

COMMUNIST PARTY EXPELS THREE E.T.U. MILITANTS

Those of us who were intrigued by the three line announcement in the Daily Worker that Messrs. Jack Frazer, Pat O'Neill and Harold Woolf had been expelled from the Party because of conduct 'prejudicial to the interest of the Communist Party' had to turn to the capitalist press to find out what it was all about. After all these were no small fry, Jack Fraser was one of the five members of the E.T.U. Executive who were found guilty of conspiring to deprive John Byrne of his office as General Secretary of that Union, Pat O'Neill is a leading light in the Fulham branch of the E.T.U. one time secretary of it and its delegate to the recent E.T.U. National Conference, and Harold Woolf is chairman of the same branch.

They are supporters of Frank Haxell, the former C.P. General Secretary of the E.T.U., and the old Guard in the Union. They refused to accept the Party's decision to support John Hendy, a former member of the E.T.U. Executive, who escaped relatively unscathed in the high court action. They were also told to resign from the unofficial pro-Haxell organisation inside the E.T.U. - the campaign for the Defence of Union Policy - and refused. This committee is anti-Hendy and the Communist Party has accused it of being dominated by Trotskyists. A C.P. official said that the expulsions were as a result of a series of unofficial meetings the men had been organising.

Haxell himself, resigned from the Party after the High Court judgement and a subsequent Communist Party statement made it clear that they were using him as a scapegoat for the alleged mal-practices. Haxell has been expelled from the Union but the esteem with which he is held by militants is shown by the incident in which he applied for a job as an electrician on a building site in London, on learning that he had not got an E.T.U. card the management refused to set him on. When this news reached the other electricians, all of them (some 180 odd) except one walked off the job and demanded he be set on.

Meanwhile the right wing are conducting a purge against the left in the Union and we hope to give a report on this and the fight being conducted against it in Scotland shortly. Politically, this whole unsavoury affair demonstrates the disastrous consequences of the C.P.'s policies. They are far more interested in their members holding full-time officials' job instead of leading struggles. This being an indirect result of their 'peaceful co-existence' policy. The lack of candour by the Communist Party in dealing with the question also demonstrates their distrust of their own rank and file, who have to turn to the capitalist press to find out the facts.

VICTORY IN FIGHT TO HOLD MARCH THROUGH BOLTON

An important victory has been gained by the Bolton C.N.D. in the fight to maintain the right to demonstrate. When the C.N.D. applied to march through Bolton city centre as part of the first ever march from Bolton to Rochdale via Bury on Saturday 23rd of June, the Watch Committee turned down the application. Claiming that it would cause 'traffic' difficulties it insisted that the march go only through back streets. The C.N.D. refused to accept this and declared its intention of holding the march regardless. At the same time it organised a protest campaign sending letters to local M.P.s, councillors and the Home Secretary and appealing to the Labour movement as a whole. This fight was successful and with one slight alteration the originally requested route was allowed.

The march itself was quite a success, over 300 people took part and over 15,000 C.N.D. enrolment forms were distributed. A good amount of literature was sold and at Rochdale a meeting was held and speakers included Raymond Challinor prospective Labour candidate for Nantwich, Dr. John Vincent, Professor H. Lipson of Manchester College of Science and Technology.

STUDY FOR AN AGRICULTURE POLICY IN ALGERIA RECEIVED

We have received a copy, in French, of Michel Raptis's study of an agricultural policy in Algeria, which was made at the request of the Algerian Government. The study which is a small book in reality (being 73 pages long) contains chapters on: Fundamental Considerations of an agricultural policy, how Algerian agriculture evolved under colonialism, possibilities of Algerian agriculture, examples from other countries, (U.S.S.R., China, Black Africa, Egypt, Jugo-Slavia and Cuba, and finally the choice for Algeria.

THE FIGHT AGAINST THE WITCH-HUNT

BIG VICTORY IN NORTH NOTTINGHAM CONSTITUENCY LABOUR PARTY.

At the last meeting of the North Nottingham Constituency Labour Party the following resolution was passed with ^{no} votes against (a few right wingers abstained):

That this North Nottingham Constituency Labour Party condemns the proscription by the Labour Party National Executive Committee of the youth paper Keep Left, and demands that the proscription be immediately withdrawn.

We also oppose the N.E.C. action against Young Guard and demand that this should be withdrawn and that all Socialist youth papers be allowed to circulate freely without restriction inside the Young Socialist and Labour Movement.

We see that action by the N.E.C. on these matters as only part of the undemocratic policies of the present leadership of the Parliamentary Labour Party.

