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**TODAY**

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**WEEKLY**

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(Next week)

**Guatemala  
A Lesson**

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## WANTED! UNITY FOR INCREASED WAGES

### Builders Give Lead

### A.E.U. and the Left

WHAT game is the Executive Council of the A.E.U. playing? At Margate last year its delegation proposed the Confederation's plan for engineering. This was bitterly opposed by the Right Wing trade union leaders and their pet politicians in the Labour Party.

The main support which the Union received came from trade unions and members of the Party who have been classified under Right Wing terminology as "Bevanites"—and this is as it should be, because the plan represented an important step forward for the movement.

Now along come the nominations for the post of treasurer of the Labour Party. Once again the same people who defeated the A.E.U.-proposed plan for engineering rally round and present Mr. Gaitskell. The Left adopt Mr. Bevan as their candidate.

You would imagine that the E.C. of the A.E.U. would support a nominee representing the people who support union policy—but they do nothing of the sort. On the contrary, they support Mr. Gaitskell. Does this make sense?

Of course it doesn't, but it is understandable. A major problem in the trade union movement today is the utilisation of important positions by individuals who do not represent the opinions of the rank and file. If the E.C. of the A.E.U. were to consult its membership right now, we are absolutely convinced they would be forced to reconsider their position on Mr. Gaitskell.

However, we must face the facts. The decision has dealt a serious blow to all who fight for a socialist policy in the Labour Party and trade unions. For Labour's Left the lesson is painfully obvious.

We cannot institute decisive changes in the leadership of the Labour Party until we succeed in building up a solid foundation for such a change inside the trade unions. It is not enough to concentrate on the L.P. by itself. The battle has been won on this terrain.

We must now concentrate on work in trade unions to bring about changes in personnel and policy commensurate with developments in the Labour Party. There is absolutely no time to be lost in implementing this policy. That is the lesson from the A.E.U.

### Civil Defence

CONGRATULATIONS to Coventry City Council for reaffirming its decision to disband its Civil Defence committee and deciding to send no more delegates to Civil Defence conferences.

Other Labour Councils would assist the fight against war by taking similar action.

### Rights of Asylum

THE rights of political asylum are being discussed in Britain and in Mexico. In Britain the Tory government refuses to grant asylum to the young American lecturer, Dr. Cort, threatened with persecution if he returns to his own country. Contrast that with the stand of the Mexican government who have granted asylum to those Guatemalan citizens who have fled from the Arbenz terror.

The Mexican government has resisted all pressure to hand over those who have sought refuge in their embassy. These refugees, like Dr. Cort, are being accused of civil crimes.

"The basic principle on which Mexico will stand" said the "New York Times" Mexican correspondent on July 7, "is that the receiving country alone has the right to determine who should be given asylum." *The Mexican government stands by the principles of political asylum; the Tory government tramples those principles and acts as a tool of McCarthy.*

In last Sunday's "Observer", two columns of letters attacked the decision of the British government. These letters were evidence of a wide-spread alarm far beyond Labour's ranks. All the more reason why the British Labour Movement should bend every effort to prevent the expulsion of Dr. Cort.

When is the N.E.C. and the T.U.C. General Council going to speak out boldly on this case?

THE T.U.C. must call a conference of all trade union executives to hammer out a common policy on wages. That was the viewpoint of Mr. Harry Weaver when he opened the conference of the Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers, last Monday. A motion on the agenda called for this T.U.C. action as a step towards a national campaign for higher wages.

### Reminder to Denis Healey

MR. DENIS HEALEY is defending the Right Wing policy on German rearmament at a London Labour Party Conference this Saturday.

Mr. Healey has moved a long way since 1945 when he spoke at the Labour Party Conference in Blackpool. This is what he said then:

"...I think it is most important that the Labour Party should have a clear foreign policy of its own, which is completely distinct from that of the Tory Party...

"The Labour Party must be extremely alert and vigilant in judging its friends and enemies in Europe. It is quite easy for a person like myself who has spent the last three years in Europe to tell who are our friends and who are our enemies. The upper classes in every country are selfish, depraved, dissolute, and decadent. These upper classes in every country look to the British Army and the British people to protect them against the just wrath of the people who have been fighting underground against them for the past four years. We must see that that does not happen. There is very great danger, unless we are very careful, that we shall find ourselves running with the Red Flag in front of the armoured cars of Tory imperialism and counter-revolution, very much as in the early days of the motor car a man ran with a red flag in front of the first automobiles."

The piece about the "decadent upper classes" reminds us that Mr. Healey recently visited the mansion of Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands to discuss "problems of common concern" with American and European businessmen.

### Terror Unleashed

TWO thousand people were arrested within a week of the downfall of the military conspiracy in Guatemala. A major and two colonels form the military junta which now rules this Central American country in the interests of the feudal landlords, the United Fruit Co., and American imperialism.

Colonel Elfego Monzon, the president of the military dictatorship has stated that plans were under way to place those arrested in concentration camps. "The arrests had been so swift that there are not enough jail facilities to handle Communists" reports the "New York Times" of July 6.

A July 4 report announced that a Guatemalan judge was shot by a firing squad in a prison yard. There was no report of a trial.

The agrarian reform law, intro-

duced by the Arbenz government, has been suspended "pending further study of its administration." A decree has been published limiting suffrage to literate persons. The illiteracy rate in this poverty-stricken country is about 73 per cent. The decree effectively removes the vote from the vast majority of workers and peasants—reaction's firmest opponents.

The American-sponsored rulers of Guatemala are now proceeding to undo the reforms achieved by the working people over the last ten years, smash the mass organisations, and rivet a regime of terror on the country.

This is the result of what John Foster Dulles called the adding of a "glorious chapter to the already great tradition of the American states."

Privy Counsellor, Arthur Deakin, prates of wage restraint. This week, at a conference of the Scottish section of his union he attacked a policy of advocating higher wages, declaring he would "rather see a reduction in the price level."

### DEAKIN CAN'T STOP PRICE RISES

The "Daily Herald" rushed to support such a "reasonable" attitude. "What matters," it said, "is what wages will buy." A very great contribution to human thought indeed!

Prices have been steadily rising during the past few years. Neither the policy of Mr. Deakin nor that of the "Daily Herald" has done anything to stop this rise, nor helped wages to buy more. On the contrary, their opposition to a struggle for increased wages only gives aid to the Tory government and confidence to more and more nakedly rule in the interests of Big Business.

There is no alternative but fight. Tory appetite grows voraciously. The government, having found its Rents and Repairs passed through relatively easy now will prepare the major objective of the big landlords—the abolition of the Rents Restriction Acts.

If employers believe that unions are seeking at all costs to avoid a struggle and are fearful of big wage demands then doubtless they will increase their drive to filch away the conditions won during the past period of employment.

The unions were built to be fighting organisations of workers. The rank and file must demand that the T.U.C. does its duty.

Let the leaders cease spending time discussing the product problems of the employers and government and devote a little more time and energy to the problem of securing the greatest possible striking power in a united struggle for higher wages.

