

# International Bulletin

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## LEFT WING VICTORIOUS IN INDIAN COMMUNIST PARTY

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At the recent National Conference of the Communist Party of India, the left wing achieved a majority of 5 to 4 over the right wing on the National Secretariat - the day-to-day policy making body of the C.P.I. The results of the General Elections in March had undermined the authority of the right-wing leadership which supports the Khrushchovist line of backing the "progressive bourgeoisie" represented by Nehru.

The victorious C.P.I. left wing is the most left-wing Communist Party tendency in the world. It supports the position of the Chinese Communist Party, but unlike the Chinese leaders, it endorses the de-Stalinisation in the Soviet Union. It attacks the right-wing, Khrushchovist tendency in the C.P.I. leadership for its kowtowing to Nehru and advocates the class struggle as the only way to socialism, implicitly rejecting the "parliamentary ways to socialism" revisionism.

It stands for democratic discussion inside the Communist Party and attacks the Bureaucratic methods Khrushchov uses inside the Soviet Communist Party and in the discussion of the international disputes. It defends China in the dispute with India over the border question and effectively points out that this is being used by Nehru in his struggle internally against the Communists and the Indian masses.

This advanced position is in fact a synthesis of the more nearly marxist positions adopted by each of the conflicting world Communist Party tendencies on one or other major question, but which in each case co-exist with the most reactionary positions on other major questions. Thus while being "proChinese" the C.P.I. left wing do not take the Chinese position on Stalin, which is so opportunist and indefensible. It stands closer to the Trotskyist, the 100 per cent Leninist position than any other mass C.P. tendency which has mass support.

Based upon the revolutionary inclined masses of West Bengal and Calcutta these left wingers delineate the necessary road which a genuinely revolutionary tendency must follow. Objectively there is now the perspective of fusion of the revolutionary Marxist groups with this tendency, to ensure its continued rapid development to revolutionary marxism.....

(In the current issue of Fourth International, now available, there is a full article on this question and also an analysis of the Indian General Elections)

## CUBA TO BECOME WORLD'S BIGGEST PRODUCER OF NICKEL

Thanks to Russian technical assistance, according to the Financial Times of 5/7/62, Cuba expects to become the world's biggest producer of Nickel by 1965. Nickel is widely used in industry for alloys and nickel steel, and it will be of great assistance to the Cuban workers state in trade, etc., to have such a position. The same report says that the Russians are helping the Cubans to build two power stations and colleges of mining and metallurgy with accomodation for over 1,000 students.

## ARGENTINE STRIKERS THREATEN TO SIEZE FACTORIES

Argentina's 250,000 strong Metal Workers' Union has approved a plan of action for a strike and occupation of all plants to force the employers to accept a new wage agreement. In reply the Argentine engineering employers have announced that they will close all their factories if the workers attempt to carry out this plan.

## ECUADOR BANK EMPLOYEES WIN

The President of Ecuador intervened on July 3rd. to settle a strike by Discount Bank employees. Employees of other banks had come <sup>out</sup> in support, completely paralysing banking activities, but went back when the seven sacked Discount Bank employees were reinstated.

## THE FIGHT AGAINST THE WITCH-HUNT

### South Paddington C.L.P. demands probe of Gaitskoll and opposes witch-hunt

The following report appeared in Paddington Mercury of 29/6/62:

South Paddington Labour Party have asked the National Council of Labour to appoint a committee to investigate the "factional activities" of Mr. Gaitskoll and his "anti-party group." The party have passed a resolution deploring the recent activities of the leader of the Opposition. The resolution, which has been sent to the National Executive Committee of the Labour Party, states:

"We oppose his rejection of Labour Party policy on tests, his vote with the Tory Government on May 17 and his pledge that a Labour Government would not nationalise I.C.I. We resent his description of Labour Party members as 'the electoral peanuts,' and his support for attempts to drive Earl Russell and others from the party.

"We accordingly ask the National Council of Labour to appoint a committee to investigate the factional activities of Mr. Hugh Gaitskoll and his anti-party group."

Of the May 17 vote in the House of Commons, Councillor Bill Dow, hon. secretary of the party, said Labour M.P.s asked the Speaker to allow a debate on the question of British troops being sent into Laos. After much deliberation the Speaker said he would take a vote among members as to whether a debate would be held or not. "Mr. Gaitskoll thought fit that a debate should not take place in the House of Commons so he and four other Labour M.P.s voted with the Government while 34 other Labour members voted against the Government," said Mr. Dow.

