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TODAY

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3d.

The Schools
Scandal

(See page 2)

LABOUR RANK AND FILE SHOW WAY

"CHALLENGE to Britain" was a pale reflection of the policy decisions taken at last year's Party Conference. The policy is there alright, but in an emasculated form, as a compromise with the defeatists who say "consolidate", "go slow", "so far and no further".

The resolutions sent in by the Constituency Parties for the Margate Conference shows that the rank-and-file of the Party share none of the dismal forebodings of faint-hearted leaders. Here, in unambiguous language, is a bold demand for a rapid advance towards socialism and a full realisation that such an advance only becomes possible if control of the economic life of the country is wrested from the hands of "private enterprise."

There are more resolutions (34 in all) calling for further nationalisation than on any other subject on the Conference Agenda. Here is the authentic voice of British Labour's rank-and-file which feels that further nationalisation is the only way to consolidate the gains already made.

NATIONALISE THE LAND

For years nationalisation of the land was an integral part of Labour's programme. Now, for some inexplicable reason, it has been dropped as "unnecessary" and "unworkable". Nothing has caused more dismay among socialists in the Party. Private ownership of land stands squarely in the path of a planned socialist economy. It is senseless to plan an ambitious building programme while landlords' claims make costs prohibitive. Private ownership of land makes nonsense of any talk of a progressive agricultural policy.

Several resolutions call upon the Party to put nationalisation of land back into the Party's programme. It is undoubtedly a

principle which all socialists must support.

WORKERS' CONTROL

While there is this determined demand for more nationalisation, there is also a clear realisation that present forms of nationalisation fall very far short of the socialist ideal and nearly a page-and-a-half of resolutions call for some degree of workers' control in the nationalised enterprises.

This is certainly one of the most important issues confronting our movement for it is the key to the question of transforming our economy from a capitalist to a socialist basis. The mere transfer of ownership from the private capitalist to the state, though a big step forward, does not accomplish this if it leaves unaltered the relationship of the worker to the means of production. If the worker remains a "hired hand", a wage labourer, the mode of production remains capitalist in its nature.

Only when the workers participate fully in the planning and control of our economic life and use begins to replace profit as the motive of production can we talk about beginning the socialist way of life.

FREEDOM FOR THE COLONIES

Next to nationalisation, no issue has produced more resolutions than that of freedom for the colonies. This is a question which "Challenge to Britain" almost bypassed. True, in the very short section dealing with "Overseas Responsibilities", the N.E.C. document does refer to our "duty to help countries in Asia and Africa to combat hunger, poverty, ignorance and disease" and calls for more "development plans" for the colonies.

But the very fact that the docu-

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WORKING men and women throughout the world will rejoice that the "cease fire" has sounded in Korea. Three years of warfare have produced nearly three million casualties and how many more have yet to die through its after-effects no-one can tell. More than ten million people have been rendered homeless, and millions of acres of land have

been thrown out of cultivation. It is certainly no exaggeration to say that Korea is in utter devastation.

But while the ordinary people of the world rejoice at the end of this carnage, the rulers of the capitalist world are, in the words of Mr. Dewey Short, Chairman of the United States Armed Services Committee, "anything but pleased". And no wonder. Their mighty military machine, lavishly equipped with every modern

device of mechanised warfare, has been stalemated by the heroic resistance of the Korean and Chinese peoples. "Fought to a

Korea. How much more difficult therefore, to carry out their plan to re-install their puppet Chai Kai Shek over China.

Well might Mr. Short say "American prestige has suffered". And with it has suffered the prestige of imperialism everywhere. In Malaya, Kenya, India, China, throughout the whole colonial world, the oppressed peoples will draw fresh encouragement to redouble their fight for freedom.

Editorial

draw" as "The Times" puts it.

They have been unable to carry out their plans to instal Syngman Rhee as their puppet ruler over all

"OFFENCE AGAINST REASON"

But Korea is not yet unified. The three years' battle has left an artificial division of the country substantially the same as when, in 1945, it was arbitrarily divided along the 38th parallel by Russia and America. A division which the "Daily Telegraph" refers to as a "national and geographical offence against reason". "But continues the "Telegraph", "the launching of a full scale war to abolish that division is a great offence; it might even be counted as a crime against humanity." This is exactly what the imperialists did, hiding behind the formula of "stopping aggression". Left alone, the Koreans would have united Korea, would have wiped out this "offence against reason"—and with little or no bloodshed.

The Rhee regime, immediately before the outbreak of the war, was tottering. The preceding Monday a new legislature had convened in Seoul with an overwhelming anti-Rhee majority. Rhee was doomed unless he could do something about it. What man will do to maintain himself in power has been amply demonstrated by his treatment, during the war, of any opposition, and the last few weeks by his actions in releasing prisoners and trying to torpedo the truce talks by threats of "going it alone".

It is clear now that, with the connivance of the American imperialists, he deliberately provoked the war by sending his troops across the parallel into North Korea.

LABOUR'S RESPONSIBILITY

A heavy responsibility, therefore, for this "crime against humanity" rests on the Labour Government of that time who supported America and the leaders of our Labour Movement who resisted—and still resist—demands of the rank-and-file to withdraw British troops from Korea.

A demonstrative refusal to commit British Troops would have

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Cease-fire Upsets U.S. War Plans

Truce a Victory for Colonial People



Make It a Real Challenge . . .

Say London Labour Conference Delegates

IHAD a good pointer to the mood of the 500 delegates attending last Saturday's London Labour Party Conference on the new policy statement "Challenge to Britain" as I entered the great hall of the Friends' Meeting House, Euston Road. "The Daily Herald stands for Labour" read the placards on the wall. "Well now", said a delegate walking in behind me, "I always thought it stood for Arthur Deakin."

There were many rank and file critics of principle and detail of the document but none appeared to take Deakin's view that it was too "left". I was not surprised.

Morgan Phillips opened the discussion. The Party's first essential task, he said, was to make the country pay its way and so be independent of foreign aid. The case for public ownership was "overwhelming" but the proposals in "Challenge to Britain" had been related to the particular and immediate needs of developing the nation's industrial capacity. "Our principal criterion for nationalisation is 'what industries is it vital to expand'."

The General Secretary spoke of the difficulties which he thought were inherent in the proposal to

Reported by KEN ANDREWS

nationalise rented land. When a delegate asked why the document ignored "the traditional policy of the Party to nationalise all land", Morgan Phillips replied that the National Executive Committee had sought to put forward a programme which was "legislatively possible". A "process of selectivity" had been necessary. Our first task was to increase production.