This resolution slightly modified in a rather silly manner (owing to the intransigence of the chairman it was not possible to eliminate the silly formulation calling for the Labour Party to be led from the centre) was sent to the Annual Conference. Also a left wing delegate who is very much opposed to the present policies of the Gaitskell clique was elected to go to Annual Conference.

The meeting also passed a resolution pledging support to Cuba and opposing the American blockade as being imperialist aggression. It was agreed to write to the Cambridge C.L.P. for more details of their proposals about improving democracy in the Party. 7 Young Guards were sold at the meeting.

MIDDLETON LABOUR PARTY EXPELS EDITOR, BURNS PAPERS

The Middleton (Lancashire) Labour Party has expelled from the Party Jim Allen, editor of its paper The Socialist. They also burned 1,600 of the 2,000 copies of the current issue - the rest had been distributed. His crime? He printed an article attacking the Gaitskell leadership as a fifth column inside the Labour Party citing the 'I.C.I. affair' and reprinting a poem about Gaitskell. No doubt, the left will conduct a fight to get comrade Allen back into the Party.

KINGSTON (GLASGOW) WARD LABOUR PARTY MOVES

Two resolutions were passed at the last meeting of the Kingston ward Labour Party to go to Govan C.L.P. for consideration as that C.L.P. Annual Conference resolutions. This year it is possible to send to as it is 'rules revision' year. The first resolution on Party unity firmly puts the onus of disrupting Party unity on the right. The other calls for the rules to be revised in such a way to make it impossible for the right to pack selection conference. It has been the practice of right wingers to do this to keep left wingers out of Parliament.

GORBALS YOUNG SOCIALISTS PASS 'UNITY' RESOLUTION

The Gorbals Young Socialists have agreed to a resolution on Party unity (on same lines as above but with longer preamble and bring in some detail on question of internal democracy and discipline).

EDITOR OF 'KEEP LEFT' EXPELLED FROM LABOUR PARTY

The General Management Committee of the St. Pancras North C.L.P. have expelled Roger Protz, editor of 'Keep Left', for refusing to say whether he would continue being editor of that paper in light of its proscription by the N.E.C.. The paper's editorial board has dissolved itself and the Young Socialist branches which support it have withdrawn their sponsorship in order to comply with the conditions of membership.

SAVE THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS MEETING

Tribune is organising a 'Save the Young Socialists' meeting to be held on Sunday, July 22nd. at 2.30, at Denison House, Vauxhall Bridge Rd. The Chairman will be Richard Clements, editor of Tribune and speakers will include members of the National Committee of the Young Socialists.

Maximum support should be given to this meeting both in the form of getting people along, but also in the form of making sure that a marxist point of view is put. The question may very well be that of 'saving the Young Socialists', the National Committee of that body although elected at Easter, i.e., over two months ago, has not been convened yet, and a majority of the left members are under the threat of disciplinary action.

N.A.L.S.O. DISCUSSES KESSINGLAND

At its meeting in London Thursday last, the 21st of June, the Executive of N.A.L.S.O. discussed the Kessingland Camp. It was decided to step up the campaign to registrations particularly as the Universities are 'going down' shortly. The Oxford delegate promised that a greater effort was under way in Oxford. There will be an advert in Tribune shortly which will help in getting people to register.

Since the position was last given there has been another registration from London and two from Leeds. There have also been enquiries from Glasgow and Cambridge.

ERNIE ROBERTS MEETING CAMPAIGN CONTINUES

Efforts are still be made to get maximum attendance at the Ernie Roberts meeting to be held at the Nottingham Co-op Education Centre, Heathcoat St., Nottm., Saturday the 7th of July commencing at 2.30. Some tickets have been produced for circulation in factories and leaflets advert ising the meeting were given out at the Trades Council last Wednesday.

Some of the forms pledging support and promising to sell copies of the paper have been returned including one from an N.U.R. activist, it is not known whether any completed forms have gone direct to Ernie Roberts.

GOOD TURN-OUT FOR NURSES PAY DEMONSTRATION

On Sunday 24th June about 300 people took part in a demonstration from the Trent-side embankment to Nottingham City centre, where a meeting was held. As far as could be ascertained the marchers were about half N.U.P.E. and half trade unionists, young socialists, labour party members, etc. Of the N.U.P.E. marchers the majority would appear to be nurses (mostly male) although only a minority were in uniform. There were banners from the Trades Council, A.E.U., Tobacco Workers, various Young Socialist branches and other organisations. Among the nurses in uniform there were a number of coloured girls (mostly Africans from their appearance).