## How Labour Can Help German Workers

OPPOSITION to German rearmament grows. Two-and-a-half million workers, about a million and three quarters of whom are affiliate-members of the Labour Party, have given their answer to the N.E.C. and to the Right Wing "majority" (all two of them) of the Parliamentary Party.

Already the A.E.U., A.E.S.D., U.S.D.A.W., E.T.U., and A.S.W. conferences have rejected the Right Wing rearmament line—as have those of the boilermakers, chemical, scientific, agricultural and tobacco workers. Last week the N.U.R. added its powerful voice to the opposition.

### LONDON CONFERENCE

On Saturday, July 17, Labour Parties in the London Region will discuss this question. All the indications are that, if the platform permits a vote, delegates will record in no uncertain manner their hostility to the policy advanced in the Right Wing document, "In Defence of Europe," reviewed in these columns two weeks ago. All this is unmistakable evidence of the spirit of healthy vigilance and alert criticism of the leadership now grow-

ing and gathering force within the Party.

For socialists, however, it is not enough to reject rearmament; it is necessary to be absolutely clear on, and to state very sharply, the reasons for this rejection.

by  
**David Gray**

Workers cannot be patriots. They have nothing in common with the ruling class of "their own" countries; they have everything in common with the workers of other lands: including—even especially—the German workers.

Exactly because a unified, socialist Germany will be the keystone of the coming Socialist United States of Europe, workers all over the world have a special interest in the emergence of such a Germany in the wake of the triumph over its enemies of the German working class. That is why the attitude which the French and British working class adopt to their German brothers at this critical stage is of such cardinal importance.

tant Left in the movement—must become the rallying cry of every section of the organised working class.

By this simple demand, British workers express their confidence in their German brothers to finish the job in their own way. The disarmament of a gangster clique of Blank-Nationalist-Adenauer is the responsibility, first and foremost, of German workers. We in Britain will aid them in that task, not parroting the Vansittartite rubbish about the war guilt of "Germans"; not by opposing, the Beaverbrook Press and "The Recorder" (July 10) oppose, restoration of German national sovereignty; but by demanding that our boys are brought back from Germany, leaving our comrades in that country free to settle accounts once and for all with one of the most vicious ruling classes known to history.

### Buy a Horse

The Secretary of State for War, Mr. Anthony Head, said that the finest ambassador in the world today was the horse.

He was speaking at a luncheon given by the Committee of the International Horse Show at the Savoy on July 13.

He added more people should interest themselves in horses and stop brooding about political differences.

### THE RALLYING CRY

Side by side the general demand for the rejection of the rearmament programme in Britain, as in Germany, must be set the demand to "Withdraw the occupation troops." This must be the main plank in the platform of the mili-

## XMAS BAZAAR NEWS

Only 134 days to the Bazaar!

West London shareholders have decided to sponsor a "bottle in the bran tub" effort. They will be bringing bottles of all kinds of things to their meetings. Everything from aspirins to a drop of tiddly, I am told. All the bottles will go in the bran tub and a standard price will be charged for "a go." If you've got a bottle of anything to spare, please send it to me. Turn out your cupboards!

metal table bases and is urgent in need of table tops—pieces of wood 1/2 inch thick, pieces of glass or mirrors of a minimum size of 1 ft. by 2 ft. Please look around at home or in the local second-hand store.

I want to collect a good store of coloured paper, drawing pins etc., for the decoration of stalls. Can you help? If so, send the items to me right away.

Lorna Corbett  
145b Ashley Gardens  
London, S.W.  
(TAT 0656 : VIC 528)

One comrade is busy making

# A.E.U. Bank and file for Bevan

## Condemn Action of Leaders

LEADING members and officials of the A.E.U. in the Manchester area made their opinions plain when they were asked by a representative of "Socialist Outlook" to comment on the decision of their E.C. to support Mr. Gaitskell.

Bob Wright, National Committee delegate for No. 11 division (Manchester, Stockport, Ashton, etc.), Convenor at the Dil Well Engineering Co., Ltd., said:

"The decision of our Executive Council to support Gaitskell against Bevan in the elec-

tion for National Treasurer at the coming Labour Party Conference is completely contrary to the Union's policy. It would, in my opinion, not receive the approval of National Committee. Active opposition by the membership can change this decision."

Tom Roberts, A.E.U. Convenor at the Air Ministry Works Department, A.E.U. delegate to the Stockport Trades Council and also an individual member of the Labour Party said:

"The decision of the E.C. of the A.E.U. is, in my considered opinion, contrary to the general view of members of the A.E.U. respecting the policy of the Labour Party. I consider the policy decisions of our 1954 National Committee are the directive E.C. should fully implement."

T. Burns, secretary Manchester South-East branch, declared:

"As a member of the A.E.U. I am surprised to hear that the E.C.'s decision to support Mr. Gaitskell is their idea of interpreting the membership's point of view; this is contrary to all our previous policies."

Bro. W. A. Holloway, secretary Manchester No. 19 Branch of the A.E.U. stated:

"The decision of E.C. to support Gaitskell for Treasurer is a contravention of the wishes of the rank and file members. National Committee Delegates can and must ensure that the true wishes of the rank and file members influence the E.C. in its final decision."

Broughton A.E.U. branch has passed the following resolution.

"This branch views with disapproval the reported action of Executive Council in supporting Mr. Gaitskell for the position of treasurer to the Labour Party.

"We feel that support of Bevan would be more in line with views held by members of the A.E.U. The final decision should rest with the elected A.E.U. delegates to the Labour Party conference acting in pursuance of National Committee demands."

## Forty-One Protest

A week-end school organised by the A.E.U. for members in No 11 Division (Manchester, Stockport, Ashton and Warrington) out of 47 present 41 signed the following letter to be sent to the "Socialist Outlook" and "Labour's Northern Voice."

"The undersigned A.E.U. members are shocked at the reported decision of our Executive Council to support Gaitskell against Bevan in the election for Treasurer of the Labour Party. We feel that this runs contrary to the wish of the majority of active A.E.U. members and is contrary to the spirit of A.E.U. policy and National Committee decisions.

"Gaitskell and those who support him have consistently opposed all the policy items of the A.E.U., e.g. extension of nationalisation, the "Plan for Engineering", workers' control in industry, against German rearmament, against the War alliance with America, etc.

"We hope all A.E.U. members will raise most vigorous protest against the Executive Council's decision. We demand that the A.E.U. delegation to the Labour Party support those in the Labour Party whose policies are nearer to those advocated by the A.E.U. in this case Bevan as against Gaitskell."

