

THE

Week

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A news analysis for socialists 9d. *No. 9*

THE WEEK

A NEWS ANALYSIS FOR SOCIALISTS

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EDITORS' LETTER

Last week a number of our readers received their copy later than usual. This was unavoidable as the G.P.O. discovered that the way we have been despatching The Week infringes one of their regulations, and all copies were returned to us the following day. We apologise for the delay, and hope that things will run smoothly now that we are complying with regulations, but the additional expense of envelopes for each copy gives added emphasis to our appeal in last week's issue for all the support our readers can give us, especially by winning us more subscribers.

DEFEND CYPRIOT SELF-DETERMINATION

Behind all the shilly-shallying over bringing U.N.O. into the Cyprus crisis lies the desire by British imperialism to protect and preserve at all costs its two military bases in Cyprus. Because these bases have become an integral part of the world-wide system of N.A.T.O. - C.E.N.T.O. - S.E.A.T.O. bases U.S. imperialism, too, had a stake in keeping U.N.O. out. Even the pretence that the 'peace-keeping' force would be a N.A.T.O. one was false; at least one important member of N.A.T.O. - France - being opposed to the operation. The New York Times of February 15-16 put the issue like this:

"...Behind these issues looms the Russian shadow, which long antedates the cold war. It was to keep Russia out of the eastern Mediterranean that Cyprus was first put under British rule at the Berlin Congress of 1878, and it is for the same reason that Britain and the U.S. seek to keep Russia from creeping in again through the U.N. and the large communist element in Cyprus."

The origins of the communal conflict in Cyprus can be found in the old method of British imperialism - divide and rule. When Britain had to give up its Suez base, Cyprus took its place as the main Middle East base. This brought the British authorities into conflict with the aspirations of the Cypriot peoples. Eden brought Turkey in the matter when he invited that country's Government together with Greek representatives, in 1955, to a conference to examine 'political and military problems concerning the eastern Mediterranean, including Cyprus.' This conferred on Turkey the right to intervene in Cypriot internal affairs. The Turkish Government subsequently did everything in its power to whip up chauvinist feeling amongst the Turkish speaking in Cyprus.

The Treaty giving independence to Cyprus institutionalised this right to intervene by writing in Turkey's authority to bring troops into the island. The imposed constitution has 199 Articles and hundreds of paragraphs regulating the whole functioning of authority and giving the Turkish minority the absolute veto power over any legislation of importance. When, to get out of the strait-jacket imposed upon him by this constitution, Makarios issued a memorandum proposing amendments to the constitution, the extremist elements amongst the Turks provoked civil war. Chauvinists on both sides took advantage of the situation to advance their interests.

It is false to say that the Turkish and Greek peoples of Cyprus cannot and have not lived in peace side by side. On the contrary they have a record of joint struggle against oppression, including that against Turkish domination before Britain took over. Even today the majority of Turks and Greeks on the island live side by side with no conflict. British Labour has a clear duty: to raise the call for the removal of the bases, for genuine independence for Cyprus, without strings, and for no foreign intervention. It would be a mistake to see U.N.O. as the panacea in this situation - the experience of the Congo (we must never forget the murder of Lumumba). If there is a panacea it must be working class solidarity and unity - between Britons, Greeks and Turks. We of the Labour Party must take the first step in this by committing the Labour Party to the above policy.



INDUSTRIAL week

NEW RULES FOR OFFICE CONDITIONS

As the result of years of pressure by the unions (particularly U.S.D.A.W. so far as shops are concerned) office workers are to get similar rights to those in industry in respect of working conditions. Most of the provisions of the Offices, Shops and Railways Premises Act will come into force on August 1st. The Government Order giving effect to the Act stated that firms had the period of May 1st. to July 31st. to register their premises. From August 1st it will be illegal to employ anyone in premises where no application for a certificate has been made. Standards for the safety, health and welfare of more than 8 million workers are set out in the Act. These include provisions that each office worker must have 40 square feet of space and a room temperature of not less than 60.8 degrees Fahrenheit.

