EDITORIAL
The Inquisitors Ride High

As Selwyn Lloyd and the Tories celebrate the success of their wage pause, new measures are being introduced to weaken the trade union movement. The government has launched a vicious McCarthyite attack on all Civil Service workers who may be socialist-minded.

More and more power is to be granted to the facetious men of M.I.S. to probe into the private lives of thousands of civil servants.

Those who are considered unreliable by the unknown snoops of M.I.S. will be targeted, their jobs and at best be permanently spied upon by M.I.S. from within the Civil Service.

So much for the democratic way of life of the so-called 'Free World' as we know it.

What, one might ask, is the relationship between the witch-hunting of Civil Servants, the attack on ETU militants and the wages pause? In our opinion, their relationship is the closest possible.

Heartened by the retreat of the right-wing trade union leaders before their offensive, the Tories are now busily creating an atmosphere where victimisation will deprive the ranks of trade union movement of real leadership in a situation where a new offensive is being planned against wages and working conditions.

The 'unbelievable' men of the right-wing always open the gate for the witch-hunters. Amalgamated because of the smokescreen behind which a dictatorship from the right can operate.

A recent report of the ETU case, which is now receiving considerable applause from the capitalist press, is nothing more than a manual for witch-hunters.

True enough, the Communist Party members of the Electricians' Union committed serious mistakes, but the measures taken against them transcend by far the seriousness of these mistakes.

The attack on the militant rank and file of the ETU today is carried out by the same people who are now about to prove themselves to be right.

We said that the ETU case was the beginning of a witch-hunt.

Those democrats who have gone out of their way to attack Harold Laski and his friends have nothing more than to add grist to the mill of the Tory offensive. Their 'moral outrage' serves to cover up the mailed fist of state intervention in the trade unions.

The Tory government has dutifully listened to the instructions of big business and there is to be no genuine capital gains tax. Instead, short-term speculative gains in stock, shares, homes and buildings will be subject to tax, but not until 1963.

Provided the specifier ensures that he holds on for more than six months or land for three years or over, he will pay no tax on his realised profit.

This is the easiest possible way to avoid it. It will yield next to nothing and has merely been introduced so that Selwyn Lloyd can appear to have carried out his July undertaking.

One blowman from the Stock Exchange, broadcasting on Monday evening, stated how pleased he was with the government proposals since it was not likely to affect the buying of stocks and shares.

ADDITIONAL BURDENS
What appears to be a 'no change' budget is in fact, an instrument for putting additional burdens on the working class.

Clothes and furniture, two items that figure prominently in the cost of living, are to be nearer as a result of purchase tax changes.

Other luxury goods such as cars and refrigerators are to cost more. In the past £30 million more will be paid out of our pockets as a result of these changes and the new sweets, soft drinks and ice cream tax.

The pattern of earlier budgets is continued. A further redistribution of income in favour of the well-to-do is the objective of this latest exercise in Tory accounting.

PLACATE WAVERRERS
The proposal to abolish Schedule A property tax for owner-occupiers is intended to placate the wavering middle-class voter. The Tories, with Orpington fresh in mind, cannot afford to ignore the discontent of the voter with the large mortgage and the small capital gains tax.

It is planned to commence to remove this tax—in stages, no doubt—just at the same time as the new rating valuations take effect. In other words, it is a case of giving with one hand and taking back with the other.

The budget is not likely to have any great effect on the cost of living. No reductions can be made at any time, as we have seen recently. Tito's own budget for 1961 gives a picture of a stagnating economy. In the first half of 1961 there was a fall in personal consumption of 1.2 per cent and of investment of 3.8 per cent. Profits have also fallen considerably.

By 'communist', they explain, they mean someone who 'is or has recently been a member of the Communist Party; or, in such a way as to raise reasonable doubt about his reliability, is or has recently been sympathetic to communists or communist sympathisers; or is susceptible to communist pressure'.

