to be reduced by £6 4s. 0d. For flats, the reduction depends more on site costs but will be about £10 4s. 0d. Houses for agricultural workers are also affected, the reduction being £4 13s. 0d. per dwelling. A small reduction in the additional subsidy, granted for homes where the development area costs exceed £3,000 an acre (a very frequent

phenomenon in the towns) has also been made.

The Tory Minister has given four basic reasons for the reductions:

1. The rate of borrowing was 4½ per cent. in 1952, when the present subsidy was fixed. It is now 3½ per cent.
2. Economies in layout and specifications have been pursued by the local authorities.
3. The rise in cost of building is very slight.
4. Average earnings have increased.

However, very few councillors will agree that the reduction in interest charges and the economies effected offset the increased costs of building. In fact the representatives of the Local Authority Associations put the contrary opinion to the Minister very strongly when they met him in June.

The alteration in subsidy fits into the Tory pattern of increasing rents for the whole of the

working class. The reduction in subsidies according to the "Economist" (July 3) will save the Exchequer about £1,200,000 in a full year and the local authorities £400,000. Local authorities will be confronted with the problem of increasing rents by somewhere about 1s. 6d. to 2s. a week, or increasing their rate deficit.

This is the first post war bite the Tories have taken at the housing subsidies. It will whet their appetites rather than give them indignation. The Tory press and numerous Tory M.P.s have been agitating some time for an effective "subsidy spring cleaning"—as the "Economist" called it.

Some members of the Labour Movement argue that ratepayers should not subsidise tenants in a more fortunate position, that subsidies should only be paid to those on the lowest income. On the face of it, there appears to be some substance in this argument. However, this viewpoint really assists the Tories by introducing antagonisms between different

workers. In any case, it evades the real issue. Subsidies are needed, not for the tenants, but for the part payment of interest rates incurred when local authorities borrow money.

My own council had to pay £78,335 in interest (year ended March 31, 1953) on post-war permanent property. It received only £35,844 as Exchequer subsidy. Total subsidy (Exchequer, London County Council and Lambeth Borough Council) was only £47,948. In other words, £30,000 less than the interest payments required.

WHAT SHOULD BE LABOUR'S POLICY?

Labour has the opportunity at Scarborough of facing up to the problems involved in housing construction and its finance. Building can be accelerated, with improved amenities and yet at cheaper cost if the industry with its inefficiency, its rings and trusts is nationalised. The banks and the building societies (which altered interest rates when the bank rate went up but not when it came down!) must also be nationalised. Those in the middle class who are buying houses would soon see the advantage of nationalisation if their mortgage payments were thereby reduced.

Payments made by local authorities should be annulled and new loans should be interest free. A Labour Government would then be able to cease subsidies altogether. There would also be no need for any payments from the rates—nor any rent rebate schemes.

Only a bold socialist policy will solve the housing problem. If Labour follows the course of supporting nationalisation and interest-free loans the movement will be propelled forward. The party must record such a policy at Scarborough.

CATERING WAGE CUT

MANY of us who were unfortunate enough to have to eat out on occasion in a cafe or hotel used to feel sorry for the plight of our less organised fellow workers, the waiters and waitresses. Although our instincts rose against the odious habit of tipping we did often push the odd tanner under the plate.

However, the waiter and the porter and the upstairs maid were not after all quite as helpless as they had been in the good old days. There was in existence the Catering Wages Act which had to some extent got rid of the worst exploitation by fixing minimum wages and regulating hours of work. In addition to this there was the Catering Wages Board which brought an "impartial" group of men to review the state of the workers in this industry. One might have thought that the golden era of the catering workers had blossomed.

The Tories never lose the chance of unloading some of their costs on to the backs of the consumers. The employers on the Catering Board proposed that wages of all tippable staff be reduced by £1 a week for men and 15/- a week for women. In order to get their majority on the Board they needed the votes of the three impartial members who, strange to say, showed their true "independent conservatism" and backed up the employers, completely out-voting the workers' side of the Board.

Tory economic wizards have been hard at work again justifying this on sound, orthodox, economic lines. They brought this out of the bag! If wages are

reduced this will lower costs to the employer. He will then be able to cut the price of his meals. We shall be able to put away our lunch boxes and packets of sandwiches, forsake our park benches and vacant sites, and return once more to our favourite eating haunts. More customers in the cafes, more tips and the problem is solved.

I would suggest that the Tories are lifting themselves by their bootlaces again. As in all other schemes of theirs for incentives to the bosses we have no guarantee at all that there will be cheaper

By
Ray Bradbury

meals or better services. We return to the park again and the vacant site munching in disillusionment at our sandwiches, thick with sooty spread, so liberally applied by the nearby chimney stacks. Tricked again!

But of course this is not the end of the story. The two biggest unions which cover the catering workers, the General and Municipal Workers, and the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers, have pledged full support if the catering workers decide to take strike action in protest against this attack on their living standards. This is the only answer the Tories understand. We applaud the action of these unions and congratulate them on their decision to fight this latest inroad that the Tories are making into our fellow workers' standard of living. The Labour Movement must stick together—it may be our turn next.

GUATEMALA: The Triumph of Reaction

"Glorious" Says Dulles

HAILE SELASSIE thought that the League of Nations existed to see justice done. Hoare and Laval soon disillusioned him. Franco and his Falangists, Catholic totalitarian oligarchs, followed by demonstrating how a Popular Front government, comprising Liberals, Radicals and Socialists but no Communists till much later, could be overturned by foreign support and foreign arms.

