

### A LOOK AT THE RESOLUTIONS FOR THIS YEAR'S LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE

The first section - Party Administration - contains, in addition to the 4 on the Young Socialists (see last week's Bulletin), a call by South Lewisham C.L.P. for a massive campaign for political education. Edinburgh Central C.L.P. believes that the present financial arrangements for parliamentary candidates keeps out many potentially good candidates and calls for a central fund to meet this problem. Leicester Borough C.L.P. wants Labour Party policy documents to be issued to Constituencies and City Parties concurrent with the press release. The Surrey Federation of Labour Parties asks that the conclusions of the N.E.C. on all remitted resolutions be circulated to all affiliated organisations - a good point this as some of the best resolutions are never discussed and merely remitted.

Four resolutions are submitted on the return of a Labour Government, though only one - from the Post Office Workers Union - congratulates the Parliamentary L.P. on its leadership. No less than 44 resolutions are submitted on housing - one of which we have already referred to. Coventry Borough L.P., Chertsey C.L.P., Glasgow, Craigton C.L.P., Liverpool, West Derby C.L.P., Wallasey T.C. & L.P., include the demand for land nationalisation in their resolutions. Glasgow Woodside C.L.P. asks that Glasgow should receive an interest free loan of £240 million over the first three years of Labour Government to solve its housing problem. Another 15 resolutions are listed under 'The Land'. Liverpool, Kirkdale C.L.P. wants conference to declare that ownership of all land should be vested in the State. Newcastle-Upon-Tyne Borough L.P. urges that the next Labour Government should implement the policy of public ownership of all building land.

The next big batch of resolutions is under "The National Health Service" where 27 are listed. N.U.P.E. has a resolution which virtually calls for the democratisation of the Health Service by placing it under the control of elected bodies. This resolution also urges separate financing of the Service, the abolition of all health charges, and the establishment of a publicly-owned pharmaceutical manufacturing concern. The Socialist Medical Association has a ten-point programme for a full 'Socialist development of the Service.' For some reason the call by East Hertfordshire C.L.P. for the encouragement and financial aid to Marriage Guidance Services is also listed under this heading. N.U.P.E.'s dissatisfaction with the composition of Hospital Boards and Regional Management Committees is echoed in another 5 resolutions under this heading.

Education attracted 21 resolutions, the first seven of which stress the need to implement Labour's policy of comprehensive schools. Northwich C.L.P. wants all fee paying schools to be integrated into the State education system, and Birmingham All Saints C.L.P. makes the same demand in relation to all public schools. Another 9 resolutions are listed under "Higher Education and Scientific Manpower", starting with one from the Socialist Education Association which puts forward the principles upon which it considers any coherent plan for higher education should be based. These include ending the system whereby 'status' of institutions influences the allocation of finance, a clearing house scheme to cover all admissions to institutions, and the bringing together of all higher education including full-time, part time and apprenticeships under the same educational direction.

Social Security is a popular subject for resolutions, 19 of which are listed. These cover a wide range of subjects but of interest is one from Crewe C.L.P. which wants a minimum pension of 75% of a workers' basic wage and for this to be tied to the cost of living. Two resolutions call for the lowering of the retirement age to 60, and another two want the three days 'waiting period' for benefits to be abolished. Three others want the abolition of the 'earnings rules' and another six protest against the treatment of widows under the present Act.

The three railway trade unions head the 22 resolutions on 'Transport' followed by two more unions - the T.G.W.U. and the National Union of Seamen. The N.U.R., while calling for a national integrated transport system also want the Labour movement to use every effort to oppose the Beeching rail closures. The locomotive's union, A.S.L.E.F., and the T.S.S.A. call for the deferring of these closures. This is also demanded by the T.G.W.U. resolution, and the N.U.S. emphasises the need to bring coastwise training by British ships into publicly controlled transport system. Glasgow, Scotstoun C.L.P. stresses the necessity for the nationalisation of industries supplying transport, and wants these nationalised within the lifetime of the next Labour Government. Glasgow Govan C.L.P. wants a transport commission embracing all forms of transport, with a majority of the personnel composing the various boards and committees elected by the workers in the transport industry.