Signed by:

- G. A. Dronfield, Sale Branch; P. Donald, Newton-le-Willows Branch; G. Sandford, Timperley Branch; H. Buxton, Manchester 24th; H. Bellamy, Broadheath 3rd; A. Thierens, Stretford Branch; T. M. Cooke, Newton-le-Willows Branch; E. H. Pearson, Manchester 24th; A. Stuart-Cole, Manchester 16th; R. Speed, Stockport 5th; S. Blower, Salford 2nd; W. Green, Manchester 10th; L. Hammond, Miles Platting; R. W. Wright, Cheadle Branch, National Committee member; H. Ratner, Broughton Branch, chairman of stewards Platts (Barton) Ltd.; T. Roberts, Cheadle Branch, Convenor, A.M.W.D.; T. Burns, Secretary Manchester South-East Branch; W. Cooper, Treasurer, Hyde No. 1 Branch; Bro. Harrison, President West Gorton Branch; J. Carmount, President Manchester 19th Branch; W. Holloway, Secretary Manchester 19th; H. Howard, Treasurer, Stockport No. 5 Branch; R. Davies, Secretary Gorton 7th Branch; F. Fox, Stockport No. 1 Branch, member Stockport District Committee; P. Jackson, Stockport No. 5 Branch, Convenor C.W.S.; R. Duffy, Salford 24th; F. W. Rooks, Ashton 8th; T. Richardson, Miles Platting Branch; R. Fitzpatrick, Broadheath Branch; E. B. Johnson, Hyde 2nd; R. France, Manchester 2nd; E. Hogg, Manchester 10th; H. Thornton, Manchester 14th; J. O. Coughlan, Manchester 11th; E. Braddock, Stockport 5th; A. Brown, Gorton 7th; T. Bromley, Gorton 7th; K. Davies, Woodhouse Park; E. Barnatt, Ashton 8th; D. Armitage, Ashton and J. Hayden, Ashton.

Undoubtedly the majority of rank and file members and local leaders of the A.E.U. are incensed at the decision of their E.C. to support Gaitskell for Treasurer of the Labour Party.

The resolutions and letters from the Manchester and Birmingham districts on this page, are a sample of the protests we have received.

## SHAMEFUL DECISION

THE report that the A.E.U. has decided to support Gaitskell for Treasurer against Bevan at the Labour Party Conference this year has come as a shock to many trade unionists and Labour supporters, not least to the A.E.U. members themselves whose first knowledge of this was the press reports.

What justification has our Executive Council for deciding that our 600,000 votes be cast for Gaitskell against Bevan?

On this, as on many other issues, our trade union leadership has shown that it is completely

By  
**H. Ratner**

out-of touch with the rank and file.

Go to any branch of the A.E.U. and see where they stand on the issues being debated in the Labour Party. You will find the vast majority stand well to the Left.

The contest between Bevan and Gaitskell is not a mere conflict of personalities. Bevan expresses the growing revolt within the Labour Party and trade unions against the compromising and pro-Tory policy of the official Labour leadership. His support reflects the growing opposition to intervention in Indo-China, to the rearming of Adenauer's Germany, to E.D.C., to the War Alliance with American Big Business; the desire on the home front for a more militant

opposition to Toryism and for a Socialist policy.

On these issues the A.E.U. itself has a policy. It has pressed at Labour Party Conferences for the extension of nationalisation (1953), for workers' representation on the boards of nationalised industries, (1950).

Its elected National Committee has declared against German rearmament, on all these policies it is in opposition to the Right Wing.

Yet our Executive decide to support Gaitskell who has been put up by this very Right Wing. In doing so the A.E.U. Executive Council is going in the face of the policy decision which it was elected to carry out.

If the Right Wing, with the help of the bloc votes of the T. & G.W.U., the Municipal and General and the Miners succeed in electing Gaitskell it will be a blow at the very policies the A.E.U. has adopted.

The 600,000 votes, which the A.E.U. carries at the Labour Party Conference could decide the result of the election. They must be cast for A.E.U. policy—not against it!

I hope that between now and September the rank and file will rise in revolt against this shameful decision. Let a flood of resolutions come from branches and District Committees demanding of the E.C. that it rescind its reported decision.

The A.E.U. must support Bevan. That is the only decision in line with already accepted A.E.U. policy.

We have received the following letter from a number of leading A.E.U. members in Birmingham:

"The decision of the A.E.U. Executive Council to nominate Gaitskell for Treasurer of the Labour Party is a flagrant insult to the great name of our union

"On many occasions it has been the A.E.U. that has proposed progressive policies. Gaitskell has at all times shown himself to be in violent opposition to every one of these policies. Yet our leaders then proceed to kiss the feet of one who has kicked them!

"We elect rank and file candidates to represent us at the Labour Party conference. Since when have full time (and well paid!) officials the right to decide A.E.U. policy on such an important matter without first ascertaining the views of the rank and file? Members should remember this when they are pondering over whom to vote for in future elections!

"Although the E.C. has nomi-

nated Gaitskell the branches should press E.C. for the vote to go to Bevan at the Conference. We must demand that the A.E.U. supports those who support the A.E.U.

"We believe branches should demand the recall of the National Committee to decide this issue as the decision of the E.C. is completely out of tune with rank and file opinion."

H. Finch, (Convenor R. T. Shelley Ltd.—Member of Birmingham District Committee).

J. Thomas (Chairman of Rover Combine Joint Shop Stewards Committee).

S. Yapp, (Junior Workers Committee—A.E.U. Delegate to 1954 Youth Conference).

D. Samuels, (Shop Steward, R. T. Shelley Ltd.).

J. Walsh, (President Small Heath No. 2, A.E.U.).

J. A. Greatorex, (Secretary Sheldon Branch, Convenor Beresfords).

## RAILWAYMEN: UNITY VITAL

PART of the stock in trade of the trade union leaders of 100 years ago was a fiery speech declaring war on the capitalists and all tyrants. Nowadays the leaders consider it to be more in line with their positions to deliver "statesmanlike" utterances on harder work, productivity, loss of markets and the like. At the N.U.R. conference, now concluding, we have had a bit of both.

British Transport is in a hell of a mess, due to 100 years of capitalist management which sucked it dry of profit. Now that Transport is state-owned it still must, according to the Transport Act, be squeezed to render the last drops of its milk for the shareholders.

These facts are as plain as your nose and some of the righteous indignation of the old socialists would be in order, but at the N.U.R. conference the fire of invective was carefully restrained and the point blunted. As reported in the "Railway Review" of July 9, Mr. Campbell, General Secretary of the N.U.R. referred to the financial difficulties of the Transport Commission, whose revenue falls short of expenses by £2 million per week. He stated he understood "the anxiety of the Commission to discharge their obligations under the Transport

treasurership, only 2 days after the cremation of the late one. The N.U.R. had accepted the challenge because it must. But, said Mr. Campbell, he deplored the cleavage between right and left and the fact that people must now choose between rival philosophies.

Quite so brother! Politics and the class struggle are no respecters of the civilised niceties; they are not things you can go in for with kid gloves. As on the job, the struggle is often fierce, and strength is the final arbiter. More-over in politics, as on the railway, it is useful to know the road, which is where ideologies come in. The Treasurership of the Labour Party and the nomination of Mr. Bevan are merely one of the expressions of the struggle to oust Toryism, to which task the N.U.R. has set its hand.