The recent invasion of Guatemala combines the worst features of the disgraceful Abyssinian and Spanish campaigns. President Arbenz thought that the United Nations would see justice done for his Government... after all, on

America has been for the U.S. marines to make the small republics safe for Wall Street exploitation... Mexico for oil; Honduras for fruit; Cuba, Haiti and Nicaragua for banking corporations and the Dominican Republic for sugar. American foreign policy in Latin America has followed President Taft's dictum that foreign policy "may well be made to include active intervention to secure for our merchandise and our capitalists opportunity for profitable investment."

WHY U.S. INTERVENES

President Arbenz' government wanted to alter the callous exploitation of Guatemalan land and people by Wall Street; hence the agrarian reform and other laws and activities designed to better his people's lot. Hence also U.S. opposition to President Arbenz, whose government, like President Arevalo's before it, was democratic. But of course, Dulles and Co. wouldn't know anything about democracy. "And always let your pocket be your guide" is the underlying principle of U.S. foreign policy.

As it is, reaction has triumphed, and the triumph of reaction will be followed inevitably by vindictiveness against the supporters of the Arbenz regime, by summary executions for alleged Commu-

nist Action Party, and the organised trade unions and unorganised workers, have all had their hopes and aspirations dashed by Wall Street, the Wall Street government of America, United Fruit, Latin American fascists and the Roman Catholic Church. The forces of anti-democracy are at work; with superb cynicism they pay lipservice to such pious declarations as "We uphold the principle of self-government and will earnestly strive by every peaceful means to secure the independence of all countries..."

Blatant hypocrisy! The Armas regime has established itself on the ruins of a democracy whose destruction, moral, political and economic, is due (as the Guatemalan Ambassador to Argentina said when he cabled his resignation to Armas) to "United States squadrons sent to serve traitors." To Latin American democrats, the Guatemalan affair serves only to underline a justly held distrust of the United States. To democrats of the world, whose sense of social justice has been outraged by the supineness of the United Nations, the affair sows the seeds of doubt. Is Guatemala really another Abyssinia?

By

P. Ibbotson

the ex parte statement of the illiberal thug Syngman Rhee, Security Council delegates were hauled out of bed at 3 a.m. to give their blessing to United Nations action against North Korea.

Over Guatemala, though, what a different tale! Colonel Armas, leader of the invading rebels, admitted he had his base in Honduras; but the Chairman of the Security Council, Senator Lodge, was going to temporize for 48 hours. Then, when the Security Council did meet, on Sunday—and the invasion had begun early on Saturday morning—the American proposal was to leave the affair to the Organisation of American States; a body so impartial that its Chairman speaks of the penetration of international Communism in Guatemala.

Thanks to the Soviet veto, the matter was kept before the United Nations, and a cease-fire called for. The rebels ignored this appeal; and after a fortnight of squalid shilly-shally and dilly-dally by the United Nations, with Britain playing an ignoble role as fence-sitter, President Arbenz' government was overturned.

WALL STREET EXULTANT

The United States is exultant at the defeat of what its Republican government and gutter press calls a Communist outpost. Dulles, partner in the law firm that is legal adviser to United Fruit, speaks of the Armas counter-revolutionary invasion, which was openly aided and abetted by Honduras, and presumably by United States arms (where else but the U.S. could Armas have got his B47 bombers?), as "a new and glorious chapter (in) the already great tradition of the American States."

Great and glorious tradition my foot! The tradition in Central

nism, and by blood-guilt of which Britain, by her cynical indifference at Lake Success, cannot claim innocence.

Like the legal Spanish government of President Azana, the legal Guatemalan government has been overturned by hired mercenary thugs, by foreign arms, and with the aid of international hypocrisy on the grand scale. Bestiality and savagery followed Franco's usurpation of power; they bid fair to follow Armas' U.S.-sponsored coup d'etat.

HYPOCRISY OF REACTION

Liberals of the Party of the Guatemalan Revolution, democratic socialists of the Revolu-

REMEMBER GUIANA

The Executive of the British Guiana Peoples' Progressive Party sent a message to the people of Guatemala—"Speaking for a people whose elected representatives were deposed by the British government only last October and whose country was, and still is, occupied by British troops this Committee cannot but condemn the vile interference of U.S. imperialism in the affairs of Guatemala..."

Next Step For Railwaymen

AT the time of writing 80 odd men are meeting in Gourock, Scotland to decide a 12-month's policy affecting some 400,000 railwaymen, members of the N.U.R. As one of the biggest unions its decisions will receive careful note from the press. The delegates have been well armed with resolutions on all the important domestic and foreign problems with which railwaymen are concerned just now.

Most of the questions on domestic railway problems such as the lodging turns, the wages structure and the efficiency drive were left alone by Mr. Campbell in his report to the conference which was published in the "Railway Review" of July 2, 1954.

Mr. Campbell is a cautious Scot and although he meets the delegates on home ground he no doubt feels the need for some airing of views on the above questions before deciding himself.

The resolutions from branches, however, show no reluctance to get to grips with the railway management and with the Tory government. They discuss all the main questions, varying from wages to the payment of compensation to ex-shareholders.

There appears little doubt but that railwaymen will once again lead the field in the struggle over wages. Six resolutions demand increases of one kind or another; one demands a shorter working week and one is concerned with the wages structure.