A Trade Union-delegate asked "What guarantees will the workers get that their increased efforts will not put more into the pockets of the profiteers?"

One of the most constructive speeches came from W. Hunter, a delegate from the East Islington Labour Party. He pointed out that "Challenge to Britain" was based on building up the export drive and strengthening the sterling bloc by means of import discrimination. In other words we were expected to carry on the same old trade war and to exploit a narrowing market. This, he said, was bound to lead to the same old troubles of capitalism. You could not separate a plan for Britain from questions of foreign policy.

The revolutionary wave running through Asia and Africa could not be ignored Comrade Hunter

said. Our foreign policy would have to be on "the basis of letting all peoples decide their own destinies." (applause.) At the moment none of the capitalist governments would dare to supply technical and other aid to the underdeveloped countries unless they could be sure of the "reliability" of the receiving governments.

"YOU CAN'T EAT TANKS"

Vast sums were wasted on the armaments drive, he said, but "You can't eat tanks!" Why not spend the money instead on interest-free loans to the underdeveloped countries?

Nationalisation was more than ever necessary today, Comrade Hunter went on, in order to plan Britain's economy in line with the needs of the peoples of the world. His own Union, the A.E.U., was concerned that the proposals for the nationalisation of the engineering industry which had been made by the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions had not been used in "Challenge to Britain".

Pressure of space allows me to mention only a few of the many good points made by other delegates. Bert Cohen said "the compensation charges are one of the biggest reasons for the fares increase in London". The Party would have to tackle this problem.

Weimer of Putney Labour Party, a founder-member, received an ovation when he spoke up for the Old Age Pensioners. The Party, he said, should not merely "encourage" Local Authorities to build more old peoples' homes. It should "demand" that they do so.

"Challenge to Britain" is a good document in many respects", said M. Van Der Poorten, "but it will not impress or inspire any African or Asian. It evades the question of colonial responsibility." In his own country, Ceylon, the base of Trincomalee was being used for bombing raids against the Malayan peoples. It was useless to talk of "helping the underdeveloped countries" unless we first recognised and supported the colonial revolutions.

One delegate, Bill McCarthy of East Fulham Labour Party asked why all references to the question of workers' control had been omitted from the document. A delegate from the Co-operative Party wanted to know why there was no pledge to raise the school leaving age to 16.

When the chairman closed the discussion there were a dozen or more delegates on their feet wishing to speak. I took this as ample evidence that the Labour movement has not yet had the final word on how to make the challenge to Britain.

Dockers Act on Wage Increase

BIRKENHEAD dockers, at a mass meeting on Tuesday, July 28, carried a resolution which "views with concern the outcome of the recent wage talks, and views with even greater concern the attitude of the Transport and General Workers' Union towards the replies made by the employers. It is our considered opinion that a stronger line could and should have been taken, in order to win that increase in wages which is so urgently needed and to which we are justly entitled."

"We therefore resolve that failing definite steps being taken to redeem the situation within 14 days, a ban on overtime will be imposed and support from all other ports will be sought."

No "Outlook" next week Back on August 14th



Our staff is having a short holiday, so we shall not be publishing an issue of the "Outlook" for Friday, August 7.

It will appear as usual on FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

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The Schools Scandal

By Peter Ibbotson

Hon. Secretary, National Association of Labour Teachers

THE Ministry of Education Report for 1952 has recently been published and shows significantly the advantage of attending a school that is outside the State system.

The nearly six million children in State schools have 220,962 teachers; an average of 27 pupils per teacher. The independent schools (i.e., private and "public" schools) which the Ministry recognises as efficient have 234,864 pupils and 16,865 teachers; an average of only 13.9 pupils per teacher! If we look only at schools for children under 11, we find that in State schools there are 35.5 pupils per teacher, but in independent schools, only 13.11 pupils per teacher. In independent schools, but only 20 per cent. of State schools, have less than 20 pupils per teacher. Eleven thousand State schools (i.e., 39.4 per cent.) have more than 30 pupils per teacher; only three out of 1,279 independent schools are unfortunate. This question of pupils per teacher is important, as every teacher knows that the smaller the class, the better the education.

For independent schools there are no statistics regarding the usual size of classes. In the State schools though, there were 163 classes of more than 40 children under 11 years of age! That is 31 per cent. of all such classes. It cannot be education that is given in such outside classes; it can at best be but a pseudo instruction. Going to school should be a great adventure for the young child which will open his mind to the wonders of the world; but the large herds into which the present Government's policy of restricting school-building is forcing youngsters just starting school turn the great adventure into grim drudgery.

Perhaps you would like your child to go to a University? Look at the Ministry's statistics again. Of all pupils leaving State grammar schools in 1952, only 10 per cent. went on to Universities; another 13.5 per cent. went to teachers' training colleges and other establishments for further education. From the best grant grammar schools, however, 14.4 per cent. of all school leavers went to Universities, a further 21.9 per cent. to other further education. If your child goes to a State grammar school he has only a one-third chance of getting to a

University compared with a direct grant school child. (A direct grant grammar school is one which charges fees for pupils but has to take a percentage of pupils whose fees are paid by the local education authority. It is outside the State system of education, and such schools are regarded—rightly or wrongly—as superior to the State grammar schools. This idea of superiority is based not on educational grounds but on social grounds.)

A significant trend is revealed in the number of students going to Universities with awards from public funds. In 1951, 74.2 per cent. of new entrants to Universities went with awards from State or Local Education Authority funds. In 1952 (the first year for which the Tory Ministry was responsible) this had dropped to 72.4 per cent.—which means that the number of private fee-paying students had risen. The numbers of awards to students in 1952 show a significant drop in nearly every Local Education Authority; due in the main to the effects of Miss Horsburgh's ill-considered and typically Tory policy of economising on the people's education.

The Report displays a degree of complacency that would be amazing were it not a Tory Minister who is reporting. Miss Horsburgh appears to have no idea of the disastrous effects that her niggling policy of petty cheeseparing and false economy will have on the nation's education. She refers in the Report to children being accommodated but fails to point out that many are being "educated" in requisitioned and/or hired buildings such as church halls, women's institutes, etc., that were never intended as school accommodation and which lack many of the normal, sanitary and recreational facilities of a school.

She refers to the satisfactory progress of school building! Forgetting that her infamous economy circular 245 which in February 1952 followed a three months moratorium on school building has caused a loss of a year's educational building to practically every Local Education Authority. Somerset County Council, for example, fear that unless something drastic and urgent is done, there will be a breakdown of secondary education in the county.

