

The Week

A NEWS ANALYSIS FOR SOCIALISTS

Vol 8 No 13 Sept 28th 1967

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foreign aid
hypocrisy

SCARBOROUGH

PERSPECTIVES

71 Onslow Gdns., London, N.10. Subscription: £2 per annum & pro rata

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hypocrisy

THE WEEK

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A NEW PUBLICATION FOR SOCIETIES
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SCARBOROUGH

PERSPECTIVES

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THE PERSPECTIVES FOR SCARBOROUGH

We noted last year how different the 1966 Brighton Conference of the Labour Party was from the 1965 one in Blackpool. This year's conference will be even more disillusioned and bitter against the Government. Almost certainly that feeling will be expressed in a number of votes on key issues. It is highly likely that the Government's incomes, economic and foreign policies will be rejected. Thus there will be a programmatic contrast between the Labour Party's policy and that of the Labour Government: a situation which favours the emergence of a big left wing. However, we must seek to turn this contrast into conflict: only when we have a struggle against Government policies can we hope to bring back into the party the thousands of disillusioned activists who are essential if we are to regenerate and re-enthuse the movement.

The job which The Week, in its modest way, sets itself is to assist that process. We believe that certain lessons have to be learnt before we can undo the damage of right-wing domination of the Labour Party. But when we express our opinions we do so with two essential qualifications: firstly, we do not pretend to have all the answers; and secondly, we pledge ourselves to support any step forward in building the left in Britain. It is in this spirit we approach the forthcoming Scarborough conference. A good number of the activists who support The Week will be there as delegates (all too few of these, alas) or observers. They will assist such ventures as the Sunday teach-in, Briefing, the C.N.D. march, the Five-Union meeting, etc., and anything else which looks as though it will help the emergence of a strong and fighting left wing. They will also advocate the political line which this journal has been propagating since its inception, and especially since the election of the 1964 Labour Government: namely, that the present impasse in British politics will only be broken when a mass left wing emerges with a fighting strategy based upon an anti-capitalist programme which makes sense to the mass of politically aware Labour supporters. A detailed examination of that policy is contained in the special printed issue of The Week which we are going to sell at Scarborough.

Naturally, Scarborough will see a great debate about the methods which must be used to achieve the end of forging a mighty left capable of defeating Wilson and his Cabinet. Firstly, we must express a note of caution: the passivity which has paralysed big sections of the left will not disappear overnight because of the passing of resolutions. Let no one delude themselves that the task is going to be easy or quickly achieved. Secondly, let us retain a mental note of caution about the outcome of the conference: basically, which way the decisions will go will be determined by the votes of a handful of large trade unions. This is an ideal set up for the manoeuvrers. The lesson of the defeat of the Bevanite anti-German rearmament campaign should not be lost. Thirdly, we cannot bank on Wilson being completely unable to meet the challenge of the T.U.C. and Scarborough conferences: the goings-on at the I.M.F.-World Bank meeting in Rio indicate that he is to be given more breathing space. Conse-

IRISH LABOUR STOP WAITING - by Gery Lawless

The next conference of Irish Labour, to be held in Dublin in mid-October, will be the most important assembly in that Party's 55 years.

Since the death of James Connolly it has been a "bookless" party, with contempt for theory. It pushes ahead blindly, attempting to take a "decent line" on each issue as it comes up. Labour missed the boat in the War of Independence accepting De Valera's dictat that "Labour must wait" (until the first stage of the revolution was finished). Labour waited for forty-five years. It has acted through all these years as a workers lobby in a bosses parliament.

In 1948 it entered a coalition with Fine Gael and other parties at a time of general left swing in Ireland, when a determined party with socialist policies could have won power or at least reached the situation where they would have been the main opposition party opposing a bourgeois coalition. In the event, the coalition infused new life into the semi-fascist Fine Gael party.

