

THE

Week

A news analysis for socialists 9d.

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A NEWS ANALYSIS FOR SOCIALISTS

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## EDITORS' LETTER

First, we must apologise for a slip last week which led the last part of Pat Jordan's comment on the letter from Mr. D.J. Williamson to be left out. In reply to the query of what his attitude was to Government regulation which barred workers from getting unemployment benefit if they were in the same category as strikers, he pointed out that he regarded this as a vicious strike-breaking device. He said further, that he thought a national campaign should be made to get it kicked out.

THE SPLIT IN THE TORY PARTY AND THE ELECTION

The latest information would indicate that Enoch Powell did not write all the articles in The Times appearing under the name "A Conservative". But of greater interest to socialists is not who wrote the articles but why they were written at this particular time. One would think that on the eve of the General Election with the tide running against the Conservative Party that such critics would bide their time. The most obvious explanation for contradictory behaviour is that a section of the Tory Party have lost hope in winning the election and are more interested in a battle for power within the party even if this struggle jeopardises still further the chances of a Tory victory. One might <sup>take</sup> this line of thought a stage further and speculate whether or not, in fact, this section of the Tory Party would prefer a Conservative defeat and are working for this end.

It is hard to believe that that the author(s) of the articles in The Times really mean what they say. Is anyone really serious about advocating denationalisation of all nationalised industries as a long-term objective; the ending of all housing subsidies; the dismantling of the Beveridge social security system; and abandoning such acts of planning the Tories have initiated (location of industry policy, regional development, differential taxation, NEDC, NIC, etc.)? Whilst differences on these policies do reflect different tendencies in the employing classes, it would appear that the extremeness (admitted by Enoch Powell himself) of the arguments is motivated by inner-party considerations. The author(s) must have calculated that the Home leadership would be extremely embarrassed in the lower ranks of the party by all this. Furthermore, the unfavourable publicity (and the giving to the Labour Party of a stick to beat the Tories with on the very eve of the Greater London elections) must have been foreseen. So we are left with the conclusion that here we have accomplished politicians engaged in a struggle for power within the Conservative Party and who are willing to jeopardise that Party's election prospects for this end.

Such is the demoralised state of the Conservative racked by dissension because of the weakened position of British capitalism. We are, of course, on neither side in the crisis of policy of how best to rationalise British capitalism; but we are vitally concerned with these struggles. They present both tremendous opportunities and a particular danger. In the face of this <sup>be</sup> disarray in the direct representatives of our enemy we can afford to <sup>be</sup> much bolder and decisive. After all one of Powell's accusations boils down to the claim that the present leadership of the Tory Party have grudgingly accepted Labour's reform policy and even the concept of national planning. The left wing are thus in a very strong position to push the fight for more nationalisation, etc. But perhaps it is the danger inherent in this situation which should concern us most: if decisive sections of the employing classes accept the likelihood of Labour's victory, the next step will be for them to seek some kind of understanding with the Labour leadership, with 'give and take' on both sides. Can we doubt that within the Labour leadership there are men who would sorely tempted to do a deal? It is our job to <sup>make</sup> this absolutely impossible.



# INDUSTRIAL week

MANY MORE STRIKES SO FAR IN 1964

by Pat Jordan

Figures issued by the Ministry of Labour for January and February this year show a dramatic increase in the number of working days lost in industrial stoppages as compared with the same period last year. In 1963 109,000 working days were lost in the months of January and February as compared with no less than 549,000 in these months this year. No doubt the bad weather last year played a part in keeping the number of stoppages down but more important in these figures is the changed pattern of strikes. The actual number of stoppages only increased from 293 to 389 (some 33%) but the number of working days lost increased by nearly 400%. In other words strikes lasted much longer. This in turn is a reflection of the sharper relations in the industrial field.

To illustrate this still further if we look at the days lost in strikes which ended in February we see the following:

<u>Duration of stoppage</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>workers involved</u>	<u>working days lost</u>
Not more than one day	81	18,300	19,000
2 days	47	7,100	13,000
3 days	26	5,200	16,000
4-6 days	20	10,200	30,000
<u>over 6 days</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>4,200</u>	<u>324,000</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>188</u>	<u>45,000</u>	<u>402,000</u>

If we take particular industries we see that the increase in days lost has been pretty widely spread. The greatest increase was in metal manufacture, where the Port Talbot stoppage swelled the figures up to 268,000 working days lost, but other industries showed significant increases: mining, up 33,000 to 77,000 (virtually same number of stoppages); Engineering, up 21,000 to 39,000 (stoppages up in proportion); Motor vehicles and cycles, up 14,000 to 76,000 (stoppages up  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times); Construction, up 8,000 to 15,000 (stoppages up only 18%); Port and inland water transport, up 2,000 to 29,000 (stoppages up  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times); and other transport, up 3,000 to 12,000 (stoppages up  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times).