Two Government publications, the Act itself and The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, a General Guide, were issued last week. All trade unionists in these fields should get hold of copies and ensure that their employers are abiding by the provisions. These concern such diverse matters as: reasonable precautions against fire risk, effective means of ventilation, lighting, lavatories, washing facilities, handrails on stairs, fencing of machinery, and many others. They apply not only to rooms in which people work, but other parts of buildings such as stairs, landings, storerooms, and entrances. Canteens are covered, and canteen workers come under the act. All premises are supposed to be visited by inspectors.

This Act will give trade unionists a good chance to extend their activities and if used properly could help to lead to degree of unionisation of sectors where trade unions have hardly skimmed the surface of potential membership. As with the factory acts, the provisions in themselves will mean little unless backed by militant agitation. One question could be looked at, though, the fact that there are some exceptions. These are where selfemployed people work, businesses where the only persons employed are immediate relatives of the employers, or places where the total number of hours worked each week by all employees is normally not more than 21.

400 IN 'EQUAL PAY' STRIKE

On February 19th, 400 employees at the General Electrical Co.'s factory at Coventry struck because of a differential in the bonus being offered to men and women. The men were satisfied with their offer of 6d an hour increase, but when the women were only offered 2d an hour increase men and women all walked out the factory. After holding a factory gate meeting the next day in which they stated their intention of removing the anomaly, the strikers returned to work pending more talks.

DEUTSCHER WRITES ON 'THREE CURRENTS IN COMMUNISM' IN NEW LEFT REVIEW

In the latest issue of New Left Review, now on sale, there is an important article by Isaac Deutscher on the Sino-Soviet dispute which traces the argument to its roots and poses some important questions for the future of world communism.

This issue also includes an analysis of the nature of the crisis in Britain, by Perry Anderson, which deserves detailed study and discussion by all British socialists. This article is unfinished: it is to be continued in the next issue of the Review. It can, however, already be said that it is an important contribution to the intellectual rearmament of the labour movement. Perry Anderson sketches out a view of the nature of Britain's class structure which clearly owes much to Gramsci, the great Italian marxist. Before now such thinkers have found disciples in Britain, but this is the first time a thorough-going attempt has been made to apply their methods of work to British conditions. No educated socialist will be able to avoid studying this work.

Among other articles included are pieces on 'Guyana' by Janet Jagan, and the 'British Political Elite' by Tom Nairn. Stanley Mitchell has provided a discussion of Ernest Fischer's book on Marxism and Art, and there are notebooks on Workers' Control and Labour and Foreign Trade by Ken Coates and Richard Fletcher.

TENANTS' ORGANISATIONS TO HOLD HOUSING CONFERENCE

The National Association of Tenants and Residents is holding a Greater London Conference on Housing, Rents and Evictions, according to the Spring issue of Voice. It is to be held at Bedford Hall, 40, Lambs Conduit St., London W.C. 1. on Saturday, 29th February from 11.00 to 5 p.m.. Any delegates wishing to attend should contact the Secretary of NATR, 219, Blackfriars Rd., London S.E. 1.

The same issue of Voice carries the news that if sufficient support is forthcoming there will be a national housing lobby on March 18th. It appeals to trade unionists to put resolutions to their organisations calling for active support and participation in the lobby.

FUND TO REBUILD ALGIERS LIBRARY

from Denis Freney

On June 7th, 1962, after the cease-fire, the library of Algiers University was completely destroyed by an O.A.S. plastic bomb attack. The complete stock of several million technical and other text-books - by far the most comprehensive and urgently-needed collection in the whole of Algeria - was destroyed with the building; the estimated loss was about £5 million. An International Committee for Reconstruction of the Algiers University Library has been established..and in response to their appeal an associated committee has been started in Britain. This Committee asks all friends of Algeria to help by forming local university, trade union and party committees to collect books and particularly financial assistance, and by pressing their trades councils and other organisations to do likewise. The address of the committee is: Algiers Library Appeal, 4, Halbin Place, London S.W.1.



