

Labour's housing plans

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A NEWS ANALYSIS FOR SOCIALISTS
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TO ABSTAIN
IS NOT
ENOUGH

THE WEEK - A NEWS ANALYSIS FOR SOCIALISTS

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TO ABSTAIN IS NOT EMOUGH

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No one will envy the dilemma of the left MPs in Parliament on Wednesday next week when the Order in Council operating Part IV of the Prices and Incomes Act is d bated. Unless they can get their own motion down - which has proved in the past extremely difficult - they will have the choice of either voting with the Tories against the Government or merely abstaining. forced to vote with the Conservative MPs - traditional enemies of the working class movement - against a Labour Government may seem a cruel fate. However, it is infinitely less terrible than going down in history as having done nothing of consequence when a savage attack has been mounted against trade unionists' rights.

Any inhibitions which left MPs might have at voting with the Tories should be placed in a proper perspective. They will be voting against the measures for socialist reasons. Will this inhibit the Tories from joining them? It is their own conscience and their own loyalty to the working class movement which is at stake - no one else's.

But to pose the problem gives a clue to the answer: to abstain or vote against is secondary. What is decisive and primary is to take action which will mobilise working class opposition to the measures. Everyone knows that in the last analysis it is indecisive what happens in Parliament next week. Gover ment should be defeated, does anyone believe that antitrade union legislation will not be passed? In the extreme case of a Tory Government replacing the present Labour one, the Tories might change the emphasis, at least for a time, but only in the interests of obtaining more and more out of the working class. The unions may get their "freedom", but it will be a freedom to be worked harder. It will be the old question of the workers having to run very fast in order merely to stay in the same place, and to maintain e. I their existing meagre share of the national income. And, as Alec Douglas Home has made clear, the Tories will devise a new legal framework in which the unions can operate "freely". The choice between the two measures is a bleak one, and the only socialist option is to oppose anti-working class measures, from whatever quarter they emanate.

LADCUR'S LITTLE VIETNAM

Most readers will have seen the reports in the press about the Amnesty International report on the torture of prisoners in Aden and Southern Arabia. This is a sheer disgrace. What is being done there mirrors the worst aspects of the treatment of prisoners in Vietnam. Yet it is being done by a Labour Government. Anyone who does not speak out against these te terrible happenings has no right to be called liberal, let alone socialist.

We must, however, think cooly about this question. When our anger has subsided we must ask and answer the question how this terrible state of affairs came to pass. The answer is very simple: if Mr. Wilson and his Government want to operate the imperialist policy of "East of Suez", they are forced - regardless of their intentions - to use time honoured imperialist methods to subdue the local populations. He who wants to stop the torture of prisoners must oppose this basic policy. It is no use being shocked by these abominations unless one is prepared to oppose, tooth and nail, "Labour" imperialism under the "East of Suez" guise.

PAINTERS' ATTACK ON THE GOVERNMENT'S ECONOLIC POLICIES extracted from the General Secretary's remarks in the current issue of the Painters' Journal.

"Our delegation opposed the General Council's report and the resolution supporting the wage freeze policy by compulsory legislation. I must say that supporters of the establishment's policies behaved as though they were being paid to support such measures. I will not mention names because it is difficult to know how to address the platform these days, as there is no obligation for delegates to disclose their interests one way or another. I can only a "ume that "Brother" and "Comrade" are definitely "out", and "Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen", or "The Right Honourable Dember" of the whatever union "Sir" are "in".

However, you can be assured by the Prime Minister and members of the Government that prosperity is just around the corner, if only you lazy, loafing layabouts will only take held and increase productivity, unless, of course, you get shaken out first. Let me say I am not so bitter about the so-called sanctity of collective bargaining. I regard that as a product of the present system of society to prevent the unions obtaining more than their collective strength can demand from a profit-making system of society.

I am not against Government planning, including wages, within the system of the social ownersh p of the means of production, distribution, and exchange. Iam against people who want to sell me the idea of the working class of this country as a sound investment, and that they know their place within the international monetary system of capitalism and good investment for foreign bankers. It is no good talking about who elected who to govern, loyalty, faith, and so on, when little or no steps are being taken against the real guilty men responsible for the crisis.

Dear Comrade.