There are many factors contributing to this changed pattern but the most important is political: the attempt by the Tory Government to solve the problems of rationalising British capitalism at the expense of the working class has had the affect of 'stiffening' the resistance of the employers to wage demands and has encouraged the more 'backward' sections to take a more overtly anti-union attitude. Overshadowing all this is the prospect of a general election and the widespread belief that strikes are harmful to Labour's prospects. Hence the spate of long drawn out industrial struggles. The left must react by mobilising the whole resources of the Labour movement in every struggle. It is good to see that The Week has been doing exactly that.



# LIFE'S BETTER WITH THE CONSERVATIVE



## 'NEW LEFT REVIEW' ON PROBLEMS OF LABOUR POLICY

The latest issue of New Left Review contains an extended survey of the problems and strategy of the Labour Party in the coming period. A long article by John Hughes on "An economic policy for Labour" will be required reading over a wide area, stretching far outside the traditional left. Barbara Castle, in a critique of French planning, sets out the view that:

"In Britain as in France, the serious pursuit of planning will edge us towards more fundamental decisions about property - and therefore about power - than may seem obvious when we start out on the road."

Tom Nairn contributes a long notice of E.P. Thompson's important book on 'The making of the English working class,' and there are features on the right to strike, the new Italian Socialist Party, Conscription and Pensions.

The forthcoming publication programme of NLR includes a whole series of articles which will be indispensable to the left. Among them are items by Tony Topham on Workers' Control, by Lucien Rey on the fetish of sterling,, by Tom Wengraf and Roger Murray on Algeria, and by Ernest Mandel on 'After Imperialism'. Contributors on other important theoretical matters will include Goldman, Bottomore, Sartre, Pascal, Lafebre, Anderson and Nairn.

It is much to be hoped that readers of The Week will take out subscriptions in the next week or two: not only will they save themselves money, but they will <sup>help</sup> ~~help~~ in what is becoming a major educational enterprise.

## LABOUR PEACE FELLOWSHIP EXPRESSES MISGIVINGS

In its April Newsletter the Labour Peace Fellowship, of which Frank Allaun is chairman, has this to say about present Labour Party policy:

"There will be misgivings about the ignoring of Labour's conference policy against US Polaris submarine bases at Holy Loch and the greater emphasis being placed on greater involvement in U.S. nuclear policy. We recognise that Labour has not yet been converted to unilateralism or neutralism.....a not inconsiderable number of Labour candidates in the election will be unilateralists and Peace Fellowship members. Many of them will be in the next House of Commons."

## WILLIS CRITICISES WILSON OVER DAILY HERALD

Writing in the April issue of Graphical Journal, the organ of the Graphical Association, Willis criticises Harold Wilson's attitude towards the demise of the Daily Herald: "Apparently neither Mr. Wilson nor anyone else in the Labour Party was much concerned about what would happen to the Herald after the election. ...Indeed Mr. Wilson has already publicly welcomed a paper the contents...of which he has not yet seen...Let us hope that the silence will not result in disaster to the movement.."

IRA GIRLS SEEK TUC PROBE

from Mrs. Bland

After over 4 months struggle and on the advice of our union officials we have accepted the employers' terms of compensation, but no jobs. We know we were right to fight against our dismissal from the firm for industrial misconduct; and it is because we know we are right that we will press for an inquiry into the conduct of our union officials in Leeds and into their handling of the dispute. We were sold out to the employers and we are still branded as trouble-shooters. We are also going to ask the union to give us references to enable us to get other jobs, in the hope that they will clear our names. Five of us worked for the firm for more than two years and three of these for more than five years. If we were really trouble shooters we would not have lasted so long.

From inquiries I have made I do not believe that the national executive of the union in London has been given a clear picture of the dispute, had it not been for a local M.P. we would not even have got an inquiry by the Ministry of Labour into the wages being paid at the firm. The girls are all adamant about pressing for this inquiry. I am willing to speak at any union branch in Sheffield that invites me. Support for us is still pouring in and I understand that two M.P.s are to meet the union's general secretary in London and if no satisfaction is gained the facts will be reported to the TUC.