Meanwhile the Ministry continues the traditionally Tory policy of economising on the

Labour's History

The Years of Unrest—1900-1914

By Reg Groves (Author of "The Peasant Revolt of 1381")

WITHIN a few years of its foundation, the Labour Party had ceased to exist as an independent force in the political life of Britain.

The workers were using their industrial power with great effect. The strike wave of the years 1910 to 1914 has been explained as due to many causes—to the rapid rise in the cost of living that lowered the value of the workers' wages; to the agitation of Syndicalists; to sun spots; to the activities of firebrands like Tom Mann; to the instability of the time. All these no doubt were contributory causes. But they do not explain the aggressive temper displayed by the workers in almost all Britain's main industries.

These were not strikes entered into unwillingly after due negotiations. Usually, the union officials were carried along by the men, carried along helpless and bewildered, or were brought into the dispute only after the strike had begun. And it was not only the more militant workers, like miners and dockers, who were on strike: some of the most conservative and peaceable sections broke an industrial harmony dating back for decades, throwing over the restraint and decorum that had usually marked their behaviour, and showing—for no apparent reason—an amazing ferocity.

Union membership jumped in those years from two-and-a-half million to four million. Seamen struck work, and dockside labourers walked out in sympathy; dockworkers struck, and seamen walked out in sympathy. As one port after another was hit by the strike wave, so followed amazing scenes of angry crowds milling in

the streets, of riots, buildings set ablaze, and conflicts between the crowds and the police and military.

In Liverpool, a brutal police attack on a meeting of local railway strikers brought a general transport strike in the city; with soldiers guarding the civic buildings, docks and railways, the city in a virtual state of siege, and, at the end, a great victory for the workers. The initial strike of Liverpool railwaymen inspired a crop of local railway strikes, leading to a complete shut-down of the country's railway system, ended only by an Executive Committee telegram: "Glorious victory. Return to work."

The victimisation of one trade unionist in a cotton mill led to 120,000 cotton workers striking,



and winning the battle for their comrade. In a Welsh coalfield a strike dragged on for months, a frenzied, half-starved crowd of miners shouting down conciliating leaders from the Miners' Federation, spurning their financial aid and rejecting all peace offers.

people's schools, forgetting that our national survival depends on the education of our children to fit them to take their place in an industrialised economy. Meanwhile too, privilege continues to reassert itself—the Admiralty set up a Committee to consider the recruitment of naval officers; and the Committee has recommended returning to the old discredited system of recruiting from preparatory schools at the age of 13! Apparently the State schools haven't the "right type" of boy to make a naval officer!

Canada's General Election

What the Parties Stand For

WITH the dissolution of the nineteenth Parliament of Canada, the country goes to the polls on August 10. The outcome of the election, even at this date, is not remain in doubt.

With opposition parties, representing varied class and regional preferences, girded for the general election on the Liberal Party led by Prime Minister Louis Laurent, the consensus of opinion gives the advantage to the Government. It has been entrenched in Ottawa for over 20 years.

Because of the general economic prosperity which is founded on a dollar a year armament programme and tremendous advances made by American interests in the exploitation of natural resources, the people of Canada do not appear to be in any hurry to ditch the Centrist Liberal Party. That matter any political party in any degree of responsibility should rule this country quite successfully given today's economic conditions.

Therefore, no great issues confront the people and divide the political scene. The Conservative Party, representing the interests of the industrialists, looks forward, at best, to increasing its

representation at Ottawa from about 40 to perhaps 60 seats out of a parliament of 256 members. This gain will be at the expense of the Government party and will be achieved probably by that Party's programme of greater economics and less extravagance in the management of the country's affairs. The Government has been of late plagued with an outbreak of irregularities in its financial dealings.

THE CANADIAN LEFT
To the left of the Liberals and somewhat identical to the British Labour Party is the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, more

From A Canadian Correspondent

commonly referred to as the C.C.F., which has a special appeal to the Western farmer, and to more militant trade unionists.

This depression-born grouping has its main strength in the western provinces. It has been the Provincial government in Saskatchewan and the main opposition party in both British Columbia and Manitoba. Substantial strength also comes from the industrialised province of Ontario. The party is totally ineffective in the predominantly Catholic province of Quebec. The C.C.F. had 43 members in the last House.

A fourth group is mainly a mutation of dissatisfied Tories and agrarian farmers from the Province of Alberta. This is the Social Credit party. An extreme "right" faction, it represents the worst of the two parties of capitalism plus monetary re-

formers. It has 10 members at present but may double that number.

Of signal import to the Labour movement, and Socialists in particular, is the essentially working class C.C.F. Party. Given to reformism this movement is missing a golden opportunity to inject into the election the real issues confronting the Canadian people.

PROGRAMME OF THE C.C.F.

While accepting as socially desirable the need for advanced social legislation, better housing, progressive legislation with respect to trade unions and co-operatives, it neglects the essential issue of the struggle for markets which looms ominously on the horizon.

Surpluses are once again piling up—wheat and coarse grains on the Prairies, lumber and canned salmon on the Pacific Coast, base metals and dairy produce in the Eastern Provinces. Yet, with tremendous developments engineered to produce more raw materials and commodities the foreboding sign of surpluses finds a receptive ear only amongst such divergent interests as the fishing interests and the Fisherman's Union, the lumber barons and the Woodworker's Union, and the like.

Where economic interests seemingly coincide, such as in the case of the lumbermen and fishermen, the spectre of declining markets, particularly in the United Kingdom, and the dependence on the armaments programme of the United States both worker and capitalist are found clamouring for new markets.

Yet, this question of markets is intrinsically manifest in the greater issue confronting the world—namely, that of peace.

Let Us Prey

WHEN Mark Twain wrote this "War Prayer" nearly 40 years ago, he said, "It can be published after I am dead, for only dead men can tell the truth in this world and I have told the whole truth in that prayer."

O Lord our God, help us to tear their soldiers to bloody shreds with our shells, help us to cover their smiling fields with the pale forms of their patriot dead. Help us to drown the thunder of the guns with the cries of the wounded writhing in pain, help us to lay waste their humble homes with a hurricane of fire, help us to wring the hearts of their unoffending widows with unavailing grief, help us to turn them out roofless with their little children to wander unfriended through the wastes of their desolated land in rags in hunger and thirst, sport of the sun's flames of summer and the icy winds of winter, broken in spirit, worn with travail, imploring Thee for the refuge of the grave and denied it—for our sakes, who adore Thee, Lord, blast their hopes, blight their lives, protract their bitter pilgrimage, make heavy their steps, water their way with their tears, stain the white snow with the blood of their wounded feet. We ask of One who is the spirit of love and who is the ever-faithful refuge and friend of all that sore beset, and seek His aid with humble and contrite hearts. Grant our prayer, O Lord, and Thine shall be the praise and honour and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Where the key issue for the C.C.F. goes unrecognised by its leadership, left-wing candidates incessantly bring forth the logical conclusion that Canadian prosperity is based on unsafe and dangerous foundations.