Such people, the committee, must not only be purged from Civil Service jobs involving security, but is now recommended that departments should refuse to negotiate with them if they seek trade union representation.

The attack of the unions must be seen in relation to the attack on the ETU.

Members of that union are involved in projects concerned with war preparation and they are deeply connected with the efforts made to push the CP leadership out of the party.

An ominous paragraph in the report complains that Civil Service unions do not 'take security seriously enough. To some extent, the committee states, 'this attitude probably reflects an equally ambivalent attitude on the part of the government towards the Communist Party and the Communist Party generally'.

'Reliable'
The Radcliffe Report will begin a wholesale witch-hunt in the Civil Service and in trade unions where workers are more engaged on government work.

This will be directed against anyone who is not clearly 'reliable' as a supporter of capitalism.

It is amusing to see the attitude of liberals to this threat to democratic rights.

Friday's 'Guardian' carries an editorial on the subject in which the report's recommendations are received without criticism.

In the best traditions of British liberalism, the paper tells us how 'distasteful' they are.

In the course of preparing to defend the 'free world' —propagandist Ted Swanson and Chiang k'ai-shek—capitalism is forced inevitably to take actions which cut into democratic rights, especially of trade unionists.

McCarranism is inseparable from the Cold War.

All sections of the movement are forced to fight against this witch-hunt. It is just one more manifestation of the drive to war inherent in the capitalist system.

McCarthyite Attack
in Civil Service Unions
by Cyril Smith

WE are now witnessing a new outbreak of McCarthyism in Britain. Anyone who imagines that the capitalist class can be quieted and constitutionally removed from power should study 'Security Measures for the Public Services'. This is the report of the Radcliffe Committee which was set up by the Tories to advise them on how to meet the danger of espionage in the Civil Service. It shows just how firmly the ruling class holds on to its State machine.

Ordinary people cannot be expected to read the report in full. Some sections are not to be published for another year. It is unlikely that the report will be debated in parliament. This is not considered necessary, since Mr. Kenneth Younger, a former Labour MP, who is a member of the Committee and Mr. Gaitskell has been consulted and agrees with the recommendations.

The committee thinks that controlling the publication of the Civil Service trade unions is a danger to national security. By 'communist', they explain, they mean someone who 'is or has recently been a member of the Communist Party; or, in such a way as to raise reasonable doubt about his reliability, is or has recently been sympathetic to communists or communist sympathisers; or is susceptible to communist pressure'.

Those people against the unions must be seen in relation to the attack on the ETU.

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Release
Milovan Dijlas!

The arrest and relentless persecution of Milovan Dijlas by Tito's police is an outrage against the international Labour movement.

His right to publish his ideas must be defended by all who want to see a real discussion of the issues now facing world communism.

Dijlas played a prominent role in the construction of the Yugoslav Communist Party and in providing the theoretical basis for the Yugoslav dispute with Stalin. His subsequent move to the right was only a reflection of the Yugoslav shift towards alliance with imperialism at the time of the Korean war.

His exodus from the party, his arrest and imprisonment, and the attempted suppression of his books expressed Tito's fear of a discussion which would reveal the real purpose of his 'humanism'.

This was still more important after the reconciliation with Khrushchev in 1955. Now, when a new rift occurred between the Yugoslav and Russian leaders in
Unite against the bomb

Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament and the British Labour Movement

TOGETHER can defeat the Tory H-bomb Government

by Jack Gale

Four years ago the United States Secretary of Defence estimated that in a nuclear war 160 million Americans, 200 million Russians and every single person in Western Europe and Britain would die. And things have got worse since then. Existing nuclear weapons are currently estimated to be equivalent to 25 tons of TNT for every living person on earth. Something has to be done about it. What? There are five main views on how to get rid of the nuclear threat. They are:

1. A series of peaceful, legal demonstrations and a logical exposition of the unilateralist case will attract more and more people and finally convince the government. This is the view of the leaders of CND.