This is an appeal to you to do something which neither of us would have thought to be even thinkable back in October 1964: to vote against the Labour whip next week. It is a grave request to make and should certainly not be made lightly.

I am certainly not insensitive to the difficulties which left wing MPs face, and I have no wish to add to their burden. There is no doubt that the climate is bad for the left as a whole; that the disastrous policies which have been adopted by the Covernment have been skilfully sold to a very significant part of the movement, to say nothing of the electorate, by the Prime Minister's highly talented public relations campaign. I am not suggesting that a rebel can easily expect immediate support, and that he might not suffer painful reprisals from the parliamentary machine. In any case, I have no doubt about the depth of self-questioning which prospects of such an action are bound to stir up in anyone who has devoted the years of effort and thought to public work through the Labour Party as you have. The left, far from being 'disloyal', is traditionally the most staunch, most responsible, most reliable section of the entire movement. Our people do not fly off at tangents.

But when, next Tuesday, the debate begins on the Activation of Fart IV of the Prices and Incomes Act, the Government will have crossed the line which separates the defenders and the enemies of the trade union movement. You are going to be voting on whether you will send your brothers to prison for defending trade union rights. When you abstained in the vote before the recess, everyone had a clear understanding from Government spokesmen of the conditional, reserve nature of the powers which were to be taken under the Act. Now these pledges, like many more, have been grotesquely disregarded. How many people will be locked up as a result of next Tuesday's decisions? You, like all of us, were reared in the legends of our movement, on stories like that of the Tolpuddle Martyrs. Did you see yourself, as a young activist, as a descendant of George Loveless? Or did you interpret your role as being that of Lord Nelbourne? To pose the question is to answer it. But where will you put yourself, if you vote with the Government on Tuesday, when the new martyrs are being created?

There comes a time when it is necessary, however unpopular it may be, or however it incites those in power to mean reprisals, to do what is right. You know, with me, that it is right to defeat the Tuesday motion. Please, please, remember one thing: that if one, two, or ten men take a strong position on such a matter as this, the waverers will rally. If it is plain that, whosever may abstain, your vote is against, you will find friends to come with you on the day.

I earnestly hope you will do what I know you have it in you to do. The tension of this week will be unbearable. You have my every good wish in the struggle.

After simmering on the edge of eruption for a month, the conflict between the East Yorkshire bus company and the drivers and conductors, (members of the T&GWU) has finally come to a head, in an official and indefinite strike.

The Company, part of the biggest privately-owned bus combine in the country -British Electric Traction, which is also involved in laundries and in television - has refused to concede a demand that their crews be paid the same rates as Hull's Municipal Busmen on certain routes which they operate in the city boundaries. The main services which the East Yorkshire company provides are in the rural hinterland of Humberside, and the middle-distance routes between coastal towns, York and Hull, with some long-distance coach-work also. However, substantial services are operated within Hull's boundaries, where they complement the municipal buses. Nationally, of course, the municipal wage rates, and those of private provincial companies, are negotiated separately, and there is now a considerable differential which favours the municipal crews. largely owing to the service bonus agreement which they obtained last year. When East Yorkshire crews refused to operate city routes until they also received this bonus, the company suspended them from duty, and precipitated two one day strikes in September. Behind the solidarity of the men lay also an accumulated series of grievances over schedules and conditions of work. The returned to work after imposing a ban on overtime and rest-day working. The company further provoked the men by continuing to offer rest-day working, and by succeeding in inducing one crew to work on their rest day. A further temporary stoppage then occurred.

This week, the company announced more split-shift working, increased duties on the routes in dispute, and the introduction of one-man operation on the York-Hull route - all these without any negotiation with the union. Although warned by the union that they would certainly meet with official strike responses, the company has failed to withdraw the changes. Approval for the strike has been given by the National Executive of the T&GWU, and with local union officials going on record with extended statements of militant support for the men's case in the local daily paper, the strike is on.

Local union opinion is that this strike is simply a part of what is a national grievance on the part of provincial busmen, and that further trouble could well be pending amongst other companies, particularly where they operate in urban areas alongside municipal crews. The union is determined to obtain the bonus payments for the provincial private crews, and to resist attacks on manning which have not been negotiated.

