

# THE WEEK

A news analysis  
for socialists

9d.

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Business and  
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## A declaration of intent — to put up prices

AS the 18 trade associations queried by George Brown cook up their answers to his price inquiries, a huge number of price increases have been declared. No less than 200 odd items in the grocery field are to go up in price. They include sausages, frozen foods, sweets, canned vegetables, custard, pickles, toilet items and biscuits. Mr. Brown's inquiries appear to be intended to lull trade unionists into supposing the type of incomes policy he intends will be "fair." But the active trade unionist will do well to pay more attention to what his wife has to say about the grocery bill than what the newspapers (nearly all of whom have recently put up their prices) say about the necessity, in the national interest, for wage restraint.

History shows that every attempt to hold back price increases, under capitalism, in conditions where inflationary pressures have been generated by Government policy are useless. De Gaulle tried this with the full power of the state and failed. The most that can be achieved is a complex system of controls, which if they leave control over manufacture and distribution in the hands of private enterprise lead to artificial shortages and a black market.

If George Brown really wants to do anything in this field he will have to give teeth to a system of consumers' price control. This means raising the question of access to the books of capitalism. And it means not merely access but power to interfere with the control private capitalists exercise over the manufacture and distribution of commodities. To pose the question any other way is to deceive people and will be interpreted as mere 'flannel' to soften them up to accept wage restraint.

We are extremely glad to see that the Transport and General Workers' Union, confronted with this situation, decided, when discussing the 'Declaration of Intent,' to adopt with it a reaffirmation of their opposition to wage restraint. Unions must be tensely vigilant in this cause, and must reject all forms of wage restraint. Unless an incomes policy can be based on workers' inspection of all the accounts and control of profit-levels, expense accounts, and other employer incomes, it can only serve to constrain trade union power.

## The economy stagnates — the banks thrive

Nothing could point more clearly to the parasitic nature of the banking system than the relationship between the profits of the big banks and economic growth. In one of our earliest issues (Vol. 1, No. 3) we noted that in 1963—a year of expansion—bank profits were down: Westminster and Lloyds by 6% and National Provincial by 2%. During most of 1964 there was no economic expansion. The banks accordingly increased their profits: Westminster, £1,150,000 up; Barclays, £1,908,000 up; Lloyds, £969,000 up; Midland, £1,200,000 up; and National Provincial, £580,000 up.

This is clearly a concern for the Labour Government and the Labour movement in general. We have just gone through a crisis of confidence in the pound. Economic steps have been taken by the Government which will hold back economic expansion and increase the profits of banks. Is this what the tens of thousands activists in the Labour movement fought the election for? So that next year the big five will announce similar increases?

If banking interests can only thrive on economic stagnation then definitely there is something basically wrong. Labour's economic plans must be shaped to weaken and destroy the grip of the City and the banks on the economy. Instead of kow-towing to these interests Labour should be tough with them.

There is, too, an immediate policy question: the Steel Nationalisation Bill is at present being drafted. If this is drafted in such a way that the industry is starved of capital and is compelled to go with its begging bowl to the money market the grip of the banks on the economy will be immediately strengthened.

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## Editorial Notes (continued)

# LABOURS PEACE-KEEPING ROLE

We are told that the Government's defence policy will be based upon Britain's peace-keeping role in the area between Suez and Singapore. In politics, words are sometimes (perhaps mostly?) used to mean the opposite of what they say. The first major fruit of this new role seems to be the provoking of war in this very region. Every student of politics knows that the Malaysian Federation was created to give a majority of Malays against the politically 'unreliable' Chinese of the Malayan Federation and Singapore. How else can one explain this peculiar amalgam of territories which share only one common feature: that they have been under British imperialist domination and have vast British investments?

All the scare stories in the press about the bogeyman Soekarno are designed to obscure this simple fact. Soekarno is motivated by many factors in launching his attacks against Malaysia but he expresses the feelings of the masses in the under-developed countries. They are determined to fight neo-colonialism just as they fought—and beat—direct colonialism. They are determined to end this state of affairs where the richest countries in the world (so far as resources are concerned) are populated by the poorest people in the world.

If Labour is to pursue a peace-keeping role it will do better to ally itself with this movement rather than try to hold it back. By so doing it will be striking at the basic causes of world tension—not Soekarno's ambitions—but economic and social contradictions. The money which is being given to Denis Healey's Ministry of Defence to fly troops out to Malaya should be switched to Barbara Castle's Ministry of Overseas Aid. Instead of sending V-bombers Labour should send machine tools, plant, technical know-how, etc., as gifts or on long term credits. The sending of such aid — without strings — would play a real peace-keeping role and make possible negotiations with Indonesia to work out the best way self-determination can be arranged for the peoples of South East Asia.

## A message from the Editor of VOICE OF THE UNIONS

### To VOICE

71 New Kings Rd., London S.W.6.

I/We would like to attend/send delegates to drafting meeting on "Policy for Steel" to be held in Nottingham, 6th-7th February, 1965.

Within two weeks we will send you our views and comments for circulation.

Name .....

Organisation .....

Address .....

The Steel Bill will be drafted very shortly. It is therefore essential that the steelworkers themselves should immediately formulate the broad policies they would like to see carried out—we can then help with publicising these views, lobbying M.P.s, deputations to Ministers, etc.

We propose therefore that:

(1) All those concerned should form a National Steelworkers' Committee and persuade as many shop stewards and organisations as possible to take part.

(2) Members should be persuaded to canvass the industry as widely as possible and write down—either as a policy draft, or as rough notes—all the ideas and proposals now being discussed.

If these notes are sent to us we will undertake to duplicate and circulate them for discussion.

(3) The Committee should then meet to work out a detailed policy statement as the basis of a national campaign. We suggest this meeting take place in Nottingham on February 6th and 7th. (Our Nottingham friends can provide accommodation.)

We must emphasise again that it is not our job to 'formulate' policy for the steel industry; this must be done by the steelworkers themselves. Once this initiative has been taken we will do everything we can to help.

With best wishes for the New Year.

Yours fraternally,

R. J. FLETCHER,  
Editor—VOICE

## United Steel

### Boss wants £3

### compensation for £1 shares

The following extract from the annual report of the chairman of United Steel, Mr. A. J. Peech, shows great expectations:

**I**F the steel industry is nationalised we do not know the terms under which this might be brought about but it might not be out of place to give some figures of the value of the Company's shares based on differing methods of valuation. These have been as follows:—

Stock market valuation ...	47/-
Dividend yield .....	57/-
Balance Sheet value ...	45/-
Current replacement cost	74/-
Capitalisation of earnings	69/-

"From the above it would seem that any figure of less than, say, 60/- could only be described as unfair expropriation. I trust that no British Government will lend itself to such action."

N.B.—The shares are £1 each. The difference between Mr. Peech's balance sheet value and his current replacement cost would back up those who have been demanding access, by the workers concerned, to the books to work out the real value of employers' wealth.