Canadian capitalism will continue to flounder in the seas of uncertainty unless measures are taken in the best interests of the working class. These measures are clearly bulk or barter trade with Western Europe, Britain in particular, immediate recognition of Red China and free trade with that country.

While only a bitter nostrum for capitalism these measures would alleviate the pending economic difficulties for this country and also it would be a significant step in lessening world tension.

Left-wing C.C.F. members remind the Trade Unions, farmers, and other elements making up the movement, that failure to put forward these proposals to the people of Canada will only force the electorate into the camp of reaction characterised by the Conservative and Social Credit Parties. This was precisely the case in British Columbia where the Social Credit Party recently rose from nil to form the government of the province in less than one year's time and also, where the Tories won nearly all bye-elections—all to the detriment of the C.C.F. Party and to its chances of increasing its parliamentary representation.

BOOK REVIEW

The Psychological Approach

IF you are looking for help in understanding the Russian events you won't find a great deal from this book.*

The author seeks to explain events in Russia and the internal and international policies of that country as flowing from the struggle for personal power. The book is simply a chronicle of antagonisms between Russian leaders, some real, others based on very flimsy evidence. Thus nothing is explained, all is confusion. The reader is left at the end feeling as if he had just observed the battle progress of a room-full of Kilkenny cats.

The real forces at work in Russian society are ignored. Policies are determined by the psychology and character of the individual on top at any particular time. Zhdanov was brilliant, erratic, dynamic; Malenkov bulky, slow but sure. Because of this sparks flew between them. On the basis of this conflict of personalities the author attempts to explain the struggle in the Russian Communist party, in Soviet economics, art, literature

to remake the world in nobler terms . . . stopping the wheels of a gigantic productive machine to challenge the "weakest-to-the-wall, devil-take-the-hindmost" grab-and-hold doctrines of the rulers of Britain; failing and yet succeeding, retreating only to grow strong and fight yet again in man's never-ending war for a world of brotherhood and equity.

In the years 1910 to 1914 irresistible forces impel labour and capital into conflict. The veil of neutrality is torn from the face of the State, for while reformers proclaim the state as the independent arbitrator between classes, as the instrument with which the community reforms its evils and progresses to better things, the state intervenes more and more in industrial disputes, protecting the masters and their privileges against the men and their demands

The state shows itself to be the machinery by which capital holds down labour. The law courts, before which all men are "equal", protect Tory mutineers against Liberal legislation, but punish working class rebels. The armed forces of the state fire on strikers, but cannot be used against the openly seditious and mutinous wealthy men who are opposing Parliamentary legislation.

Wealth increases, but the masses are poorer; social reforms are legislated, but the benefits are lost in the steady fall in the value of the workers' wages. So the workers of Britain move into action. A general union for all railwaymen brings three of the largest railway unions together into one body. Plans are set on foot to form a triple alliance of miners, transport workers and railwaymen, aiming at simultaneous negotiation and, if necessary, simultaneous action.

A bitter, long-fought struggle rages in Dublin in the year 1913, led by cool-brained James Connolly and by mighty Jim Larkin. It ends in defeat, but in Britain the workers are preparing for even bigger struggles—for the much talked about "general strike", with perhaps a bigger aim than the mere improvement of conditions.

Suffragettes are in the throes of bitter, violent struggle against the Liberal Government, their leaders in and out of jail, resisting and inciting. On Derby Day, 1913, Emily Davidson throws herself to death under the hooves of the King's horse. Tories and high Army leaders plot treason against the Liberal Government's bill to give Ireland Home Rule. And behind the scenes of the drama, the apparently unconnected actions, desires, needs, greeds and stupidities of industrialists, financiers, generals, admirals and politicians were interlocking to shape for mankind a dread and bitter cataclysm.

In August, 1914, came the first of the world wars.

BOOK REVIEW

The Psychological Approach

and science from the end of the war to the death of Zhdanov.

The absurdity of this approach is shown when the relations between Russia and China are discussed.

" . . . long range relations between Peiping and Moscow must be viewed in terms of two factors: first, the personalities of Mao and Malenkov; second (!) historical and current Chinese-Soviet interests."

"Physically there is a definite similarity between the two men." Among other things "Both have full round faces and tend toward double chins. . . ."

Poor old Beria. If he had only had a double chin!

Bill Hunter.
*Malenkov by Martin Ebon. Weidenfeld & Nicholson. 12s. 6d.

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Can Churchill Lead the Labour Party? Tom Braddock Answers



government deposed from the powerful position it held after the 1945 election and a Tory Party in power. And, what was just as humiliating, a Tory Party that carried on the foreign policy of the Labour Party it had replaced.

Mr. Morrison and Mr. Shinwell have had, from time to time, the happy experience of receiving the congratulations of Mr. Churchill on the policies they had followed while in office.

Marshall Aid, the Atlantic Pact and now "follow Churchill".

WILL IT WORK?

Let us face the facts of the situation. If a powerful Labour Government tried co-operation with the U.S.A. and failed to do anything except lose control of its own Parliament and land itself into dangerous international complications, is it likely to be able to do more than Ramsey McDonald did when he tried working with the Tory Party?

Obviously not, therefore the sooner our party frees itself from this half-way coalition the better.

But how? It seems we are to have no new statement on Foreign Policy for the Margate Conference in the Autumn. That will leave official Labour policy where it is now. Anyone who opposes the results of the irresponsible policy pursued by the late Labour Government in the international field will be regarded as a danger to the unity of the party. This in spite of the fact that it is practically impossible to attend a party meeting and hear a good word spoken in favour of the present tie-up with the American Government.

CAPITALISM FOREVER

So much for foreign affairs. Are we much better off at home? We have "Challenge to Britain". What a challenge and—worse still—what is going to happen? Local parties are being asked to submit amendments although as a matter of fact it really can't be amended. It ought to be taken back and re-written.

Three or four of the amendments will be considered. In the end a bewildered conference will accept the document and the N.E.C. will promise to consider the amendments. We shall then be saddled with "Challenge to Britain" and a Tory foreign policy. What a prospect!

Two political parties, both of them committed to the preservation of the capitalist system at home and abroad. Am I a pessimist? Wait and see.

INSIDE INFLUENCE

The idea that by joining up with your opponents you can influence their actions is one that is popular with some Labour Party people. It is the stock excuse for taking part in the work of civic associations, Coronation committee, etc., or as J.P.'s on the bench. "We can see what they are doing, comrades, we can protect the interests of the workers."