RALEIGH STRIKE SHARPENS

Trade union week

by Pat Jordan

The six-week old Raleigh strike of tool-room workers is polarising the various class forces. The strike committee have stated their case in a most unequivocal leaflet entitled: "Why Strike Over 25 Men?" - "Our case by the A.E.U.". In this, the strikers meet many of the arguments which have been used against the strike. Because it contained some criticisms of other unions, the Nottingham District Secretary of the A.E.U. issued a public statement disassociating the District Committee from the leaflet. He even went to the extent of placing an advert in the paper to this effect, on the grounds that the text had not been authorised by the District Committee. Subsequently he stated to the press that the District Committee would not disagree with ^{the} contents of the leaflet.

Meeting Saturday morning the 450 men ^{national} involved in the stoppage called for a national two-day stoppage, a ban on overtime, a national appeal for financial support, and went on to condemn the Government on its policy of not paying unemployment pay or national assistance when people are laid off because a dispute concerns members of other unions. They adopted a resolution which stated: "This meeting of A.E.U. strikers clearly informs the public and the citizens of Nottingham that our dispute and fight is not with the workers and other workers at Raleigh, but with the Raleigh management and Tube Investments." Another resolution condemned the Engineering Employers' Federation for not paying the 34-hour guaranteed week to those laid off.

The local papers have been converted into anti-strike sheets and have spared no effort to confuse and distort the arguments of the strikers. The barrage of anti-strike propaganda (plus it is said by some not unremunerative support by the Raleigh management) has resulted in the appearance of two anti-strike movements. Some wives of men laid off (the press claim sixty but certainly not more than half that number attended the meeting) have formed an anti-strike league. In addition, a Noner, a person called Jack Beasley, has attempted to form an anti-strike movement from the men laid off. He managed to scrape together some 30-odd people to picket the Saturday morning meeting. Thus the gloves are off and all socialists and militants in Nottingham and for that matter other parts of the country will be put to the test by what attitude they take to this struggle. The address of the Strike Fund Treasurer is : Mr. A.J. Holmes, 80, Forster St., Nottingham.

LABOUR PARTY MOVE ON RALEIGH STRIKE: At the February meeting of Clifton Ward Labour Party the issue of workers not directly involved in the strike but laid off, not being able to sign on for dole was discussed. This issue aroused a great deal of feeling and the meeting resolved: to call a special meeting to discuss the strike; to ask A. Greenwood to address the meeting; and to express disgust at the Tory legislation which stops workers from drawing the dole when laid off.



'VOICE OF THE UNIONS' APPEALS TO ENGINEERS TO VOTE LABOUR

In a special double-page display broadsheet, Voice of the Unions, in its spring issue, features an important article by Hugh Scanlon, setting out the terms of the 'Plan for Engineering' drawn up by the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions for the extension of public ownership into their own fields, and explaining why these plans must be applied by the next Labour Government.

Ernie Roberts, another important spokesman of the A.E.U., contributes an article on the threats made by big business against Labour, and Dave Lambert of the Foundry Workers Union contributes a piece on the 40-hour week. There are also articles by Ted Hill, Dick Seabrook of U.S.D.A.W., Bill Vester, Chris Arthur and Len Nicholas of the N.U.R.

Bulk supplies of the Voice are obtainable from 57, Crystal Palace Park Rd., London S.E. 26, at 4/6 per dozen.

'INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST JOURNAL' APPEARS AT LAST

Readers who have been awaiting the appearance of the International Socialist Journal which is edited by Lelio Basso and which represents a joint effort of important left forces in Italy, Belgium and France, to say nothing of Britain, will not be disappointed.