## HOW MANY?

Which newspaper asked: "How many of those who condemn the dockers would be prepared to sacrifice their own Sundays at home because they were told by the Government that it was in the national interest to do so?"

The "Daily Worker"?

No!

The "T.G.W.U. Record"?

No!

The "Sun"?

Don't be funny!

No, it was the

**Financial Times** of  
January 5th.

## Who will edit

### 'OLD STAGGERS'

'Observer', a regular columnist in the Financial Times, had this to say on January 7th about the rumour that John Freeman was to relinquish the editorship of **New Statesman**:

**M**ENTION of statesmen, of course, brings me to the other supposed newcomer to diplomacy, Mr. John Freeman. Freeman, an old Wilson intimate, will I am sure make an ideal emissary East of Suez—that region so close to the Prime Minister's heart. But this would mean a new editor for the **New Statesman**.

"Freeman, who has become a very moderate left-winger with the passing years, has quite altered the old rebellious voice of the Statesman. Unilateralism went out straight away, and the paper has in recent weeks been the Government's most intelligent apologist. His likely successor is Paul Johnson, though there could be opposition to him from the surviving bomb-banners; though no extremist, Johnson is more passionate and less predictable than his chief.

"Any younger alternatives are likely to be tougher and further left—Freeman sometimes refers to them as "my young thugs." Nagging from Great Turnstile and chats from the bank manager in Belgrave Square—the prospect from Downing Street cannot look inviting."

Week readers will have received the news that John Freeman is resigning from the editorship of the **New Statesman** with some pleasure. The paper had been pursuing a rightward course for some time, and had increasingly frequently come down from its traditional position on the fence, on the wrong side. Most of us would far rather see someone like Michael Foot, who is at least as good a journalist, and a rather more consistent socialist. Since nearly all of us read the **New Statesman** regularly, we should be entitled to write in, sending our opinions to the Board of the journal. Kingsley Martin has returned to England to help select the new editor, and Leonard Woolf should also be open to suggestions from left-wing readers who wish the paper to remain on their side.

## EMPLOYERS LAUNCH NEW JOURNAL

**T**HE new National Industrial Organisation which is being formed to embrace the British Employers' Confederation, the Federation of British Industries and the National Association of British Manufacturers is now progressing with the physical integration of the three organisations. From January the Confederation and the F.B.I. will publish a new fortnightly journal entitled **British Industry** which will incorporate the **B.E.C. Bulletin** and the **F.B.I. Review**.

The first issue will appear on 8th January. It will contain comment on labour questions, reports on wages, manpower problems, working conditions and industrial training, as well as all the business news formerly covered by the **F.B.I. Review**. Subscriptions will cost £3 per annum.

Once again the employers are nosing in front of the unions in improving their organisation and perfecting their communications.

## Aid Kitson fund tops £1000

**T**HE most up-to-date figure for the amount standing in the Kitson Legal Aid Fund was about £1,024. Collecting sheets have been received from drawing and technical offices in engineering and shipbuilding firms in all parts of Britain.

David Kitson and his colleagues are being imprisoned under laws which have been condemned by the United Nations, and which can be likened only to the racial and repressive legislation passed by Hitler before the war.

Letters expressing gratitude for the assistance of D.A.T.A. members have been received from both David Kitson and his wife, Norma Kitson.

If you have not yet organised a collection please do so and please give generously. A sum of £3,000 is required.

All collecting sheets and contributions should be sent to:

THE GENERAL SECRETARY,  
(D.A.T.A.),  
KITSON LEGAL AID FUND,  
ONSLow HALL, LITTLE GREEN  
RICHMOND, SURREY.

# EDUCATION GLOSSARY\*

**T**HE vocabulary of education gets stranger, less familiar, daily. We publish a basic glossary of terms in the hope that it will help you to follow the arguments and indeed to join in.

**Bilateral school:** A secondary school with two distinct sides: grammar/technical, or technical/modern, or grammar/modern.

**Comprehensive school:** A school taking practically all the children from a given district and not organised in distinct sides.

**Direct-grant grammar school:** A school which is not under the control of the local education authority but which receives a financial grant direct from the Ministry of Education. This grant is at present £43 per pupil below the sixth form and £124 in the sixth form. In effect, the vast majority of direct-grant establishments would close tomorrow without the huge subsidies they receive from both state and local authority.

**Grammar school:** A secondary school providing a mainly academic course from 11 to 16 or 18. It is still the main route to universities and the professions. The proportion of working-class children getting to universities has remained at about the same level as in 1938, despite the "equality of opportunity" philosophy of the 1944 Education Act.

**Independent school:** A school which receives no money from public funds and therefore charges fees. Must be registered with the Ministry of Education and conform to prescribed standards. Very few actually "recognised as efficient." Standards often incredibly low. Still considered a lucrative game by the true descendants of Squeers.

**Multilateral school:** A secondary school with three or more distinct sides, e.g., grammar, technical, modern. Only one in England and Wales.

**Prep school:** An independent school, age range usually between seven and 14, which prepares boys and girls for entry to public schools via the Common Entrance examination (for independent schools) taken at 13.

**Public school:** Big, independent boys' boarding schools, about 80 in number, whose heads are members of the 200-strong Headmasters' Conference. Not public in any normal sense: they are not maintained by public funds, and they are not open by right to the children of the public. Many Socialists would like to see them integrated into the public sector at once.

**Tripartite system:** An ugly phrase for an ugly arrangement: the division of secondary education into grammar, technical and modern schools.

\*Published originally in the January issue of **Stockport Voice**.

# THE CO-OPS AT THE CROSSROADS

**W**HAT has happened to the Co-ops in the seven years since the Independent Commission's Report? Proposals aimed "at streamlining co-operative organisation, are ultimately dependent on the amalgamation of societies into viable units" say Sidney Pollard, Professor of Economic History at Sheffield University, in a new Fabian pamphlet. "The Independent Commission proposed that the number of societies should be rapidly reduced from 1,000 to 2-300 . . . This advice has not been taken, though the rate of amalgamation has speeded up in recent years, numbers falling from 936 in 1957 to 769 in 1963."

In the competitive position of the co-ops, the author says "Between 1950 and 1957, the movement roughly held its own and in some important fields was, in fact, still making progress. In 1957-61, however, there was a drastic fall in the share of total retail trade in virtually every commodity group, and this decline has, if anything been accelerated since." The retail sales index for the latest month (August 1964) shows a further six point drop in Co-op sales.

In a series of recommendations, the author advocates closer collaboration between the central bodies. Retail Societies should be persuaded to channel their purchases through the central body. Existing policy to create national chains should be pursued with greater vigour. Further Local Societies should be persuaded to federate their specialist shops in viable regional chains.

In the long term the author advocates the transformation of the Consumer Co-operative Movement "into an organisation which has a positive role to play in the interests of all consumers, both by bringing pressure to bear on producers, and by actively educating its members' and the public's taste, by raising their standard of values, and by improving the use made of their increased resources."