In high places this is Lincoln Evans' excuse for joining the Tory Steel Board. Ramsey McDonald suffered from the same illusion. He thought that, as the Prime Minister of a Tory Government he would have the same influence as he had among his Labour Party comrades. Those who went with him, such as Philip Snowden, had a bitter awakening. The same ideas, however, still have a powerful influence in Labour circles.

There might have been some justification for this point of view 50 years ago but today there is none. Labour today is capable of taking full control and of abolishing capitalism in this country now and for all time.

Our leaders, however, seem to be afraid. This accounts for the muddled and fumbling approach to the problem contained in "Challenge to Britain". It also accounts for the desire to avoid responsibility at any price. They will lean on anything rather than venture on their own and rely on anybody rather than their own supporters.

Witness the American Loan,

WHAT a question. No! ten thousand times no! But recently, just before his illness, he did seem to have taken over. Mr. Attlee and the Parliamentary Labour Party followed his lead and they are now reproaching the Tories for not doing the same.

Mr. Attlee and his immediate followers are what is known as shrewd politicians and they may well be taking the view that Churchill might be able to influence the direction of world affairs into safer channels.

Well, let it be said, the situation is so dangerous that any move, provided it seemed to show some chance of getting Russia and China to sit at a conference table, would be justified.

But is there such a move? I think not. After all this is not Labour's first attempt at this sort of game. For quite a long time they have been following America's lead. They have been just as complacent as the Tory Party is at the present time.

AMERICAN DOMINATION

Labour Party Annual Conferences, from 1946 to 1951, have resolved themselves into demonstrations of unity with the American government in its war on Communism. Morecambe in 1953, however, presented a different picture. It showed that the rank and file of the party were anything but happy about the result. The reason was not far to seek.

Two general elections saw their

OVERBOARD WITH OVERTIME

CHARLIE Thoughtless built himself a house on the beach. The house looked nice and Charlie could lay on the sand in the sun and be as lazy as he liked. His chum, Freddie Foresight, built his house on the rock of the cliff top. It was harder work and took longer but Freddie managed it. The first storm that blew up washed away the sand and Charlie found himself sleeping between the boulders on the beach. Freddie's house got a shaking but it had firmer foundations and remained intact.

Lots of men are building up their wage packets on the sandy foundation of overtime, bridging time and rest day working. They are getting hold of enough money to remove the worst of their worries and so they are not bothering their heads about much else. They can go on for quite a long time, but, sooner or later,

By Bill Waters
(Reprinted from "The Platform")

a storm will break; a crisis, a slump, a depression, a recession—call it what you like, but it will come and sweep overtime overboard. Then the Charlie Thoughtless's will have to manage on the bare basic.

EARNINGS AND WAGES

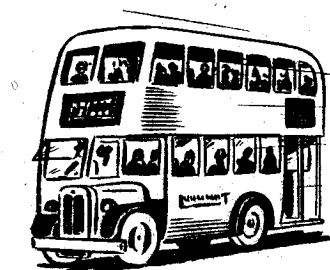
We are not saying that a man shouldn't earn himself an extra pound if he occasionally has need of it, by doing a bit of extra work. What we are saying is, that being resigned to a low wage and making up the weekly earnings by regularly putting in extra time, is a short sighted and dangerous policy. The ending of the Korean war or some other international event that can knock the bottom out of the world market, will put a stopper on overtime working.

Employers in all industries, including ours, are talking in terms of average earnings, not in terms of wage rates. They are encouraging men and women to lose sight of the fact that they are supposed to have a limited working week. When the so-called trade cycle has run its course and employers have no more need to call for overtime, earnings and wage rates will be running neck and neck with earnings falling behind when the going is heavy.

"KORNY ONES"

The transport enquiry that is to take place shortly may produce "economies" that can have that effect for us. It will be a bit late then to start screaming about the low wage rate. It's time to do that now.

If wages can be brought to a higher level now, the blow will not be so hard when the overtime ceases. A couple of hours once a fortnight spent in the branch room can do more towards getting a solid pound added to the wage ticket than doing a "Korny one"



on a rest day or an extra journey after a scheduled duty. It would give our house a rock foundation to enable it to withstand a storm.

Some are advocating that overtime should be controlled and limited to so many hours per man per week. That is not our line. We are not being drawn into arguments about how overtime shall be re-distributed. We are concerned to remove the cause that makes men clamour to work it. Besides, there is a danger in this idea of limiting each man's overtime.

A stated maximum amount of overtime can soon become a minimum amount and everybody can be urged to do his portion. From being urged to being compelled is a short step. Then it would be goodbye to the 44-hour week until it suited the governor to drop us back on to it—at our present wage rate. No. Forget these blind-alley notions. Let us go all out for a wage increase that will allow us to live with some degree of comfort without having to hang around the output to see if there is an extra job going somewhere.



Target — £100

Three days to go!

£82-18-11 received

Although there will be no "Outlook" next week, we still need your money.
SEND IT IN!



YET another section of our Union members—the Dockers—have a monthly paper of their own, the "Portworkers Clarion". Reading through the latest issue, I find they have been examining the T. & G.W.U. General Executive's report for last year and have this to say about it:—

"DOWN ON THE T. & G.W.U. FARM"

"From our General Executive report for the year ended December 31, 1952, we learn that the total cash benefits paid out amount to £410,146 5s. 7d. Of this total, the amount paid out in dispute benefit was the amazing sum of £6,450 6s. 9d.

"Now who says we never run strikes."

"From the same report we learn that our Union has investments worth £4,885,484 at market value. However, the Auditors tell us that these investments are now worth £1,142,572 LESS than they were when we bought them.

"The Auditors also have something to say about the Farm which our Union runs. They say 'we would also draw attention to the fact that the cost of feeding stuffs for pigs and poultry appears to have exceeded the proceeds of sales of livestock (after allowing for the reduction in livestock during the year).

"It looks as though we ought to arrange a deputation from the Joint Productivity Council to have a heart to heart talk with a few of our old sows."

The "Clarion" also announces that Harry Constable is in St. Olaves Hospital, Rotherhithe, suffering from injuries received on the Docks. Harry Constable was one of the eight members of our Union who were charged at the Old Bailey with conspiracy arising out of the Canadian Seamen Strike and the action of the London Dockers in refusing to scab at that time. All were acquitted of the charge, and this represented a big victory for our Docker Brothers.

I know you will all join me in

wishing Bro. Constable a speedy recovery.