Whilst the miners' and engineers' leaders have drawn back in retreat from the wages fight, rail-

waymen are pressing on and well they might. The negotiations heralded with such solemnity in January over the wages structure have not yet put a penny into railwaymen's pockets and have clearly shown that this type of discussion can be no real alternative to a rise in pay for all. In fact long wrangles over differentials suit the management since they break up the solid front of rank

By
Bob Shaw

and file backing for a straight demand and separate the workers into 101 factions each fighting for more. The unedifying spectacle of union against union is the result. Railwaymen have had enough of that.

Mr. Campbell has drawn attention once again to the disastrous results of Tory meddling, and the failure of the Transport Commission to sell its lorries at anything like an economic price. The crime is that of Toryism but a weakness lies in the original Transport Act which hung the millstone of compensation around railwaymen's necks. This paying out to spivs is something which you can always get agreement on in the cabins and mess rooms, despite the odd types who argue that the rich must have a square deal. The matter is put squarely before the N.U.R. conference delegates in a resolution calling for the removal of the heavy burden of compensation paid to former shareholders.

methods used by the Exchange Party were unconstitutional. It is difficult to find anything in the constitution to verify Wallis' statement. However, the other two wards elected to leave the matter over for the time being. Now the N.E.C. have decided to send four of their members to investigate the matter.

Mrs. Braddock declares the Exchange Party is composed of Trotskyists, Communists, Bevanites and Co-operators who have "infiltrated" into the division. Actually, the Exchange Party Management Committee like the Parliamentary Division itself has a majority of Roman Catholics, which makes Mrs. Braddock's statement seem a little peculiar.

For a period now Mrs. Braddock's views have been at variance with those of the Constituency Party. The issue of German rearmament is probably the most typical of these differences. The Party went on record as being opposed to German rearmament, and decided to hold a public meeting at which William Warbey—M.P. for Broxtowe—was invited to give his views as to why he

by
H. Tenant

opposed German rearmament. The party also suggested that Mrs. Braddock should address the meeting in order to put her side of the case. This she absolutely refused to do.

"Labour's Merseyside Voice" reports Mrs. Braddock as being against Mr. Warbey speaking in her constituency and as saying she would report him to the Parliamentary Labour Party.

It appears that it was this matter which so enraged the Exchange Party that a vote of no confidence resulted.

This is a case the Labour Movement cannot but watch with interest. It raises a very important and fundamental question. The Labour Party has been constructed by the energies and efforts of millions of ordinary unrespectable

Continued on page 4

Socialist Outlook Editorial Board

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Merseyside "Socialist Outlook" Meeting
138 Price Street, Birkenhead
Sunday, July 18 at 6.30 p.m.
HARRY RATNER
(Chairman L.P.S. Management Committee)

on
"WAGES AND THE INDUSTRIAL STRUGGLE"
All readers and shareholders cordially invited

Trade Unions Under Malan

American Newsletter

Churchill's Visit

THE report of the T.U.C. delegation to South Africa has now been published* and it paints a grim picture of the perils which confront the working class movement under Malan. Instead of facing this menace as a united force, the delegation found the South African trade union movement divided and thus an easy prey to the attacks of the government. In the main, the divisions are based on the varying attitudes toward the colour bar adopted by different sections of the movement.

Garment Workers' Union must leave that organisation and... form their own separate trade union which... will not be recognised for collective bargaining purposes."

The 870,000 African workers in industry (this figure excludes those engaged in agriculture, government and professional services, railways and personnel services), have no legal recognition under the Industrial Conciliation Act which governs the industrial relations of the European, Asiatic and coloured workers.

"This means that the African worker has no legal right to negotiate and settle disputes with his employer through his own trade union... that representatives appointed to speak on their behalf are imposed upon the natives by appointment of the Minister of Labour..."

THE ROAD TO FASCISM

The Malanites have never concealed their admiration for Fascist methods, and it is clearly their aim to transform the whole trade union movement into an arm of the government on the Nazi model. They set out this aim as long ago as 1948, in their statement of basic

policy "The Road to a New South Africa."

This policy has never been retracted and up to now it has only been fear of the opposition of organised labour which has restrained the government. First it had to deepen the divisions within the working class, and in this aim it has, unfortunately, been very successful.

The government is now proposing to introduce legislation which will drive the wedge between the different sections of the working class still deeper. Under these new laws, those unions with mixed memberships (i.e. Europeans, Asiatics and coloureds) will be forced to dissolve and form themselves into three separate self-governing unions. Some 90 trade unions will be affected by this legislation.

As the report says: "No better way can be devised for destroying working class unity, and this move is a perfect illustration of the policy of 'divide and rule'."

Two sharp lessons for British Labour emerge from this report. First of all, we must give all our support to the progressive elements in the South African trade



Solly Sachs, South African Trade Union leader. One of Malan's victims.

union movement and especially must we give our financial and moral backing to those who are trying, under desperately difficult conditions, to build up African trade unions.

Secondly, British Labour must learn from South Africa the dangers of the "witch hunt." It is a short step from attacking "communists" to attacking all the militants and progressives in our movement—it is the sure road to self-destruction.

Kies Viljoen

Only the South African Trades and Labour Council, with its 45 affiliated unions and an aggregate membership of 83,000 (of which 30,000 are non-Europeans), and the small Western Province Federation of Labour Unions have no colour bar in their constitutions.

All efforts to unite the various trade union bodies into a single co-ordinating organisation or even for common action against the reactionary laws of the Malan government have failed, mainly because they cannot reconcile their clashing attitudes to the colour bar.