\* The Co-operatives at the Crossroads, by Sidney Pollard. Published by the Fabian Society, 11 Dartmouth Street, S.W.1. Price 4/- (4/3 post free) 44 pages.

Use 'The Week' Co-op. No.:  
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**SOCIALIST EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION**  
Nottingham & District Branch

## WHY SHOULD LABOUR SUPPORT COMPREHENSIVE EDUCATION ?

FRIDAY, 15th JANUARY, 1965, 7.30 p.m.

PEOPLE'S HALL, HEATHCOTE STREET

PANEL

**TOM COOK** (Derbyshire Junior High School Headmaster, formerly Comprehensive School Teacher)

**NORMAN DODSWORTH** (Secondary Modern Headmaster)

**TERRY HIRST** (Comprehensive School Teacher)

**DAVID WOOD** (Training College Lecturer, formerly Grammar School Teacher)

## Why were the Buccaneers delivered?

By TOM NAIRN

ACCORDING to sources in Ghana, an envoy of the British Government recently asked Dr. N'Krumah to furnish Britain with a new military base in the country. It is believed that the British Government offered not to deliver the sixteen "Buccaneer" bombers owed under contract to the Union of South Africa, if Ghana would provide the new base. As is well known, South Africa had threatened to deprive Britain of the use of the base at Simonstown if the aircraft were not delivered—in accordance with Labour's official policy of refusing arms to South Africa. When the British Government announced that the aircraft would be delivered, it was explained that a large part of the payment had been made by South Africa, so that cancellation would mean repayment of an enormous sum. And no further weapons would be sold to the South Africans.

But it now appears that the prospect of losing Simonstown was much more serious for Mr. Wilson than the financial problem. He told us why, in his December 16th speech on foreign affairs: "Britain's overseas role depends on her having adequate bases for peace-keeping forces as an essential link in communications further afield. . . . If we are to fulfil our overseas role we need the most of the bases we now hold, but we need to be accepted in those bases. To assist in creating conditions in which this would be possible must be one of the major priorities in our overseas policy." In other words, an African base is needed to maintain communications with the east, in case Suez should be refused. If not Simonstown, then Ghana—where Britain's "world role" should be accepted more easily! A splendid gesture of solidarity between British imperialism and the Third World! In addition, a way of tying Ghana more firmly into the Free World. . . . it is not surprising that, according to the same reports, America strongly favoured the move. It is also believed that the freeing of Ghana's political prisoners was proposed as part of the accord—presumably to render it less objectionable to public opinion in Britain and America.

Naturally, N'Krumah refused to have anything to do with the deal. He plainly has a different view of Britain's "world peace-keeping role" from the Labour Party leaders. What is puzzling is how the latter could ever have dreamed he might agree to such a proposal. It suggests they are a little out of touch with opinion in the Third World generally.

So, South Africa obtained the "Buccaneers," and Britain keeps her access to Simonstown. The final, piquant detail of the report must not be omitted, however. It is needed to convey the whole savour of the episode. Who was the envoy that Harold Wilson sent to Ghana? A general? Some aged negotiator from the Foreign Office, dreaming of Queen Victoria? Not at all. That is what the Conservatives would have done. Labour (it is believed) sent none other than Mr. Fenner Brockway, the aged anti-colonialist fighter, President of the Movement for Colonial Freedom, who has spent most of his life combatting the evils of British imperialism. He has been respected by generations of Indians and Africans as a symbol of the support of the British working class and the British Left for all movements of liberation from British domination. Who else but the great magician, Harold Wilson, could have found such a different, and surprising role for him?

THE WEEK is profoundly disturbed by this report, which implies that there now exists a compact between our government and the South African racists. Doubtless the commitment to aid Malaysia against Indonesia will figure prominently in the calculations which are being made about this matter in Downing Street. Almost certainly, President Nasser would rightly block the Suez Canal to British forces in transit to any full-scale war against Indonesia. No-one in the emergent nations will do anything but condemn British intervention there, which will be generally seen as an imperialist provocation. We do not believe that the interests of British planters and mining companies weigh so heavy in the scales as to justify Labour's involvement in any such project. We would prefer to have the goodwill of the Third World rather than a ton of profitable scrip staking out claims on the sweat of the Asian people. If the price of war against Indonesia requires a tacit alliance with Apartheid, we are absolutely convinced that not only Labour's activists, but the vast majority of the British people, will not wish to pay it.

## YORKS Trades Councils on Incomes Policy

A RESOLUTION passed by the Yorkshire Federation of Trades Councils, 2nd January, 1965, at its quarterly meeting. It is a slightly amended version of a motion submitted by the Hull Trades Council.

"The Yorkshire Federation of Trades Councils, believing that in a free enterprise capitalist society it is difficult, if not impossible, to legislate to limit or curb profit making, insists that the Trade Union Movement must retain its right to bargain freely for wages and salaries.

An Incomes Policy which does not recognise this first principle can only lead to greater profit margins in private industry and thus to increased exploitation of those who labour by hand or by brain.

For this reason the Yorkshire Federation will support an incomes policy only if it shows unequivocally the way in which rents, interest, dividends and profits can be restricted."

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## Mansfield wants Stronger Unions

At its January meeting, the Mansfield Trades Council heard the view expressed by its secretary, Mr. W. Watkins, that further amalgamations should be fostered in the trade union movement to enable them to more effectively counteract monopolies.

The council voted to contribute £4 to the David Kitson Defence Fund.

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## WOODWORKERS' JOURNAL CURTAILS SPACE

It is announced in the January issue of the *Woodworkers' Journal*, the paper of the Associated Society of Woodworkers, that from now on monthly publication will cease. Hence forward the Woodworkers and mining will publish a quarterly record, with greatly reduced space. The Woodworkers' union organises 191,587 members in a number of industries. The move has been taken for economy reasons.

## Greek Socialists Unite

THE three major Socialist (i.e. social-democratic) organisations in Greece, namely:

- The Socialist League,
- The Socialist Party (formerly: Soc. Union), and
- The Socialist Club,

decided to merge into one organisation, the *Social Democratic Union*.

Negotiations between the three groups started last summer. Joint declarations of principles and policies were approved and signed by representatives of all parties in the specially-set-up co-ordinating committee for the unification.

In separate congresses, held by each organisation, the unification was approved. As a result, the respective organisations decided to terminate their activities as separate units and to merge into a new one, the *Social Democratic Union*.

The unification Congress was held in Athens on 5th and 6th December, 1964.

The Congress was attended by:

- Head Priest Peirounakis of Eleusis near Athens,
- Mr. A. Kastrinos, M.P., of the Centre governing party (he suddenly died a few days after),
- Mr. St. Triantafyllakis, trade unionist, representing the A.S.E.K. (independent Socialist Trade Union Movement). Members of the A.S.E.K. were also delegates, as former members of the Socialist Club).

