

The Week

A NEWS ANALYSIS FOR SOCIALISTS
Vol. 5, No. 16. 21st April, 1966

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**EARLY
WARNING
BILL
“LUNATIC”
SAY
DIRECTORS**

**MORE
BOMBING—
MORE
“PEACE” TALK**

54 Park Road, Lenton, Nottingham

Subscription: £2 per annum and pro rata

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MORE BOMBING - MORE "PEACE" TALK

Johnson is at it again! Once more he combines a stepping up of the war in Vietnam with "peace" talk. It must be clear to everyone now that this is an essential part of the Johnson technique, designed to lull the anti-Vietnam war movement at home and abroad. The bombing of a Hanoi suburb and the attempted destruction of North Vietnam's biggest power station is the answer the Pentagon gives to political instability in the south. This is not merely the view of the Vietnamese but has been confirmed by most of the serious capitalist papers (see especially the reports of The Times Washington correspondent). What is singularly disturbing is the lack of response in this country to these latest developments: apart from Bertrand Russell's statement denouncing the intensification of the bombing of the north, we know of no other protest by a prominent Briton. This is disgraceful - and shows the comparative success that Johnson's policy - aided and abetted by Prime Minister Wilson - has had in this country. There is to be an important meeting, organised on the initiative of CND, this week end to discuss the problems and strategy of the peace movement. We earnestly hope that this results in some clarity on the question of the Vietnam war. In particular an answer must be found to the confusion created by the offers of phoney negotiations. We wish this conference success in its work and congratulate CND for its initiative in calling it.

A FUND FOR THE AMERICAN EMBASSY DEMONSTRATORS

Most readers will have read of the ten demonstrators who were remanded a week in custody after being charged for their part in the demonstration outside the American Embassy on Easter Monday. At time of writing we do not know the outcome of their second court appearance. The Vietnam Solidarity Campaign, whose banner led the demonstration, has decided to launch a fund to pay the fines and legal expenses of these ten. It is also hoped to give them moral support by asking people to write to them. As soon as the full details are available - in a day or two - the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign will be producing a collecting sheet and other material. Please write to Vietnam Solidarity Campaign, 8, Roland Gardens for copies of the sheet, etc.

A WELCOME DEVELOPMENT: The news that the CSE is hold a workers' control school in June (see page 2 for details) is very welcome indeed. Under the pressure of the need to fight for immediate demands, there was a slight lagging in the workers control campaign in the last 12 months. This trend is now reversed. We urge all readers to give this venture their maximum support.

C.S.E. SEMINAR ON WORKERS' CONTROL

There is to be a C.S.E. seminar on workers' control (the fourth in a series organised by "The Week" and "Union Voice") on Saturday and Sunday of 25-6 June, 1966, at the Coop Education Centre, Broad St., Nottingham. Speakers will be announced next week. Seminars on Workers' control in docks, public enterprise, steel; papers on incomes policy and company law reform. Enquiries to: Conference Arrangements Officer, 47, Brindley Rd., Bilborough, Nottingham. Registration fee 5/-.

C.S.E. ACTIVITY IN BRISTOL

from Tom Nichols

A study circle to deal with basic political education for socialists inaugurated the work of the C.S.E. in Bristol. There were 20 people present at the first, highly successful, meeting. Future meetings will be held on Sunday afternoons at 3. p.m. at the home of the chairman, Don Bates (26, Burghley Rd., Bristol, 6.). The first four lectures and their subjects have been arranged. They are:

History of Socialist Thought before Marx	Dr. R.V. Sampson	17 April
" " " " " "	Dr. R.V. Sampson	24 April
Marxism as a Philosophical System	R.P. Kamat	1 May
Marxian Economics	R.P. Kamat	8 May

Bristol C.S.E. is also offering free speakers to conduct courses of lectures or give individual talks, to trade union branches in the Bristol area. The subjects covered include: Economics; Wages & Incomes Policy; The British Press; Race in the Modern World; Social History in Britain; Modern Africa; Shop Stewards' Movement; Problems of Nationalisation.