### WE NEED A POLICY

In this matter Mr. Bevan does not simply represent himself, he represents also several million workers with aspirations of their own. It is now an urgent task for the Left Wing trade unions to formulate their own policy on the basis of which the Bevanite leaders should stand. The N.U.R. is most often associated with Bevanism in politics, why should it not concern itself with the political programme of Bevanism also? To allow loose thinking in politics is always to invite defeat.

Mr. Campbell in another part of the same speech also referred to the damage done to the railwaymen's cause by the divisions in its ranks and pointed out how much more effective would have been their demands if they had come from a united movement. Unity is such a simple word that there are some who make the mistake of thinking that being united is simple also. But unity involves sacrifice by some or all and for a long or short time, in order to secure the maximum effort in the struggle.

Unity of railway workers is necessary, vital, for success, but it won't come easily. It will certainly mean the abandonment of some sectional dreams of large differentials and a caste structure on the job, so that all railwaymen could extract from a reactionary hostile management those benefits to which they are justly entitled.

Acts and at the same time attempt to meet the demands of the trade unions for a decent standard of life."

Mr. Campbell then went on to say, to the accompaniment of loud cheers, that nevertheless the Transport Commission should not "languish behind other industries so far as rates of pay and conditions of service were concerned." In the latter remark the rank and file recognised the voice of their own class struggle for decent standards. Mr. Campbell's previous remark would be more appreciated by the Tory press.

### N.U.R. GOES LEFT

Nevertheless, with or without the consent of its leaders the N.U.R. continues to follow its leftward trend. At the time of writing this has come out in its resolutions on foreign policy, on German rearmament and the hydrogen bomb and in its nomination of Mr. Bevan for the Treasurer of the Labour Party. You can't get round Mr. Bevan, he sticks out like a sore thumb, you must either support or oppose him. The N.U.R. quite definitely is for Mr. Bevan, recognising him as being for a struggle against Toryism, while his opponents are for the status quo. On the footplate, in the shed and in the yard the N.U.R. decision is supported, railwaymen are for Bevan and against the near-Toryism of his opponent.

Mr. Campbell said, with justice, that he deplored the way in which the Right Wing had attempted to jump the gun in the matter of the

## HOLIDAY PRESENT

SOME firms give workers a holiday bonus at August. Some don't! But it is rare to hear of firms giving the workers a "present" in the minus direction at such a time of the year. Yet R. T. Shelley, Birmingham, have done precisely that.

R. T. Shelley Ltd., manufacturers of the world famous Norton Motor Cycles, suddenly announced that, because their stocks of motor cycles were mounting up, half the factory employed on motor cycle work, will be on a 4 day week beginning Monday, July 12.

Now this is the Midlands "pud-

ding" week — the week when workers try and earn as much as possible as they collect the pay for this extra effort on July 23—the "break-up" day.

The Shelley workers instead have the prospect of taking home £2 5s. 0d. less in their wages for weeks ahead!

The Stewards demanded that this callous decision be left for discussion until after the holiday—No response! They asked that the workers be paid for the day they are being forced to take off—still no response.

At the same time, the firm have stated that they intend to bring in a new Production Control System which would force workers to clock on and off each job, deduct arbitrarily for scrap and not pay for rejections until the time of rectification; plus other restrictions.

The workers have twice turned the major part of the scheme down. The firm say it will come in on August 10—the atmosphere, needless to say, is quite heated.

Thus the 4-day move is interpreted by Shelley workers as a threatening measure to weaken their will to fight the production scheme on August 10.

This position seems the likely one because we know of no other motor cycle firm in the Midlands on short time!

### FIGHTING FUND

This week's figure shows an improvement in our position, but still gives no grounds for complacency.

- Our thanks to: Exeter readers, 10s.; Islington readers, 18s. 3d.; Norwood readers, 5s.; Sparks, 4s.; South-West London readers, £3 17s. 6d.; West London readers, £2 17s. 6d.; Westminster readers, £2 2s. 6d.; Birmingham readers, £2 4s. 6d.; R. T. Shelley readers, £1 3s.

Total to date £14 2s. 3d.

## Fleet Street Applauds

WHAT a howl of glee went up from all sections of the capitalist press when it was announced that the National Union of Mineworkers and the A.E.U. had voted to support Gaitskell for the Treasurership of the Labour Party! One might have been excused for thinking that the factor was "one of their own," such was their unsuppressed delight.

Having made it clear which side they were on, the hack writers of Fleet Street went to town analysing the consequences of the miners' and engineers' votes. They all took more or less the same line—that this was a severe handicap to Bevan's ambitions to become leader of the Labour Party and Prime Minister of Great Britain.

Brought up in the traditions of Northcliffe and Beaverbrook, it is impossible for the average Fleet Street journalist to deal with the struggle within the Labour Movement on any other basis than that of a clash of personalities and rival ambitions. They are quite unable to see the real political

issues involved. Even the one or two honest journalists who have a more realistic picture of what is going on are unable to express themselves. The fiat has gone out—Bevan is the enemy (just like the late Harold Laski was in 1945) and

"...in between times he (Winston Churchill) strove and strove to catch the eye of Mr. Gaitskell (Soc. South Leeds).

"For Sir Winston had just heard that Mr. Gaitskell had got the miners' vote for the Socialist treasurership.

"The eye was elusive but finally caught. Whereupon Sir Winston clapped his hands together quietly and continuously for nearly a couple of minutes grinning, smirking and it seemed even winking.

"Mr. Gaitskell was most embarrassed. He looked from one side to the other turning red." (William Barkley in the "Daily Express" of July 8, reporting on events in the Commons the previous day).

all reporting must toe the Press Lord's line.

There is nothing fundamentally wrong in any member of the Labour Party seeking the leadership of our party. In fact, the clash of policies can only find its reflection in the clash of personalities representing the various policies. When the active workers in the constituency parties consistently vote for Nye Bevan, they do so because his policy corresponds most nearly to their own socialist aspirations. If Bevan were to abandon this policy tomorrow and embrace the policy associated with Gaitskell he would forfeit the support he now enjoys.

As for Mr. Gaitskell and the friendly applause of the capitalist press, he should ponder the words of August Bebel, leader of German Social-Democracy at the beginning of this century:

"When my enemies praise me, I wonder in what way I have betrayed my class. When my enemies attack me and howl for my blood, then I know that I have done my duty and served my class well."

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# United Nations Organisation A Story of Deception

ON April 25, 1945, the United Nations Organisation came into being at a conference in San Francisco. It was greeted with universal enthusiasm, equally by American Republicans and Moscow Communists. Tories, Liberals and Labour joined in the hosannas of praise.

This was going to be the beginning of a new era in international relations. The aim of the new organisation was to be, according to its Charter "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war."

Indeed a noble aim! Only the voices of a few left-socialists were raised in warning. They pointed out that the majority of the countries forming the United Nations were capitalist countries. Their behaviour in combination would reflect their capitalist nature no less than their behaviour as individual states. Wolves hunting in packs were just as much wolves as those prowling alone. Thieves and murderers do not cease to be murderers and thieves because they combine in gangs, indeed, they become more dangerous to the community.