Further to the delegates of the three merging organisations, in the Congress participated:

- representatives of the political society "Alexandros Svolos" of Thessaloniki, and
- the Cypriots: Mr. K. Christodolides, M.P., and secretary general of the Famagusta Free Labour Centre, and the trade unionists Messrs. Papafotis and Haloulos.

Finally, among the elected delegates there were representatives of the regional organisations of the Socialist Club in West Germany (students and workers)

Each of the three organisations participated in the Congress with 50 elected delegates, taking the total number of delegates to 150, plus the extra representatives from Cyprus and from the Alexandros Svolos Society of Thessaloniki.

The Congress approved, in principle, the documents that have been prepared by the tripartite co-ordinating committee, namely:

- Declaration of principles,
- The Programme, and
- The Rules.

In view of the fact, however, that several amendments (mostly of secondary importance) on all the above documents were suggested by some delegates, it has been decided that three special committees would be set up to deal further with the respective three documents. These committees will have to work out the final texts, to be approved by the January 1965 Session.

The Congress delegates elected the *Central Committee*, consisting of 27 regular and 9 alternate members.

The Central Committee, at its session of 11th December, elected among its members the *Executive Committee*, consisting of 9 regular and 3 alternate members.

The Executive Committee, at its session of 15th December, elected among its members the *Presidium* of the Social Democratic Union, consisting of 3 members.

In all the above elections an equal representation of the former three organisations was ensured, as it has been agreed upon. This has been deemed necessary at this stage. Next Congress, which will be held in the second half of 1965, elections will be held without restrictions or consideration to past membership in the old organisations.

## BELGIUM: The Left Forms Forces

SOME 600 enthusiastic militants, meeting in Liege, December 27th, decided to hold a constitutional congress at Charleroi February 1st to set up a new Left Socialist party. The projected name of the new organisation is *Parti Socialiste des Travailleurs* (Socialist Workers party). Its initial base will be in Wallonie; but as soon as similar organisations are set up in Flanders and Brussels, a federation will be organised on the basis of the three regional units.

The Liege meeting was chaired by Fernand Massart, a Socialist member of Parliament from Namur, who left the Socialist party a year ago out of disgust over the opportunist policies of the coalition government.

The main report was given by Ernest Glinne, a Socialist member of Parliament from Charleroi and the only Socialist in Parliament who publicly denounced Spaak's neo-colonialist intervention in the Congo.

Other key addresses were given by Francois Perin, a Liege University professor and main theoretician of the Walloon Popular Movement, and Ernest Mandel, editor of the Left Socialist weekly *La Gauche*. Jacques Yerna, secretary of the Liege Trade Union Federation, sponsored the meeting. The main leaders of the *Jeunes Gardes Socialistes* (Socialist Youth organisation) and the Socialist Students Federation were also present.

The central feature of the gathering was the presence of the principal shop stewards and direct repre-

sentatives of the workers of Belgium's most important plants in the Liege and Charleroi heavy industry area. The overwhelming majority of the speakers were these workers' representatives. Speaker after speaker went to the rostrum to declare the disillusionment felt by the Belgian working class over the cynical betrayal of the objectives of the great general strike of 1960-61 by the reformist leaders who supported the strike so loudly at the time. Speaker after speaker denounced the abandonment of the fight for real socialist objectives by the leaders of the Socialist party, the many anti-working class measures taken by the present coalition government, and the urgent need for a new party to prevent demoralisation from spreading among the vanguard of the working class.

The Liege meeting was public and open to the press. The Belgian radio and television, as well as the daily papers, gave it extensive coverage, viewing it as an important turning point in the political life of the country.

Although it is too early to judge the weight of the new party in the parliamentary field (new elections will be held in Belgium not later than May 1965, and perhaps much sooner, leaving little time for the new party to become thoroughly organised and to prepare for an election campaign), it is certain that it will have a mass base in several key working class areas.

## An Imperialist Complains . . .

The following extracts from the speech of Sir Douglas Waring, president of the Council of the British Overseas Mining Association to its 19th AGM are of great interest. His remarks throw light on the function of the Government of the day — Labour or Tory — as seen by big business. In the eyes of Sir Waring and his ilk, Westminster only exists to facilitate the earning of the biggest possible profits. Another point which is illustrated is that of British big business adapting itself to a new world where "overseas profits are no longer earned under the protection of the guns of the British Navy." All emphasis has been added.

**SIR DOUGLAS WARING** said: The changes in taxation policy announced by the Government are a matter of urgent consideration by this Association.

Our members are unable to understand why the Chancellor's proposals on corporation tax did not include an explanation of how he proposes to deal with Overseas Trade Corporations under the new system. It will be recalled that these corporations were granted a special tax status in 1957 because the whole of their trading operations are carried on outside the United Kingdom. They were encouraged to retain their central management and control in this country, thus ensuring the continuance of the United Kingdom link, so that industrial raw materials continue to be available to this country, and so that plant and machinery continues to be exported from this country, to the overseas mines and smelters.

. . . We can see no advantage to this country in destroying O.T.C. status. The Royal Commission on Taxation said in 1955 that overseas profits are no longer earned under the protection of the guns of the British Navy, and the British tax system at present recognises that oversets profits earned by Overseas Trade Corporations whose shareholders are often non-resident cannot be taxed on the same basis as if they were profits made in England. . . .

After examining the effect of the Chancellor's proposals on the corporation tax this Association finds that the effect of the tax in the form announced to Parliament will be very severe, . . .

This effect arises mainly from the fact that the high rates of overseas tax which most members of the Association have to pay cannot be dovetailed into the original proposals made for the corporation tax. As a result of this, overseas mining companies will no longer be in a position to obtain relief from double taxation to the same extent as they can at present. . . .

It is clear from the Chancellor's announcement that it is not the intention of Her Majesty's Government to subject company profits to a higher level of taxation than is found in the present system, . . .

. . . We trust that our representations on this subject to the Chancellor and his advisers will result in the original proposals being suitably modified or postponed pending further consideration.

The companies which form this Association are currently engaged in opening up the mineral resources of many of the developing nations, . . . Their activities result in the acquisition of considerable hard-currency earnings and also ensure that the supply of vital raw materials is available to this country and to the Commonwealth.

**Britain has been so accustomed over several generations to a free flow of raw materials to meet its industrial needs that it may be hard for many people to realise the difficulties and emergencies which arise in other industrial countries.** For them, when metals are in short supply, industry has to go without its essential requirements. . . .

It is sometimes argued that the vast investments in overseas mining projects sponsored by British-based mining companies are something which this country cannot afford, and that these projects compete for capital which is required for investment inside Britain. There are, however, three essential ingredients in these large overseas projects. The first is British managerial know-how. The second is loans raised outside this country; these loans are increasingly the source of new capital for British overseas mining. The third is contributions of equity from the mining companies themselves. Overseas lenders look to the viability of new mining projects, which need to give a good return in order to be able to provide adequate cover for the servicing and the repayment of the large borrowings.