Mr. Vernon Thornes, secretary of the Sheffield Trades and Labour Council said on April 2nd (as reported in The Sheffield Star): "Already I have had a telephone inquiry from the TUC about this dispute and dozens of letters from local unions on the handling of the affair. We are not at all happy about the union's handling of this and it will be discussed at a meeting of our executive next week."

Besides myself, the other girls involved are Mrs. Sylvia Thrall, aged 24, Brocco Bank; Miss Margaret Crossley, aged 21, Penistone Rd.; and her sister Wendy aged 16; Miss Sandra Hodkin, aged 18, of Halsall Avenue, Darnall; Miss Olive Bates, aged 17, Bowden Wood Crescent, Darnall; and 23-year-old Jean Knowles, of Long Henry Row, Parkhill.

Ed. Note: Mrs. Bland thanks all those who have sent messages of support, donations, etc. We hope that the same measure of support (and more) is forthcoming for the demand for a TUC probe. Anyone who is not familiar with the details of this case will get them from Week No. 14.

WALLPAPER SHOPGIRLS PREPARE FOR LONG STRIKE

Ten girls who struck when their manager, Mr. F. R. Black, was given one minute's notice a week last Tuesday are to continue their struggle. Meeting on Tuesday, April 7th, together with husbands and sweethearts, they reaffirmed their intention to struggle for trade union recognition at Decorwall and Crown Wallpapers. Their union, USDAW, has made the strike the official. Although various excuses were given, Mr. Blackman's dismissal flowed from his union activities. Messages of support should be sent to: Mrs. Wise, 26, Gregory Avenue, Coventry. Next issue we will feature a report by Mrs. Wise on the whole question.

DUNDEE TRADES COUNCIL JOINS THE FRAY from Alec Bagley

At its last meeting on April 1st the Dundee Trades Council passed the following emergency resolutions:

"This Dundee Trades Council condemns the action of the South African Government in putting on trial for their lives Mr. Walter Sisulu and 8 other opponents of Apartheid, we ask for this trial to be stopped immediately and these men to be released."

The resolution is to be sent to the South African Embassy via the Scottish TUC. It was also decided to put on the agenda for the next meeting (May 6th) a resolution calling for Dundee Town Council to follow Aberdeen's example of boycotting South African goods.

GLASGOW'S LORD PROVOST SPEAKS ON BOWLS TEAM VISIT from Tony Southall

The Lord Provost of Glasgow, Mr. Peter Meldrum, has rejected a request by the Glasgow Bowling Association to give a civic reception to the South African bowlers who are touring Britain during the Summer. Explaining his decision, which was a personal one, he gave two reasons for his attitude. The first was that the South Africans were not taking part in the Olympic Games this year when people of all races and colours would be competing. The other was that "Glasgow University students elected Mr. Albert Lutuli, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, as their Rector. They requested on three occasions that he should come here for the installation ceremony but the South African Government refused to allow this."

In other parts of Scotland the question is being discussed: Labour members of Edinburgh Town Council have reaffirmed their decision to boycott a civic lunch in 'honour' of the bowling team on July 1st; Alloa Town Council have accepted a recommendation by their finance committee that a civic reception should not be given; <sup>and</sup> strangely enough the Aberdeen Town Council decided without a division to give a civic reception to the South Africans...

THE ANTI-APARTHEID CAMPAIGN IN NOTTINGHAM by Mrs. S. L. Whawell  
(secretary)

All sympathisers and willing helpers please note that two important events are planned.

Saturday, April 18th - The Nottingham Co-op Society Political Committee are holding a rally at the Albert Hall, commencing 7.00 p.m. Signatures to the United Nations Petition to be collected and the sale of 'Anti-Apartheid News' to be carried on outside the Hall.

Saturday, April 25th - A boycott parade to be held in the City Centre. A really big turn-out is planned for that day. Poster boards to be carried; leaflets to <sup>be</sup> distributed; A.A. News to be sold. All helpers please contact the Secretary at: 78, Orston Drive, Wollaton Park, Nottingham. Telephone: Nottingham 281833.