The first issue contains studies of the role of the socialist parties and trade unions in the European Common Market, by Ernest Mandel and Antonio Lettieri respectively. It also includes articles by Raymond Williams, Emile Braundi, Marcel Deneckere, Jean-Marie Vincent, Georg Junclas and Sergio de Santis. With 124 pages of reportage, analysis and documentation, it establishes itself in one swoop as an indispensable item in the reading of every socialist who wishes to go beyond parish boundaries.

BRISTOL NEW LEFT CLUB A.G.M.

The Bristol New Left Club is to hold its A.G.M. on Friday the 28th of February at the Old Duke, King St., (near Theatre Royal) at 7.30. Announcing this, the committee says that it will be proposing a number of changes in the club and urges full attendance, especially in view of the importance for the left of 1964. After the business of the meeting is over, Charles Wood will be giving his views on the relationship between politics and drama. The address of the Bristol Left Club is: Cyril Gibson, 21, Briavels Grove, Bristol 6.

THE T.U.C. REPORT ON AUTOMATION AND NON-MANUAL WORKERS

In a report presented to a conference of white-collar workers the T.U.C.'s non-manual workers committee discloses the conclusions it has arrived at after a special survey of modern mechanisation in the office, and stresses the need for management to take the staff and the unions into their confidence well in advance of a computer coming to operation. Little evidence of the computers causing redundancy had been found by the committee, but in the long-run widespread redundancy was forecast by the report. The T.U.C. committee does not foresee computation causing speedy and wholesale displacement of clerical employees. The new machines cannot, of course, deal with the public or answer correspondence and since they are used only by larger firms, redundancy can usually be met by normal wastage, retirements, transfers to other jobs, etc. But it states that difficulties will arise in smaller firms. Statistics provided by unions to the T.U.C. showed an anticipated decline by 14% in the labour force in firms where reorganisation is a consequence of the introduction of a computer.

Looking ahead, the T.U.C. committee sees signs of office departments consisting of a relatively few highly paid people directly associated with the work of its computer and a more numerous group, mainly women, engaged in routine, repetitive clerical work. There will be few in the middle ranges between these two categories, thus the number of jobs will be reduced as will promotion prospects. Dull, routine work will remain and become even more repetitive and monotonous, requiring an even lower degree of skill than orthodox clerical jobs. Research is aimed at the elimination of the filing clerk and key-punch operator.

The T.U.C. committee commends the example of an enlightened firm which, recognising that the boredom of continuous repetitive work can lead to mental, as well as bodily, fatigue, arranges for female staff to be given frequent rest breaks. There is a trend to shift-working to get the most value out of purchase price of computers...The committee warns employers wishing to use their computers for up to 20 hours a day that the unions will insist that the workers are properly compensated for shift work.

The report says that unions are willing to cooperate in introducing new techniques without friction so long as they are able to protect the interests of their members and to ensure for them a share in the benefits of the techniques. The industrial revolution reinforced the need for trade unionism among manual workers. The new revolution, bringing electronics and automation into the offices, gives added force to the appeal of trade unionism - this time to the non-manual workers.

TELEVISION FIRM PAYS 95%

According to the Bristol Evening Post, February 21st, the firm of Television Wales and West Ltd., made a net profit of £625,953 as against £592,028 last year. The proposed final dividend is 60% making a total for the year of 95%. Taking increased capital into account, this is the same as total dividend for last year.



COAL AND OIL CONFLICT

by Julian Atkinson

The U.S. coal industry has managed for a long time to impose controls on the import of fuel oil but now it seems that the oil industry is hitting back. Interior secretary Stewart Udall has entered the controversy and maintains that the control programs would increase fuel costs for U.S. consumers in the short term, but without controls the cost might be even greater in the long run. "The moderate immediate costs attributable to the program are necessary to the maintenance of an industry that is perhaps the most essential of all to our national security," Udall said in a recent letter to Representative James C. Cleveland. Congressman Cleveland wrote a reply challenging Udall's explanation. The oil industry was only asking for a relaxation of controls on residual fuel oil and this 'exploded any fictitious arguments that national security was being imperilled by residual-fuel oil imports.