(Our emphasis)

## London Labour Declares War on the City

(From our correspondent)

**I**N a two-page special feature this month's "Voice of the Unions" analyses the role of the City of London in our financial crisis over the last sixty years and reminds readers that the London Labour Party, at last year's Annual Conference, unanimously called for the abolition of the City as a separate organ of Local Government, and its absorption in the surrounding boroughs.

This issue has been raised on the London L.P. Executive on several occasions by ASSET'S nominee but, on the advice of the Chairman, Bob Mellish, no action has been taken. As a result, the London District Council of ASSET instructed their nominee to prepare a short memorandum\* with the request that it be circulated by the Secretary of the E.C. of the L.L.P. to all members for discussion at their January meeting.

The memorandum has not been distributed to the members of the E.C.—instead they have been told that the January meeting has been cancelled on the grounds of 'insufficient business.'

It is an unfortunate fact that the Chairman of the E.C., Bob Mellish, is also the Minister responsible for London government, and he has clearly been told that the Cabinet does not intend to disturb the London Government Act. However, certain detailed amendments *will* be made to the Act and trades unionists in London are pressing that these should include abolition of the City.

If Bob Mellish is finding that his membership of the Government is inhibiting him in putting forward the views of the London Labour Party—then he should stand down as its chairman.

\* Text reprinted in this month's VOICE.

### NEW LEFT REVIEW

No. 28 contains Tom Nairn's important article:

### THE ANATOMY OF THE LABOUR PARTY

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# Mississippi Horror

## Story — By Evelyn Sell

AMERICANS had a bitter experience during the paratrooper assault on Stanleyville. President Johnson called it "solely and simply a rescue mission." UN Secretary General U Thant rubber-stamped it with the assurance that it was "a purely humanitarian measure." And at the same time, the news broke about last June's murder plot against three young civil-rights workers in the state of Mississippi.

For example, the November 28th *Detroit Free Press* carried an article reciting such things as the "throat slitting of the nuns and an undisclosed number of Dutch priests . . . a bloodbath against all whites. . . The bodies (of 45 Europeans) were found mutilated beyond recognition, and in several cases cannibalism was suspected."

On the very same front page, where these allegations—which sound so much like atrocity propaganda—appeared, another article carried the title: "Mississippi Horror Story: A Doctor's Report."

This was written by Dr. David Spain, clinical professor of pathology at New York Downstate Medical Centre. He was called down to Mississippi by Dr. Charles Goodrich, a member of the Medical Committee for Human Rights which was organized to aid civil-rights workers in the South. The bodies of three young civil-rights workers, missing since June 21st, had finally been found in August and the families of two of the victims wanted an expert pathologist at the autopsy as an independent observer.

Local authorities refused to allow independent observers and tried to block any examinations after the official one. With the help of the Lawyers' Constitutional Defense Committee (organized to give legal aid to southern Negroes) and the courageous insistence of Mrs. Chaney, the mother of the Negro victim, Dr. Spain was at last able to examine the body of 21-year-old James Chaney. (As a result of her determination to reveal the truth about the triple murder, Mrs. Chaney's home was bombed and shot into shortly after she signed the papers requesting Dr. Spain's examination of her son's body).

Dr. Spain had already read the reports about the official examination. "But the report just didn't make good medical sense to me. The statements that the bodies were badly decomposed and that there was no evidence of mutilation or other injury were contradictory — if the bodies were badly decomposed, it would be extremely unlikely that an official determination could be made as to the extent of bodily injuries."

His examination confirmed his suspicion that the official report was false. He examined the frail boy's wrist. "The wrist was broken," the doctor wrote, ". . . bones were smashed so badly that his wrist must have been literally flapping when he was carried. . . Then I noticed Chaney's jaw. It was broken — the lower jaw was completely shattered, split vertically, from some tremendous force. . . I carefully examined the body, and found that the bones in the right shoulder were crushed—again, from some strong and direct blow. . . this frail boy had been beaten in an inhuman fashion. The blows that had so terribly shattered his bones — I surmised he must have been beaten with chains, or a pipe—

were in themselves sufficient to cause death. . . It was obvious to any first-year medical student that this boy had been beaten to a pulp."

The story of the triple murder was reconstructed by noted Negro author Louis Lomax who gathered his material from light-skinned Negroes who had infiltrated the Ku Klux Klan. Lomax wrote: "Chaney is tied to a tree and beaten with chains. His bones snap and his screams are soon ended. There is no noise now except for the thud of chains crushing flesh—and the crack of ribs and bones." The other two civil-rights workers, Michael Schwerner and Andrew Goodman, break from their captors who had forced them to watch the murder of their colleague. The two white students are clubbed and all three are later shot and buried.

Five months after these murders the FBI, after great pressure from Negroes, finally charged 21 men with deliberately plotting and carrying out the triple murder. Almost all are members of the Ku Klux Klan. Three are officers of the law: Sheriff Rainey, Deputy Sheriff Price and Patrolman Otha Neal Burkes. On December 10th

a U.S. Commissioner dismissed charges against 19 of these men on the grounds that the FBI evidence (a signed confession by one of the plotters) was "hearsay" and not sufficient evidence to hold the accused men. Charges against the other two were later dropped as well. All 21 still face a grand jury hearing to determine whether they should be brought to trial.

The fact that three police officers were included in this group of murderers is no surprise to anyone familiar with "law and order" in the south. While in Mississippi awaiting permission to examine Chaney's body, Dr. Spain reports that he "browsed through a file of reports from field teams of the Medical Committee for Human Rights. The first report described extended treatment given a young Negro civil-rights worker for 15 or 20 burns scattered all over his body. He had been stopped by police in a small Mississippi town for questioning, and while they questioned him they jabbed lighted cigarettes into his flesh. The burns weren't treated, and they were ulcerous and infected when the medical volunteers found the boy."

Dr. Spain continues: "After conversation with physicians who have been in Mississippi, I believe that incidents of this nature — with varying degrees of brutality—go on regularly and relentlessly every day of the week. They are too frequent to be considered 'newsworthy'."

With facts like the above staring one in the face, it is not surprising to find letters like the following appearing in the public letter box of the *Detroit Free Press* (December 11th):

"The happenings in the Congo are, to me and any other fellow human, to say the least, inhuman, barbaric and unmerciful. These happenings are brought on from fear and tiredness.

"Fear that the white man will continue to take, giving nothing but slavery and degradation and tired of him doing just that.

"Yet these people have been called savages. What is a savage? What makes a savage?

"The atrocious things that have been done and still are being done to the black man in America by the white man, can they be any more inhuman, barbaric or unmerciful?

"One might say it's not the same thing, but isn't it?

"The white man did not have to go to the Congo and be subjected to such monstrous things, but the black man brought to America by trickery and force has no choice."