**ARMED TO THE TEETH**  
Of course, the ink was hardly dry on the paper before all the signatories got down to the job of arming themselves with all the most modern weapons for waging war. That is how much faith they really had in all the fine words.

Today, less than a decade after that historic gathering in San Francisco, only a handful of Right Wing Labour leaders and a few liberals have any illusions left about U.N.O. Events have shattered the hopes of the rest of mankind. And it could not have been otherwise!

We have space only for a very brief survey of U.N.O.'s record. How have the beautiful words stood up to the stern test of history?

The Charter itself was symptomatic of the cynical hypocrisy which has characterised the sordid story of U.N.O.

Its basic draft was prepared by

*A shabby record! That was how a leading article in last week's "Socialist Outlook" described the actions of the U.N. Security Council on Guatemala. In this article, the curtain is lifted further from the United Nations Organisation. Here is exposed the rotten framework that is covered by the high-sounding phrases and lofty sentiments of its Charter.*

By C. Van Gelderen

Field Marshal Smuts, at that time Prime Minister of South Africa.

The Charter reaffirmed "faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small..."

**WORDS... AND DEEDS!**

"The equal rights of men and women..." Smuts himself was the head of a government which kept in subjection 10 million Africans, whose status was little higher than that of serfs and who enjoyed none of the rights of men and women except the right to sell their labour power to the white master race.

"The equal rights of nations large and small." To this day the United Nations recognises as the government of China the gangster Chiang Kai Shek, who has been decisively rejected by the Chinese people and is being sustained in Formosa only by the armed strength of the U.S.A.

And how the people of Guatemala must sneer when they read these fine sentiments.

Almost from the very start U.N.O. became a pliant tool in the hands of American imperialism, serving to conceal her plans for world conquest. Packed with satellite states bought with Marshall Aid dollars, Wall Street could always be assured of a comfortable majority.

**KOREA AND GUATEMALA**

When the people of Korea fought for the unity of their country, the American-dominated Security Council was quick to react. The North Koreans were

branded as the "aggressors" and a brutal war was unleashed against the Korean nation.

How different was the tale when the hired mercenaries of United Fruit launched its war of aggression against the Republic of Guatemala.

The Charter should now be revised to define an act of aggression as "any threat to the interests of U.S. imperialism." That would be in accordance with the facts.

A whole section of the Charter is devoted to "Non self-governing Territories, and Trusteeship"—in the old days these just used to be called colonies.

This section is full of fine, sonorous phrases. "Member states responsible for administering non-self-governing territories recognise that the interests of the inhabitants of these territories are paramount... to ensure their political and social advancement, to develop self-government..."

**MOCKERY OF WORDS**

What a mockery these words must sound to the people of the Bamangwato and of Buganda,

whose rulers were exiled despite the manifest will of the people. Or to the Africans in Rhodesia and Tanganyika, who had a Federation thrust upon them despite their almost unanimous opposition. And what of the people of Kenya and Malaya, whose advance to self-government is being resisted by force of arms by the "member state responsible for administering" these territories.

We can add the Hereros of South-West Africa, whose territory was flagrantly annexed by Malan, and British Guiana, whose elected government is now, for the most part in prison.

**THE ONLY ANSWER**

The list could be extended almost indefinitely—clear proof of the futility of U.N.O. to advance the cause of the subject people one iota.

U.N.O. can bring no solution to the world's ills. This collection of cut-throat governments is no substitute for the genuine internationalism which alone can usher in an era of peace and plenty for all. That will only be brought about when the united power of the workers of the world has smashed capitalism and imperialism everywhere.

Socialist governments with no territorial ambitions and no axes to grind can forge a genuine world unity and so free mankind for all time from the fears and perils which now beset it.

There is no other road and no short cuts.

**American Newsletter**

## Did Churchill Speak for Eisenhower?

CHURCHILL'S insistence, on his recent visit to the United States, that the Western powers should reach an understanding with the Kremlin has added fresh fuel to the discussion over foreign policy that has been keeping the political representatives of American Big Business in hot water for several years.

The debate is ostensibly over Churchill's slogan of "peaceful co-existence" with the Soviet Union; actually it is a reflection of a profound political crisis that has gripped America's rulers since their failure in Korea.

The differences over what to do next on the hazardous terrain of world affairs really began when Truman recalled General MacArthur from Korea. Three main groupings at that time opened the discussion that has been going on since.

**THE THREE GROUPINGS**

The Asia Firsters, represented today by Senator Knowland of California, pressed for extension of the Korean conflict to China. Although that happy plan for improving American control of the fate of the Chinese people was turned down, they still dream of restoring the blood-stained dictator Chiang Kai-shek to power.

They see Churchill's proposal as a diabolical move by Dulles to write off Chiang Kai-shek and soften the hard stand taken thus far against the Mao regime.

The vision of "Red China" in the United Nations—even over the token opposition of the Eisenhower administration—naturally caused Knowland to display symptoms of apoplexy. (He threatened to resign majority leadership in the Senate and fight for withdrawal of the U.S. from the United Nations).

The Isolationists, most eloquently symbolised by the stand of the senile Herbert Hoover, have favoured a retreat from the harsh realities of the epoch to "fortress America." Thus, although their economic interests are primarily in the Middle West, they tend to line up with the Asia First representatives of the West Coast shipping interests and the China Lobby in the current dispute.

On the domestic scene, both these groupings are strongly attracted by McCarthy, but the junior senator from Wisconsin has kept in reserve up to now any commitments on Churchill's proposal for a deal with the Soviet bloc. Whatever he does will fit in with his current effort to build a strong fascist faction within the Republican Party as a preliminary

operation in his eventual bid for the White House.

The capitalists of the East, have actually controlled policy the final analysis, rejected the Asia Firster and Isolationist proposals. Yet they have not publicly proposed a plausible alternative. The upshot has been highly contradictory policy, flattens out to give the impression of weakness and of uncertainty.

**U.S. RULERS' DILEMMA**

They are caught between two basic aims, which is another war as soon as possible—a war which they have been psychologically proposing since 1945—and innumerable obstacles that have prevented them from precipitating war. (Colonial rebellions, popular opposition in Europe and America, fear of consequences of an H-bomb etc.).

But such a policy that amounts to through repeated deferral of war—to drift, to muddle through, cannot be continued indefinitely. If it is not to be early war, then a breathing space is needed. It is needed to reinitiate the diplomatic initiative, to the relation of forces, to overcome popular opposition to the ever conflict, and to contain the revolutionary movements that threaten to burst the seams of world capitalism.

That means reaching some of temporary understanding with Moscow and Peking, for assistance is needed in accomplishing these war aims.

**CHURCHILL PUTS THE I**

To suggest such a turn in present witch-hunt climate is considered "political poison" Eisenhower's advisers. Yet prominent politician must support it, even strongly advocate whose political neck to risk.