The controversy has entered into other fields. The Justice Department says it is looking into possible anti-trust violations stemming from the control program. William H. Orrick, assistant attorney general, revealed this in a recent letter to John K. Evans, Washington representative for the Independent Fuel Oil Marketers of America, Inc. Justice has no jurisdiction over administration of oil-imports controls, Orrick wrote, but, "it is deeply concerned with the possible effects of that control system on free enterprise competition in oil marketing."

The present attack on the residual program may be more intense than in the past because of political changes. Political analysts speculate that the Johnson administration is more likely to woo the industrial east for political support. The late President Kennedy, by contrast, was said to feel some obligation to the coal states, particularly West Virginia. Johnson's announcement that the Interior Department would be responsible for oil policy gave critics a single target on which to concentrate, and they are doing some concentrating.

CIVIL RIGHTS STRUGGLE MERGING WITH LABOUR

from an American reader

In many American towns, particularly since the moves to form a Freedom Now Party, the struggle against segregation is merging with the endeavours of organized labour. Two recent examples are instructive. In Baltimore the Civic Rights Group is actively collaborating with the AFL-CIO drive to organize laundry workers, and on Feb. 4th helped man a picket-line outside the city hall demanding a \$1.25 minimum wage and a 40-hour week. Meanwhile, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee is actively helping the campaign of the jobless Kentucky miners to draw attention to their plight. It has given them the use of its office in Washington and assisted them in picketing the White House earlier this month. A joint conference is to be held on March 26-29.

E.E.C UNIONS TO COMBINE ACTIVITIES based on ICFTU Bulletin report

Plans for further intensification of the activities of trade union organisations in the 6 Common Market countries will be discussed at a meeting of representatives of unions affiliated to the ICFTU to be held in Paris in March. Prior to this important meeting, two others have taken place. Representatives of metalworkers' trade unions met in Luxemburg on 30 and 31 of January under the chairmanship of Arthur Gailly (Belgium). They adopted a series of resolutions dealing with the economic situation, improvement in living and working conditions, and adequate protection and safety regulations at work. The miners' representatives met at Doehum in West Germany on 13 February to examine similar problems in their industry.

The Executive Committee of the European Trade Union Secretariat met in Rome on 5 and 6 February to prepare for the March meeting. It issued a statement declaring that the European trade union movement did not have sufficient say in projects of the European Economic Community. They decided to insist that the E.E.C. authorities accept the representative nature of workers' organisations.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN YUGOSLAVIA

According to a broadcast on Zagreb radio on 14 February, the Committee for Labour Questions of the Yugoslav Federal Council was told that new regulations for unemployed persons were being prepared. The assistance for the so-called "reserve labour force" would depend not so much on income other than wages as on the number of years the person had worked and the wages he had drawn, the broadcast said. The spokesman added that the Committee was unable to determine the exact number of the "reserve labour force" but mentioned that some 300,000 persons were registered with the Federal Employment institute. However the "qualitative structure" of this "reserve" was unknown, the spokesman said.

ANTI-INFLATION MEASURES IN ITALY

After 6 month's discussion, the Italian Government has finally introduced some of the measures which had been advocated for meeting inflation. The tax on petrol has been increased by 2d a litre, bringing the price up to 5s 9d a gallon. Foreign tourists will not have to pay as much however. A purchase tax on new cars, yachts and boats has been introduced. It ranges from 7 to 15%. Hire purchase is to be limited to a maximum of 12 monthly instalments with an initial cash payment of at least 30%. Some items of domestic use with a value of less than £4.0) are to be exempt from these regulations. To ease the manpower shortage national service is to be reduced from 18 months to 15 months.

WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT TO CUT INCOME TAX IN ELECTION YEAR

Despite the Government's difficulty in balancing its budget and despite statements by Dr. Erhard that public demand on the capital market is too great, income tax cuts to save taxpayers in the small and medium income brackets some DM 2,500m. (about £220m.) a year are to be made. These will take effect in 1965 which is election year.