**WORKERS' CONTROL IN  
ALGERIA**—by Richard Fletcher  
(Editor, Voice of the Unions)

**T**HE new Algeria is little more than two years old, but her own, independent form of socialism is now firmly established. After independence, some 900,000 French farmers, managers and technicians left the country abandoning their farms, shops and factories. These empty properties — the so-called 'biens vacants' — were taken over by their workers who continued to run them without managers on a communal basis. By March, 1963, the Government had wisely decided to accept the situation, which it did by publishing a series of laws, ratified by the Assembly, codifying the structure of organisations under self-management.

The sovereign body of each enterprise is the Workers' Assembly — made up of all adult permanent employees — which meets every three months, and once a year elects the Workers' Council, on the basis of one member for every 15 workers. The Workers' Council meets every month, and annually elects the Committee of Management which meets weekly and is responsible for the running of the enterprise.

The enterprise also has a director appointed by the state with the approval of the Committee of Management, which can veto or dismiss a director. The director is responsible for the day-to-day running of the enterprise, and reports to the Management Committee weekly. His authority is shared with the president, who must countersign all orders, cheques and official documents.

Heads of departments report to the director, but are appointed by the Committee of Management.

The director is also responsible to the state for the protection of the capital and fixed assets of the enterprise, and for ensuring that the enterprise operates within the law, and in conformity with the agreed national plan.

Self-management now covers some 80 per cent. of agricultural production, which is rising rapidly and in several cases now exceeds the peak of 1960-61. The system is now being applied to services other than primary production — e.g., transport, marketing, hotels and restaurants.

The marketing of citrus fruits was first carried out directly by the government, but the arrangement was top-heavy and did not work satisfactorily. The stations for processing and packing the fruit are now run as co-

operatives attached to groups of self-management enterprises, and marketing at home and abroad is carried out by a national co-operative organisation.

Co-operation in Algeria is almost entirely productive. Distribution appears to be largely in private hands though, to combat speculation and control prices, the government has set up a chain of "pilot socialist shops." The Mouvement Co-operatif Algerien hopes to establish co-operative stores as soon as it can acquire the necessary expertise — apparently it has attempted to make contact with the British movement, but without success.

We in Britain should remember that our own co-operative movement was built in the face of great hostility from the state and the established social and economic order. Co-operation in Algeria is growing from nothing with the active help and encouragement of a friendly state, and we should naturally expect much closer collaboration between the two. Even in Britain the movement is not entirely independent, being subject to the law in many respects and particularly that governing friendly societies.

The Algerian Co-operatives will shortly be making approaches to the British Movement for technical assistance and closer collaboration at the trading, cultural and political levels. It would be a tragic mistake if these advances were not received in the spirit of co-operation in which they are made — and worse still, if they were rejected out of a narrow-minded attachment to our own particular view of co-operation. What is right for Britain is not necessarily right for Algeria.

It is hoped that discussions can shortly be started on the exchange of co-operative delegations, on technical assistance in retailing and particularly in banking, insurance and other services, the importation of agricultural products from Algeria, the export of British co-operative productions — particularly shoes and clothing — and on the setting up of canning, processing and packaging plant in Algeria by the British Co-operative movement.

Developments in Algeria are being closely watched by the underdeveloped countries of the world. Let us hope that the British Labour movement will give a lead to the other industrialised countries in its relations with Algeria.

\*This article appeared originally in the New Year issue of **Voice of the Unions**.

## Australian Labour— a balance sheet

**I**N a new Fabian pamphlet, James Jupp,\* a Senior Lecturer in Political Science at the University of Melbourne, author of *Australian Party Politics* and an Executive member of the Victorian (Aust.) Fabian Society, examines the progress of the Australian Labour Party (A.L.P.) since its inception in 1891.

The A.L.P., although it was the Government Party before the Labour Party in this country was even founded, has been racked with internal splits every generation which have deprived it of power for long periods. The split which resulted in the formation of the Democratic Labour Party (D.L.P.) and have kept the A.L.P. out of office for 16 years is examined by the author.

The author examines the A.L.P.'s attitude to various home policy issues and concludes that nationalisation has been shelved in view of the Commonwealth and State activity in setting up State Farms, Railways, Insurance Companies, Banks, etc., Education policy tends to develop on religious lines, a 'White Australia' policy is still firmly upheld although there is a growing opposition to it amongst the party's intellectual minority.

On foreign affairs, the A.L.P. has been moving Rightwards towards a bi-partisan foreign policy, despite opposition from the left of the party, as Mr. Calwell and many Federal parliamentarians have been increasingly worried about Australian isolation. The A.L.P. support for selective compulsory military service, following the Indonesian 'confrontation' of Malaysia cut across the A.L.P.'s traditional opposition to conscription. Specific policies adopted by the A.L.P. in 1963 and 1964 make the actual policy of the A.L.P. at variance with the policy officially adopted in 1962.

There are many similarities between the A.L.P. and the Labour Party in this country. One important issue on which the Australians lead the way is that of the control of parliamentarians. The party conference decides policy and can tell the Labour Government what to do. \**AUSTRALIAN LABOUR AND THE WORLD*, by James Jupp. Published by the Fabian Society, 11 Dartmouth Street, S.W.1. Price 3/- (3/3 post free) 32 pages.

# Third World Rallies to aid VIETNAM

by William Worthy

(the only U.S. newsman to enter N. Vietnam in 10 years)

The victors came in sandals bearing machine guns on tote poles.

The vanquished left in tanks.

—a reporter's description in July, 1954 of the Vietminh take-over in the North Vietnamese capital of Hanoi as the defeated French Army withdrew following the Geneva Agreements.

**H**ANOI, North Vietnam.—Now that the 169 members of the 64 delegations to the International Solidarity Conference have scattered to all corners of the globe, both the impact on world public opinion and the likely practical fruits of the pro-Vietnamese gathering may now be assessed.

The most direct immediate sequel will be an all-Indochina "people's peace congress," called by Prince Norodom Sihanouk for mid or late January in the Cambodian capital of Phnompenh. The theme will be the immediate need to end the fighting in S. Vietnam, in Laos and along Cambodia's border areas. The general hope of those attending, including Buddhist monks from Vietnam, will be that internationally guaranteed neutralism will accompany the peace. Almost certainly the week-long congress will help to accelerate the strong neutralist tide in war-weary S. Vietnam.

Simply because this austere Communist capital was the site of the Solidarity Conference, it would be a mistake to dismiss the well-organised meeting as nothing more than a forum for the Communist faithful. The full title of the conference: International Conference for Solidarity with the People of Vietnam Against U.S. Imperialist Aggression and for the Defence of Peace—did not deter the neutralist African governments of Guinea and Mali, for example, from designating their local ambassadors as official delegates, and President Sekou Toure of Guinea cabled his personal greetings. Also from "the third camp" President Ben Bella of Algeria picked the head of the Foreign Relations Department of his National Liberation Front to lead the Algerian delegation. Cambodia, which officially frowns on its handful of "Communist-leaning" youth, sent a prominent delegation led by the deputy speaker of the National Assembly. Indonesia, officially neutralist, eager for "Third World" support in the Malaysian dispute, was represented, as were numerous underground movements from parts of Africa still under colonial rule.