The T.U.C. report shows how the government has used laws, passed ostensibly for the suppression of communism, to undermine the trade union movement. This Act gives such a wide definition of "communism" that it has given the government power to remove from office any trade union official. There is no right of appeal to the courts. More than 50 trade union leaders have been removed from office and banned "from attending any gathering within the Union of South Africa, during a period of two years," under this act.

"When one recalls," states the report, "that the very concept of trade union organisation for natives is regarded as a Communist philosophy, it does not call for much imagination to visualise the Act being used... to deny completely any form of industrial organisation for the natives..."

AFRICANS MUST QUIT

"The Native Labour (Settlement of Disputes) Act, October, 1953, not only establishes that African trade unions are without legal recognition but takes away from African women the right which they formerly enjoyed as being recognised under the Industrial Conciliation Act as employees. This means that the 2,500 African women formerly organised in the

* Trade Unions in South Africa (Trades Union Congress) 6d.

Pity the Poor Papuans

"UNKNOWN Papuans to be civilised," said the "Manchester Guardian" of June 17. "Australia will reject as 'usual sentimentality' pleas to leave undisturbed 100,000 tribesmen recently discovered in South-East New Guinea."

It was, of course, inevitable! As soon as the news came through that a 'lost' tribe had been spotted, we all knew that an expedition would be fitted out to contact them. The only startling thing about it is the speed at which the decision was reached.

Naturally we must civilise them. After all, we have civilised all other known native tribes—and we must treat them all alike.

It might be as well to see just what this 'civilising' process involves. If it follows the usual pattern it will start with religion. Missionaries will go there post haste, full of zeal and enthusiasm, and with an appalling ignorance of anthropology. They will probably find that the tribe is living in a state of blissful nudity, or near-nudity. Such a state will be eminently suitable to the climate, and the people will think nothing of it. It will be the missionaries' job to make them think something of it—to see shame and 'sin'

where no shame and sin existed before; to create a demand for Manchester vests and shorts and printed cotton fabrics.

They will probably find that the tribe has a carefully worked out, well defined and quite adequate system of moral and ethical control. That is to say that it will be adequate to their needs as they see things. But it will be the

By G. C. Siddle

missionaries' job to show them that they see things all wrong. They must see things from the Christian viewpoint, whether they understand it or not. It will probably take away their stability as a tribe, without giving them anything stable in return.

EXPLOITATION WILL FOLLOW

The next step in the civilising process will be the arrival of private enterprise—white men who do not practise what the missionaries preach—always the first cause of bewilderment. Their first objective will be to see if there is anything worthy of the attention of private enterprise. If there is, then God help the tribe. I hope, for their sake, there is not. Heaven help them if they are living over oil, uranium or even copper.

Private enterprise will bring the cotton goods demanded by the missionaries. It will require payment in kind. If there is neither oil, uranium, nor copper, it will have to be some product of the land. The economy of the tribe will be based on the fact that there is enough land to produce subsistence crops. Nature will no doubt see to it that there is a very fine balance between the harvest potential and the people who live on it. But now they will have to produce cash crops for the purchase of clothing.

Private enterprise will see to it that other demands are created—for trade gin, metal goods of various kinds, fake jewellery, gramophones and useless gewgaws of all kinds. So that more land will have to be allocated to cash crops, thereby making a shortage of land. The people, never having sold their produce before, will have no idea of the value of their crops. Private enterprise will buy at its own price.

BOMBS: THE ANSWER TO UNREST

It may be, of course, that payment can be made in other ways—by labouring for the European, for instance. That is always a nice stabilising factor! Look at Africa—the Rhodesian copper-belt, for instance. If oil is found, or any other valuable mineral resources, the tribe will be told the exact value of the find, and the land bought from them at a price which will enable them to live in luxury for the rest of their lives. You think so?

No, they will be turned off their land, with the option of adopting a life for which they are quite unfitted either by heredity or early training, or of becoming landless nomads. And if they don't like it, if they show unrest or discontent, they will be branded as rebels—we keep soldiers, aeroplanes, bombs, whips and prisons for such people.

Report From France

By Jean Cazeneuve

THE Laniel government—the "bonehead's dictatorship," as it was called by the Catholic writer François Mauriac—fell ingloriously on June 12. It had lasted one year, a relatively long time in the French parliamentary tradition, and had tided the French capitalist class through a bad period during the general strike of August, 1953.

Yet, continuously, in the eyes of leading French capitalist circles, the Laniel-Bidault team had been losing its usefulness. It was meeting with active hostility, not only from the working class but from the small and middle peasants. Towards its end the civil service was preparing to strike and the military caste showed what it thought of the War Minister, Plevin, at the officers' demonstration in May. The disintegration of the machinery of government was reaching a critical point.

In North Africa, the government's callous brutality had inflamed civil war in conditions least favourable to French imperialism. In Indo-China, the French army met its Stalingrad at Dien Bien Phu.

At Geneva Bidault, who sought a solution acceptable to Wall Street—based, that is to say, on the demand for unconditional sur-

render by the Viet Minh—led French capitalism into an impasse.

Finally, the capitalists became more and more disquieted by the idea of entering into partnership with their German counterparts.

This government was bound to fall. Laniel had a long and mysterious conference with Mendés-France. Some days later, when a vote in the Assembly put Laniel in a minority, he resigned. Some days later still, Mendés-France, after the shortest ministerial crisis since the war, was given the most massive vote accorded any post-war government, including the vote of the Socialist and Communist M.P.s

DIVERTING ATTENTION FROM SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Mendés-France has promised to resign on July 20 if he has not attained what he considers to be his one immediate object—to make peace in Indo-China. By adopting this course of action, he has shown his real purpose to be to divert the French workers' attention from their pressing social problems by offering to them the dream of a quick and easy solution internationally to the difficulties of French capitalism.