The Party have also raised a resolution deploring the action of the National Executive Committee in their proscription of the newspaper "Keep Left," which is run by Young Socialists. "We oppose all bans and proscriptions," they say. A third resolution protests against the refusal of the National Executive Committee to endorse the prospective Parliamentary candidature of Paddington Councillor Illyd Harrington "after being democratically selected to contest on behalf of Labour the constituency of Dover." Councillor Harrington is a C.N.D. member.

### Right wing constituency pleased about climb down over Russell

At the last meeting of the South Nottingham Constituency Labour Party the following resolution was passed:

"This South Nottingham C.L.P. congratulates the N.E.C. on its wise decision to set aside the recommendations of its organisational sub-committee that Lord Chorley, Lady Wootton, Lord Russell and Canon Collins be disciplined. This C.L.P. regards this action as a salutary contribution to Party Unity in a pre-election situation."

The same C.L.P., which is controlled by a right wing machine well known for its unscrupulous methods, did not send any resolution to the City L.P. for that organisation's meeting to decide upon its annual conference resolution. This was because the South E.C. meeting took place one week later than usual (without explanation) and therefore missed the closing date for such resolutions. One of the wards had submitted a resolution calling for the N.E.C. to set up a working party to enquire into radical reform of local government finance.

### SAVE THE YOUNG SOCIALISTS meeting looks like be a success

From all accounts it looks as though there will be a big attendance at this meeting to be held on July 22nd, at the Denison House, Vauxhall Bridge Rd., at 2.30. Some will be drawn away by the Mosley meeting no doubt, but others will feel that the top priority is that fighting the witch hunt in our movement. Will Griffiths, is due to speak and several members of the Young Socialists N.C. will be on the platform too.

There is great interest in the bus going from Nottingham and probably a larger but than that originally envisaged will have to be ordered. 7 members of the North Nottingham Y.S. have said they want to come, whilst six members of the newly formed Ilkeston Y.S. have put their names down. Anyone interested should telephone Nottingham 52909 as soon as possible, so as the right sized bus can be ordered.

## THE FIGHT AGAINST THE WITCH-HUNT (continued)

### Derby Young Socialists call for tolerance

At its last meeting the Derby branch of the Young Socialists congratulated the N.E.C. of the Labour Party for tolerance in not proceeding against the four sponsors of the Moscow Peace Conference, and called upon them to show the same tolerance in relation to the Young Socialists by withdrawing the proscription of Keep Left, the threats against Young Guard and the actions taken against members of the Young Socialist National Committee.

### South Derbyshire Federation of Young Socialists too

At its last meeting this body passed a similar resolution to that above with the exception that congratulations were not sent.

### DOUGLAS JAY'S Constituency goes left

The Battersea Labour Party and Trades Council general management Committee, for which Gaitskell's henchman Douglas Jay sits in Parliament and often regarded as a right-wing stronghold, passed a resolution urging that Britain "set an example by rejecting forthwith any policy based upon nuclear weapons." The meeting also voted to oppose Gaitskell's line on the Common Market by 33 to 10. The resolution on defence will go to the Annual Conference.

### NOTTINGHAM CITY LABOUR PARTY CALLS FOR A LABOUR PRESS UNDER DEMOCRATIC CONTROL

At its meeting which was called to consider resolutions submitted for sending to the Annual Conference from the City Party, the following resolution was passed:

"That this conference views with alarm the tendency towards monopoly of the press, with a consequent slanting and conditioning of public opinion and in view of this anti-democratic tendency we urge the Labour Movement to take urgent steps to establish a press under democratic control."

Owing to the way the meeting was organised only two resolutions were received for consideration; one which called for the renunciation of nuclear weapons couldn't be discussed because no delegate from the organisation sending it in turned up at the meeting. The other called for the Parliamentary Labour Party to campaign for the establishing of a Royal Commission to investigate the monopolising of the press. This was amended by a right wing delegate to call for the Labour Government to take urgent steps to deal with the question. When a left wing delegate moved the amendment which made the resolution read as above, the chairman attempted to prevent it being discussed by asking whether the delegate's organisation had mandated him to move it. He was put on the spot by the answer from the left winger that he had no more mandate than had the previous mover of an amendment.

The discussion centred around two points, the right declaring that the Labour Movement couldn't maintain a press and cited the experience of the Daily Herald and the Reynold News. The left replied that it was because these papers were not under democratic control that they were unsuccessful. Eventually when the vote was taken, a right wing teller announced that the amendment had been lost by 15 votes to 14. The left demanded a recount, and the result was then declared to be 16 for and 15 against.