The obvious neck of Churchill's, particularly since current needs of British imperialism for a definite foreign policy to coincide those of Wall Street.

Hence the 79-year-old war who is justly rated among American politicians as the world's statesman in questions of revolution, was delegated to a message from the White House to the McCarthyite axis, suggesting that "we" should have "real good try" at "peaceful existence" with the Soviet Union.

It remains to be seen whether Churchill was as successful in puncturing the opposition as he boasts about mission accomplished might suggest.

But the fact that the Eisenhower administration decided to put forward so able a spokesman from its stable, forcefully suggests that a change in foreign policy under serious consideration.

## Greek Exiles Appeal

MORE than 1,000 Greek political exiles are living under terrible conditions on the Aegean island of Agios Efstratios.

On their behalf, eleven exiles—among them two former deputies and a Mayor of Serres—have issued an appeal to the Secretary General of U.N.O., the World Federation of Committees on Human Rights, the Committee of the International Red Cross, and the Greek Human Rights Committee.

"You will know from our previous appeals and memoranda," they declare, "that we have been detained for nine years now by the Greek governments, and that our treatment by the State has been inhuman—reaching its climax with Makronisos. The criterion for our detention was constituted by our participation in the National Resistance Movement, our ideological and political convictions and our opposition to the policy of the Greek governments."

"Despite our protests and those of Greek and public opinion, the Greek governments have refused to give us our freedom and they continue to use an illiberal, anti-democratic and inhuman regime against us."

"In 1950 we were transferred from Makronisos to the island of Agios Efstratios which is infertile, isolated, unhealthy and swept by the winds of the Aegean. In addition to the deprivations of life in the camp, the difficulties of living in tents and the problem of lack of medical treatment, the government is following a premeditated plan for our "natural" extermination through starvation."

"The daily food allowance is 6,300 drachmes or 21 cents. This is not enough for the simplest food and the continual rise in prices reduces the value of the allowance all the time. Under-feeding has had the most terrible effects on our health. Already our condition is most critical. Disease is spreading with unimaginable speed. The state of our hundreds of tuberculars and of those suffering from serious complaints is becoming worse and worse."

"All our appeals to the government to increase our food allowance have been of no avail. But elementary respect for human rights means that an end must be put to this state of affairs. The government of Greece has both a moral and legal responsibility before the law to secure for us human treatment as far as food is concerned and to double the allowance."

The British Labour Movement cannot allow the plight of these Greek exiles to go unheeded. The strongest possible protest must be made by all trade union and labour organisations—from the N.E.C. and the T.U.C. down.

Trade union branches and local Labour parties who want to raise their voices against this persecution should address their resolutions to the Greek Ambassador, 51 Brook Street, London, S.W.1.

Janet Jagan and Fred Bowman have received summonses for possessing banned literature under the Undesirable Literature Ordinance. This is Mrs. Jagan's fourth charge under that law.

Under a new law making it unlawful to carry weapons many persons have been charged for carrying pocket knives and other innocent articles. Recently a man was fined \$26 for having an ordinary razor blade.

Janet Jagan, was, on July 1 fined \$150 or three months with hard labour for unlawful possession of a—Manual of Riot Drill. The magistrate overruled Barrister Burnham's no case submission. Notice of appeal has been given.



AT GENEVA ON JULY 5, the Director-General of the U.N. Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation—Dr. Luther Evans—declared more than half of the world's 550,000,000 children receive no education.

A CHINESE NATIONAL MARINE CORPS OFFICER asked for political asylum in U.S.A. He stated he was he would be executed if he back to Formosa.

THE AMERICAN EX-COMMUNIST, Paul Crouch who has denounced many Americans, is himself under investigation for allegedly contradictory testimony he has given in different trials and hearings. In a two-year period he drew 9,675 dollars from the government for his services as a witness. He was the highest paid of a group of 35 informers who serve regularly as witnesses in various cases arising from the witch-hunt in America.

IN ACCRA, GOLD COAST, a European works manager was removed after a two-day sit-down strike by African workers. The workers declared the manager had insulted Africans, had frequently referred to the Gold Coast African Government with contempt and was also not co-operating with African workers.

IN DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA, 7,000 African stevedores went on strike to increase their wages from 10s. 3d. a day. They individually ordered to return work or be evicted from the doring companies' living pounds. Armed police stood enforce the evictions.

## Their Freedom Was Forbidden

THE story of the recent events in British Guiana has now been set down by the leader of the People's Progressive Party. Dr. Jagan's book\* should be required reading for every member of the Labour Movement.

It would be useless, however, to see this book as simply a record of imperialist oppression and the occasion for a spate of moral indignation in the movement—followed by forgetfulness. The lessons must be drawn.

Dr. Jagan shows clearly the nature of the Guianese economy, tied as it is to one cash crop, sugar, and dominated by the three chief sugar companies of Booker Bros., Davson and Co., and the Demerara Co. Ltd. He proves beyond doubt the part which these foreign capitalist companies play in the political life of the country—and he spotlights the refusal of British Labour, when in office, to clip their wings.

Just here is the chief lesson for us in Britain. The P.P.P. leader pays tribute to those organs of opinion, including "Socialist Outlook," who gave unstinted support to his struggle. But he also reveals in its full shame the role of Right Wing Labour leaders.

As a chapter head he gives this quotation from Herbert Morrison: "We are great friends of the jolly old Empire, and we are going to stick to it."  
\* Forbidden Freedom, by Cheddi Jagan. Lawrence and Wishart. 3/6d.

The book of Dr. Jagan brings home to us with fresh force our task in the coming period—the deepening of the anti-colonial struggle.

The people of British Guiana have learned a lesson that the British Labour movement must take to heart. When imperialist governments prate of liberty and the free vote they talk of a sham.

The colonial movement can only achieve its freedom when imperialism is disarmed and expelled. We in Britain must demand the immediate withdrawal of troops from British Guiana and all oppressed countries.

Unless we do that we fail in our duties and bear responsibility for events such as are described in this book.

## News from Guiana

● The Governor, on June 19, proclaimed the area of East Coast Demerara. This makes the third area proclaimed under the Emergency Orders by the Governor.

● On June 24, Mohamed Khan, 24-year-old Muslim farmer and member of the deposed House of Assembly was sentenced to three months' imprisonment. This followed his arrest on a charge of failing to report to the police station after the Governor issued an order restricting his movements and requiring him to report daily. The magistrate reprimanded and discharged him ordering him to sign a \$100 bond for good behaviour for six months. Refusing to do so, he was sentenced to imprisonment for six months.

Khan was also charged with being in possession of banned literature. He told the court he would defy the Governor's order to tell him what he must read and what

## Janet Jagan Writes:

Georgetown July 7

Thanks for the copies of "Socialist Outlook" which you are sending. I notice that you have given us much space in your columns, for which we are grateful. The book review on "One Hundred and Thirty-Three Days Towards Freedom" was excellent.