### INDIANA PROSECUTOR PURSUES WITCH HUNT AGAINST YOUNG SOCIALISTS

On March 25 Prosecutor Thomas Hoadley announced at a press conference that he intended to appeal against the ruling made by Judge Nat. Hill that the Indiana Communism Act of 1951 was unconstitutional. It was because of this ruling that the indictment against 3 members of the Young Socialist Alliance was dismissed (see Week number 14 for details). It will be several months at least before a date for arguments before a state court will even be set. That date may not be before 1965.

Hoadley's appeal represents a continuing threat to academic freedom. The victory at the original trial has inspired a determination to do away with the witch-hunting Act altogether. Philip Appleman, Professor of English at Indiana University, who is a sponsor of the Committee to Aid the Bloomington Students, has issued a statement emphasising the need to continue the struggle. The Committee itself is continuing its activities whilst there is a threat that Judge Hill's ruling will be overturned. The committee is still raising funds to wipe out the legal debt of some \$3,000 incurred by the case. Donations should be sent to CABS, Box 213, Cooper Station, New York, N.Y., U.S.A.

Ed. Note: A resolution condemning the prosecution of the young socialists was passed at the Annual Conference of the Young Socialists at Brighton. This was passed before information about Judge Hill's ruling was available. There is also a resolution on the question at the NALSO conference being held this week. This will probably be amended to take into account the new situation.

### HIROSHIMA A-BOMBER IN GAOL FOR 8TH TIME from NATIONAL GUARDIAN 21/3/64

Claude Eatherly is in gaol again. The former Air Force major who led the atomic bomb attack on Hiroshima was arrested for the 8th time March 14 for holding up a store in Galveston, Texas. He was apprehended with a toy pistol. Guilt feelings resulting from his war-time action have driven Eatherley to prison 7 previous times and to a series of mental institutions. After one crime he said: "One hundred thousand people died at Hiroshima because of me...because I gave the order." Eatherly has injured no one in his criminal career and seems to plot his crimes with the intention of getting caught.

### DOCKERS' UNION BACKS HOFFA

The Secretary, President and vice-President of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, on hearing of Hoffa's conviction, sent him a telegram assuring him of their "understanding and all-out support" and saying that in the long run "Bobby Kennedy and his vicious personal vendetta against you will be defeated." Explaining his attitude, Harry Bridges, ILWU president, said: "It is not a question of trying to paint Hoffa as a shining knight. He is president of a great union...It's that leadership and that union that Kennedy has as his target." Ed. Note: next issue will contain a full-length article on Hoffa.

# THIRD WORLD WEEK



## FRENCH PUPPET REGIME EXPOSED BY 'THE TIMES' from James Wilcox

Anti-Gaullism allows the London Tines to be frank about the French puppet state of Ivory Coast, West Africa. In the April 1st issue one could read the following:

"From one of the 300 bedrooms of the Hotel Ivoire one looks out across the Ebrie lagoon to the centre of Abidjan, known as the plateau. The hotel, completed only a short time ago, must be one of the most striking anomalies in Africa. No expense has been spared in its construction and embellishment. Its walls are padded with imitation leather, the doors of one of its several bars are decorated with gold-inlaid porcelain. From the air-conditioned comfort of the public rooms a guest can stroll on to extensive lawns, past fountains that play at night under multi-coloured floodlights, to a swimming pool and outdoor restaurant. The Ivoire is the perfect status symbol, the unequivocal declaration that Abidjan, set on the edge of thick tropical forest, but only four degrees west of Paris, is a French town in every practical respect....

"In a country of some 60 tribal groups the French, and the African elite, who are culturally and economically French by assimilation, are by far the most important....the French provide not only a large proportion of the higher administration, but the whole of the commercial middle class, including retail trade...

"...the average African...is to be found not on the plateau or the residential quarter of Cocody in which stands the Hotel Ivoire but in the townships of Treichville and Adjame. One may wander through their streets, an English-language guide book to Abidjan declares, "and hear everywhere the call of the drums, of balatons, and of bands accompanied by hand-clapping and moving chants." One may also wander through the streets of Treichville, the older of the townships, at night and see rows of recumbent bodies sleeping on the pavements or beneath lean-to shacks or corrugated iron. Here is Africa. It is only a mile from the plateau, but it is a totally different world. The European economy and the African have no meeting point. Money, and different habits of life, impose a separation as clearcut in the economic sphere as does South Africa's apartheid in the racial...