### ERNIE ROBERTS SPEAKS IN NOTTINGHAM

At a meeting organised by the Nottingham Left Club Ernie Roberts spoke on the new trade union and socialist paper that he and other trade unionists and a number of M.P.s are sponsoring (see previous issues of the Bulletin). He said that incentive to start the new paper arose from the need to unite the left inside the Labour Party, no existing paper could fill this need, whilst the paper would not be in competition with Tribune, the latter didn't fill the need. It is hoped that such organisations as M.C.F., Unity, V.F.S. would take a page, and there would also be a youth page. There would be local supporters groups who would meet and discuss the contents of the paper and there would be a national conference each year. The editorial board would be composed so as to avoid proscription and the experience of the Socialist Outlook would not be repeated. The meeting was attended by between 25 and 30 people, many found it difficult to get with it being a Saturday afternoon and others were committed at the International Co-op Day celebrations. The discussion was serious and business like and all speakers pledged support for the paper and welcomed it. The audience was mainly industrial; the following unions being represented: the A.E.U., U.S.D.A.W., Fire Brigades, T.G.W.U., Clerks, N.U.R., Tobacco Workers, Metal Mechanics, Teachers, and there were several shop Stewards.

## RAY GUNTER AND STRIKES

Ray Gunter, Labour M.P. for Southwark and one of Gaitskell's most ardent supporters, speaking at Colchester on July 7th said unofficial strikes are dangerous and evil. He added: "We as a nation, should now have reached a position where the strike and the lock-out belonged to the history book." Continuing he said: "The official strike is now becoming rare. It is the unofficial strike that has aroused so much antagonism to the trade union movement."

Quite apart from his attitude towards unofficial strikes, Gunter has got his facts wrong. According to the Ministry of Labour Gazette, in the first 5 months of 1962 4,510,000 working days were lost through industrial strikes. Also according to the Gazette "nearly all the engineering and shipbuilding workers (were) involved in a national stoppage on 5th Feb. (and)..again involved on March 5th." According to the Ministry of Labour classification there are nearly 2 million working in industries affected by the stoppage. This means that of the  $4\frac{1}{2}$  million days lost something like 4 million were lost in one official strike. This is quite apart from other official strikes. So official strikes, which according to Gunter are 'becoming rare', accounted for at least 88% (and probably much more) of the working days lost this year so far. A similar picture can be given for most years; in 1959  $3\frac{1}{2}$  million out of  $5\frac{1}{4}$  million working <sup>days</sup> were lost through one official printing dispute, in 1958 1.6 million out of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  million through the London bus strike and in 1957 over 6 million out of 8.4 million were lost through the official engineering and shipbuilding strikes.

### SOME FACTS FROM THE NATIONAL COALBOARD ANNUAL REPORT.

According to the report there were big gains in productivity and, in the last quarter of the year, output for each manshift averaged over 30 cwt - about  $5\frac{1}{2}\%$  higher than a year before. The Board's manpower was reduced by some 22,000. The operating profit was £28.7 million before charging interest £8.5 million more than in 1960. Interest payments, mainly to the Ministry of Power, amounted to £42.4 million - an increase of £0.9 million. For all men employed productivity averaged 28.9 cwt. a manshift, 3.2% higher than in 1960 despite the reduction of 15 minutes in the length of the working shift which came into effect at the beginning of 1961. Non-operational expenditure increased from £6.7 to £77 million.

These figures show (1) that despite slightly shorter hours more coal per manshift is being produced and productivity per man hour is considerably higher; (2) that if it were not for interest payments a considerable profit would have been made; (3) that there has been almost 10% increase in administrative costs. Taking all these facts together we get a very different picture from that which the capitalist press give. What's more the miner's increase in productivity is being rewarded by the closing of 'inefficient' pits which are largely inefficient because interest charges impose an impossible burden on the industry. The report talks of the advantages to be gained from entering the Common Market. This may be so for the people who run the industry in the interests of the remainder of British capitalism, but for the workers the story will be different. Since 1957 the number of miners in France (coalface workers only) has dropped from 142,000 to 120,000, in Germany from 341,000 to 280,000 and in Belgium (hardest hit) from 111,000 to 66,000.