The wider significance of the strike is important for us all. First, the company is clearly in belligerent and provocative mood. How far this is stimulated by the government's encouragement of anti-union attitudes - particularly directed at oppositional unions such as the T&G - is a matter for serious thought. Union backing for the men, coming shortly after the official recognition for the car-delivery men's strike, is further demonstration that the T&G is in earnest over it's opposition to the wage freeze.

Locally, it also demonstrates that the recent emergence of a new and more militant, left-wing leadership in the union, is prepared to back words with action. They will not lack for allies: Hull's trade union and labour movement has had considerable experience this year in moving into active support and solidarity with an important series of strikes:- dockers, fishermen, and seamen. Humberside Voice, and the Workers' Solidarity movement, the Trades Council, etc., are preparing for fund-raising, and to invite spokesmen from the buses to union, labour party, and open meetings. Already on the first day of the strike, the joint C.S.E.-Hull Labour College meeting "against the wage freeze" has heard a full report on the dispute from the regional trade group secretary concerned with the strike, and a collection of £4.10.0 was taken at the meeting.

We shall report again on this important dispute. Meanwhile, resolutions of support and contributions to the strike fund, should be sent to The Regional Secretary, T. and G.W.U., Bevin House, George Street. Hull.

SPECIAL ANTOUNCEMENT

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

LIASON COMPITTEE FORMED TO DEFEND UNIONS

A national conference of trade union organisations and shop stewards' committees is to be convened on 3rd December 1966 in the Beaver Hall, London, EC.1.

This timely initiative has been taken by the shop stewards' committees of ENV, EMI, Hawker Siddley (Kingston), Shardlow's (Sheffield), the London sheet metalworkers' committee, the London Exhibition Workers' co-ordinating committee, the London Euilding Workers' Joint Sites Committee, and the Port of London Docks Liason Committee. A number of prominent individuals are associated with the move, including, notably, Clive Jenkins of ASSET and Bill Jones of the T&GWU.

The Conference will consider how to fight the wage freeze and unemployment, and how to co-ordinate the defence of the unions against the Government's anti-union legislation.

The largest possible mobilisation is necessary to ensure that the growing opposition to the criminal policies of union-busting now being aplied, receives the maximum effective co-ordination.

VIETNAM PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION FOR HULL

The Dertrand Russell Peace Foundation's Vietnam Exhibition which has already been seen at Blackpool and Brighton is to be shown in Hull on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 17th, 18th and 19th November, at the Regal Room, ABC Cinema, Ferensway, Hull. Open 11 am to 9.30 pm daily. Admission Free.

On September 27th San Francisco's poverty-stricken black ghetto exploded in reaction to a police shooting of a negro youth- 16 yer old Matthew Johnson. He was shot in the back and fatally wounded as he fled from a patrolman. Police claim that the car from which the youth jumped and fled was stolen. By 6.0p.m. that day about 1,000 people had gathered near the scene of the shooting. Some of the black youth at the Bayview-Hunters Point Community Centre had sent word to City Hall that they wanted to meet at 4. Op.m. with the mayor and Police Chief in an attempt to quell the mounting resentment which had already broken out in the form of smashed store windows and sporadic looting. They petitioned the mayor with a five-point demand that included a call for jobs, education and recreational facilities. A meeting finally did occur.

When Mayor John She ley arrived, he brought with him about 40 helmeted police armed with shotguns and tried to talk to the hundreds of youths gathered outside of the community centre. Furious at the mayor for sending in police with shotguns, the youths booed and jeered him as he spoke through a bullhorn. Orville Luster, a Youth for Service leader, persuaded the mayor to leave and 200 police sealed off a six-block area after he left. During this time, a T.V. cameraman's car was turned over and set on fire. A nervous city administration, anxious over a possible recurrence of another Watts in San Francisco, panicked and called in the National Guard and additional reinforcements of state police and highway patrol men. The city was proclaimed to be in a state of emergency and a curfew was announced for negro ghetto trouble spots.