"Abidjan, like the hotel, is an anomaly, but anyone who is in business here will want, quite understandably, to keep it that way." If one wants similar reports about Nigeria turn to Le Monde.

REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENTS PARTICIPATE IN WORLD TRADE CONFERENCE

The revolutionary governments of Cuba and Zanzibar have given an example of how to use the most unlikely forums for putting across ideas and making fundamental criticisms of neo-colonialism in the way they have used the present world conference on trade at Geneva. The conference was organised in accordance with a resolution passed at the 17th session of the U.N. General Assembly and is called the "United Conference on International Trade and Development". It started on March 23rd.

Speaking on March 25th, Che Guevara, the Cuban delegate, said that the contradiction between the developed capitalist countries and the economically under-developed countries was of 'basic significance' to the conference. He emphasised that the extensive development of the developed capitalist countries was made on the basis of exploiting the dependent countries. He urged the under-developed countries to unite and not fall into the snares of the developed countries which were exploiting them.

Guevara held that the conference should not only discuss the problem of markets but the "entire question of domination of the national economy of dependent countries by the developed countries." It was necessary to "fully eradicate the exploitation of the dependent countries by the developed countries and all the consequences which resulted from this very fact." All the international financial groups and all their organisations in other forms - such as the International Monetary Fund, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, and the Inter-American Development Bank - served the capitalist powers, first and foremost U.S. imperialism, Guevara continued. They were imperialism's "most subtle instruments of perpetuating under-development and exploitation."

He denounced the "Alliance for Progress" as another example. Guevara pointed out that even if funds for "assistance" under this scheme were increased by 200%, they could not make up for the profits which the U.S. squeezed out of Latin America each year. Dealing with the so-called private enterprise system advocated by the U.S. delegate, Guevara said that it meant only "freedom for the monopolies". Guevara put in Cuba's demands for restoring to the under-developed countries their traditional goods' export markets seized by the imperialists and for the respecting of the rights of nations to trade freely and sign transport agreements without interference.

In conclusion, Guevara said that the mood to resist was growing, the peoples are fighting for their rights by force of arms - he cited examples - and Cuba supported the peoples fighting imperialism and pledged military solidarity with them.

Speaking later in the Conference, Babu, the Zanzibar delegate, attacked international monopolies. He drew attention to the fact that nearly all the advanced capitalist countries had legislation against monopoly, and argued that since monopolies are international phenomena there should be international legislation against them.

JEW-BAITING IN SOUTH AFRICA Special Week report

Cries of "Go back to Israel" and "Look how the Jews are getting up" have figured in angry exchanges in the South African House of Assembly in recent weeks when white radicals such as Mrs. Helen Suzmann (Progressive Party) have tried to speak. The racist South African government again echoes the worst aspects of supracist policies.

This fresh outburst of anti-semitism is nothing new in South Africa and Verwoerd is no new-comer to this activity. As long ago as 1938 his first entry into politics was marked by his opposition to allowing refugees from Hitler's extermination policy to shelter in South Africa. As editor of "Die Transvaler" he supported the then ruling that no Jew could become a member of the National Party. He was in favour of discriminating against Jews in the professions, advocating a "Quota System" whereby they would find important posts rationed amongst the Jewish community, and recruitment restricted. Even after the Second World War; Jews could not become members of the National Party in the Transvaal.

Recent outbursts are prompted by the fact that major defendants in the Rivonia trial which continues this week are known to be Jews. Justice Minister, Vorster, claims that 80% of white radicals are Jews and this estimate, our South African correspondent suggests, is not inaccurate. Verwoerd's policy is that of intimidation of all white support for revolutionary change in South Africa: he sees the Jewish population as a possible source of funds for the progressive forces. The Jews in South Africa occupy a greater proportion of posts among professions than their 4% proportion of the white population would suggest, and Verwoerd is using this fact to blackmail them into a neutral position with the threat of discrimination and the introduction of his pet idea of a "quota". Our South African correspondent informs us that this strategy appears to be paying off amongst the responsible Jewish community which is extremely apprehensive. The South African Board of Deputies is scared to take a firm stand on the racial question. Anti-semitic letters appear frequently in South African newspapers and Verwoerd publicly deplores the fact that so many Jews vote for the Progressive Party. In 1960 a Rabbi was deported for his outspoken sermons.