2. That official CND is too repressive is, in most cases, enough progress and needs to be supplemented by more vigorous action. Non-violent obstruction, while not likely to prevent the government from carrying out its policies as long as it wants to do so, will finally become so powerful that the government will give way. This is the view of the Committee of 100.

3. That the main job is to put pressure on the government to engage in talks with Mr. Khrushchev, in order to bring about lasting peace and disarmament through Summit talks is evidenced. This is the view of the Communist Party.

4. That Britain can opt out of the nuclear race and become a ‘neutral’ power, in a position to give a moral lead to the world. This ‘positive neutralism’ is advocated by ‘Triune’, the remnants of the Left in the CPGB, and the leaders of Victory for Socialism.

5. That the H-bomb is the most serious manifestation of the decay of capitalism. It can only be got rid of by getting rid of capitalism itself. This campaign against the bomb must be a campaign against the Tory government and the right-wing leaders of the Labour movement who support capitalism. It must be linked up with working class struggles over wages, redundancies, rents, railclosures, etc. Concretely, this means to fight inside the Labour movement to return a Labour government to power committed to socialist policies, including the unilateral renunciation of nuclear weapons. This is the view of the Socialist Labour League.

Which of these is the most likely to bring about victory over the bomb? More and more people are realising that marching is not enough. Each year sees a bigger, better Aldermaston, dominated by youth. But we are no nearer to getting rid of the bomb.

Despite all these demonstrations, despite the logic of the case, the Conservative government is continuing its suicidal policies. Clearly, something more is needed.

It was the desire to do more that led to the formation of the Committee of 100, Reacting against the complacent receptivity of the CND leadership, hundreds of young people responded to the call for Direct Action.

Six of their leaders are now in gaol, serving vicious sen
tences imposed on them by the State. At their Parliament Square sit-down on March 24, 172 of them were arrested. Everyone must admire their courage.

But will it get rid of the bomb? The experience of the December 9 demonstration at Wetherfield, Brize Norton and other bases showed many people that when they actually opposed the government they came up against a huge repressive apparatus — police, violence, searches, gaol sentences, and a full-scale campaign of intimidation—and not a government of ‘reasonable’ men, open to public pressure.

And the government that used these methods is allied to Salazar, Franco, de Gaulle and Adenauer and his government of pro-Nazis.

The spread of nuclear weapons to these ‘allies’ is imminent and can only be prevented by a vigorous struggle against our own nuclear government, of the sort which will inspire the working class of Europe to do the same.

A government with an arms budget of £1,721 million is not going to be persuaded by peace
gas workers: 38,000 London busmen: not more than thousands more.

To get rid of the bomb we must get rid of the Tory government. To do that a powerful movement is necessary.

The working class is that movement and there is no other. No doubt many of those workers who have been in struggle over wages and redundancies are influenced by the propaganda that is pumped at them daily and may think themselves ‘in favour’ of the bomb.

But in fighting the government that produces the bomb they are fighting the bomb itself. It is vital for unilateralists to see this connection and to explain it to others.

Some are ready already doing this. During the recent one-and-a-half strikes of engineers some unilateralists—for instance the North-East Committee of 100 and the Hull University CND-issued leaflets to the strikers linking the fight against the wage pause with the fight against the bomb.

This is absolutely on the right lines. Unilateralists must link up with the working class in this way, must tie the campaign against the bomb with struggles over wages, pit closures, rent and colonialism.

They must work to get a response inside the working class organisations by turning their activity towards what is going on inside the working class movement. Otherwise, they are doomed to impotence.

When the Campaign is cut off from other real struggles there is a tendency to seek short cuts. This results in a pull away from unilateralism.

Leading this tendency is the Communist Party which is rapidly moving back to the position it held prior to 1959, when it condemned unilateralism as sectarian.

The Communist Party is now concentrating its efforts on gaining a Summit meeting and an agreement on tests. It has ceased to campaign for unilateral renunciation of nuclear weapons by Britain.