### DAILY MIRROR NEWSPAPERS - THE BIGGEST PUBLISHING MONOPOLY IN THE WORLD

Facts and figure which emerge from Cecil King's statement to the Annual General Meeting of Daily Mirror Newspapers Ltd on July 2nd show what a monster monopoly that firm is. Total sales of the firms newspapers exceed 50 million copies per week, and it publishes no less than 200 publications from over 30 different companies. In the world of books they have an annual output of over 20 million. Net profit after taxation attributable to the company for the year ended February, 1962, amounted to £4,940,317. Total capital and reserves amount to some £64 million. The 21 newspapers, under its control, include 12 overseas. The Daily Mirror is of course the hub, others include: the Sunday Pictorial, Revelle, the Scottish Daily Record, The People and the Daily Herald are recent additions Overseas Newspapers Ltd. are responsible for 12 newspapers in West Africa and the Caribbean area, in the latter recent additions include the British Guiana Daily Graphic and Sunday Graphic, the Antigua Star, the Voice of St. Lucia. Women's magazines include Woman and Woman's Own, and twelve new ventures include Princess, Harold Hare, Buster, June, Honey and Look and Learn, technical journals launched include International Plastics Engineering, Measurement and Control, Research and Development, Engineering News, Materials Research and European Chemical News. Statist and Woman's Mirror are two journals recently taken over and smartened up. Other journals King mentioned are: Woman's Realm, Ideal Home, Everywoman, Practical Householder, Practical Motorist, Practical Wireless, Country Life, Homes and Gardens, Woman's Weekly, Woman and Home, Woman's Journal, Woman and Beauty, Eagle, Woman's Illustrated, International Construction, Stock Exchange Gazette, West African Directory, West Indies and Caribbean Year Book, Textstyle, Contract Journal, etc.etc.

The Financial Times of 4th July carried an article by one of its correspondents who had recently been in British Guiana under the title "More Muddle than Malice." Giving a picture of the situation there, and then outlining some of developments which have taken place since 1955, it goes on to say:

"..But then Dr. Jagan has got his political ideas muddled. While he would be a Communist to the satisfaction of, say, the John Birch Society, it would be more accurate to describe his political attitude as something of a platonic love affair with Marxism. This love affair is inconsistent and fitful and does not affect his realisation that he is wedded to a free enterprise system and that it is in the interests of his country to keep the marriage off the rocks.

"....Though he breathes fire about "occupying the commanding heights of the economy," and may well emotionally aspire to such eminence, his conduct has not been extremist. He has allowed the large expatriate companies to cultivate friendly relations with him. In a statement prepared in consultation with the recent trade mission to the Colony headed by Lord Rootes, Dr. Jagan abjured expropriation as a policy and stated that "it is ...not our intention to nationalise the bauxite and sugar industries." the article ends by giving this advice:

"It seems that the wisest policy for the Western countries then is for them not to lose their nerve. The prudent thing would be to increase rather than reduce aid to a country which, in spite of Dr. Jagan's ill-considered praise of Castro, is still far from being a "Red Hell" or a Soviet satellite.

"There is wind of a U.K.-U.S. World Bank aid consortium and before long the country should be getting a flow of friendly foreign administrators and technicians. Such <sup>the</sup> help cannot come a day too soon. In return Dr. Jagan could be expected to stop <sup>the</sup> maunderings of his politicians on the subject of the "class war." He could also make clearer his rejection of those sections of Marxism-Leninism that those who know him are confident he abhors."

#### KESSINGLAND PREPARATIONS TAKE SHAPE

Various aspects of the Kessingland Camp are being settled. A draft programme of subjects for the speakers is being submitted to the tutors for their approval, details of the film festival are being finalised and now the appeal is going out to participants to pay the balance of their fees. The closing date for the latter is August 8th. The film festival will include several by Eisenstein, the famous Russian director and producer, and others on Algeria, Cuba, etc.

The registrations continue to trickle in, although the organisers are far from satisfied with the rate. During the week there have been three more from Liverpool and two each from Nottingham and Birmingham. London still lags behind although there were some enquiries from there as a result of the Tribune advert.

#### EX-LEADING TORY PRAISES COMMUNIST PARTY SPEAKER

After a Communist Party organised demonstration against the Common Market, <sup>former</sup> a leading Tory, Major George Dalzell-Payne who fought Hamilton for the Tories in 1955 and is a past president of Western Divisional Council of Unionists and Conservative Associations in Scotland, warmly congratulated William Wainwright, assistant editor of the Daily Worker. He said 'I agree with every word you say - MacMillan is betraying the people of this country.' Instead of wondering what mistake <sup>Wainwright</sup> made the Daily Worker seems to be proud of this fact according to the way they reported the affair. This is very striking confirmation of the chauvinistic line taken by the Communist Party on the question of the Common Market.

#### AIRCRAFT STRIKE THREAT IN U.S.

Some 125,000 workers at 51 U.S. aircraft and space installations will strike on July 23rd. unless new contracts have been negotiated by then, union leaders announced on July 8th. Negotiators of the International Association of Machinists and the United Aerospace Workers have been engaged in contract talks with employers for three months. The unions want more pay and other benefits.