The meeting was a bit of a fiasco, the loudspeaker equipment was not working and the only people who could hear what the speakers were saying were already convinced of the nurses case. The South Notts. Federation of Young Socialists produced a special leaflet, giving the nurses case on one side and a general statement of the aims of the Young Socialists on the other; several hundred were distributed. Young Guard was on sale and many were sold (the exact number is not known yet).

2,000 MINERS MARCH IN MANSFIELD

Over 2,000 miners took part in the march through Mansfield which is part of the annual Nottinghamshire Miners' Gala. They marched behind their lodge banners - but there were special contributions about topical subjects, e.g. a nurse pushing a wheel chair-ridden miner as a gesture of solidarity with the nurses in the ir fight. Some Young Socialists went to sell Young Guard and sold out, they had about 40 but could have sold many, many more.

TAILORS' UNION LAUNCHES RECRUITING DRIVE IN THE EAST MIDLANDS AREA

The National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers is engaged in a campaign to build up membership in the East Midlands area (this area does not follow the usual understood definition of East Midlands) The Union is facing a really tough policy from the bosses in view of the Governments general wages policy, the credit squeeze and the recently imposed purchase tax on clothing. The East Midlands region is a weak link in its organisation - its main strength being in South Yorkshire and parts of London where the workers work in large units. In the East Midlands, as in parts of London and other Midlands areas, the trade is plagued by large number of 'make and trim' firms which spring up during a boom period in the trade. These firms sub-contract from the larger firms, who usually havon't the labour to meet a sudden increase in work. They offer higher wages for an initial period thus making the labour problems of the bigger firms worse, then when things settle down and there is less work, they sack the workers or cut down the piece-work rates and sometimes just disappear. Owing to most of the workers being housewives or potential housewives it is extremely difficult to combat this method. The Union is holding a meeting in Tamworth on Wednesday the 4th of July and one in Cleethorpes the 5th of July to try to build up membership. The Union would like to recieve the assistance of all trade unionists particularly those who have wives who work in the trade.

The following item reprinted from the European Community bulletin throws an interesting sidelight on the operation of the European Coal and Steel Community. We can imagine that once in the Common Market that very similar disputes would take place between various British interests and the Community organisations. The report reads:

"The High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community has asked the Belgian Government to reconsider its proposals for a Coal Directorate in the light of a possible conflict of powers between the Directorate and the Community. The proposals are contained in a Belgian Act of Parliament of November 1961, which provides for direct intervention by the Belgian Government in the operation of the privately owned Belgian coal industry. The High Authority not only supports the Directorate's object of reorganising the Belgian coal industry; it has itself, since the start of the E.C.S.C. in 1952, been exerting heavy pressure on the Belgian Government and coal industry to complete the thoroughgoing reorganisation essential if the industry is to stand on its own feet in the Common Market. Between 1953 and 1958 the industry received \$53 million in reorganisation aid from the German and Dutch mines, through an E.C.S.C. compensation fund plus another \$53 million from the Belgian Government. Since then the High Authority has also authorised the Belgian Government to pay the industry approximately \$36 million in reorganisation subsidies for the years 1959 to 1961.

Since 1958 some 46 uneconomic - frequently dangerous and outmoded - pits have been closed in Belgium, representing nearly 7 million tons capacity, out of 30 million tons in 1953; since the start of the coal-steel common market productivity has risen from 1.0 to close on 1.8 tons per manshift underground; and the High Authority readaption aid (aid for re-employment and resettlement) for roughly 38,000 Belgian miners has amounted to \$12.4 million, matched by an equivalent amount from the Belgian Government. The High Authority also paid out \$6.8 million (from 1959 to 1961) in additional aid to miners on short time. This year over half the the total Belgian output should come from the low-cost Campine coalfield against less than one-third before the Common Market. However, the High Authority has told the Belgian Government that its proposals would, without nationalising the mines, give the Directorate powers which the E.C.S.C. Treaty reserves to the High Authority. In particular the Belgian Government would allow it:

- (1) to fix prices;
- (2) to set up sales organisations, or a single national sales organisation;
- (3) to fix quote production quotas.

The High Authority told the Belgian Government that measures of this sort cannot be taken on a national basis; they can only be taken by the High Authority in the interest of the Community as a whole. The Belgian Government claimed in a letter to the High Authority that the Directorate was really a form of nationalisation, and therefore fully permissible under the E.C.S.C. Treaty. The High Authority rejected this view, since the proposals for a Directorate in no way changed the actual ownership of the mines; it added that a sales organisation of the kind contemplated by the Belgian Government would not be a new 'public company' but an illegal organisation with the characteristics of a cartel. Under article 88 of the Paris Treaty the Belgian Government has six weeks to decide whether to submit new plans to the High Authority or whether to take the case to the Community Court. The Government can also ask the High Authority to assume responsibility for the recovery of the Belgian coal industry itself, in which case the High Authority would advise the Belgian Government on the best means to achieve this end.