ALGERIA MOVES TO END FRENCH DOMINATION OF OIL

The Oil & Gas Journal of February 3 carried an item which stated: The Socialist regime of Ahmed Ben Bella is moving on 5 fronts to break the French domination of Algeria's oil industry. Minister Bachir Boumazza gave an outline of things to come last week in Algiers. He made Algerian plans public only a few days after Olivier Wormser, director of economic affairs of the French foreign ministry, returned to Paris following the latest diplomatic talks on French-Algerian oil relations.

Boumazza revealed:

- (1) An Algerian pipeline - not a French-American venture - will be the country's third major crude-oil line system in spite of protests from France that this contravenes the Avian agreement;
- (2) A new Algerian refinery will be built by Italy's E.N.I., but Ben Bella's Government will control it;
- (3) An Algerian tanker company, controlled by the Government, will move Saharan crude oil to markets;
- (4) An Algerian marketing company will sell both Saharan crude oil and natural gas;
- (5) A national producing company will be operated by experienced exploration and producing companies, but controlled by the Algerian Government's 51% interest.

CUBA - RETURNED FISHERMEN TELL THEIR STORY by Sylvia Riley

On February 19th, 6,000 people, trade unionists and students, assembled in the square of the University of Havana to protest against the seizure of Cuban fishing boats and to welcome the 7 of the crew who had been released. These youngsters gave a press conference where they exposed the mistreatment, attempted bribery, intimidation, enticement and threats of the U.S. authorities. Seventeen-year old Eusebio Dorges said that the U.S. authorities had attempted to force them to seek 'asylum.'

Meanwhile, still in gaol in the U.S., the captains of the boats were being charged with 'encroaching into United States' territorial waters', and were sentenced by a Florida court to 6 month's imprisonment and a \$500 fine each. Their attorney is to file an appeal.

ANGOLAN ARMY CONTROLS THREE TIMES AREA OF PORTUGAL

Speaking at a press conference in Cairo, F. Duarte, a representative of the Angolan Liberation Army said on February 22nd: "At present the Angolan Liberation Army controls all of northern Angola and is spreading the fight inland to the southern regions. The area under control of our forces covers 250,000 sq. kilometres (nearly 100,000 sq miles) or 3 times the size of Portugal itself." He added that the Angolan Liberation Army now numbers 27,000 with another 5,000 undertraining. He also disclosed that: "...the Portuguese forces now battling our army number as many as 78,000 with a recent increase of 2,800 troops airlifted from Portugal." Duarte was very critical of the attitude of N.A.T.O. countries in supplying Portugal with arms.

17th CONGRESS SURVIVOR RECALLS TERROR

As part of the commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the 17th Congress of the C.P.S.U., the Feb. 7th Pravda printed an article by Lev Shaumyan, one of the few survivors among the delegates. That Congress was, to quote Khrushchov, the "victors" congress; the victors being Stalin's faction after it had crushed all opposition groups. But Stalin turned against his own followers: Shaumyan cites the figures that Khrushchov gave at the 20th Congress. Out of the 1,966 delegates to the 1934 Congress, 1,108 were liquidated. Out of 139 members and alternates elected to the Central Committee, 98 fell victim.

The Pravda article also recalls that it was the assassination of Sergei Kirov, leader of the party in Leningrad, that served as Stalin's pretext to unleash the terror. Whereas Khrushchov in his speeches at the 20th and 22nd congresses, spoke only of troublesome and obscure circumstances surrounding the the assassination, Shaumyan speaks of it as a "promediated and carefully planned crime." While Shaumyan speaks of the delegates, he doesn't name a single one, not even Khrushchov who took the floor at this Congress to make a speech in which he did not fail to pay eloquent tribute to Stalin as the "leader of genius."