With the Busmen and Dockers each running these lively journals of their own each month, it might not be a bad idea if we in Road Haulage were to do likewise. What do you think Brothers? Certainly it is worth considering. There's plenty happening in our industry which needs publicity from depot to depot.

Inspired with the comments in the "Clarion", I managed to obtain a copy of the Executive report. I see from it that the Commercial Services Group has a membership of 165,408, an increase of over 3,000 during the year. This figure could, I am certain, be pushed up to well over 200,000 given a drive for membership. Why should we not make our side of the industry 100 per cent. The first step in this should of course be to elect a "live" steward in every depot. For not only do we have "mere ticket holding" members, but there are depots where even the steward needs a bit of pushing. To fulfil this aim of 100 per cent. organisation would be another way in which a paper of our own could help.

I don't know whether our Executive Council is trying to bamboozle us, or what. The Report for 1952 says that membership "at December 31st totalled 1,329,057 representing a net increase of 35,654 since the Whitley Bay Conference of 1951." That sounds alright. But the figure reported at the Whitley Bay Conference was up to the end of 1950. This year's report conveniently forgets to mention that membership at the end of 1951 was 1,337,060 so that during 1952 we have suffered a net LOSS of 8,003.

Then we turn to the income returns and we find that for this year, whilst we have lost a net figure of 8,003, we have actually received a total sum of £17,823 12s. 7d. in entrance fees alone. That represents a hell of a lot of new members. So where, we can ask, have they all gone? It means that many thousands of members have left the Union. But the Executive doesn't tell us why.

It would be very interesting to find out how many have torn up their cards in disgust.

L. P. Conference

(From page 1)

ment can still talk about "our overseas responsibilities" is proof that some leaders still think in terms of imperialism, albeit a little more kindly administered than under the Tories but leaving intact the fundamental relationship between Whitehall and the colonies.

Investments in the colonies, development plans, call it what you will, will not end imperialism unless the former colonial people have full control over the economic resources of their own countries. There must be an end to the draining of wealth from the colonial countries to swell the profits of the City and Wall Street. This can only be assured if every vestige of foreign authority—political and economic—is withdrawn from the colonies.

The whole of immediate socialist policy towards the colonial territories is summed up in the following resolution, which comes from Birmingham (Borough) Labour Party:

"That this Conference, recognising there can be no peace where a policy of White supremacy is maintained, calls upon the Labour Movement to conduct a campaign for the full and unconditional freedom of all colonies under British jurisdiction. As a first step in this campaign, demands should be made for the withdrawal of troops from Kenya, Malaya and Egypt."

Only after these essential first steps are taken can we meet the people of these countries as equal partners and work out a programme of economic co-operation which would be to our mutual benefit.

SOCIALISM & IMPERIALISM DON'T MIX

These resolutions reflect a growing realisation in our Party that there can be no advance to

socialism at home while pursuing an imperialist policy abroad. This is not only a matter of socialist principles but sound economics.

"Overseas Commitments" that euphemism for naked imperialism, make vast inroads into our economic resources. Every man and woman in the armed forces mean so many less people engaged in producing the things we need to raise our standard of living; every inch of steel used for guns and tanks, bomber-planes and battleships means less houses, schools and factories. Imperialism brings profits for the few but misery, hunger and war for the millions.

The latest "Times British Colonies Review" regarded Mr. Attlee's statement on Central African Federation—"if this becomes the law of the land it is the duty of all of us to try and make it work..." as the beginning of a "bi-partisan" attitude on colonial issues. In other words, it expresses the hope that the Labour leadership will pursue a policy in the colonies indistinguishable from that of the Tories.

By passing the Birmingham Resolution, the Party will give warning to Transport House that it will have none of this, that British Labour is on the side of the colonial people fighting for freedom.

This would proclaim to the people of Malaya, Kenya and Central Africa that the return of a Labour Government will mean an end to their enslavement. It will bring to our side friends and allies in Asia and Africa which will enable us to withstand all the assaults of capitalism, whether from across the Atlantic or at home.

On the basis of such a friendship and such an alliance we can lay the firm foundations of a socialist world.

Cease Fire

(From page 1)

immensely shortened—if not vented—this dastardly and popular adventure.

The "Outlook" is proud to have fought insistently for the withdrawal of troops and for the freedom of the Koreans to settle their own affairs.

We based our attitude, not statements of Syngman Rhee, he had been attacked, but on the bedrock of Socialist principle. We said, in July 1950:—

"We know that a passionate desire for peace animates workers of Britain as it does the common peoples of the whole world. But we must allow this fine sentiment to be us to the fact that in the colonial world, that is in greater part of the earth's face, there is no peace. Peoples of China, Malaya, India, China and Korea—who want peace—have been forced by imperialism to engage in cruel and bloody war. Is it clear that for these colonial peoples peace will only be secured through the complete victory against the armies of imperialism?"

"There is no other way to achieve peace in the world except by a determined struggle to vanquish imperialism which is the chief cause of war. Appeals to the great powers 'get together' are worse than useless. They can immobilise the workers of Europe and America at a time when their very lives are fighting imperialism."

"Our solemn duty in the present conflict is to render aid to our oppressed comrades in the colonies who are now in the front ranks of the fighters for peace."

WAR AIMS REMAIN

These words, written a few hours after the outbreak of the Korean war, are every bit as valid today. The imperialists will peacefully give up their domination of the world. Indeed, their very existence, and the existence of their system, depends on increasing that domination, on drawing back into its orbit those countries like Russia and China that have taken the road towards Socialism. They can do this only by war. For that they plan and scheme and hatch their plots behind the backs of the working people. That they burden the whole world with their armaments drive.

Forced to a standstill in Korea they will search out new hot fresh areas, in which to start again but always with the same intention: War against the people of the world.

The task of the British Labour Movement is therefore clear. It must join with the workers of all countries to destroy this monstrous thing.

It must fight tooth and nail against the representatives of imperialism in this country—the Tories. The whole movement must be mobilised to clear the air. And the Labour Government which replaces it, must be armed with a Socialist policy. That job for the Party at its Conference this year at Margate. Resolute on the Agenda supply all policy that is needed, and analysed elsewhere in this issue.

They must be fought for and into operation.

New Terror Against Kenya People

The terror against the people of Kenya continues unabated.

Latest move against the people of Kenya is a Government of empowering district commissioners to close shops, markets and trading centres for periods up to three months in areas where Mau Mau activities have taken place.

Thus the Government continues the policy of mass reprisals which started with the closing of Kikuyu schools and the destruction of entire villages.

Unable to defeat the Kenyan people even with the use of most modern weapons of war, imperialists are now trying to starve them with the threat of starvation.