INAUGURAL MEETING FOR HULL C.S.E.

from Alan Rooney

The newly-formed Hull C.S.E. is holding a public forum on the Incomes Policy, on Sunday, 24th April at the Cooperative Social Hall, Kingston Square, Hull. Time- 3.0p.m. The speakers will include: Brian Barker (T&GWU), Don Major (DATA), John Saville (Hull University), Norman Lewis (Hull University), Peter Smith (Sheffield University), Norman Godman (T&GWU), Jack Ashwell (T&GWU). The admission is free.

WOODWORKERS AGAINST LEGISLATION

from Stan Mills

Resolutions for the agenda of the Woodworkers' Union annual conference are most numerous and most strongly worded on the threat of legislation on curbing the power of the trade union movement. Ealing branch, for instance, says: "That this ASW annual delegate conference is gravely concerned at legislation being taken against trade unionists who take strike action in defence of their wages and conditions. We, therefore, demand that everything possible be done by our society to oppose any legal action to restrict the traditional freedom of the trade unions to take what action they think fit in defence of their members' interests."

There are other similarly worded resolutions from ASW branches up and down the country.

"There is a widely-accepted notion...that coloured immigrants tend to make excessive demands upon the services(of the general practitioners), and that a considerable proportion of the increased workload can be attributed to the influx of these immigrants into the country. This theory seems reasonable enough as everybody understands that they usually arrive from countries with a lower standard of living than our own, with more primitive health services, and where the cost of skilled medical attention often places it beyond the reach of many inhabitants. This study was undertaken to test the validity of this belief. Our practice is situated in the seventh largest borough of the Greater London area... and is in an area of relatively low social status. The coloured immigrants are approximately 10% of the total..During the period under review(Jan-June,'65) this figure of 10% has been maintained and is made up as follows: West Indies...5%; India & Pakistan 4%; other territories 1%. The practice is composed of 10,000 patients, carried on by three doctors, and so the total number of coloured immigrants is 1,000...

TABLE 1. CONSULTATIONS (%)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
non-coloured	8	10	9.5	9	8.5	5.5
coloured	7.5	9.5	9.3	9	9	5.4

TABLE 2. HOME VISITS (%)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
non-col.	5	6	5.5	4.8	4.5	4.4
col.	3.5	5.5	5	4.5	4.5	4

TABLE 3. NIGHT CALLS (%)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Non-col.	.16	.18	.15	.16	.10	.08
col.	0	.10	0	0	.08	.09

TABLE 4. ACUTE HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS (actual nos.)
(excluding pregnancy & complications of same)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
non-col.	19	20	20	13	12	10
col.	2	2	3	3	1	1

TABLE 5. TOTAL TIME (hrs. & mins.)

	Feb.	June
non-col.	2.55	3.45
col.	2.50	3.30

Table 5- In two representative months (Feb. & June) 25 patients from each group were tested. They were chosen at random by... using every third patient, whether consultation or visit, irrespective of age and illness.

This investigation clearly demonstrates that in this mainly-industrial practice, coloured immigrants are less onerous to the general practitioner than the native population. This raises questions. Are the findings in this practice a fair expression of the situation in other areas of heavy coloured immigration? What is the probable explanation for these results? Will the same tendency continue in the future?

I believe the answer to the first question is 'Yes'. We can assume that similar causes will produce similar effects elsewhere, and so, what applies to a densely populated industrial area with high coloured immigration... will also apply to similar areas in Birmingham, Leeds and Smethwick...

The reasons for this state of affairs are not far to seek. They are epitomised in the title of a book by Joyce Eggington-"They Seek A Living". Immigrants do come to this country to seek a living, to establish themselves, to better themselves, and not to go sick or 'go on the panel'.

.. The driving force towards a higher economic standard outweighs the factors of newness, difficulties of acclimatisation, prejudice and ill-health. The other main cause is to be found in the age of migrants on arrival; the largest single group, both male and female, is between 20 and 30 years of age. Few were over the age of 44... If integration proceeds fairly smoothly, or some precarious balance is maintained, we may expect the consultation rate of the immigrant to approximate to that of the native population, especially as he grows older and the second generation appears on the scene.