A real innovation in Shaumyan's article is his affirmation that among "some of the congress delegates....above all those who remembered Lenin's testament" the "idea was ripening that it was time to transfer Stalin from the post of general secretary to other work." From what has been disclosed so far there is nothing to confirm that the delegates actually considered such a proposal. It is known that in the Central Committee, as late as 1932 after the elimination of the left and right oppositionalists, Stalin was once in a minority. This was in the period of the crisis in the countryside after the forced collectivisation. But by 1934 he had overcome this situation and his grip was complete. It is more likely that he had not forgotten what had happened in 1932 and his almost paranoid mistrust led him to believe that he could never be safe until all the old revolutionaries had been eliminated. Hence the fearful purges which led him to purge his own followers as well as his opponents.

POWER CUTS IN BULGARIA

The Bulgarian Government has ordered stringent power cuts. During February and March private consumers will be allowed to use only half as much as they used in January. Households will not be allowed to use electrical appliances between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. Industrial enterprises will be given special quotas. The crisis has been caused by drought and delays in the construction of power stations. According to Radio Sofia almost 50% of the power stations scheduled for completion last year had not yet started operation.

PRO-CHINESE EXPELLED FROM AUSTRIAN C.P.

At its February meeting the Central Committee of the Austrian C.P. announced the expulsion of the leaders of the pro-Chinese wing of the party. The latter since Autumn had been publishing a magazine called Red Flag and have repeated all the stock Chinese criticisms of Khrushchov.

ONE OF LABOUR'S NEW SCIENCE BASED INDUSTRIES? from Richard Fletcher

The February issue of Petroleum Press Service has a survey of the exploration of oil and gas Potentialities of the North Sea outside of territorial waters. Two groups now seem to be intent on starting test drillings in the near future. The first wells will be drilled off Western Germany, though not far from the Groningen field in the Netherlands. The two groups are, respectively, Amoseas (Caltex) and the consortium formed last year for operations based on Western Germany, with which Mobil, Shell, Esso, Indiana Standard and several German companies are associated. Actual drilling will probably start in April. The consortium intends to spend nearly DM 100m. (£9 million) on drilling operations during 1964 and 1965.

The article goes into detail as to the legal position of the companies carrying out the exploration and notes how the West German Government is trying to control the exploration. The article concludes: "The Geneva Convention merely provides a general framework of law to be filled in by appropriate national legislative measures..." Quite clearly, the Labour Party must be pledged to place this exploration under public ownership, instead of merely helping to create a new field of big business (probably state-backed anyway) investment.

INTERLOCKING DIRECTORSHIPS IN AIRCRAFT from T. Nichols (Bristol)

The composition of the British Aircraft Corporation with its 5 bank directors is fairly typical of the tendency in the top 50 British industrial companies. It illustrates the network of interlocking directorships and also the prominence on these boards of directors of the big 8 banks. The list reads:

Viscount Portal of Hungerford: (Chairman)	Barclays Bank; British Aluminium, Co. Ltd. (also Chairman); Commercial Union Assurance; Ford Motor Co.; North British Aluminium (Chairman)
Sir George Edwards:	Vickers Armstrong Ltd.
Marshal of RAF, Sir Dermont Boyle:	B.A.C. only
Rt. Hon. Viscount Caldecote:	Cambridge University and Town Waterworks; English Electric Co.
Mr. Adam Denzil Morris:	Barclays Bank; Anglo Australian Corporation; Charter Shipping; Lazard Bros; Commercial Union Insurance; Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corp.
Mr. W. Masterton:	Bristol Cars Ltd.; T.A. de Barajas (Madrid); Société d'Exploitation et de Construction Aeronautiques (Paris)
Lord Nelson of Stafford:	Bank of England; English Electric; W.G. Bagnall Ltd.; Babcock & Wilcox; Taylor Woodrow; Vulcan Foundry; Marconi Wireless, etc.
MR. G.A Riddell:	Marconi Int.; Marine Communications, etc.
Sir Leslie Rowan:	Barclays Bank; Canadian Vickers, etc.
Sir Reginald Vernon-Smith:	Lloyds Bank; Bristol Aeroplane, Bristol Sidderley, Babcock & Wilcox.