Next day, 2,000 National Guardsmen were in town with some 500 stationed in the Hunters Point area. The same day violence erupted late in the afternoon at Hunters Point but the violence was directed against negro citizens by armed police who fired on the Bayview-Tunters Point Community Centre. The execttive director of theCentre, Marold B. Brookes, Jnr., said, "These kidsthey weren't thinking that the police would ever fire on them." At the same time some 200 youngsters were in the building. Luckily enough, when the firing began there were none in the gront. "If there had been," said Brooks, "there would have been a massacre." He estimated that a thousand rounds of ammunition were "easily" fired into the building. Seven youths were injured in the fusillade- all negroes. Some of them, described in the press as "rioting youth", were volunteer workers who were trying to clear the streets and had worked with the police in a last-ditch effort to clear avoid a clash. "For God's sake, don't send any more cops down here," pleaded Adam Rogers, a youth organiser with the Economic Opportunity Council (Anti-Poverty Programme). "We'll clear it up for you," he told a police captain. He was shot in the leg for his efforts. He described this; ""These police were shooting people that were trying to help. They knew who I was. They could easily distinguish me because I had a blowhorn in my hand and was wearing a black arm band. Just shooting up a building like that- they knew there were a lot of kids in there. This doesn't make any sense- shooting up a building like that." Another person told how shotguns were being used to fire into people's homes. "It looked like Vietnam. It's even worse than that. There the enemy's got a better chance than we have. They can put up a white flag and they got a chance but here we don't ever have a chance" he said.

When Mr. George Brown's National Plan was published, the target of 500,000 houses per year by 1970 was considered to be ludicrously low in relation to Britain's housing shortage. However, it seems even this totally inadequate target will not be met. The Building Materials employers' organisation, in a statement issued on October 16th said that housebuilding completions in Britain this year are unlikely to show much change from the 1965 total and may even decline in 1967. Moreover, the Government is very unlikely to hit its target of 500,000 dwellings a year by

In the report, the National Council of Building Material Producers asks that private enterprise housing be helped in the following ways:-1. An immediate statement must be issued about the mortgage interest relief scheme, and the date from which it will operate.

2. A more explicit statement should be made about the levy on the development of land held by private builders on the day "appointed" under the Land Commission legislation.

3. Local authorities should be permitted to provide loans without restriction for house purchase, in order to offset the building society mortgage "famine" - and they should be allowed to borrow from the public for this purpose. shuloni went bus - add, wen buse of of a

Where public authority building is concerned, the council suggests that encouragement should be given to authorities to build as many houses in traditional - as opposed to industrialised - construction as local labour resources permit. In this way the "bonus" promised from industrialisation in Ministerial statements would really be felt. "It is only by quick and effective action along these lines that the resources of the small and medium-sized builders, and of the building materials industries, can be harmessed," the council claims. "It is only by such action that the 1970 programme can be achieved. The question remains - is the Government serious when Ministers state that the 1970 programme still stands? The answer will be seen not in three years' time but during the next few weeks."

The council describes the house-building record since 1964 as "a pretty strong indictment of a housing programme that never was." It estimates that total completions this year will fall within a range of 380,000 to 390,000, compared with 382,000 last year and 374,000 in 1964. Of this year's likely total, 175,000 to 180,000 will be in the public sector (168,000 in 1965; 156,000 in 1964) and the private sector will account for 205,000 to 210,000 (214,000 in 1965; 218,000 in 1964).

Preliminary forecasts by the council for next year put completions at between 370,000 and 385,000 with the private sector's contribution dropping to between 185,000 and 195,000. Where starts are concerned, the council estimates this year's total at 370,000 to 385,000 (392,000 in 1965; 426,000 in 1964). Private builders will account for between 190,000 and 200,000 starts, compared with 211,000 last year and 247,000 in 1964. Next year, public authorities may start work on between 195,000 and 200,000 dwellings, and private builders should begin between 190,000 and 195,000. This would give a total by the end of 1967 of 385,000 to 395,000.

++ (Although the main aim of this report appears to be the championing of private enterprise building, the figures which it discloses are extremely disturbing and require a Government

A survey published in Monday's <u>Daily Mail</u> shows that Mr. Wilson's "shake out" is merely shaking people out of well-paid jobs into either low-paid ones or the dole queue. We have extracted parts of this survey:

"The Newsight inquiry showed that relatively few jobs await the 12,000 BMC workers at anything like their former pay. The Ministry of Labour's huge rescue operation, mounted to provide the sacked men with work, is offering them such jobs as coalmen, shirt salesmen, postmen and ambulance and bus drivers. This is a far cry from Mr. Wilson's promised "shake-out" to make industry more efficient, provide men for labour-hungry exporters and help Britain pay her way.