Mendés-France has grasped the compromise offer of the leadership of the Viet Minh. Their offer, envisaging adherence to the "French Union" and the safeguarding of French economic in-

terests, was a revelation to French ruling circles. They understood at a stroke that it was more advantageous to them to seek a settlement than to pursue, with the blood of their troops and the dollars of the Americans, an endless war. They grasped the necessity to establish, in so far as was possible for them, their independence of American imperialism.

NO INDEPENDENCE POSSIBLE

At the same time, it would be unforgivable to foster illusions in these people. The chronic balance of payments deficit, contracted with the European Payments Union, has not been resolved by dollar aid. Mendés-France is not even near to freeing himself from this burden.

In default of E.D.C., the government will most certainly attempt to find some new face-saving formula which will establish another basis for German rearmament in accordance with the strategic demands of the Pentagon.

Already the new government has given us the full measure of its "neutrality" on the Guatemala affair: it placed an embargo on the despatch of arms to this country, struggling for its independence. It shows thus its real nature. For this government of Pierre Mendés-France is not a government of peace; it is only an attempt at a face-lift on the part of the faded politicians in Paris.

WHEN Sir Winston Churchill told an American press conference on June 28 that he now sees the need for "peaceful co-existence" with the Soviet bloc he apparently flew in the face of the declared foreign policy of American imperialism. Nevertheless, Eisenhower today ventured approval. What fascist Senator Joseph McCarthy may say when he returns from his present vacation remains to be seen.

The first reaction of the Left to the Churchill declaration appears in the current issue of "The Militant," a weekly paper reflecting the views of the Socialist Workers' Party. Joseph Hansen, the paper's editor, estimates Churchill's position as "a major turn since his Fulton speech." (It was at Fulton, Missouri, in 1946 that Churchill keynoted the opening of the "cold war" by the Western imperialists).

Churchill's present insistence on a deal with the Kremlin is viewed by Hansen as expressing "the fear of the British capitalists have of the consequence to Great Britain of a war waged with the H-bomb. Churchill spoke the truth when he said that although such a war 'would leave us victorious' it would be 'victorious on a heap of ruins.' The British ruling class would prefer to defer that kind of victory as long as possible."

The main reason for Churchill's shift in position is seen by Hansen as flowing from the enormous

difficulties now being experienced by even the tremendously powerful American imperialists in attempting to carry out their programme of world domination.

One major obstacle in their path, says Hansen, "was the titanic eruption of the colonial revolution, particularly in China, but also in the whole vast area reaching from the Philippines to the tip of South Africa. What happened in Korea and Indo-China was a taste of the fearful difficulties that could be expected."

"Finally, on the home fronts, the mass unwillingness to join in any war venture stayed the hand of the ruling classes. This new force in world politics exists today not only through Europe but right here in the United States. The latest demonstration of its effectiveness was its ability to prevent the Eisenhower administration from sending American troops into the jungles of Indo-China."

From these facts of life, Hansen says, "Churchill... has drawn the obvious conclusion: It is necessary to at least take a breather. And that means, no matter what the specific form, a deal with the Kremlin."

"It means above all utilizing the Kremlin itself for a time in containing the revolutionary forces throughout the world that threaten to burst the seams of the capitalist system."

In Hansen's opinion, the Eisenhower administration has been forced to seriously consider going along with Churchill's proposed change of course. If it does not, it "must face the alternative of retirement into isolationism, or plunging into war under the most unfavourable relationship of forces."

In addition, he points out, "a short term easing of world tension through some kind of understanding with the Kremlin would not interfere in the long run with Eisenhower's war plans."

"Both Japan and Germany, the key springboards for attack on the Soviet bloc," the Militant article concludes, "have to be prepared. And even a pact such as Churchill envisages would not stand in the way of arming these two countries to the teeth, as is plainly indicated by Churchill's agreement with Eisenhower to confer 'sovereignty' on West Germany."

THE CASE OF THE LEGLESS VETERAN

I. F. Stone, editor and fighter for civil liberties, author of "The Hidden Story of the Korean War," has written the following recommendation of James Kutcher's book, "The Case of the Legless Veteran," an indictment of the witch-hunt in America:

"If America had a conscience left, this story would have shocked it long ago into mass protest against the iniquities and inequities of the loyalty probe. Jim Kutcher is twice a hero—once at San Pietro, where he lost his legs for his country, and back home since, where he has had the heart and guts to continue his lonely fight. The executive order under which this veteran was ousted from a \$45 a week job in the VA office in Newark for belonging to the Socialist Workers Party is the *reductio ad absurdum* of the loyalty programme, a vivid glimpse of its cruelty and unfairness. Every thoughtful American owes it to himself to read "The Case of the Legless Veteran."

This book can be purchased from New Park Publications, 266, Lavender Hill, London, S.W.11. Price 4/6d. postage 6d. extra.

FIGHTING FUND

Comrades, the Fighting Fund total so far this month amounts to only 15s. 6d. This simply is not good enough. The tendency to leave payment till the last week of the month must be fought. We are trying to give you a continuous flow of articles and news reports with a punch. In return, we ask you to punch up the Fighting Fund to a respectable working weekly total.

Thanks to the following early contributors: Islington readers, 6s. 6d.; Norwood readers, 5s.; Sparks, 4s. Total 15s. 6d.