Nevertheless, Verwoerd has come under pressure to repudiate the insults hurled from the Government benches at Jewish opposition members. To date, however, the only outcome has been the reply by Nationalist M.P., Blaar Coetzee, that the United Party is more anti-semitic than the Nationalists.

'NEW YORK TIMES' SAYS NO RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION IN CUBA

The New York Times of March 29th carried a dispatch from Havana by Juan de Onis. It stated: "Easter and Passover are being observed by Christians and Jews in Cuba in complete religious freedom, and even with some help from Cuba's officially atheistic state. Roman Catholic churches have been thronged...The Ministry of Labour declared a 2-day holiday out of respect for traditions...At the Jewish Community Centre, a Passover supper was served for 200 persons from the 4 congregations in Havana. Food is tightly rationed in Cuba, but the Government ordered special quotas of chickens, eggs and cooking oil so that all Jews might celebrate Passover."



# THIRD WORLD WEEK

## U.S. BEHIND BRAZIL COUP SAY LATIN AMERICAN PEOPLE from Hsinhua

All over Latin America democratic forces have denounced the U.S. as being the instigator of the military coup in Brazil. In Uruguay on April 3rd, 8,000 people met in front of the National University in support of the Brazilian people. Representatives of several political parties and popular organisations attended. Referring to the Brazilian coup d'etat, Jose Cardozo, of the Socialist Party said: "The Latin American peoples should draw a lesson from the coup d'etat in Brazil and organise themselves to seize victory and defend it along the road which the reactionaries compel them to take." Ariel Collazo, of the left-wing Liberation Front, stressed the need for the left-wing forces to strengthen their unity and take immediate measures to oppose oligarchy. Other representatives included ones from the Central Union of Uruguayan Workers, the Uruguayan Federation of University Students, and the cane growers of Artigas who last month marched on the capital demanding land reform.

Cuban papers are emphatic in their denouncement of the U.S. in this matter. Hoy said on April 2nd that the coup was "conceived, planned, financed and ordered by Washington..." The press, news agencies and official documents of Washington every day accused Goulart of failing to take part in the U.S. plan against Cuba, and of carrying out his foreign policy which respects the right to self-determination of other peoples, the paper added. The same day El Mondo said that the real reason for the coup was that U.S. monopoly groups and the Brazilian oligarchs opposed the policies of the Goulart Government.

In Argentina, the Argentine Vanguard Socialist Party has issued a statement denouncing the coup against the Goulart Government. The "Sixty-two Trade Unions" of the Peronist Party in a statement also denounced the coup as being staged under the pretext of "anti-international communism", but actually being designed to maintain the exploitation of the Latin American people by the local oligarchy and U.S. monopolies. The Argentine Movement of Unity and Trade Unions' Coordination has sent a message to the Brazilian workers general command supporting its struggle against the coup. The Argentine Socialist Party has also issued a statement denouncing the coup.

The Mexican paper Diario de Mexico said on April 2nd that certain Brazilian officers had long been counting on Pentagon support to overthrow the Goulart Government at the decisive moment. The paper continued, U.S. imperialism wanted to overthrow Goulart because it had expropriated a number of latifundia and foreign enterprises.

BUILDING LAND PRICES

from an Economics correspondent

It has been remarked that land prices are the fast rising element in building costs and, therefore, in the cost of houses. A recent supplement to the Financial Times contains an extensive examination of the whole housing set-up and among the articles therein, one by J. Switzer dealt with the question of building land prices.

He started by posing the problem of the recent increase in prices and how the situation would tend to worsen: "...In 1962 one could refer to land costing £3,000 per acre as being "very expensive". It would no longer be thought so. A price of between £3,000 and £4,000 per acre for good housing land on the outskirts of Nottingham was recently thought to be "a fair deal" whereas 2 years ago it might have been between £1,200 and £1,500; and land in a good suburb 20 minutes from a mainline London Terminus has quite recently jumped from under £20,000 to about £25,000 per acre...."

"Although the actual siting of housing is influenced by the pattern of development and by town planning control, price levels are essentially fixed by demand. What determines the level of demand? Population is the first factor. The Registrar General's latest projection shows England and Wales with 63m. people in the year 2002, an increase of 17m. - the equivalent of another Sevenoaks every 15 days, or a Manchester every 18 months... But there are two other vital questions. First..will be the effect of increase in real incomes...The demands of all kinds on land will grow - industry, business, shopping, transport, education and recreation. In the case of housing alone we shall want bigger houses - to provide more space for ourselves as well as for all our household equipment; we shall replace slums with larger dwellings at lower densities...And certainly more efficient building would increase the rate of replacement of worn-out housing and therefore tend to lower still further the national figure for housing density.