This too will fail. There will be no peace in Kenya till the British soldier vacates its borders and the people have won the right to rule themselves and determine their own future.

Lop Those Profits

Our readers write

S an engineer and an active trade unionist operating on the committees of my own E.U. and the 29th District of the Federation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, I am expecting a great deal of rubbish to be sent by Fleet Street concerning my claim for a 15 per cent. wage increase. That national newspapers can print distortions and rags knowing them to be such beyond me.

floor that was laid for the dogs to be lifted.

Surely, if a government is serious in its intentions to grapple with the chronic disease of house shortage it has a hundred and one of such places to its hand, in the towns as well as in the countryside, houses unoccupied or too large for their tenants, just waiting to be requisitioned.

Housing remains the critical test of the genuineness of a government's policy and so long as the government stands on the principle of the defence of property we know it for what it is, the bourgeois defender of capitalism.

Glasgow. Tom Buchanan.

Miners and Queens

I congratulate you on your article "Miners much more useful than Queens" in last week's issue. Many readers in my garage have expressed their pleasure and remarked on the need for such answers as this to be published. There are far too many armchair philosophers in nice sheltered positions—the 10 till 4 with two hours for lunch boys—who scream about the collapse of the national economy if any manual worker dares to cry halt for a few hours.

This self-same "Cassandra" would probably be in the forefront of any protest if a pit pony was denied an occasional respite, but has no protest to make about the unnatural existence of any shift worker. Nor about the effects of shift working on the wives and families of these men.

London Busman. Bill Punt.

That Bonus Shift

As an ex-Bevin boy I want to congratulate you on your splendid reply to Cassandra. The description was real—so real that, in spite of the rigours mentioned, I felt like getting the old pick and shovel out again to exercise off some of my "complacency".

There's a small mistake you made that I think should be mentioned in the next issue. The loss of the bonus shift for one day's absenteeism was rescinded recently, with the last wage increase.

The miners now lose one-fifth of the bonus shift for every day lost and not the whole bonus.

Birmingham. Harry Finch.

Flowery Hypocrisy

The article about the Dominican Republic in your last issue shows clearly to all Socialists the kind of freedom we are being asked, and even forced, to defend. It shows the sheer hypocrisy of the flowery language which only serves as a cover to induce us to fight another, more reactionary imperialist war.

I wholeheartedly support your defence of the East German workers but I think we should be careful not to look at any state superficially but to understand the relationship of production and which class controls them.

Shoreditch. Reg Eagles.

THE working class of all countries felt their blood warming and their pulses racing as the news from Spain reached them. Here on the Iberian Peninsula, the workers were engaged in a life-and-death struggle against the capitalist enemy. Socialism was being born on the battlefields of Spain.

On July 22, 1936, the "Daily Worker" carried a leading article which stated: "In Spain, Socialists and Communists fought shoulder to shoulder in armed battle to defend their trade union and political organisations... to defend democratic liberties so that they can advance towards a Spanish Soviet Republic."

In nearly all the localities but especially in Catalonia, effective power was in the hands of workers' and peasants' committees; the militias were laying the basis for a new type of army, a working class army.

But there was no effort made to centralise the committees and to establish them as the legal power in the land. At the centre was still the Republican Government, now joined by the leaders of the working class parties—Socialists, Communists and Anarchists. This government—the People's Front Government—set itself the task of "winning the war and defending the democratic republic." The socialist aims of the workers were openly repudiated.

Writing in the Communist paper, "Mundo Obrero" (August 1, 1936), the editor, Jesus Hernandez, declared: "It is absolutely false that the present workers' movement has for its object the establishment of a proletarian dictatorship after the war has terminated... We communists are the first to repudiate this position. We are motivated exclusively by a desire to defend the democratic republic."

In terms of arms, the anti-Fascist forces in Spain were much weaker than the enemy. Hitler's Germany and Mussolini's Italy were soon supplying Franco with modern weapons of war. The "democracies" (France, Britain), were observing the policy of "non-intervention." This policy of "non-intervention" was also adhered to, at first, by the Soviet Union, which had recently concluded the Stalin-Laval Pact with France and wanted, at all costs, to prevent antagonising the "democracies".

The first arms from Russia came

The Spanish Civil War

2. Lessons For British Labour

The second and concluding part of C. v. Gelderen's tribute to the workers and peasants of Spain who fought so long and so gallantly against the fascist enemy.

at the end of October, and then only in limited quantities—just enough to save the Republicans for the moment but never enough to carry through a really sustained offensive which might lead to the total defeat of Franco. Thus, shipments of arms came after the encirclement of Madrid, after the fall of Malaga and Bilbao. Soviet arms were distributed only on those positions of the front where the influence of the Anarchists had been entirely eliminated—though the Anarchists were an integral part of the People's Front.

"If treason was perpetrated at Malaga", wrote Jef Last, former Dutch Communist who fought in Spain, "the betrayal was not the work of General Ascencio... but of the Soviet Union, which refused to deliver arms to a province administered by Anarchists." This is confirmed by Koestler in his "Spanish Testament".

Soviet arms were used flagrantly to extend the influence of the Communist Party—an influence which was in turn used to serve the interests of Soviet diplomacy—to keep the civil war within the bounds of the defence of the democratic republic.

In Spain the workers fought with great courage. They had the support of workers throughout the world, many of whom fought side by side with their Spanish comrades in the immortal International Brigade. But heroism is not enough to win a civil war. Even an abundance of arms, though important, is not the decisive factor. The participants must be conscious that at the end of all their sacrifices there will be something better than there was before. There must be a programme of social and political demands which appeals, not only to the revolutionary side but can be utilised to win over the rank-and-file of the enemy.

LAND FOR THE PEASANTS

A programme which ensured for the peasants that the land would be given to those who tilled it and that no usurer would ever take it away again; a decree nationalising land throughout Spain and giving

the peasant security of tenure would have aroused the countryside as no abstract talk about "democracy" or "liberty" could. It would have given the peasants a real stake in victory.

Just think of the effect of such a decree on the land-hungry peasants in the fascist areas, especially among the sons of the peasantry in the ranks of the fascist armies. The news would have created more havoc in the fascist ranks than a thousand machine guns.

But this would have been the programme of the social revolution and against this was arraigned the leadership of all the main working class parties.

Delegations of Arabs and Moors came to Madrid, pleading for a decree giving freedom to Morocco. The Government would not budge. To give freedom to Spanish Morocco would stimulate the national movement in French Morocco and that would not suit France, who was Russia's ally.