The New Zealand delegate, a white-collar professional employed in Wellington by General Motors, took time off from his job to come here with the endorsements of numerous New Zealand unions and church groups. During the sessions, officials from the powerful anti-A and anti-H bomb organisations in Japan announced that

they were adding to their movement's slogans the demand that the U.S. military "get out of Vietnam." To loud applause, a tape-recorded message from Earl Bertrand Russell, calling for implementation of the 1954 Geneva Agreements and a withdrawal of U.S. forces, was played at an early session. The 92-year-old philosopher also sent the head of his Peace Foundation to represent him.

At a recapitulation session on the degree of global support one revelation was reminiscent of the Spanish Civil War in the 1930s. The chairman itemized a large and steady volume of money and medicines being contributed to the guerrillas from persons and groups around the world. Throughout South-East Asia, Radio Hanoi broadcasted live the proceedings that were held in a large new convention hall across a city square from Ho Chi Minh's presidential palace. A battery of interpreters provided simultaneous translations into six languages.

As predictable, the delegations maintained a steady 5-day drumfire of attacks on the U.S. and Saigon governments. But the North and South Vietnamese speakers also provided a regular daily diet of generally unreported information about the war, for delegates to take back to their countries. To those in the West who question the authenticity of these statistics, this correspondent recalls from Panmunjon a decade ago that accounts of the war's progress

by "our side" often failed to stand up, while the North Korean and Chinese tallies proved many times to be right. If the comparative losses reported by the Pentagon had been generally correct since 1961, American GIs would presumably be enroute home by now.

First 9 months of 1964: "50,000 puppet soldiers either deserted, disbanded or crossed over to the resistance ranks."

On S. Vietnam's total area of 170,000 square kilometres: "U.S. imperialism has set up 11 big military ports, 111 military airfields and has increased the number of U.S. soldiers there to more than 30,000 today."

In 1962 and 1963: "The U.S. and their lackeys conducted more than 70,000 raids, big and small, to terrorise and massacre our people." Quoting a Reuter's dispatch on July 7th, 1964, "in 1963, the U.S. Air Force made over 300,000 sorties."

Over the past ten years: "200,000 of our compatriots have been killed; over 700,000 wounded and disabled; half a million others have been detained and tortured in more than 1,000 prisons and detention camps."

"Over 80 per cent. of the 8,000 'strategic hamlets' have been razed to the ground by the people."

During the past 3 years the guerrillas "have fought about 64,000 small and big battles, put over 300,000 enemy troops out of action, including 3,065 U.S. aggressors, shot down or destroyed on the ground over 1,500 military aircraft of different types, sunk over 600 U.S. naval craft including the 15,000-ton U.S. aircraft carrier 'Card' right in the Saigon port, destroyed 145 military trains, and captured tens of thousands of U.S. guns."

"The U.S. Embassy in Saigon (has been) turned into a military camp surrounded by barbed wire and watch towers."

"Most remarkable is the resounding victory of the S. Vietnam Liberation Army in the recent attack during the night of October 31st, on the U.S. strategic air base at Bien Hoa where they killed or wounded 293 U.S. aggressors, destroyed 36 U.S. military aircraft, including 21 nuclear-capable B.57 strategic jet planes."

Havana-based Robert F. Williams, the exiled chairman of the NAACP in Monroe, N.C., who attended and spoke at the conference, recalled that, immediately after the guerrilla attack at the Bien Hoa airbase, Senator Strom Thurmond, known for his pipelines to the military, de-

clared in a campaign statement that official U.S. figures on losses and casualties had been falsified and that, in fact, 300 Americans had been killed and wounded. The South Carolina lawmaker, who became a Republican during the recent presidential campaign, was attempting to embarrass the Johnson administration and to enhance the election victory chances of Barry Goldwater. Guerrilla intelligence and the senator's intelligence appear to agree. Throughout the war in the South, guerrilla intelligence is known to have been excellent.

Mr. Williams was only one of many speakers who referred to the racial struggle in the U.S. and linked it to the worldwide anti-colonial movement. Mindful of the numerous desertions by Algerians and other Africans from the French Foreign Legion in Indochina a decade ago, delegates privately expressed the hope that at least a few of the Negro GIs in S. Vietnam will defect. A Cambodian official told this reporter of information reaching Phnompenh that Negro airmen at Bien Hoa had sabotaged and blown up some of the 36 U.S. planes while the airbase was under mortar attack from the guerrillas.

No delegate voiced the slightest doubt that victory for the guerrillas is assured. Through the dozens of platform statements ran a common theme that the U.S. is nearing a military and political Dienbienphu and that the only solution for Washington is to "clear out." Escalating the war, it was argued, would provide no salvation for the "encircled" Saigon forces. A S. Vietnamese delegate quoted Ho Chi Minh as having said: "The U.S. and the Khanh clique are like a fox who, with two legs already caught in a trap, is nevertheless jumping into another." The conference was repeatedly told that the balance of forces in the world has changed in favour of revolutionary wars of national liberation and that "no peace should be made that leaves the enemy the slightest foothold in Indochina."

Last summer, the architect of the French collapse at Dienbienphu in 1954, North Vietnamese General Vo Nguyen Giau, told a French newsmen: "We are in no hurry. The longer we wait, the greater will be the Americans' defeat."

Throughout the five days, in veiled references and indirect language, observers caught overtones of Sino-Soviet rivalry for world leadership of revolutionary forces. Hemmed in

by the Kremlin's line of peaceful co-existence, the head of the Russian delegation endeavoured within those confines to match the militancy of his Chinese opposite number. Peking's allies, the Albanians, ridiculed "the revisionists" for regarding Presidents Kennedy and Johnson as "peace presidents" and for maintaining that "imperialism will understand reason and give freedom to the various nations."

"The only correct way to settle all arguments with imperialism," said the Albanians, "is to struggle and wage revolution."

Prolonged applause greeted each of the many references to China's new bomb, usually termed "a bomb for peace, a people's bomb and a freedom bomb for the oppressed."

Any realistic appraisal of the smoothly-run conference must concede that its three-fold purpose was largely fulfilled. A large body of articulate world opinion was mobilised behind the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam, producing, perhaps, some inhibiting effects in Washington. Asian, African and Latin American delegates in particular, the young men and women who will be making their own revolutions in the next half decade, left Hanoi reinforced in their conviction that the U.S. is their leading enemy. The phrases varied, the thought was the same: "the contemporary Hitler," "the modern barbarians," "the world oppressor," "the latter-day Italians in Ethiopia." As if timed for the conference, revulsion swept the auditorium when the chairman interrupted the proceedings to announce the U.S. airlifting of Belgians and mercenaries into the area of Stanleyville.