In questioning the High Authority on its action over the Directorate in the European Parliament, Belgian Socialist deputies August de Block and Roger Toubeau said that the measures to reorganise the Belgian coal industry have been inadequate; the Belgian Government has also stated that the powers it seeks under the November Act are necessary to ensure the industry's permanent recovery. Replying to the Parliamentary question put to it by MM. de Block and Toubeau, the High Authority pointed to the recent signs of strength in Belgian coal. At the same time the Belgian coal users association has petitioned the High Authority to end Belgian Coal's continued isolation as they claim the industry no longer needs special treatment, and that protection has put up the prices for Belgians, while they remain lower elsewhere in the Community.

A NOTE ON IMPORT AND EXPORT STATISTICS: Readers may wonder why in such figures given in the last issue on Sterling area imports and exports there is such a discrepancy in the figures. This is because exports are generally given as F.O.B. (Free on Board) and imports are generally given as C.I.F. (Cost, Insurance and Freight). Hence imports have extra charges, however, as these are roughly proportional to the value of the goods the figures can be used for comparison.

The following item under the heading "Stalin's role must not be distorted" appeared in the Daily Worker of 23rd June, in the form of a despatch from the paper's Moscow correspondent. It is interesting because it raises questions not posed before in relation to Stalin, e.g., his 'errors and waverings during the 1908-9 discussion on philosophical questions,' (comrades should read Materialism and Emprirocriticism by Lenin to see what this was about). The report reads:

"The Six-volume Soviet Communist Party history now in preparation 'must be quite free of any exaggeration of either ^{the} positive or the negative role of Stalin' Pravda writes in a leading article today. It must 'widely portray Lenin's closest comrades and pupils, the leading Bolshevik workers, who with him built and strengthened the Party, led the masses to revolution and the building of a new society.'

'The authors of the new work, says Pravda, should show how the transition to Socialism 'comes not of itself but as a result of the titanic struggle and toil of the masses of the people led by Marxist-Leninist parties.' In telling its heroic and victorious story the new work must show the Party 'itself discovered its own errors, drew the lessons from temporary failures and defeats and found the right road to victory.'

"Pravda calls for thorough objective study of all the material that has recently come to light on Stalin's errors and waverings during the 1908-9 discussion on philosophical questions; on aspects of the struggle against the liquidators; in March and April 1917; during the Sixth Congress; and on the South and South-West fronts during the Civil War.

"The historians, Pravda continues, 'must tell of Stalin's responsibility for the repression against the Party, State and military cadres before the war and also show Stalin's errors on questions of foreign policy, of the direction of agriculture and on other questions.' The cult of the personality 'slowed down but could not halt the progressive development of Soviet society, could not change the nature of Socialist society, nor shake the Party's organisational, political and theoretical foundations.'

KOZLOV THE 'THEORETICIAN'

based upon Economist report

Russian leaders do not write much these days in direct contrast to Lenin, Trotsky, and other Bolshevik leaders. Even Stalin wrote some books (or had them attributed to him) but the new leaders do not write ^{much} and what appears under their names is usually collections of speeches, reports, etc. Khrushchov is no exception to this rule, but his deputy in the party secretariat (and, many think, heir apparent) has blossomed forth as a theoretician. In the latest issue of Problems of Peace and Socialism, which was reprinted in the current issue of Kommunist, he has an article on the role of the Communist Party in the Soviet Union.

Part of the article is taken up with a definition of periods in party history. At the time of the 1917 revolution, according to Kozlov, the Communist Party gained the support of the majority of the industrial workers and other working people. In the following years, during the civil war and the period of economic development the party obtained the backing of the bulk of the nation. But it is only since the 'establishment of socialism' in the Soviet Union that the party represents the nation as a whole. Socialist society in Russia is made up of two 'friendly classes' - the industrial workers and peasants - linked with a working intelligentsia. It appears that this series of formulations is connected with the argumentation about the dictatorship of the proletariat being over in the Soviet Union.