"Many firms are not keen to employ the semi-skilled car workers, who had been averaging £25 a week, They know that men who were lured to the car assembly tracks by high earnings are likely to be attracted back again at the first opportunity. The Ministry, which has written to every firm in the Brimingham area with more than 20 employees, will announce on Thursday its up-to-date total of jobs available for the car workers. They are to be sacked on November 4.

"The mathematics of the crisis in the Midlands is simple. There are 11,914 car workers to be found new jobs - and they include 992 women. When the crisis began there were supposed to be 37,785 jobs vacant. But let us look more closely at these vacant jobs. First, 8,962 are for women, and 13,489 for youngsters under 18. Second, the 15,334 jobs vacant for men are spread across five counties, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Herefordshire, Shropshire and Staffordshire. This is an area of 5,000 square miles. Some jobs would be inaccessible to a man in a Birmingham suburb, possibly a 60 mile drive away. The 15,000 jobs listed as available can be broken down into these categories: 900 in agriculture and mining (national average pay £13.16s in agriculture, £21.12s in mining); 1,700 in construction (£19.19s); 2,200 in transport (£20.6s); 1,100 in public services such as gas and electricity (£18.17s); "and "6,000 in engineering (£20.11s). The other vacant jobs are a mixture ranging from hotel porter to prison officer.

"A big proportion of the engineering jobs are not open to the sacked men, who were highly paid rather than highly skilled (9,000 rank as semi-skilled, and 1,000 as un-skilled). The 1,400 skilled men being sacked will be quickly snapped up. The others would be no help to the firms which filled two pages of the Coventry Evening Telegraph with display advertisements for such jobs as skilled fitters, millers and horizontal borers.

"The Ministry has drafted 70 volunteer officials into Birmingham to cope with the crisis. They work hard - mostly from 9 a.m. to nidnight - interviewing the streams of workers who have been told they will be laid off. Each morning a van from the Ministry's Birmingham headquarters carries batches of green cards in metal trays to the emergency centres. These are the latest jobs available.

"The interviewers know many of the men they see go away dissatisfied. All the men to whom Newsight spoke were disillusioned. Many complained that the help given was "bloody useless"..."a dead loss"..."hopeless, not worth coming down for..." A bitter joke about the Ministry's job-list is already circulating the Midlands. It has Mr. Ray Gunter, the Labour Minister, addressing the men thus: 'I have some important news, the first part is bad, the second, good. The bad news is thet there aren't any more highly paid jobs for you car workers, only rotten, badly paid jobs. The good news is that there are plenty of rotten badly paid jobs.'"

T.G.W.U. IMPOSES "OVER-MANNING" ON J. S. FRY - from a special correspondent

J. S. Fry and Sons of Bristol has been forced by the T.G.W.U. to "unscramble" a productivity deal and "over-man" a major department by 25 per cent. The decision came last week after members of the Transport and General Workers Union refused to continue working substantially reduced manning scales which had been in operation since April. They did so because the company refused to pay productivity increases due from September 1. Under the deal the number of workers to each machine in the department was reduced from four to three and the "redundant" 25 per cent of the work force were employed elsewhere. Productivity payments of 3d-4d an hour were made to the remaining workers. They were promised further increases of at least 1½d an hour when the scheme was running smoothly. These latter increases were stopped because of the freeze.

Mr. Bob Davis, a T.G.W.U. national secretary, said: "The company told us the scheme had gone well and our members were fully entitled to the further payments. But they could not pay them. As a result our members themselves called the deal off and insisted on returning to the old manning scales." For the company, the situation is now worse than it was before April 1. For although Frys is working four men to a machine again, the initial productivity increases of 3d-4d an hour are still being paid. A company spokesman said yesterday the deal had been called off with the agreement of the union. It was hoped to reintroduce it as soon as the freeze was over.