The role of the working class in preventing war is pushed into the background and the Communist Party actively opposes turning the movement in this direction.

At the National Youth Conference for Peace held in London on March 18, a resolution calling for the removal of the Tory government as a first step to nuclear disarmament and urging the maximum unity within Labour Movement to achieve this, was opposed by YCL speakers who advocated ‘united action of young people of different views’, including Trotsky, for peace (see ‘Daily Worker’, March 19).

Instead the ‘Daily Worker’ gives maximum publicity to activities like the recent ‘Mothers for Peace’ trip to Geneva, which can have no influence whatever on the aims of imperialism.

Meanwhile, the Americans go ahead with their plans for nuclear testing, backed up to the hilt by the Tory government, backed up by the Labour Party—preparing for war—as their plans for evacuation (however fanciful) can be clear.

It is criminal to divert the attention of unilateralists to Summit talks. Such talks will not abolish the bomb.

Last year Kennedy and Khrushchev held a ‘little Summit’ in Austria. Did that lessen the danger of war? On the contrary, it was followed by the Berlin crisis!

During the 1960 Aldermaston march, members of the Communist Party carried banners referring not to unilateralism but to the impending Paris Summit.

Many people were side-tracked into pinning their hopes on these talks.

And what happened? The talks collapsed when the American U2 spy plane was shot down over Russia. Imperialism was talking about
After the Referendum

By Tom Kemp

THE friends of the FLN are meanwhile busily seeking to present the Evian agreement as merely an endorsement of the French imperialist and as no barrier to the social revolution in Algeria.

They do this, of course, as blind partisans of the FLN leadership and basing their own interpretation of the agreement made with de Gaulle. The fact that the Sahara will be considered as part of the French state is made to seem much more important than the continued strangling of the oil companies over the petroleum resources, including the upholding of France's privileges and position with respect to them.

The status of the European inhabitants of Algeria is less important, in considering the nature of the settlement, than the question of the Sahara. In fact, the property rights of French capital are fully protected.

The only kind of agrarian reform which will be possible is one in which all land will be re-purchased by the Algerian government in return for the French colonial inhabitants working on reform, will only be able to do so by calling for French economic aid as provided for in the agreement.

The most that can be expected, therefore, is a flow of French capital, a distribution of land with a few foreign investments, and perhaps some handsome indemnities.

Such agreements are, by a process of political contortion, being made to appear as a great French victory in the Algerian revolution.

According to a writer in the Belgian paper 'La Gauche', all the important concessions have been made by the Algerian leaders. In fact, the real gains have been made by the French. Who would have thought that to France are purely prestige satisfactions, such as the\n
The Mbarez-Eskhil and which is to remain in French hands for 15 years, for example.

In fact of course, such an agreement contains nothing new, from its words, as other friends of the FLN, with greater misgivings.

The Paboliotic, "La Verite du Progres" (March 1962), while claiming 'a great victory for the FLN', added that the FLN would have to say, 'of course, it is a compromise, pace, many elements of the plan are not satisfactory to the development of the Algerian revolution.'

Where will the menace come from? The FLN and its gangster methods, but also from the innumerable manoeuvres of the French government, which consider their former French colonies in Africa. The imaginings of 'La Gauche' evidently did not extend as far as this.

Nevertheless, both of these papers share illusions in the recently formed FLN leadership.

While the FLN, so long as the counsellors of the FLN, have decided that the FLN leadership is a Marxist-revolutionary one-bourgeoisie.

It is representatives of a complex combination between different Algerian social classes of which the poor peasantry is the dominant part associated with a small bourgeoisie, the middle-class bourgeoisie, the proletar.

The fact that the poor peasantry is the most numerous section of the population does not make it in any sense 'dominant' over the rest of the population, in the leadership.

The question of the nature of the FLN, is, in effect, skated over.