IN SOUTHERN GERMANY, around 130,000 metal workers will go on strike unless their claim for an 8 per cent. wage increase is met.

THE AMERICAN House of Representatives has approved a Foreign Aid Bill amendment calling on President Eisenhower to withhold special South-East Asia defence funds from any country which has a non-aggressive pact with any South-East Asian Communist country.

BELGIUM'S Minister for Foreign Affairs, M. Spaak, refused, in the Senate, to answer questions on the present Government's military and foreign policy intentions. Members of Belgium's Parliament claimed that he was challenging Parliament's rights to exercise control over these matters.

IN ENGLAND AND WALES the average rate levied during 1953-1954 was 22s. 2d., an increase of 1s. 1d. compared to the 1952-53 rate of 20s. 1d. There were rate increases in 1,373 rating areas, no changes in 78 and decreases in 18.

IN THE NORTH RHINE-WESTPHALIA elections, Adenauer's Christian Democrat Party received 41.27 per cent. of the votes, a drop of 7.6 per cent. compared to the 1953 General Election. The Communist Party vote decreased by 74,800 and they lost all their 12 seats. The Social Democrats raised their vote to 34.49 per cent., thus becoming the second strongest party.

IN THE U.S.A. during 1953, Big Business executives received average salary increases of 11,000 dollars each.

IN MOROCCO, Dr. Emile Eyraud was mortally wounded on June 30. He was managing director of "La Vigie Marocaine"—one of the principal French newspapers in Morocco. He consistently advocated, in his newspaper, a policy of "pitiless repression" toward the forces fighting for the liberation of Morocco from France.

IN BURMA, Chinese nationalist forces have renewed their attacks. One thousand of Chiang Kai Shek's guerillas are reported to have been beaten off after mounting a big attack on Burmese Army forces.

IN AMERICA, at a meeting of the American Association on Mental Deficiency, an administrator of a state mental hospital said that conditions in American institutions for the mentally defective were "abominable."

A study of 100 mental institutions made by the American Psychiatric Association showed that only three met the minimum requirements of the association. The schools for the mentally deficient were no better.

SERVING HIS MASTER

THE United States is surely the most benevolent of imperialisms. Not only does she dole out Marshal dollars on a lavish scale—with suitable strings attached, of course—she also sent to Europe that prince of evangelists the Reverend Billy Graham.

For 3 months Haringay Arena was filled with thousands of people, some seeking salvation, others just plain curious.

What was behind it all? For never was an evangelistic campaign conducted in such a glare of publicity and on such a lavish scale.

For months before the great man arrived huge posters on the most prominent boardings were announcing "Billy Graham is coming." By the time he arrived,

his face was as well-known as any film star's. He was accompanied by a team which included a star baritone and other entertainers.

Not only were the thousands admitted into Haringay Arena free, but many were conveyed from all parts of London and the Home

Counties by coaches—and all for nothing!

Billy Graham, it was reported, received an annual salary of £5,000. He stayed in one of London's most expensive hotels.

The question inevitably arises—who paid for it all and why?

Shortly before the reverend gentleman reached these shores there were reports circulating that he had made some fierce attacks on socialism—with special reference to Britain's Labour Government. When it was obvious that this was going to have an adverse effect on his campaign in this country, Billy Graham explained that when he used the word "socialism" he really meant "secularism." He never explained away one of his Chicago sermons where he specifically attacked the Labour government.

He was coming to England, said Billy Graham, not to talk politics but to preach "Jesus Christ."

Asked if he thought Britain needed such a message, he replied "All the world needs Jesus Christ."

But now, it would appear, Mr. Graham is of the opinion that the world needs something more than Jesus Christ—at least Western Germany does. For, speaking to American servicemen in Germany, on June 22, he said that Germany must be armed with the most modern weapons (including, presumably the napalm bomb and the hydrogen bomb) so that, shoulder to shoulder with the Americans they could fight the godless Russians.

The psalmist assured us that the meek would inherit the earth. But Billy Graham does not want his Wall Street Masters to take any

chances. This hiring of American capitalism wants to see the world plunged into a new war, in which all the most modern weapons will be used—a war which, like the last one, will not only be waged by the soldiers in the field, but will involve all of mankind, women and children included.

He would, no doubt, be only too pleased to bless the first hydrogen bomb despatched to bring death and destruction to untold thousands.

Billy Graham serves, not only the Almighty, but also the Almighty Dollar!

By
C. Van Gelderen

Xmas Bazaar

The encouraging response to the idea of an "Outlook" Christmas Bazaar has led to the setting up of a small Committee of London supporters under the Chairmanship of George Ellis. The Secretary is Lorna Corbett, 145b, Ashley Gardens, London, S.W.1 (TAT 0656; VIC 5289) and the Treasurer is Jack Stanley, 18, The Grange, London, S.W.19.

The Bazaar will be held in Central London on Saturday, November 27, but it is intended to be a national event and readers of the paper everywhere are urged to support the effort by sending in gifts for sale at the Bazaar. If you are nifty with your hands, please get started now making lamp shades and knitting woolies, oven cloths, etc. Fretwork enthusiasts should go into action at once. May we suggest jig-saw puzzles? If you have no accomplishments, pledge yourself to buy something each week for the "Outlook"—a reel of different coloured cotton to put in a decorated chocolate box, for instance. And now's the chance to get rid of your white elephants! But not too white.

Your local "Socialist Outlook" seller will put you in touch with others who are setting to work in your area. If you're isolated, please write to the Secretary saying what you are prepared to do or asking for some ideas on how you can help.