CIVIL SERVANTS TO TAKE "EXTREME" ACTION? - from a special correspondent

Confidential circulars have been sent to several hundred officials of the 60,000-strong Institution of Professionsl Civil Servants asking them if they would support "extreme" action if present pay negotiations broke down. Announcing this on October 16th, Mr. William McCall, the Institution's general secretary, said a campaign against the Government's pay freeze would not be mounted:

- 1. If negotiations for pay rises were successful. Claims had been outstanding for professional engineers and technical grades since the beginning of the freeze in July.
- 2. If the independence and authority of the Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal remained unimpaired by Government policy.

Mr. McCall said that replies to the confidential circulars were still being annlysed. On the possibllity of extreme action being taken, he commented:

"We hope we won't get to that point. It would be a serious embarrassment to the Government and would severely affect the working of some departments. We are prepared to co-operate in this difficult situation, and we will do so to the extent other people do. What we are obviously concerned about is the possibility of not being affected now, but from the beginning of 1965."

It is clear that unless Mr. Wilson climbs down on the drastic application of the freeze to civil servants he is going to have big trouble on his hands.

The use of the device of remanding people in custody after being arrested for taking part in political demonstrations is increasing. The case of the nine Brighton church demonstrators has received considerable publicity (letters of protest about this case were published in The Guardian, Economist, Tribune and a number of left wing journals; The Sun made the question the subject of a front page article), however we have just learnt of another incident. Thomas Carroll, aged 21, and Ernest McDonald, aged 52, were held in custody for eight days after being charged with hehaviour likely to cause a breach of the peace. Their 'crime' was to get involved in an argument with Keep Left Young Socialist demonstrators who objected to their joining in a K.L.Y.S. march along Brighton front. After being held for eight days they were both fined £20 and ordered to pay costs.

The whole movement must protest over these cases: today it is Vietnam demonstrators who are being victimised, tomorrow it may well be pickets and strikers. That protests can have some effect is shown by the way the church demonstrators were released after the National Council for Civil Liberties intervened. Roy Jenkins promised at a meeting at Brighton that something would be done about such cases; he must be held to his word.

THE "MORNING STAR" CRITICISES SOVIET HISTORIANS From Dave Windsor

In the Morning Star of last Thursday, Sam Russell - a long standing writer for the paper who has held various journalist and editorial jobs on it - had this to say when reviewing a new Soviet history book:
"The latest Short History of the U.S.S.R. (Progress Publishers, Moscow and Central Books, London, 2 vols. 30s) is competently translated from the Russian. The first volume, written by an editorial board of four, with six other historians, traces the story from paleolithic times to the formation of the ancient State of Rus in 882 and then to the February Revolution in 1917.

"The two volumes give a general idea of how the Soviet Union has developed, particularly in the industrial field, to become the Great Power that it is today. Unfortunately this latest history adds nothing to our knowledge of the problem of the Stalin personality cult. Is it too much to hope that by the time the 50th anniversary of the Revolution is celebrated next year, Soviet historians will have produced something a little more adequate? Until this is done, Soviet historians will be leaving the field free for the flood of alleged histories which continue to pour from the presses in the West, including Britain.

U.S. WAR EXPENDITURE GOES UP AND UP - from an Economics corresspondent

American war expenditure has been rising much more rapidly than was expected. Moreover, the Assistant Secretary of the Department of Commerce estimated last week that about 25% of this year's increase in business investment by American companies was linked to increased military purchases. War expenditure he reported, rose in the 3rd quarter of this year at a rate of \$4,200 (nearly £1,500m) which was \$1,200m. more than had been estimated even as recently as three weeks ago. War Expenditure in the period was at an annual rate of \$61,300m (nearly £22,000m.) and is expected to rise in annual rate by at least another \$3,000m. in this 4th quarter of the year.

BRITAIN TRAINS KY'S TROOPS IN MALAYA from Geoff Coggan

One of the most usefully detailed accounts of the material assistance which the British Government is giving to the American and South Vietnamese pupper forces appeared in this week's <u>Sunday Times</u>, from which the following almost complete extracts are taken.

"Newspaper correspondents entering the British Jungle Warfare School in Johore, South Malaya, are advised to treat what they see with circumspection. They are approaching the deeply sensitive area where the Labour Government's policy of giving only moral support to the Americans in Vietnam shades off into the actual. In the past two years the benefits of the School's tuition has been extended to at least 1,450 South Vietnamese - all fees paid by the British Foreign Office. And the training programme, despite George Brown's recent mediatory initiative at the United Nations, shows no signs of letting up.