In 1956, having learned nothing, and forgotten nothing, Labour partnered Fine Gael in applying the British credit squeeze. In the general election of the following year Labour was massacred at the polls. After this the Party promised no more coalitions. This coupled with the open emergence of Fianna Fail as a Tory Party, set the background for the return of working class support to Labour. This was reflected in the decision of the I.T.G.W.U. to affiliate to the L.P. and in Dublin Labour's vote went up from 14% to 29% making them three seats short of becoming the largest party on the Dublin Corporation. Labour is thus the most rapidly growing party in Ireland with 400 branches and about 15,000 individual members. Twenty-two Labour members sit in the Dail and six Labour representatives in the Seanad. The Party today is predominantly a working class party but with a small and influential bourgeois element. 14 trade unions are at present affiliated with a total membership of 63,000. The decision taken in May this year of the I.T.G.W.U. to affiliate, will double this number.

At last year's conference, the vast majority of the delegates were what would be called in this country, Tribunites.

However, nobody realised this, least of all the delegates themselves - with the result that the conference returned a right wing policy and leadership.

This year the left have learned some, if not all, of their lessons. Already Deputy Jim Tully, the Party right wing chairman for about eleven years, has decided not to go forward for re-election, while Dr. Noel Browne, Ireland's Nye Bevan - who was hounded out of the Office of Minister of Health by the Church, will be returned unopposed as the Party's vice Chairman, two centrists will contest for the chairmanship, while for the Party Treasureship there is a contest between a "Tribunite" and an avowed Marxist.

The preliminary agenda for next months conference, reflects the new leftward swing, several motions demand the re-writing of the Party's Constitution to show clearly that the Party aims for a socialist Ireland.

There are several resolutions condemning any kind of coalition. Four resolutions are tables on the Party's Constitution and their working reflects the new mood, one reaffirms, the Party's dedication to the achievement of a united Ireland "but believe that such a goal can be achieved only by the united action of the working people against the Tories, North and South. This unity can only be forged under demands which stress that the united Ireland aimed at is one in the interests of the working people of all parts of the country". The resolution concludes with:

/Cont'd.....

"Accordingly, conference calls for the re-introduction of the demand for a Workers' Republic in the statement of the basic principles and objects of the Labour Party".

There are five resolutions on Vietnam all condemn America's aggression and one calls for complete solidarity with the National Liberation Front. This parallels the position of the North Ireland L.P. whose conference policy is Victory for the National Liberation Front.

COUNCIL OF LABOUR

A report to conference will deal with progress towards the formation of the All-Ireland Council of Labour. Agreement has been achieved by the parties concerned, but one branch proposed to conference that a United Socialist Party now should be formed for the whole of Ireland.

A big danger for Irish Labour, is that all these resolutions will be taken as policy and then treated, as Wilson treated Clause 4, as a nice decoration never to be implemented.

THE PERSPECTIVES FOR SCARBOROUGH (Cont'd. from page 1)

quently, he may be able to appear to be carrying out some of the wishes of the rank-and-file. For all these reasons a struggle for a left based upon a programme is vital.

Lest we sound pessimistic let us say immediately that we are more optimistic about the formation of the mass left than we have been at any time since October 1964. Boldness and a fighting spirit are, however, needed. A fighting spirit is needed to mobilise all those who have become faint-hearted about the possibilities of beating Wilson. But a fighting spirit will only come from clarity about the aim, that is, an understanding that the Wilson Government is a vicious enemy of the working class. There are also great, and previously hidden, potentials of support for such a fighting left. Loyalty to organisation and leadership is one of the basic - and finest - characteristics of a workers' movement. Now thousands of Labour supporters who had previously defended the Wilson Government because of that loyalty are capable of being won for a fighting left; the growing unemployment being the last straw. Moreover, a struggle to impose conference decisions and other democratic norms will tap a vast reservoir of support. This year the relationship of forces can be dramatically changed by the use of such a strategy.

So what are the perspectives for Scarborough? Firstly, almost certainly the Government will suffer a series of basic defeats - our first aim must be to make those defeats as resounding and as clear-cut as possible. Secondly, out of this new situation there are very good prospects for the emergence of a broad, fighting left with an anti-capitalist programme - our second aim must be to make that left as broad and as politically sound as possible. Thirdly, there is every possibility that this left will institutionalise itself into a continuing body - our third aim must be to make this possibility a reality. Fourthly, it is very likely that this institutionalised left will represent a big political step forward in understanding. A fighting left on a political programme, making neither the error of over-estimating the immediate potential nor of holding back because it does not fully understand the new situation, must come from Scarborough. If it does the British working class will have taken a dramatic step forward: that is a very fine perspective for Scarborough, indeed.