SEPTEMBER CAMPAIGN

SUPPORTERS of the "Socialist Outlook" in the Manchester area have decided to raise £50 for the "Outlook" September Campaign.

This was one of the decisions at a meeting held in Manchester Sunday last and addressed by a member of the Editorial Board. The Manchester readers will raise the money by jumble sales and other activities and have elected a committee to organise these.

These supporters in Manchester have also made a start towards gaining their quota of the 1,000 new readers which is the September target set by the Management Committee of the Labour Publishing Society.

People, Places and Politics

By Cassia

NOTHING BUT HIS CHAINS

SOME months ago I had cause to quote in this column a statement made by Herbert Morrison in which he appealed to the Constituency Parties to "throw overboard sloppy, spiteful and muddled thinking" and I was reminded of this when I read a report of a statement he made when speaking on his pet subject of

German rearmament at Bradford recently. He said: "I feel depressed that some Socialists appear to be saying: 'Workers of all countries unite—but not with Germans or Americans.'" This is a classical example of indulgence in the very form of thinking which he appealed to the Constituency Parties to throw overboard.

What could be more muddled than a form of approach which is not capable of discerning a difference between the workers of Germany and America and the capitalists of those two countries? The Left Wing wants unity with the German workers—that is why it is demanding the withdrawal of all occupation forces. The Left Wing wants unity with the American workers—that is why it campaigns against McCarthyism and the present British alliance with the American Government which—in case the Right Honourable Gentleman hasn't realised—is capitalist. Nothing to get depressed about so long as you don't support the wrong class!

ROLLING IN IT

I HAVE often heard it remarked during the past few years that "there doesn't seem to be the money about these days"—now I know where it all is. Last week the steel shares of Stewarts and Lloyds were put on the market and there were applications for fifteen-and-a-half million shares. At the issue price of 35s. per share this makes the applications worth £27,125,000 which is no small sum to be found in a country which, according to the types who habitually buy shares, is on the verge of bankruptcy.

QUOTES FOR THE WEEK

"President Eisenhower today expressed satisfaction that Communists and their supporters are reportedly fleeing from Guatemala in the wake of developments that ousted the Arbenz regime."

Page 2, Embassy Wireless Bulletin, July 1, 1954

"President Eisenhower today expressed hope that the 'ultimate triumph of peace and justice in the world' would be accomplished not by force but through 'patient perseverance and the growth of knowledge and understanding among nations and men.'"

Page 4, U.S. Embassy Wireless Bulletin, July 1, 1954

On Strike for 15 Weeks!

A VICTORY WON

A STRIKE of technicians and draughtsmen at Handley Page, Cricklewood, ended last February. It had lasted fifteen weeks. A lively pamphlet* has now been published which gives the story of this struggle—one of the most important in the history of the Association of Engineering and Shipbuilding Draughtsmen.

The pamphlet is written on behalf of the Handley Page Strike Committee by W. A. Court, who was its chairman. Bill Court is also the prospective Labour candidate for Enfield West.

This fifteen-week strike won an important victory. In an introduction to the pamphlet, R. J. Silverthorne (organiser of No. 14 District of the A.E.S.D.) calls it an "outstanding feature in the development of the A.E.S.D."

"The unity of purpose and strength of this strike," he declares, "led to the conclusion, before the return to work of the strikers, of the first agreement between the

* The History and Lessons of the Handley Page Strike. Price 6d. from A.E.S.D. Divisional Office, 22 Chiswick High Road, London, W.4.

A.E.S.D. and the Engineering and Allied Employers' London Association on a recognised £11 minimum rate for draughtsmen at 26 years of age and over, and has set a standard which will undoubtedly lead to similar agreements throughout the aircraft industry."

Bill Court tells us how this agreement was won. In his own very readable and often amusing style, he gives us a picture of the organisation and firmness of a section of workers usually regarded as "docile" and "respectable". The lessons he draws from the strike can well be noted by manual workers as well as "black-coated." Audacity, tenacity and efficiency were its hall-marks

TWICE RETURNED

Twice during the 15 weeks, these workers agreed to return on the basis of proposals by the management. Twice they continued the strike solidly when they found the management did not intend to meet their demands.

In their advances and in their reversals, throughout this struggle, their morale remained at a high pitch. Not the least reason for that must have been leadership. Bill Court himself makes a point on leadership right at the beginning of his pamphlet.

"The election of a strike committee," he writes, "is the election of an executive and must be carefully carried through. Those offering themselves for service on the strike committee must be aware of their responsibilities to the members. The strike committee man is always an example; if he is weak and uncertain, rest assured that he will find followers

among the timid, who follow the strong only in the absence of any other lead."

NEED FOR LEADERSHIP

Although the strike resulted in a victory the pamphlet is not complacent. It recognises that it is only a step that has been taken towards the winning of a minimum rate for all draughtsmen. "...generally, when draughtsmen are ready to fight there is good cause for fight," says the author, "and it is then that leadership is called for, and vigorous leadership, imaginative and even oratorical leadership coins victory. In this we were lacking and failed to inspire our own membership to like effort up and down the country.

"One thing is certain, the minimum rate will have to be fought for, maybe factory by factory. There will surely be no easy road, and bitter battles can only be led and won by imaginative and vigorous leadership, which can come from men who have truly abandoned the course of compromise and nailed their standard to the principle unswervingly. Idle words, someone will say. Very high-sounding. Maybe, but such words fire men to take up a cause because they are positive. It is the lawyers who kill the ardent fire of faith in a principle. It is they who reduce to dry bones and ashes the structure of a struggle. Let them come after the battle to tidy up the odds and ends. Before the battle let us have bold and vigorous leadership, and we shall win, have no fear about it. We shall win. We have a history to testify to that."