Installations affected belong to the Lockheed, North American, Douglas, General Dynamics, Convair and Aerojet-General corporations. Government intervention against the unions was threatened by Goldberg, Secretary of Labour, when he said the Government would not tolerate a walk-out in the aerospace industry.

#### 12 WORKERS FOR EVERY VACANT MERSEYSIDE JOB

Unemployment on the Merseyside is now almost 30,000 - the highest for 20 years. The Merseyside District Advisory Committee was told this at a meeting on July 2nd. and also that there are twelve workers for every vacant job, there is considerable apprehension that more will lose their jobs over mergers.

The national press has reported extensively the events in Trafalgar Square on July 1st. On this first day of enforcement of the colour bar Immigration Act, the most extreme of the fascist groups, the National Socialist Movement (formed on April 20th, anniversary of Hitler's birth in 1889) held a widely-publicised rally. The speakers, Colin Jordan (Leader) and John Tyndall (National Secretary) had a rough reception from the crowd of over 3,000. Speeches were continuously interrupted and eggs and other missiles thrown, and the microphone was disconnected while Tyndall was speaking. Police held up the meeting four times during Tyndall's speech, and finally stopped the proceedings when left-wing militants in the crowd were on the point of driving the fascists off the plinth and taking over the microphone.

The organisers had called the meeting with the slogan: "Free Britain from Jewish Control!" This apparently foolhardy provocation had two objects: (1) Achievement of the widest publicity by attracting a huge crowd; (2) putting the other fascist groups (British National Party, Union Movement and League of Empire Loyalists) on the spot by obliging them either to defend the platform under Jordan's leadership, or to "desert under fire". The first of these aims was achieved. Two of the rival gangs have been induced to follow suit by calling their own rallies: Mosley on July 22nd and the B.N.P. on September 2nd.

With the trend towards deep recession in the capitalist world by Autumn these gangs could become a menace as a force dividing the working class along racialist lines. While only a handful of thugs is prepared to follow Jordan or Mosley into the streets, the effectiveness of fascist propaganda among backward workers, particularly on the race issue, should not be underestimated. Three tasks should be tackled by the left: (1) All "rotten liberal" conceptions of free speech for fascists must be fought within the Labour Movement. Labour-controlled local authorities must be pressed to refuse all speaking facilities to fascists and to dismiss any fascists in their employment; (2) the Labour Movement in each locality, but especially in areas where large numbers of Jewish or coloured people are concentrated, must form a defence guard to protect working-class meetings and members of minority racial groups; (3) material must be produced exposing contemporary fascist groups and their links with the most reactionary sector of big business here and abroad (e.g. in South Africa).

Two false lines of argument must be fought (1) the idea that renascent fascism can be 'ignored.' The attendance at the July 1st rally nailed this approach; (2) the illusion that the job of smashing fascism can be farmed out to the capitalist class. The fascists are an embarrassment to the dominant section of the ruling class at present - but they could be useful later on, and the Tories have no intention of illegalising them. Police on July 1st protected the fascists as they did Mosley in the thirties. The Public Order Acts of 1934 and 1937 are a warning that legislation is used far more against the militant left than against fascism.

Ed note: comment on the ideas of this article would be welcome.

#### PORTUGUESE STUDENTS SUSPENDED - FACE CALL UP

Over 50 Portuguese students (20 odd from Lisbon and about 30 from Coimbra) have been suspended by an order of the Portuguese Ministry of Education. This attempt to break the four month deadlock caused by student unrest, means their automatic call up for military service.

#### U.S. FILM BANNED IN RHODESIAS

An official American Government film has been banned by the Rhodesian Federal Government from distribution throughout both Rhodesias and Nyasaland. The film which has already been widely shown because it had been passed by the censors, includes shots of Kennedy greeting African ambassadors in Washington. It also shows scenes at the 1961 Freedom Day rally showing Kenneth Kaunda and Tom Mboya. No reason was given for the ban.

#### TOM MBOYA THREATENS REMOVAL OF RIGHT TO STRIKE DURING STRIKE WAVE

Tom Mboya, Kenya's Labour Minister, called for an end to industrial strife on July 4th and said that if the right to strike was abused it might be removed. He said <sup>THIS</sup> in the midst of a strike wave - 4,000 Nairobi City Council workers being out on strike for the third time in four months, on July 8th, 32 workers were arrested as 3,000 plantation struck at Sotik (170 miles from Nairobi) and on July 6th 113 strikers were arrested because they stopped blacklegs from entering a metal window factory in Nairobi.