Of more interest than these 'theoretical' conclusions are the data, provided in the article, of changes in the make-up of the party leadership. Nearly four-fifths of the regional party secretaries have held their jobs for three years or less. This is partly a reflection of the purge carried out by Khrushchov, but it is also the result of the advance of the new generation. If the average age of party officials in the republics remains between 35 and 50, for local and regional leaders the average has now fallen to between 30 and 40. And three-quarters of them have now had higher education, compared with only a quarter ^{in the back} in 1956. It is clear that here is a strata which provides the main support for ^{in the party} Khrushchov's destalinisation and which will oppose a return to any of the features of the worst days of Stalin's regime.

SOVIET UNION CHARGES EAST GERMANY TWICE AS MUCH AS WEST GERMANY FOR OIL

According to the Guardian, Western oil companies are angry with the Russians. They claim that the Russians are deliberately undercutting them and cite the fact that whereas East Germany pays \$2.69 per barrel for Russian oil, the West Germans can get it for as little as \$1.38 per barrel. We wonder what the East Germans think?

Jovenes Rebeldes is a Spanish revolutionary group close to the Frente de Liberacion Popular. Its appeal is characterised by the posing of a socialist solution to problems of overthrowing Franco in sharp contrast with the Communist Party of Spain which is bending over backwards in order to accomodate itself to all anti-Franco forces even the royalists, and in so doing is putting forward only democratic demands. Once again they appear ready to repeat the mistakes of the past and seem blind to the fact that history shows (Indonesia, Irak, Guatemala, etc.) that once having helped to get their royalist and liberal friends into power they would be repressed. Ed note. The appeal reads:

".....The workers-peasants revolution will take place when the workers and the intellectuals are able to link up with the peasants and thus achieve the dictatorship of the proletariat and the peasantry - which has nothing to do with the dictatorship of the proletariat over the peasants. The dictatorship of the proletariat and the peasantry is necessary to carry out the following demands:

- (1) The effective right to work and a just wage;
- (2) the suppression of the Latifundia, and the collectivisation of big landed properties, the intensification of cultivation, and the industrialisation of agriculture;
- (3) the suppression of monopolies, banks and insurance companies. The nationalisation of mines and big joint stock companies. Socialisation of the means of production. The control of factories by councils of management democratically elected by the workers, in accord with the general lines of the plan of economic development, elaborated by the revolutionary government in agreement with the authentic representatives of the workers;
- (4) the suppression of the oppressing police and army, the development of revolutionary vigilance and the spontaneous creation of people's militias for the defence of the revolution;
- (5) freedom of religion and the separation of the Church and the State;
- (6) revolutionary justice based on the dignity of man, of his physical and moral integrity, on the necessity that justice be applied by the people's assemblies;
- (7) the elimination of illiteracy, within one year at the most;
- (8) the freedom of thought, assembly, and of the press of all revolutionary tendencies;
- (9) the respect of all national languages and cultures and the federation of all nationalities into a Union of Iberian Socialist Republics;
- (10) the emancipation of women, and the equality of sexes.

"To obtain the revolutionary objectives of the Spanish people, it is necessary that all revolutionary intellectuals, workers and peasants:

- (1) organise themselves underground, both inside and outside Spain;
- (2) apply revolutionary vigilance in order to avoid infiltration by spies and provocateurs;
- (3) eliminate from the organisations cowards, opportunists, bureaucrats, militarists and the undisciplined, who are not able to respect security rules, or who organise factional actions, and the sectarians and defeatists who divide and weaken the people;
- (4) preserve at all times the independence of revolutionary organisations and try to unite them into a united front on a national scale through revolutionary action.
- (5) work without rest in all fields to create the conditions which will permit as soon as possible the armed struggle of the people without which the people cannot free themselves from their chains;
- (6) to adopt the political technique of active, positive neutralism, i.e., to abstain from participating in the conflict between the blocs, or between countries of the same bloc, to accept unconditional aid from anywhere and to contribute to the extent it is possible to the struggle of the Moroccan people for the full liberation of their country, still partially occupied by the Spanish militarists (Ceuta, Merilla, Ifni and Spanish Sahara)
- (7) organise themselves outside Spain to efficiently contribute to the struggle inside Spain;
- (8) fight in Spain against the opportunist belief that a solution can come from the outside, or from some man sent by providence, even if this man were a Fidel Castro, to accept any disinterested aid from friendly countries, from working class parties and from Spanish organisations in Emigration.

Spaniards! to safeguard the future generation from the horror of thermo-nuclear war, it is necessary to remove capitalism from the face of the Earth. All the peoples shall contribute to the Revolution; and the Spanish because of the shameful exploitation that they suffer, and the lack of the smallest freedoms, are in better conditions than any other European country to be able to achieve the socialist revolution. Workers of the world, unite!