Equally important as lining up moral support was the success in bringing encouragement to the war-weary people in the South, and in assuring them that they are not alone. It has taken nearly three years for the facts and significance of the South Vietnam war to sink into the general consciousness of mankind. However well or poorly the day-to-day proceedings have been reported by the U.S. wire services that monitor Radio Hanoi, the conference was a landmark among the two billion hungry people who are shopping for effective revolutionary answers. If the U.S., with all its equipment, is expelled from South Vietnam, the guerrilla fighting in the Congo, in Malaysia and in Venezuela will take on a new optimistic tone. An inter-continental strengthening of ties between revolutionary groups and

leaders was one by-product of this Solidarity Conference.

By the same token, one assumes that the atmosphere of confidence here did not help the morale of the already unenthusiastic Saigon forces. A Reuter's dispatch in the early edition of the *New York Times* of October 25th appeared to indicate that the S. Vietnamese officer corps is aware of impending defeat. The dispatch reported the "mystification" of U.S. officials that Saigon forces refuse to "take military action to put out of operation . . . efficient and well-equipped hospitals" of the guerrilla army.

Given the well-documented tortures practised since 1961, the refusal can hardly be explained on humanitarian grounds. More likely, generals of the 600,000-man army are now concerned about the prospect of war crimes trials. In effect, in absentia, the civilian and military leaders in the South were on trial here before an international jury over five indictment-packed days. Adjudged guilty even before the fighting yields to another Geneva settlement, the men in charge of Government operations will conceivably be even more reluctant to make and carry out military decisions that will not turn the tide of events but might put them in a Nuremberg dock at Saigon when the men in sandshoes finally enter the capital, replacing the political mush and terminating the military siege.

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## GUERRILLA WAR IN COLOMBIA

**M**ORE than sixteen thousand Government troops supported by U.S. planes have failed to wipe out the Colombian guerrillas in Marquetalia.

Marquetalia, which covers about 1,800 square miles in the mountainous areas in Tolima province, is a base built by peasant-guerrillas who withdrew there in 1951.

The operation against Marquetalia which started on May 18th was commanded directly by the U.S. military mission. The U.S. provided 17 million dollars for the operation at the very beginning.

But the people of Marquetalia fought courageously against the Government troops. Fortifying themselves with a network of trenches, bunkers and traps, the guerrillas often ambushed the enemy and inflicted heavy casualties on him. In August alone 222 Government troops were killed or wounded. The guerrillas hit a helicopter in mid-October, wounding the three officers aboard, including Colonel Hernando Correa Cubiees, who was commanding the operation against Marquetalia. The blows dealt at the Government troops had so shaken their morale that one of their detachments, after a period of rest and training in the rear, refused to return to Marquetalia to fight the guerrillas.

The political work of the Marquetalia guerrillas has also made much headway. The guerrilla headquarters issued a statement on July 20th calling for the establishment of the broadest possible united front, the overthrow of the present Government and the forming of a democratic Government for national liberation. The land programme contained in the statement stipulates that all big estates and every piece of land seized by U.S. imperialism under any excuse should be confiscated and distributed free to the peasants.

Six guerrilla movements of the southern group held a meeting from September 15th to 20th and adopted a resolution which pointed out that the battle of Marquetalia had opened a new stage in the Colombian revolutionary struggle.

The struggle of Marquetalia peasants has enjoyed the support of all Colombian people. Many "committees in defence of Marquetalia" have been established.

## THERE'S MONEY IN APARTHEID AND THE MALAYSIAN WAR!

The *Financial Times* of January 2nd published a table of share price rises during 1964; the top 18 were as follows:

	Activity	Rise
Simmer and Jack Mines	Gold, South Africa	143
South West Africa	Base metals	140
Mount Lyell	Mining and railways, S. Africa	124
Seaport Rubber Estate	Rubber, Selangor, Malaya	116
City of Sao Paulo Improvements and Freehold Land	Property, Brazil	90
Fresnillo	Base metals, Mexico	85
Killinghall Tin	Tin, Malaya	81
Gordon Hotels	Hotels and Restaurants	75
Rambutan	Tin, Malaya	65
Waterval (Rustenburg) Platinum Mining	Platinum, South Africa	62
Lydenburg Platinum	Platinum, South Africa	61
New Broken Hill Consolidated	Base metals, Australia	61
Associated Television "A"	Entertainment	60
Potgietersrust Platinum	Platinum, South Africa	57
Stoll Theatres	Entertainment	56
Virginia Orange Free State Gold	Gold, South Africa	55
Union Platinum Mining	Platinum, South Africa	53

It will be noted that out of the 18 registering more than 50% increases no less than 8 are South African, another 3 are tied up with Malaysia. Could British capitalism's equivocation over Apartheid, its refusal to operate the UNO economic boycott have something to do with these figures? Suspicious people might think that there is some connection between the fact that the top three in the shares' table are South African enterprise and this marked reluctance to bend in the face of the opinion of the overwhelming majority of mankind.

Soekarno charges that Malaysia is the result of the desire of British imperialism to safeguard its investments in Malaya and elsewhere in the Far East. I doubt very much if the people who run Seaport Rubber (116% increase), Killinghall Tin (81% increase) or Rambutan (65% increase) are in favour of their investments being nationalised — as they probably would be if Malaya followed the Indonesian path. Whilst one can have sympathy for these shareholders (who knows; some of them may have to get a job if they lose their investments?) I feel I have far more in common with ordinary people of Malaya. They live in one of the richest parts of the world and yet they have a pitiful standard of living. And come to that I feel far more sympathy with the poor British Tommy as he plies his way through the steaming, insect-ridden, snake-infested jungle defending 'British' interests.

I am un-British enough to prefer our lads alive and well at home, and the profit-mongers out of pocket.

by Dave Windsor

## Majority say— BOYCOTT ARMS TO SOUTH AFRICA

A large majority of people questioned about arms to South Africa by National Opinion Polls are in favour of banning all future sales.

A significant paragraph in the report says: 'Only one voter in four believes that we should continue to sell arms to South Africa. There are, however, more Tory voters in favour of continuing to sell arms to South Africa than who think that we should not do so.'

The N.O.P. breakdown gave 26.0 per cent. in favour of selling arms, 44.3 per cent. against and 29.7 'don't knows'.

Of those in favour, 40 per cent. were Tories, 16 Labour and 29 Liberal. Of those opposed, 31 per cent. were Tories, 56 Labour and 45 Liberal.

Despite a large proportion of 'don't knows' the survey will be heartening to the Anti-Apartheid Movement. It also effectively dismisses the myth that the working class is a solid reactionary mass, for here is clear evidence that Labour voters lead the way in this vital humanitarian cause.

By ROGER PROTZ