Again there are 22 resolutions on the "Planned Economy", headed by one from the N.U.G.M.W. makes a call for the N.E.C. to develop policies to promote sustained economic growth. Bassettlaw C.L.P. has a resolution which boils down to the same thing but wants steps to 'stop exceptional building up in salaries and wages'. A more militant one comes from Doncaster C.L.P. which says effective planning can only operate if the power of the great monopolies is attacked by

the nationalisation of essential industries. The next 5 stress regional unemployment. Garshalt C.L.P. calls for special action to meet the problem of youth unemployment. Beoles C.L.P. wants legislation to guarantee people full wages after they have been declared redundant. Nuneaton C.L.P. calls for legislation to establish a 12 months contract between employers and employees including a 12 months notice of termination. Wal send C.L.P. urges a national pool financed by employers, employees and State for redundancy payments. A.S.S.E.T. wants an element of state participation in ownership and direction of firms which receive State aid.

The next batch of resolutions are concerned with particular industries: Agriculture, Cotton, Steel, Electrical Supply, Gar, British Fishing, Shipping, Post Offices, Air Transport and Water. 'Protectionist' resolutions came from Clitheroe C.L.P. (reduce cotton imports), Gateshead C.L.P. & Goole C.L.P. (opposing placing of shipbuilding orders abroad), National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers (reduce imports of goods manufactured by traditional industries). Calls for nationalisation come from Watford C.L.P. (airlines) and Cambridgeshire C.L.P. (water supply).

Industrial Democracy has 8 resolution, a reflection of the interest in workers control. Middlesborough West C.L.P. wants an examination of the structure for controlling nationalised industries. Epsom C.L.P., Leeds East C.L.P. Harrow East C.L.P. and Wansworth, Putney C.L.P. all mention workers control in their resolutions. Epping C.L.P. requests that the N.E.C. wants the experience of other countries in the sphere of workers and consumers management. Wansworth Putney C.L.P. want a working group to study the question and issue their report in the form of a pamphlet. Five resolutions appear on 'Apprenticeships and the Training of Youth' all of which call for the modernisation of the system. U.S.D.A.W. has a resolution calling for the next Labour Government to ratify Convention 100 of the I.L.O. on equal pay.

This year, 'Foreign Policy and Defence' stimulated 24 resolutions. Resolutions which incorporate unilateral nuclear disarmament explicitly or implicitly, come from Hackney General C.L.P. (which has a comprehensive resolution calling for a foreign policy based upon reliance in International Labour Movement), Cleveland C.L.P., Leeds North East C.L.P., Glasgow Springburn C.L.P., Stroud C.L.P. Edinburgh N., Croydon N.W., St. Pancras N. and Croydon S. C.L.P.s.

Opposition to a N.A.T.O. nuclear force is expressed by Brighton, Kempton C.L.P., Sheffield T.C. & L.P., Hampstead, St. Pancras N., Blackpool N., Croydon S. and Salford E. C.L.P.s and Salford B.L.P. Several resolutions make a direct call for Britain to come out of N.A.T.O., Tottenham, Billericay, Croydon N.W. and Eton & Slough C.L.P.s. Under this section there is scarcely any support for right wing policies whatsoever.

Five resolutions call for support for the United Nations, 3 of which are identical. Paddington N. C.L.P. wants to see China in the U.N.O. 6 resolutions call for more aid to under-developed countries. The Chemical Worker's Union distinguishes itself by sending a solitary pro Common Market resolution. On the eight resolutions on South Africa, 7 are concerned with getting Britain to boycott that country but Eye C.L.P. concerns itself with condemning the Communist bloc for trading with South Africa and picks out the sale of Czech arms. Two resolutions call for aid to Algeria, one from S. Nottingham C.L.P. has already been noted the other comes from Lewisham W. C.L.P. Yarmouth C.L.P. expresses opposition to the Federation of Malaysia.

Four resolutions cover 'Immigration and Racial Discrimination' Paisley C.L.P. wants the Immigration Act rephrasing, whilst Birmingham, Aston Cross, and Bristol W. C.L.P. want the action against racialist propaganda. On the other hand Eslington E. C.L.P. calls for an investigation of the whole question of immigration and the amending of the Immigration Act. Two calls for an expansion of East-West trade come from N.E. Derbyshire C.L.P. and Merthyr Tyfil T.C. & L.P.

Consumer Protection lists six resolutions, one of which from Carlton C.L.P. puts an elaborate programme designed to protect people entering into hire purchase agreements. Another seven resolutions under 'Taxation Policy' express dissatisfaction with the present system. No less than 29 resolutions are listed under 'Local Government Finance', reflecting no doubt to a great extent the problems faced by Labour controlled councils in meeting their commitments under the present system. Most of them call for reform of the present system and its replacing with one based on the ability of people to pay. 2 resolutions express opposition to the various proposals of the Local Government Commission. The miscellaneous section at the end of the agenda covers subjects ranging from Jurors to coast erosion and the Honours List, few of which will ever be discussed.