Where the workers had taken over the factories, shops and railroads, and set up factory committees, the government intervened and placed government directors in charge. Factory committees were confined to routine duties. Banks, the stronghold of finance capital, were not nationalised. While the war proceeded, the revolution was in retreat.

THE MAY UPRISING

In May, 1937, the workers of Barcelona, those same workers who had been the first to halt the

fascists in their tracks, fought a last rearguard action to defend the conquests of the revolution—against the armed forces of the Republic. They were defeated and, subsequently, their leaders were imprisoned and murdered. From that moment, the fate of the civil war was sealed.

Once the social demands of the revolution had been dropped, there was no clear-cut division between the republicans and the fascists. Both sides emblazoned the defence of capitalism on their banner. It took the heart out of the workers and made their sacrifices meaningless.

Fascism won in Spain because the leaders of all the main working class parties withdrew in fright before the spectre of the socialist revolution. They wanted to save only the democratic base from which they operated. But democracy could no longer serve the needs of Spanish capitalism. The choice before Spain was forward to socialism—or stagnate under fascism. The workers of Barcelona, Toledo and Malaga realised this from the first but their leaders were not equal to the task which history had set before them.

For the British Labour Movement, Spain has valuable lessons. The first is that there can be no temporising with capitalism; no "half-way" house between capitalism or socialism, whether called "People's Front" or anything else. A policy of marking time and "consolidation" only gives the class enemy a chance to regroup his forces and regain lost ground.

This happened in Spain; it is happening in Britain today.

C. Van Gelderen

Labour & Wages

In last week's discussion article Ernest Jones made several interesting suggestions including the "Wages Pool", the "Annual Wage", etc. While sympathising with his intention—to answer the problem of wages chasing prices—the reader is left with the same "woolly" feeling attributed by him to the official policies.

The fact of the matter is that

wage earners have learnt by experience two important things in the period 1945-50: (1) that the fight for higher wages must go on even under a Labour Government if we are to keep our forces alive and united; (2) that government policy can either defeat or facilitate this fight.

A workers government ought to assist the workers and a bosses government the bosses. We now want a new Labour Government. But one of the things necessary to obtain it is a new programme and a policy on wages—one that can be operated. The lesson of the 1945-50 period is that our programme must make clear where the new Labour Government will stand on the question of wages struggles—strikes, demonstrations, etc.

The workers know that a Labour Government will have to face a difficult problem on the wages front. All they ask for is that the government should be on their side in the struggle. The new Labour Government must say that until industry is out of private hands wages come before solvency—national or private, for it is the same thing.

Where wage increases bring inflationary rises, the government must clamp on controls. If this results in capitalist bankruptcies, the answer is expropriation. In nationalised industries the answer is subsidies and higher taxation of other sectors.

Such a policy will show the lesson of 1945-50 has been learned.

The last Labour Government saw in the wages struggle only an obstacle to its export drives. The next one must regard it as part of the campaign to destroy British Capitalism. Any schemes we must advance must conform to that idea.

R. Hood

The Week at Westminster

by Harold Davies, M.P.

THERE'S NO SUNBEAMS IN CUCUMBERS

De-Quincey described the people on Gulliver's Laputa as dreamers trying to extract sunbeams from cucumbers. I thought of that as I listened to Butler's speech on Foreign Affairs this week.

As he waded through his Foreign Office brief he was pompous, petulant and cynical. Here the most powerful cucumber in the Tory greenhouse ambled along from one banal phrase to another. There wasn't a sunbeam in the whole speech. Whatever the highlights were in Churchill's speech Butler effectively covered them with wet flannel.

With so many Tory Ministers ill the Chancellor of the Exchequer's path to power was almost cleared, but this speech and the obvious difference of approach of Salisbury and Butler from that of Churchill means that the skirmish for Premiership is coming more and more into the open.

On May 11 Britain had declared that she was about to follow a more vigorous and independent line in her world affairs. Since then Lord Salisbury and others have patched the thing up. Now we have a communique that seems to say "Yes, we'll have talks with the Russians if they do as we say before we begin to meet." Churchill, at least, was prepared to talk now, but Butler has dished all that with a noxious speech.

HOW TO MEND A FUSE

We wanted Mr. Attlee to give a lead and give a lead he did. The Leader of the Opposition seized the moment to re-assert Labour's attitude to the Washington Conference. Some of the Big Guns in the Trade Union Movement have been tending to blow the fuses

over the leadership of Attlee and here, just at the right moment, he receives an ovation from all the Back Benchers for the courageous direction he gave to the Debate.

He did not believe that the Washington talks had taken us much further on the road to peace. Now that the truce is in sight in Korea Attlee wanted the United Nations, and not just America and a small group of other nations, to plan the political settlement.

Kenneth Younger was outspoken in his attack on Lord Salisbury; he would not trust Salisbury an inch. "In the limp hands of Lord Salisbury the Prime Minister's policy has been sunk without trace," he said. Herbert Morrison, too, felt that the Government had failed miserably and they had transformed a gesture which was hopeful into a situation which made high-level talks much more difficult.

Labour was united in its demands for an all out effort to end the Cold War. Opposition speakers were more united than for a long time. Initiative cannot be seized by trailing behind the Tories on Foreign Policy. Labour must step out boldly into the field of world affairs upholding the theory of continuity in foreign policy only when they feel that such continuity is justified on a socialist basis. Because Labour spokesmen did this in the Debate they can rightly be said to have started the job of protecting the present by working for the future.

This is the way to mend the fuse. To travel behind the flaccid

briefs of the Foreign Office is to follow the road to disaster.

Beware of the Dog!

Putting up a notice "Beware of the Dog" does not exonerate the owner's liability for damage. Now this Government keep shouting for production and issuing warnings, but like the dog in the manger they will not let the ox get near the hay.

If the worker is not provided with a bag of modern tools how can he compete with better equipped workers in the States and elsewhere?

In this column, a week or so ago I drew attention to the recent report of the Advisory Council on Scientific Policy, and Dick Stokes in a Debate on Science and Productivity renewed the charge that we in Britain are not spending enough on improving and renewing our factory equipment.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Works, Mr. Hugh Molson, agreed that the volume of investment in our manufacturing industry is too small; secondly he admitted that there was inadequate interest in scientific development, and thirdly that there was an insufficient supply of technologists.

All the speakers seemed to avoid the crux of the matter by ignoring the fact that huge raw material resources and financial allocations were being poured into the armaments industry. This may create the illusion of strength but how could we keep those arms firing without a strong industrial background?

A nation that has to import its precious raw materials in the huge quantities that we have to is weakening itself by pouring its small reserves of material into arms and diverting its engineering skill from the production of goods that could find peaceful markets.

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