I hear that my husband is in good health. There is a great hue and cry from the press that he and other P.P.P. members in jail should be isolated from the other prisoners. They claim that he is indoctrinating the prisoners. This arose out of a talk given at the "Uplift Hour" by Cheddi on "Thou Shall Not Steal." He told of capitalist society and the fact that the real thieves are not in jail.

F.J.

# This Article Finds Britain A SUPER MERCHANT OF DEATH

By Bernard Dix

IN the past one section of the capitalist class has been particularly singled out for special attack by militant socialists—this section being the vast octopus of combines who have as their sole objective in life the manufacture of weapons of war in order to make profits for the shareholders. They were aptly described as merchants of death.

Since the end of the last war there has been heard of these men and their doings—their activities have been shrouded with a direct silence. Yet, in view of the international arms race which has now been in progress for some years, it is obvious that they must still be busily engaged in their nefarious trade.

## THE HENDON AMENDMENT

Acting on this assumption the Hendon Borough Labour Party fought last year, at the Margate Conference, to amend "Challenge Britain" by inserting a clause which would bring under public control the whole of the armaments industry. This amendment failed, unfortunately, although it received over two million votes.

The unsavoury facts of the situation are that Great Britain could now correctly be described as the "gun-runner-in-chief" for the European section of the military alliance which is graced with the title — North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. Considerable quantities of war materials are also exported to a variety of countries ranging from the feudal aristocracies of the Middle East to the neo-fascist dictatorships of Latin America. Britain is rapidly becoming the merchant of death par excellence!

Last year the total receipts for exports and re-exports from the United Kingdom were £2,675 million, a fall of £151 million compared with 1952; during the same

period the export of goods officially designated as "arms and ammunition" rose by £20 million—from £33 million in 1952 to £53 million in 1953. Thus while the export of goods for civilian uses was declining the export of military equipment was increasing! But this is only a very small part of a very large story.

The designation "arms and ammunition" by official sources excludes a large variety of military equipment which—for the purposes of the government export records—is grouped under other categories. As a consequence it does not include the overseas sales of military aircraft, non-combatant military vehicles, radio and electronic equipment for military uses, warships and a miscellany of other military stores.

A closer examination will provide clear examples of just what this really means.

## THE REAL SITUATION

Last year the production of aircraft in Britain, both military and civil, was around £200 million; of these £65 million were exported overseas and recorded in the export lists as simply "aircraft." Some 75 per cent of this total was for military planes—a figure of approximately £48 million; thus nearly one quarter of the total value of British aircraft production was last year accounted for by military aircraft for export! It is, incidentally, confidently expected that this sum will be even greater during the current year.

It is easy to see that this figure of £48 million for military aircraft should be added to the already stated figure of £53 million for "arms and ammunition"—thus the total figure for military exports immediately rises to £101 million. If this process is repeated throughout the whole range of non-classified military equipment the total will vastly exceed the official figures; it is reliably estimated

that the total value of exports of all types of military equipment from Britain last year was £120 million—or nearly 5 per cent. of the total value of British exports.

## OFF-SHORE PURCHASES

A large proportion of the military equipment exported from Britain is accounted for under the so-called "off-shore purchases" scheme in conjunction with America. Under this scheme the U.S. places orders in Britain for military equipment which is to be delivered to various countries participating in the military alliance of N.A.T.O. These items of equipment are paid for by America in dollars.

Under this scheme Britain received orders for military equipment to the value of £26 million in the 1952-53 period; this rose to the fantastic sum of £136 million for the twelve-monthly period 1952-53. This figure included orders to the value of £50 million for Hawker Hunter fighter aircraft, £36 million for Centurion tanks, and £30 million for ammunition. The situation is rapidly arising where the largest dollar-earning export of Britain is not whisky but weapons of war!

## 'INVISIBLE' EXPORTS

A further way in which the "off-shore purchases" scheme adds to the value of Britain's exports manifests itself in the sphere of 'invisible' exports. America often places orders for certain types of military equipment which originated in this country but are manufactured abroad. As compensation and a market for its manufacturers pay royalties to the British firms who originated the equipment. It was in this fashion that Britain last year collected royalties for the manufacture, under licence, of 460 Hawker Hunter fighters worth £59 million and made in the Benelux countries.

# People, Places and Politics

By Cassia

## HUMANITARIAN SPIRIT

THE fighting is now over in Guatemala and hard on the heels of the bombers which blasted the tiny republic come the gestures of those who allied themselves with the aggressors. The conspiracy and treachery which helped to murder the liberal government is now matched by hypocrisy.

First in this sordid queue comes the United States announcing that it is sending medical supplies worth 250,000 dollars to Guatemala in order to alleviate sickness or distress among the people which may have been caused by the "recent strife." The U.S. Foreign Aid Administrator, Harold Stassen, explained: "This action reflects the humanitarian spirit of the U.S. to move swiftly and effectively to relieve sickness or distress of fellow human beings, whenever it is within the U.S. capacity to do so."

It is not hard to guess the reasons for this outburst of generosity by the Americans—their victory in Guatemala has been rather a hollow one. They have succeeded in their efforts to see the "communists" in Guatemala overthrown only at the expense of creating extreme suspicion among the people of South American states—who feel it may be their turn next. Thus the American big business government tries to show its magnanimity with 250,000 dollars worth of medical supplies—but I have a feeling that the people in South America have seen crocodiles crying before!

## THE VATICAN TOO

CLOSELY tailing along in the tracks of the United States comes the Vatican City—eager to administer the last rites over the prostrate body of Guatemalan democracy. This it does by showing its friendly attitude towards the military dictatorship which is now installed in Guatemala—so it announces that it has decided to recognise the regime Colonel Castillo Armas.

Did I hear a faint whisper from the distant past whisper something about Spain?

## UN-BRITISH?

THERE are two ways of opposing the present policy of the National Executive Committee on German rearmament. The first is the Socialist way—opposition because it is a reactionary policy and part of the global plan for a capitalist alliance against the Soviet Union; because it is all part and parcel of the policies which led to British, American and French rearmament.

The other form of opposition to the N.E.C.'s policy is that which was recently expressed in the "Daily Worker" when it reviewed "In Defence of Europe"—the pamphlet which gives the N.E.C.'s point of view. The "Daily Worker" said: "It is not a British plan, or a patriotic plan."

If those readers who live near Highgate cemetery notice a faint rumbling it is not an earth tremor but merely the uneasy stirrings of a bearded old man as he turns over and over in his earthy bed.

## BUSINESS WOMEN—UNITE!

A SHORT while ago the U.S. Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs held a convention in Missouri and, in addition to the normal American convention activities, they also managed to do a little talking. One of the delegates said that she would like "to see the business and professional women of the free world unite in taking the lead in combating Communist propaganda aimed at the women of the world."

Business women of the world—Unite! You have nothing to lose but your chain stores!

agreement reached at Washington in regard to the South-East Asia Alliance ("to press forward with plans for collective defence"). There was also the agreement reached on Germany—which quite obviously strengthened Eisenhower's hand in demanding the ratification of E.D.C. by France.