What is clear is that the Paboliotics are aware that this FLN leadership could turn what they call a 'compromise' into a bet

But the leadership of the left in the Labour Party, Michael Foot, 'Trident' and VPS, were incapable of fighting a thing. While the right organized ruthlessly, these leaders did nothing.

They did not organize a single book or pamphlet during that whole crucial year. Even when Foot and four others were expelled from the official Labour Party, they still did nothing. They gave no leadership whatsoever.

But the failure of the 'left' to break out of the Labour Party. On the contrary, it is an argument in favour of the Labour Party being organized and class conscious way. And it is positive proof that the picketing line against the right wing can not be led by a 'Trident-VPS' type leadership.
**The Newsletter**

**April 14, 1962**

**VFS will keep going says Silverman**

**Nutshell Reporter**

The annual general meeting of Victory for Socialism held at the Cora Hotel, London, was attended by only 60 people, a reduced membership leadership given over the past year.

In his annual report, Sydney Silverman, MP, chairman of VFS, denied that the party was anywhere near being dissolved and declared that he had as the present type of leadership in Transport House remains there a need for such a body as VFS.

The meeting unanimously agreed to a resolution in support of the Cuban 'This AGM of VFS declares its solidarity with the Cuban Revolution in its struggle against imperialism and in particular, the anti-socialist economic blockade of Cuba by the Overseas Capitalists, demands an end to this economic blockade as an attempt to starve in submission a whole nation and mass of its people, and an immediate release of its resources. We therefore call upon the international socialist movement to support this committee to attempt to support the workers by the blockade.'

Speaking for the resolution, Russell Kerr, a prominent member of CND, expressed the hope that the executive council will take up this question at its very next meeting and will put pressure on the government to tie its back to the blockade.'

Silverman said that the FC would go straight ahead with action on this resolution. The executive council's resolution demanding a campaign for general strikes, a general strike by the CPGB and the right of constituency labour parties to select their own parliamentary candidates.

There was considerable criticism of the way the FC had handled the question of the expulsion of five MPs from the Parliamentary Labour Party and the absence of the party's policy on the current decision by the Labour Party in the recent division.

In the opening part of the annual report, Stephen Swinfield MP, who last year had been chairman of the FC and for whom VFS was due more than to the rank-and-file members of VFS than its leaders, was congratulated by William Collins and Zilliskin, Silverman and Mikardo clearly sympathetically.

**Birmingham ETU PROTESTS AT EXPLOSIONS**

The Birmingham branch of the Electrical Trades Union, which has a membership of about 80,000, and of which Swinfield is also a member, unanimously passed the following resolution:

‘This branch meeting concurred with the decision of the Executive Council to expel the Birmingham ETU after its resolution which discredited those made who did that decision, and gave notice of its intention to make a case against the Saturday Night disclosures of the 1958 rules being extended to the rank and file. We therefore demand that the same powers be available itself of the provisions of Rule 17(A) of the ETU rules. Furthermore, we ask the EC meeting the above questions in the absence of any delay.'

**VFS and Support Help Bosses**

**From Our Mersyside Correspondent**

Next Monday morning will be a critical time for Mersyside dockers, it is then that Alderman P. J. Moss, the Port Dock Sergeant and General Workers’ Union may attempt to stop the hiring of docker members of the National Amalgamated Stevedores and Dockers— the ‘Blue Union’.

It is understood that dockers’ officials of the TGWU have tried to deprive NASD men of their job. Four years ago the rank and file of both unions.

In January 1958, TGWU officials stopped two ‘Blue Union’ men from being hired for a bulk-sugar job which was paid a higher rate than most dock jobs.

Within a week, 12,000 men went on strike in Liverpool. There has been no discrimination on this job since.

During the past fortnight Mersyside ‘Blue Union’ leaders have been speaking directly to members of both unions at dock gate meetings. It was clear at these meetings that the rank and file of the TGWU did not support O’Hare’s attempt to keep a man out of the NASD.