Our Readers Write . . .

M.P.'s Salaries

The Parliamentary Labour leaders have certainly allowed themselves to be out-manoeuvred by the Tories over the question of M.P.'s salaries. If only they would fight for more important things with equal tenacity we would march to Socialism at a much quicker pace than we are now doing.

It is important, however, that we get this question of M.P.'s salaries in the right perspective. The

Tories are opposing an increase for three reasons:

(1) They hope that financial straits will make it increasingly difficult for the Labour Party to find parliamentary candidates from the working class. More Labour M.P.s from the middle class and less "cloth caps" will restore the House of Commons to its old position as "The Best Club in the World."

(2) They don't want to set a precedent. A wage rise for M.P.s would be used by the workers to press their own wage claims.

(3) They do not want to give increased old-age pensions.

Socialists should insist that the wages of all public representatives should be equal to the average wage prevailing in industry with all legitimate expenses paid by the State. This would guarantee that the representative will always be aware of the economic conditions of those he represents. Of course, no representative should be allowed any other source of income during his term of office.

Shepherds Bush Reader.



The Housewife Pays

Everywhere we go now we see adverts for margarine. They fill pages in the daily papers, hoardings and greet us at the cinema.

We have been using the new proprietary brands for some time now and must admit that those which are around 10d. per ½lb. are much more palatable than the margarine used during rationing which was about 9d. per ½lb.

I am not a financial wizard, but surely all this advertising will account for the extra 1½d. which is, in the main, what we are paying extra for the now named brands.

It seems to me, therefore, that not only could we now have better quality margarine for the 1½d. cheaper, but we could have had it

for a greater part of the rationing period. The great margarine combines seem to have deliberately kept down the quality of margarine until they could get their names on the packet.

I think housewives would sooner have better quality in a plain wrapper than pay for great gaudy adverts, which in many cases are in bad taste, and take up space on hoardings, films and newspapers that could be put to better use.

Salford O. Ratner (Mrs.)

Whose Party is it?

Continued from page 2

people. After a day's work they have surrendered their spare time to build a movement and work for a socialist society. The Exchange Party is composed of such people. The majority of them feel their present M.P. no longer represents their point of view. A democratic principle is at stake here. Are the rank and file to decide whom they want as M.P.? Are they just going to pay their dues, do the slogging work of canvassing, party organisation etc., and take whatever the higher bodies think is good for them? If that is going to be the case then the Labour Movement will collapse and decay.

If the N.E.C. override the wishes of Exchange it will not be the first time such a thing has happened. The previous editor of the "Socialist Outlook"—Clr. John Lawrence—failed to get endorsement by the N.E.C. when he was put forward as a parliamentary candidate by Woodford. G. Healy, a member of "Socialist Outlook" editorial board, was not even put on the "B" list of parliamentary candidates as requested by Streatham C.L.P. Many more cases could be cited of the N.E.C. overriding the wishes of local parties.

Let the movement take note. Such steps are a present to the Tories. They weaken the party and destroy the confidence of the rank and file in it.

Locked-Out for 34 Weeks!

A FIGHT WELL FOUGHT

FOR thirty-four weeks 80 men and women in Acton, West London carried on a struggle in defence of trade union rights. They were locked out by the management of the Medical Supply Association after they resisted the sacking of seven workers as "redundant". Among those seven were the chairman and another member of the works committee.

Their prolonged and bitter fight began in the spring of last year and lasted until early this year. Thirty-four weeks! Weeks of

pathy and support of fellow workers.

These men and women did not win their demands. But they can be proud of their struggle and the wealth of experience they have accumulated.

The lock-out ended on January 26th. The management of M.S.A. had met the unions under the auspices of the Ministry of Labour and made certain propositions. The unions concerned discussed these, found them unacceptable, and decided:

"That all members in dispute should now seek other employment and the firm should remain 'BLACK.'"

The Lock-Out Committee have now produced a final statement thanking all those who aided them. Summing up their struggle, they say: "Many workers will desire to know the reason why such a small firm as the Medical Supply Association, employing about a 100 can defy the organised working-class in such manifestations of the class struggle."

"First and foremost," they answer "is the fact that finance capital from the insurance world has come to their aid by loans, and secondly, working-class organisations are slow to react to the immediate need for solidarity and unity in struggle."

"The firm were able, by fully utilising the Post Office facilities, and by the extensive use of their own vans to carry on their quite extensive wholesale trade. Furthermore, in spite of demonstrations, mass picketing and the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions declaring this firm BLACK, we were not com-

pletely successful in preventing other goods being delivered to the firm. Yet to the eternal glory of many wagon drivers, goods were not delivered, the drivers returning with their loads...

"What are the essential lessons to be learned from this relatively small Lock-Out?" asks the Lock-Out Committee.

"Firstly, that the old trade union slogan 'United we stand—divided we fall' is still imperative today as ever, and once this is fully realised, the sooner we will be on the road to victory.

"Secondly, we, by our experience, are convinced of the need to take a much more fundamental interest in the political aspect of the class struggle. We need to take note of the aims and objects of the A.E.U.—'Control of the industry in the interest of the Community.' The realisation of such would mean that the needs of hospitals and the patients would not be left to the whims and fancies of profit-making desires of private firms and individuals.

READ

Britain's only T.U. Weekly Newspaper

The Railway Review

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