There may have been some "give" on the part of Washington, but there was also quite definitely a lot of "take." I don't think we can overstress either.

W. Norwood. D. Finch

(Owing to the shortage of space other letters have been held over until next week).

## MEETINGS

### ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE

"Socialist Outlook" Meeting, Wednesday, July 31, at 7.30 p.m. 44 Winton Street, (near Charles-town Station). Speaker: BOB PENNINGTON.

### LEEDS

"Socialist Outlook" readers and shareholders meeting Sunday, July 18, at 7.30 p.m. S.E. Leeds Labour Party Rooms, 233 York Road, Leeds. Speaker: H. FINCH (Management Committee, L.P.S.).

### ATHERTON AND TYLDESLEY

"Socialist Outlook" Meeting, Sunday, July 25 at 7.0 p.m. Atherton Labour Club, Tyldesley Road, Atherton. Speaker: BOB PENNINGTON (L.P.S. Management Committee). (Not July 18 as previously advertised).

### MERSEYSIDE

"Socialist Outlook" Meeting, Sunday, July 18 at 6.30 p.m. 138 Price Street, Birkenhead. Speaker: HARRY RATNER.

# Readers Write...

## Rents and Malnutrition

Before the war, Dr. McGonigle, who was Medical Officer of Health for Stockport-on-Tees, established that adequate food was at least as important as decent housing for the maintenance of health. His team of investigators found that there was no marked improvement in the health standards of people removed from the slums to the new housing estates.

The reason for this was that the higher rents of the new houses absorbed money previously spent on food. As a result, rickets and other deficiency diseases showed no decline.

Thanks to rationing and price control, many of the deficiency diseases have practically disappeared.

Now rents are going up again. Nearly all Council tenants are paying higher rents as a result of Tory policy. When the new Rents Act becomes law, this will also apply to tenants of private landlords.

Taken together with the increased cost of food, these increased rents will inevitably mean that the average working class family will have less money to spend on food.

Malnutrition will again work its havoc, and the chief sufferers will be the workers' children.

Richmond M. Mathews

## Whose Party Is It?

The question raised by H. Tenant (S.O. July 9) is the one that matters most today to the Labour Party. It has been calling for an answer for many years, particularly since 1945. Before we face the next General Election the control of the Party should be the subject of a National Debate by the rank and file of the membership.

Croydon Reader

## Cabinet Secrets

It is announced that there is a possibility that Cabinet Secrets of 1917 (Lloyd George's coalition government of World War I) may be disclosed—in 1967.

This should make very interesting reading for the period covered not only includes a vital period of

the war but also the Russian Revolution.

It must have been this cabinet which planned the war of intervention against the young Soviet state, an intervention which was responsible for a million-fold more bloodshed and misery than the revolution itself.

But why must we wait 50 years before Cabinet secrets are made public? Our government is allegedly based on the principle "of the people, by the people, for the people." Have not the people then a right to know what their representatives are up to, in their name?

Cabinets commit whole nations to policies which may have the most frightful consequences—such as the agreement which allows America to establish A-bomb bases in this country. They enter into foreign alliances which might involve the country in war at a moment's notice. Can we claim to be truly democratic if we allow this to happen without the knowledge of the people who will have to do the fighting and meet the horror of atomic warfare?

The next Labour Government must do away with this tradition of secrecy and carry out all their actions in full view of the people who placed them in power.

Ham, Surrey. K. G. Brown

## Washington Conference

I rather felt after reading last week's American Newsletter, there was a tendency to exaggerate the differences between Churchill and Eisenhower.

True enough, Churchill may have pointed out the disadvantages to capitalism of plunging into war at the present time. The vast sweep of the colonial revolution and the widespread opposition to war in Europe does not augur well for imperialism were Washington to plunge into fresh military adventures in Asia.

As the Newsletter correctly pointed out Churchill wishes to reach a temporary agreement with Moscow, to use the Kremlin to contain the revolution. This led to the expression by Churchill of the need for "peaceful co-existence."

But, in another speech he gloried in his attempt to "strangle" the Russian revolution at birth. What is more important was the

# WORKING MOTHER SPEAKS OUT

WORKING class wives and mothers are nowadays subjected to a constant barrage of attack from the national press, the various women's organisations in which the ladies of leisure litter away their time and by every other means which Toryism can use to demonstrate that the immense in which the children and mothers of to-day find themselves, is due to the negligence of the working mother.

The women of the back streets have too many children! One of the greatest causes of juvenile delinquency is mothers who go out to work! In spite of the provisions made for them, educational facilities, birth control clinics, better housing, greater economic freedom, etc., these women continue to produce large neglected families and delinquent children! Day after day this propaganda is turned out until it makes anyone with a social conscience feel their sick.

Little is said of the real conditions which working class women must endure. That they live in squalid back streets because there isn't enough decent roomy houses and flats to accommodate them and their families. That there is no publicity given to the existence of birth control clinics, and comparatively few know about them.

Where I live there is one such clinic for the whole town which opens twice a week for a few hours. Recently I had the experience of being asked by a midwife

By M. Shaw

where this clinic was. She had been a resident in the town for two or four months and wanted to give the information to a friend. Fantastic isn't it! If the midwives don't know about the clinics how are the women of the back streets to obtain the information.

If the existence of these clinics were publicised, if the clinics were advertised, if they were brought within the scope of the National Health Service and the birth con-

groups, handicraft groups? Why can't the children have their own workshops, railways, miniature homes, gardens, farms and so on? Why not? Mum and Dad would go off to work happy because they would know that the children would be happy, helping to create and construct something in the world around them, their world. But let's come back to earth, capitalism doesn't work that way. To provide the children with these pleasures, to produce the cure for delinquency would eat into the private profit and privilege which is the cause of delinquency and just so long as capitalist society remains juvenile delinquency will continue in a greater or lesser degree and no number of psychiatrists, borstal probation officers and the like will prevent it.

## A FINAL NOTE

A final note, after reading "Tribune" of July 2: Toryism will continue to shove the blame for delinquency on to the shoulders of working class mothers in an effort to divert attention from its own rotten system. We do not expect it to do otherwise. But there is no reason why writers in the Socialist press should join in this. That is what Mr Laurence Thompson did in his column "Mothers who go out to work" in the July 2 issue of "Tribune."

Does Mr. Thompson really believe what is reported to him or what his correspondents say about this most exploited section of society? If not, he should say so and present a solution to these problems. Perhaps he is just being provocative. In this case he should drop the middle-class cynicism and get a little nearer to the workers, try to treat their problems with a little sympathy and understanding and above all join with them in their struggle to lift the evil weight of capitalism from their backs, or else drop the pretence of being a socialist and join Cassandra and the "Daily Mirror."

## THEIR OWN CINEMA

Why not provide the children with their own cinema, their own theatre with performances every single day of the school holidays? Why not organise trips to the country, to the seaside, botany camps, historical tours, drama?