*Organ of the General Practitioners' Union.

There a number of interesting articles in the April issue of Voice of the Unions. The lead article: "Bankers' Veto or Workers' Power" poses the alternatives before Britain as "Voice of the Unions believes that either Labour or the City must govern Britain. One or the other. Lord Cromer must go. Wilson should appoint a new governor of the Bank of England when the post falls vacant in June..... International bankers, however, insist that Threadneedle Street, and not Whitehall, shall govern Britain." The rest of the article examines in detail the role of the City, its stake in the British economy, its importance in terms of exports, (or rather lack of importance), looks at some of the economic problems facing Britain. It concludes: "Britain's basic wealth is the skill, talent and hard work of its million-strong labour force. Britain is a wealthy nation which, if it sold off its overseas investments, would be stronger than most of its trading rivals."

This article is written around a quotation from Harold Wilson pledging himself to "keep Sterling strong" Other articles include two on aspects of the incomes policy. Peter Wyncoll discusses the attitude of staff unions towards the incomes policy. Walter Kendall contributes an article on James Connolly, the "Easter Hero". The centre-page spread goes into strikes and proves its headline "Strikes Lower Prices!!" Packed with facts and figures this centre-spread will be extremely useful for anyone who wants to counter the current anti-union, anti-strike propoganda of the press.

Other articles cover a wide range of industrial topics. The paper comments on the recent establishment of the London Industrial Shop Stewards' Defence Committee. Whilst welcoming the development, Voice of the Unions draws attention to what it considers to be a weakness in the ideas - hind the committee. The discussion thus opened is a very important one and deserves to be taken very seriously without a slanging match. It is impossible in a short article to summarise the two points of view but no doubt this argument (if it is that) will find an echo in the columns of The Week. I hope in the mean time that The Week will support both Voice of the Unions and the Shop Stewards' Defence Committee and work for united action against the incomes policy.

Voice of the Unions is available from 73, Ridgway Place, London S.W. 19, price 9d post paid or 9/- a year's subscription.

SPECIAL MAY DAY "LABOUR'S NORTHERN VOICE" DEVOTED TO VIETNAM

Labour's Northern Voice has produced for sale on the May Day demonstrations, a special four-page penny edition. It is entirely devoted to the question of Vietnam. It has two main themes: the terrible nature of this war; and the need for the socialist movement in Britain to support the national liberation forces in Vietnam.

It is well illustrated and has a number of informative articles on the scale and effects of the Vietnam war. It also contains the statements turned out by the Vietnam Solidarity Committee, including the appeal for organisations to support the campaign, and the invitation to the conference.

The Vietnam Solidarity Campaign is distributing this issue and orders should go to 8, Roland Gdns., London S.W. Copies cost 1d each.

SPIES IN TROUBLE

from Dave Windsor

The following interesting article appeared as the lead story in the 'Daily Express' of April 13th. It shows how a Labour Government functions exactly the same as a Tory Government in relation to the secret service:

" A big overhaul of the Secret Service and other overseas Intelligence agencies is being carried out by Mr. George Wigg, the Paymaster General, who is Britain's security watchdog. The shake-up follows a succession of Intelligence failures which have seriously embarrassed the Government within the past few months. Several department chiefs are being moved prematurely from their posts. The general retiring age is to be reduced from 60 to 55. The Director-General of the Secret Service, known publicly by the code-letter 'C' for security reasons, is due to retire this year in any case.

"The first Intelligence failure was the sudden breakaway of Singapore from Malaysia eight months ago. The Government had no idea that this was about to happen. Its announcement near the end of the defence review, in which the future of the Singapore base was a vital issue, raised great difficulties for Mr. Denis Healey, the Defence Minister.

"Mr. Harold Wilson was particularly embarrassed by the assassination of the Nigerian leaders, including the Federal Premier Sir Abubaka Tafawa Balewa, in January. This occurred only two days after Mr. Wilson visited Nigeria for the Commonwealth Conference on Rhodesia. The Intelligence services had given him no hint of any unrest which might involve such a degree of violence. They were also caught out over the Ghana revolt which ousted Nkrumah, the various revolutions in Indonesia and the riots in Hongkong last week.