Members of the TGWU declared that there should be no show of cards on Monday unless the ‘Blue Union’ men were employed as members of a trade union.

The two leaders of the Rothes pit are symbolic of the two enemies of the Scottish miner: capitalism backed by right-wing Labour and Stalinism as represented by the leadership of Mitchel.

But Rothes can also become the starting point for the building of a new militant leadership in the Scottish coalfield.

There were never any half-way measures with Joe Fitzgerald. Everybody who knew him — his friends and young people getting interested in socialism, his colleagues around ‘The Miner’ and his comrades in the Socialist Labour League all knew that he had a great and a great fighter.

Speaking on behalf of the Socialist Labour League, Gerry Healy said that Joe was a confirmed socialist who was born and died a member of the working class.

Although he was no longer with us, he lived in the work he had done in the struggle and amongst socialist youth. Joe gave almost the whole of his life to the struggle, in preparing for the establishment of socialism.

He worked in the conviction that this would be achieved.

We were all greatly saddened by his death and our deepest sympathy goes out to the family of his memory.

But we were confident — as Joe was himself — that the future lay in the hands of the millions of Joe Fitzgeralds who live lives of toil in the world of work.

We look forward to the day for which he fought.

**Austie: Defeat Relieves BMC Bosses**

By Our Midlands Industrial Correspondent

**LAST WEEK THE Newsletter cited the sit-down strike of day workers at Austin’s car factory, Birmingham, as a magnificent example of the workers’ will to hit back at the Tory wage restraints policy.**

The day after this week the strike was called off and work resumed at the Longbridge plant, after which the first time in a long time for an apparent break in the workers’ fight for approval and relief from the Tory policies.

The very size of Austin’s and the number of workers involved in this strike, and of course likewise in the LRA and at other BMC factories in Birmingham, is a proof of the workers’ determination. The strike ‘a crippling blow’ to the worried BMC bosses.

The fact that during the strike day workers were being rehired, indicated that the 3,000 workers rejected the advice of their leaders to return early the first week, even though they were to meet the union leaders for talks on Friday, in spite of the previous declaration of intention of not negotiating ‘under duress’.

The result of these talks was a formula which was submitted to the shop stewards at an early morning meeting at the factory on Monday.

The shop stewards were addressed by Mr. S. R. Cresswell, secretary of the Birmingham district committee of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions.

He declared: ‘I want to emphasise the spirit of the management to do something for the workers, to do something for themselves as anxious and as ready as the employers to do something on this issue.’

What this ‘something is’ that the management is willing to do for the workers, but not to do for the strikers will no doubt transpire during discussions following the resumption of work.

The day workers are claiming a weekly wage of £4 14s. 6d., £1.12. It is only possible that the management have been acting out of their anxiety to benefit the men, but the position on day workers’ rates had dragged on for two and a half years prior to the stoppage.

**Funeral of Joe Fitzgerald**

More than 80 people attended the funeral of Joe Fitzgerald, national committee member of the Socialist Labour League, Rose Hill crematorium, Doncaster, on Thursday, April 5.

About 30 miners were present from Brosworth Colliery, where Joe worked, and there were also miners from Bollingbrook and Benbow Collieries in Yorkshire, Bradford Colliery in Manchester, and the Rising Sun Colliery, Walsall.

The Socialist Labour League was represented by its national secretary, Gerry Healy and by two other executive committee members, Cliff Slaughter and Jack Gale. Members of the League from Leeds, Doncaster and Normanton also attended.

The editorial board of ‘The Miner’, which was edited, was represented by Joe Ryan, Jim Swan and Roy Woodward. A number of Young Socialists were also present.

Speaking at the ceremony, Jack Stones, who worked with Joe in the coalfields and lived in the Brosworth NUM branch and around ‘The Miner’, said Joe’s great and worthy qualities, his truthfulness, his determination and love of his fellowmen.