"This year, seven specially designed six week courses are being run for the Vietnamese in Johore. All of them have now been completely filled up, and the arrivals have boasted some of the really top Saigon brass. (One recent course was attended by Colonel Trien, Chief of Security of the South Vietnamese Training Command). Other pupils this year included 22 Americans. The acute diplomatic sensitivity over this situation arises from the British Government's attempt to assume the role of honest broker in the conflict, as co-chairman with the Soviet Union of the Geneva Conference.

"The Johore School was originally established in 1948, to train British soldiers to deal with the Malayan emergency; and it had a new lease of life during the period of Indonesian confrontation - which had just ended - as a preparation centre for North Borneo. The great British fear now is that hostile publicity could scare the Malaysian authorities into demanding that the scheme be withdrawn from their territory. The army would be unlikely to find a satisfactory alternative to the 156 square miles of primary and secondary jungle, available to it for training purposes in Johore.

"At the School, they attempt to teach the Vietnamese 'how we think one should behave in the jungle'; and they say they have 'concluded that 70 per cent of what we tell them, if put over correctly, would be of value.' ... 'We tell them: 'gather the jungle dwellers into fortified camps, and give them proper protection at night, as we did during the Malayan emergency. Then you can go out at night and knock off anybody you find who isn't inside'. ...

"Half the six week course is spent in the lecture room, and in such activities as learning to jump from hovering helicopters, and to recognise edible jungle fruits and berries. The rest is devoted to extremely tough exercises in the surrounding countryside. One of these, lasting forty-eight hours, cuominates in a stay in 'Peace Village', a mock interrogation centre. Details of the methods used on the students are not available, but it is said that almost all of them, including the British, eventually confess, and that the tape-recordings of them doing so are immediately destroyed after being played back, for fear of causing them any lasting humiliation.

"Peace Village is at present built to resemble a Malayan campong. The British officers would like to reconstruct it in the shape of a Viet Cong fortified village. But the Foreign Office won't give them the money to do so."

The article, which appears on the 'Insight' page, is entitled "embarrassment in the Jungle", and carries a photograph of Vietnamese under British training.

Just how far the Young Liberals are prepared to go in their efforts to posture as "the" radical youth movement is shown by the speech of Mr. George Kiloh, chairman of the National League of Young Liberals, at the Oxford University Liberal Group, in October 16, He said that the hecklers who had interrupted the church service at Brighton where Mr. Wilson was reading the lesson, had been "absolutely right." If the churches wanted to offer a forum for Government Ministers to speak, then they must expect heckling. He also said the biggest danger in the boom in Young Liberal membership was that they would lose their revolutionary fervour (shades of Mao!). They had an opportunity which was denied to other parties because they recognised the strains under which young people operated today. "We are often criticised for being outside the mainstream of politics. But we have no desire to be part of a river of bilge that is flowing, if at all, in the wrong direction."

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The demonstration is organised to protest against the abduction of Mr. John Nyati Pokela, acting National Secretary of P.A.C., from Basutoland by the South African regor police on the 20th of August, 1966 at english alambia actions and actions protection at might, as we did during the Falayan emergency. Them you can go

JOIN US TO EXPOSE INTERNATIONAL BANDITRY!

as learning to jump from havering helicopters, and to recomine SPECIAL WEEK FORUM SPECIAL WEEK FORUM

co-chairman with the Soviet Union of the Geneva Conference

surrounding country side. One of these, lasting forty-early The Week has been fortunate to get the services of mility sound the value and the valu methods used on the students are not evallable, but it is maid that almost

Mary-Alice Styron daiding and pathologic world to like Editor of Young Socialist, America's leading radical youth paper, to speak

on Tuesday, October 25th, at The Dolphin public House, Tonbridge St., (near Kings Cross Station, just behind St. Pancras Town Hall) commencing at 8.00 p.m. viliage. But the Foreign Office won't give

Mary-Alice Styron will speak authoritatively, and from personal experience, about such questions as the civil rights movement, "Black Power", the U.S. anti-Vietnam War movement and the U.S. radical movement. Come and bring your friends - there will be plenty of time for discussion.