"Mr. Wilson appointed Mr. Wigg as security watchdog to make sure that he would never be caught napping on an Intelligence matter, as Mr. Harold Macmillan was over the Profumo affair. The premature retirements, due to be completed by September, are being organised with the least possible hardship because of the special circumstances involving people who must remain silent about their past jobs forever. Some of the men are being transferred to other Government departments. Commercial posts are being organised for others.

"The Secret Service officially costs £10 million a year, but this is only the basic bill. Further sums are hidden in the general votes of the Foreign Office, Commonwealth Relations Office, and Defence Ministry. No official confirmation of the shake-up is likely even in Parliament because of the general clamp-down on information about the Secret Services."

NORTH WEST LONDON RAILMEN AGAINST LEGISLATION from a St. Pancras reader

The latest issue of the bulletin of the North West London District Council of the National Union of Railwaymen comes out strongly against the Government's proposed legislation of trade unions and wage claims. It describes this as "a reactionary and retrograde step which can only benefit the employers and strangle the trade union movement. The bulletin concludes by saying that "the Government must be left in no doubt as to the opposition of trade unionists to this misguided and unnecessary legislation. Trade unions must remain strong and unfettered....."

THE CO-OPS AND AMALGAMATION

The latest issue of Plebs, which is published for the Fabian Society by the N.C.L.C. Publishing Society, contains an interesting article on the Co-op. Lloyd Harrison, general manager of the Nottingham Co-operative Society, argues that each year Co-operative retail sales show little or no improvement. Capital is needed for development. Increases in wages and salaries are harder to pay. "In these circumstances," writes Lloyd Harrison, "we need to look at amalgamation afresh. It should not come because a society is making a last desperate effort to avoid final collapse, it should come while the retail societies involved are economically sound." Mr. Harrison goes on to discuss other important issues raised by the recent Joint Re-organisation Committee of the Co-operative Movement.

The latest issue of Plebs also contains ^{an} article reviewing the work of U.S.D.A.W., which ^{is} the first in a series examining leading trade unions; Plebs is available from 11, Dartmouth St., London S.W. 1., 1/- post paid or 10/- for a year's subscription.

RAILWAY REVIEW CRITICISES YUGOSLAV SENTENCES

In an article entitled: "Savage Sentences", the April 15th issue of Railway Review has this to say about a recent trial of Yugoslav railwaymen:

"Without knowing the full facts about the Yugoslav train crash in which 31 people died, sentences passed on four railwaymen held responsible seem utterly savage. Sentences ranged from two to twelve years' imprisonment. They had been found guilty of manslaughter.

"Even if they had deliberately sabotaged the railway these sentences would have been understandable. Apparently, they were not even accused of that. The trouble is, how to protect workers from savage sentences such as these when trade unionism is not independent as it is not in that country.

"Before British railwaymen organised themselves into unions, and even after, railwaymen were liable to be hauled before the courts for carelessness or worse and charged with manslaughter. Indeed, it was to protect men from this unfairness that the unions were formed and were supported, even by many in the middle classes.

"Railway managements could almost get away with virtual murder, before the unions were formed, and could act freely."

LETTER FROM BRISTOL

"The partial analysis of the Communist Party's general election campaign to which the whole of one side of The Week's scanty 6 pages is devoted strikes me as being oddly patronising and rather misleading. Wouldn't you think that our Labour left had enough in common with the Communist Party to work together in present circumstances? The cold war is disastrous to us all - its the old story of hanging together or hanging separately. So far The Week has not been able to explain this inability to co-operate. The Communist Party will always survive our pinpricks but how can the Labour left work effectively for socialism if it fights on so many fronts at once?"