"The second question..is...the distribution of population. Will the South-East for example have  $\frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the extra population - will its share be an extra "Sevenoaks" once every 30 days or once every 60 days? The Government proposals for accomodating another 4m. people in the South-East appear to accept...a continuation for this region of the pattern of distribution which established itself between 1951 and 1961. But within the region it is the location of employment - particularly the level of employment in central London - and the pattern of transport which will determine the distribution of demand for land..."

Mr. Switzer then considers the basic reason for the big increase in the price of land: "...Builders'" demand may differ from "householders'" demand for 2 reasons: first, builders are now stock-piling land because they fear legislation to control its price; and second, they are interested in getting high densities because the greater <sup>the</sup> number of dwellings they can put on the land they buy, the greater their total building profits. They are therefore willing to pay for density. Indeed price per acre appears to be almost directly related to permitted density - the land price per dwelling falls only slightly as density rises...I therefore conclude that it is largely the pressure from builders which has created higher densities and therefore higher prices per acre, a pressure backed by local authorities since it enables them to increase the rateable value within their own boundaries..." He ends by warning that a continuation of the present trends could be disastrous and would lead to chaos, and puts forward his solution, that of planning not through price control, but through the 'open market' and 'a complete analysis of land sales.' He does <sup>not</sup> appear to see that he has made out a powerful argument for the social ownership of land and building.

GATHERING SUPPORT FOR WORKERS CONTROL SCHOOL

Support for the week-end school on workers' control to be held in Nottingham the week end of the 25/26 of April is growing. Already some 30 people from outside Nottingham have stated their intention of coming. This is in addition to a large number attending from Nottingham. Over and above this there have been over 30 letters of enquiry about the school. Stan Mills has contributed a paper on workers' control and participation in management on the railways; he is in a good position to write on this subject being a leading light in the NUR. T.B. Bottomore author of 'Elites and Society' and many other books on sociology, is to present a paper on the theoretical implications of industrial democracy. Among others participating are Tony Topham, author of the Fabian pamphlet "Workers' Control in Jugoslavia"; Dave Lambert, of the Foundry Workers' Union; Len Nicholas (NUR), secretary of the Labour CND Committee; and Walter Kendall, a leading figure in USDAW.

Ed. Note: full details of the school appeared in Week number 14. Readers should write in immediately if they want to attend as arrangements have to be made about accomodation, etc.

LONDON MCF ISSUE STATEMENT ON SOUTHERN RHODESIA from Stan Mills

The London MCF has issued a statement to all affiliated organisations and individual members on the question of Southern Rhodesia. The statement explains what white-settler "independence" would amount to, and gives details of the repression in the country. It exposes the shocking attitude of the British Tory Government on this question which culminated in the use of the veto in the U.N. Security Council to kill a resolution, which had been passed overwhelmingly, which called on the British Government not to grant the white settlers their "independence." The statement ends with a call to action:

"....demand that the British Government immediately suspends the present Constitution and white-minority Government, and calls a nationwide conference of all peoples in Southern Rhodesia to prepare a new, democratic Constitution, based on equality and full adult suffrage, irrespective of race or any other qualification."

The London MCF also draws attention to a pamphlet: "The White Dictators of Southern Rhodesia" by Fenner Brockway, costing 1/- and available from them at 374, Gray's Inn Rd., London W.C. 1.

FABIAN SOCIETY PUBLISHES PAMPHLET ON RWANDA MASSACRES

The Fabian Society announce the publication of "Massacre in Rwanda" which is the first independent account of the Rwanda massacres. It explains how they <sup>came</sup> about and makes constructive proposals for the prevention of further bloodshed. The author, Aaron Segal, an American research student, was in Rwanda soon after the massacres and was able to interview many Rwandans, including government spokesmen and was himself interrogated by the head of the Rwandan CID. He denies that the 10,000 to 14,000 deaths were the result of deliberate policy on the part of the Rwanda Government and is very critical of the UN representative in Rwanda, Max Dorsinville. The pamphlet can be obtained from the Fabian Society, 11, Dartmouth St., London SW 1, costing 3/3 P.P.

THE WEEK - THE WEEK

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