K.Y. Rintoul

The Preliminary Agenda of the Annual General Meeting of the National Union of Railwaymen, which is being held in Plymouth and starts on 4th July, has a good number of militant resolutions. The first actual motion is from Croydon No. 1 branch and it calls upon the Government: to plan for peace instead of war. To this end it urges the cutting of military expenditure, unilateral disarmament and the abandonment of overseas military bases. West Brompton No. 1 also calls for a cut in armaments because "the present burden of military expenditure is a source of weakness to the British economy." Miles Platting notes the grave disquiet caused by the recent mishap to a plane carrying nuclear bombs. It calls upon the Government to press the U.S.A. "to cease such flights in the interests of humanity." Dundee urges that the Government ceases "its support for the training of West German troops in the use of rockets at South Uist Rocket Range."

There are two resolutions on Vietnam. Dundee "urges the British Government to use all its power to bring about negotiations to end the war in Vietnam on the basic principles of the Geneva Agreements." But the sting is in the tail: "To this end the American troops must be withdrawn." East Ham congratulates the National Executive Committee on protesting against American action in Vietnam. It carries on to ask "the British Government to dissociate from American policy in Vietnam and campaign for acceptance of the 1954 Geneva decision." It is to be noted that in this section there is not one resolution supporting Government foreign policy.

Glasgow No. 3 insists that "our leaders implement, without compromise, Clause 4 of the Party Constitution, i.e., the extension of public ownership of all basic industries." It asks that the N.E.C. draw up appropriate resolution for inclusion on the Labour Party and T.U.C. conference agendas. Croydon No. 1 submits "That this A.G.M. is opposed to the discriminatory nature of the 1962 Immigration Act and the Government's White Paper.." It urges that the N.E.C. press the Labour Government to return to a policy based upon the fundamental principles on which the Labour movement was formed. Glasgow No. 3 believes that the Royal Commission on Trade Unions' Report, if enacted, could lead to the state control of trade unions. It goes on, "In an economy dominated by private monopoly capital there is the utmost danger of such legislation preparing the way for a Fascist administration." Croydon No. 1 asks that the A.G.M. declare its opposition to "legislation or any other measures which restrict the freedom of workers to withdraw their labour." Feltham asks that the A.G.M. "instructs the N.E.C. to withdraw all support and co-operation from the Prices and Incomes Board."

Then follow resolutions from Croydon No. 1, Dundee, East Ham, Manchester No. 1, Newport Docks and Glasgow No. 18 all attacking in a most vigorous form the Government's proposed legislation on prices and incomes policy. Again there is a singular lack of resolutions supporting the Government. A resolution from Dundee asks for new legislation "which include and give the Trade Union Movement power to be represented in the policy-making bodies responsible for the management of nationalised industry." Resolutions from Miles Platting, Earls Court and Glasgow No. 14 urge an integrated transport policy, the latter insists that this "include the complete renationalisation of road transport."

Resolutions from East Anglian District Council, Newport Docks, Coventry No. 1, Lincoln No. 1, Dundee, Birmingham Loco all criticise the handling of the strike threat and the subsequent negotiations. In particular there is very sharp criticism of the conduct of Sid Greene, the General Secretary.

DIRECTORS' JOURNAL ON BROWNS "LUNATIC" BILL

Prospero, the Labour commentator of the 'Director', contributes an article on George Brown's 'Early Warning' Bill under the title of "Lunatic Legislation". Pointing out that the Brown Bill triggered off a back-bench mutiny which forced Mr. Wilson to call the General Election, Prospero continues:

"... the Bill was one of the worst abortions ever perpetrated by the parliamentary draughtsmen. For one thing, it incorporated the whole of last April's White Paper on incomes policy ... It was this White Paper which set the 'norm' at 3 to 3½ per cent. It was also this White Paper which laid down the circumstances in which 'exceptional' pay increases would be justified: direct contributions towards higher productivity; shortages of manpower; 'general' or 'widespread' recognition that the level of wages in a particular industry was 'too low to maintain a reasonable standard of living', or had fallen 'seriously out of line' with the rates paid for similar work to other workers. To give all this the force of law would mean, first, that the 'norm' could only be altered by passing an amending Act ... More seriously, it would fossilise all the loopholes in the policy as it stands at present, when there is clearly an urgent need to block them up... there is not a union in the country which cannot fit its members into one or other (and usually several) of the 'exceptional' categories. Unless, therefore, earnings are to be allowed to go on rising at more than 9 per cent a year, it is time the exceptions were re-defined more narrowly. And, having re-defined them, they will have to be left in a form which makes adjustment an administrative and not a legislative matter ... Another curiosity of the Bill was the omission of any alternative to the fines laid down in the scale of penalties ... The question which will naturally occur to any potential offender is what punishment he would suffer if he refused to pay a fine. The answer, on the face of it, is none. It is, of course, the custom when trying to ensure that the law is obeyed to provide for periods of imprisonment as a deterrent to the non-payment of fines. But the custom was thrown overboard when the 'early warning' Bill was drafted, presumably to make it less unpalatable to the unions. Whitehall 'spokesmen', ... were quick to point out that imprisonment was not the only alternative to a fine. A man could, they said, have goods to the value of the fine seized by officers of the court ... The truth is, of course, that refusal to pay a fine would lead to imprisonment for contempt of court. But it is important to recognise that this would be a punishment for a different offence from those laid down in the Bill. Imprisonment for contempt would, moreover, be indeterminate, it would last until the fine was paid, or until the judge decided that the contempt had been purged. Whether the unions would really prefer this to a clearly defined gaol sentence, is, to say the least, open to question."

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Of course, Prospero's main objection to the new measure was not that it attacked the unions: on the contrary, his chief concern was to make more effective onslaughts into union powers:

"...It is quite conceivable - indeed, it would inevitably happen - that an obviously inflationary wage claim would be referred to the Board for examination. But bargaining on the claim could, and would, continue. The employer might be eager to reach a settlement. If he was not, the union might take some form of industrial action to force his hand. One way or another an agreement could be signed, with the Board still conscientiously immersed in the details of the original claim. It would be hard to imagine a more effective method of making the Board, and the policy, look ridiculous. And if it is argued that the settlement would still be investigated and if necessary condemned, all one has to do is point to experience.

The inescapable conclusion is that the 'early warning' Bill would, if it became law, fail completely in its primary purpose of preventing inflationary pay agreements."

PAINTERS' LEADER REJECTS 'EARLY WARNING'.

A.G. Austin, General Secretary of the painters' union, ASPD, complains in The Painters' Journal, that the incomes policy is not fulfilling its promises:

"... but has there been effective control over prices and profits? ...unless some tangible offer is made on these points then no Declaration of Intent on Wages and Prices and Profits is likely to be successful. Last year the T.U.C. appealed to Congress for voluntary pause to consider all wage claims before their submission and this authority was conceded ... Since that time, some of the largest unions of transport workers and railwaymen have had more to say in a practical way about the wages end of an incomes policy, and, if I am any judge, the last word has not yet been said. Some people fail to understand that it is the members that are the union, and while they may or may not support the Labour Party, they are not prepared to give any Government a blank cheque. Our Union supported the General Council, like many others, in the belief that the voluntary authority given to the T.U.C. would be enough to strengthen their hands to prevent or oppose compulsion by Government legislation, and there would be the power to resist. In these circumstances, it is not true to say that those that opposed the General Council were against the T.U.C., the Government, or acting against the best interests of their members any more than those who supported the General Council were paragons of virtue or semi-rustics with minds of peasants. All the views expressed and opinions held are as much to be respected, i.e., sincerely held. Not all can be put into one bracket and referred to as "yes-men". I am heartily sick of this kind of unadulterated rubbish being peddled."

GOOD RESPONSE TO VIETNAM SOLIDARITY ACTIVITY AT EASTER from Pat Jordan

As readers of The Week will know the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign carried out a variety of activities on and after the Easter March. Apart from getting itself into the national and international press (The Guardian described its contingent as being, after the Anarchists and along with the Young Communist League, as the best organised) the campaign was brought to the attention of people from all over the country.

One of the clearest indications of this is the number of letters the campaign has received and offers of help. Here are a few examples:

From a Taunton Young Socialist:

"I am writing to ask if you could provide me with propoganda....I would happily distribute literature in this area..."

From a Lancaster University student:

"I....have organised several demonstrations, film shows, etc., against the American war in Vietnam and in support of the National Liberation Front. I support the aims of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign completely..."

From an Edinburgh lecturer:

"If your organisation were considering holding a public meeting in Edinburgh, I would be glad to assist in organising such a venture..."

From Loughborough C.N.D. chairman:

"On reading your leaflet this Easter the Loughborough CND were greatly impressed. They have asked me to write to you for further information..."

From Sheffield:

"I am very interested in the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign and would be grateful if you would send me more information....."

From Ipswich:

"I would be grateful if you will forward me details of your ..conference..."

From St. Austell (Cornwall):

"Please send details of your conference...."

From the Printers' Movement for Peace (Vietnam):

"It is clear that we are working on very much the same lines. Please send delegates credentials...."

From Horley Council for Peace in Vietnam:

".....we would be very interested to have more information about your campaign.."

From Dunfermline:

"On Wednesday night a motion that I proposed was carried with one dissident at Dunfermline Burgh Labour Party. This was (1) to congratulate our M.P., Adam Hunter, on opposing the resumption of American bombing; and (2) calling on the Government to renounce completely the support of American policy in Vietnam. This motion was sent to Harold Wilson. If every Labour Party in Britain kept hammering in resolutions of this type I feel that we would get some place..."

Other letters came from every region of Britain, all except two were entirely sympathetic. One of the opposing letters was unsigned.

CARD on the General Election

"Card welcomes the great success at the General Election of candidates who adopted a firm and unequivocal stand against racist pressure, despite the fact that two major political parties had pandered to it. The victories of Andrew Paulds at Smethwick, Reg Fresson in Willesdon East, Joan Lester in Eton and Slough, Ben Whittaker in Hampstead and David Winnick in Croydon South, amongst others, clearly demonstrated that candidates who stood firm for sound policies on race relations were able to carry the voters with them.

Elsewhere in the country, if racialism appeared to be a dead issue, this was only because there was little to choose between the two major political parties which have outbid each other in making concessions to the racists. The Tory record on immigration was more than matched by the Labour Government's capitulation to racialism embodied in the Immigration White Paper. If immigration did not loom large in the election it was not because racialism had been defeated.

Unless the real problems are tackled, the racial issue will once again become alive. The real problems are not problems of immigration. They are problems of discrimination, inequality and exploitation, and of wrong priorities in public expenditure and inadequate investment in social welfare. They are problems of British society for which the coloured immigrant has been chosen as the scapegoat.

This, therefore, is the moment when the root causes that produce racialism have to be firmly tackled. If the Government or the political parties, under the mistaken belief that race has been killed as a political issue, refuse to confront and solve the real problems, they will have to face the forces of racialism once again in the future, but under immeasurably more difficult circumstances.

CARD calls on the Government to get down now to the real problems in race relations."

For further information about CARD, please write to: 23, St. George's House, Gunthorpe Street, London, E.1.

V I E T N A M

Call to a

NATIONAL SOLIDARITY CONFERENCE

London, June 4 & 5, 1966

The wholesale slaughter of the Vietnamese people, both in the south and the north of their country, is intolerable. The United States is systematically destroying a whole people by the use of napalm, chemicals, fragmentation bombs, gas, the destruction of their crops, the poisoning of their water, the levelling of their hamlets, the torture of their patriots and the bombing of their hospitals. All this is done with the "understanding and support" of the British Government. By any conventional standards of international conduct, President Johnson and his associates are guilty of war crimes.

In the face of this barbarism, the response of the British public has been utterly inadequate. The people of Vietnam, struggling for their independence, deserve a movement of solidarity and support in the West. This movement must make known the full circumstances and horror of the U.S. war of aggression, support the legitimate demands of the Vietnamese people and demand the withdrawal of U.S. forces from South-East Asia. A National Solidarity Conference to formalise the creation of such a movement in Britain will be held in London on June 4 and 5. Attendance will be both by individuals and by delegates of organisations. Please complete the form below.

To: Vietnam Solidarity Campaign, 8, Roland Gardens, London, SW.7.

/ / I wish to attend the conference on June 4-5.

/ / Please send me further information about the conference.

Name.....

Address.....

Organisation (if any)

Please use block letters throughout.