TRANSPORT HOUSE OVER LONDON LABOUR from a special correspondent

Spectrum, the regular news analysis section of the Sunday Times, scooped by several days the interim report of the Committee of Enquiry into Party Organisation. In a piece entitled "Takeover Bid by Transport House", written by George Gardiner, it was pointed out that there is an "...explosive proposal... that with the widening of the London Labour Party into a regional council... its general secretary and staff should be appointed and paid by the National Executive. This, it is feared, will make the London secretariat into a mere mouthpiece of Transport House. It will mean the scrapping of the strongly democratic organisation built up by Herbert Morrison in the heyday of the London Labour Party, in favour of centralised national control...." The interim report puts it another way: "A greater London Regional Council could become a political and social force of great magnitude, but it must in no way be afforded functions that could be a challenge to the National Executive Committee, or to the authority of the Party Conference" (that's a gem, coming from Transport House!).

Spectrum was quite right in its predictions and a big row is brewing. It is not yet clear whether the reports of High Court writs are true, but I am told that a special emergency meeting of the London Labour Party E.C. has been called. It is highly likely, in that case, that a special statement will be issued denouncing the interim report's proposals. Even if a majority of the E.C. do not take this position, with the mood being what it is, a minority statement is very likely. All members of the Labour Party in the London area should insist that their organisations support the fight against yet another anti-democratic measure emanating from Transport House. It is highly important that Party conference is clear on this issue.

LABOUR PARTY MEMBERS URGE LABOUR SLATE IN CO-OP from a Co-op correspondent

The following letter is being circulated throughout the Labour Movement in London. Copies can be obtained from The Week. The candidates for the Political Committee of the London Co-operative Society are anxious to address trade union branches, Labour Party wards, Young Socialist groups, etc., a leaflet explaining the aims of the panel can also be obtained from us.

"Dear Comrade, We welcome the remarkable improvement in the London Co-operative Society's trading position under its new Board of Directors.

The LCS is now one of the principal supporters of the Labour Movement in the London area. We are therefore pleased to endorse the nomination of the candidates listed below, for the forthcoming Political Committee elections, (October 28th) who are all members of the Labour or Co-operative Parties. The candidates are: Louis Bonday, Ron Heisler, Roger Lyons, Jim Layzell, Sohrab Mugaseth.

The LCS has been much mis-represented in the press. We hope that you will invite one or more of the candidates to speak and answer questions at one of your meetings this month, so that your members can form their own opinions as to their policy and merits.

Yours fraternally,

Stan Ellis, (Pres. Fulham Labour Party). Pat Fletcher, (E.C. London L.P.)
Hugh Jenkins, (MP Putney. LCS Political Cttee)
Jim Mortimer, (DATA, Director LCS)
Stan Newens, (MP Epping, Chmn. MCF) (signed in their individual
Ellis Hillman, (G.L.C. E.C. London L.P) capacity as L.C.S. members)

THE FALLACY OF FOREIGN AID

from David Jones

The 1966-67 annual report of the World Bank, published last Tuesday, makes especially interesting reading in this country where the Ministry for Overseas Development has been reserved as a parking place for the consciences of ex-Tribunites. Actual disbursements of U.K. aid, net of amortisation, crept up from \$457m. in 1961 to \$501m. in 1966. Thus an average yearly increase of less than 2% was maintained at a time when payments of amortisation and interest on external public debt grew by 10% a year for 95 "developing" countries included in the bank's statistics. Two thirds of the official aid received by these countries is taken up in servicing their foreign debts.

Part of the cause of deeper indebtedness is that the rich countries are giving more in loans and less in grants. Debt servicing is becoming harder to manage because of the "large proportion of aid which is country-tied and commodity-restricted."

At the same time, "a major factor affecting the flow of capital to the developing countries has been the persistence of balance-of-payments problems in the U.S. and the United Kingdom," the report states.

The 95 poor countries in the report's statistics owed some \$25,000m. in 1962 but \$41,000m. in 1966. Service payments last year were \$4,000m. - two-thirds of all official aid from the main donors.

The bank's report claims continued headway by the developing countries in 1966. But the detailed figures given later show this opening statement to be meaningless. The Southern Europeans are included and if the population increase is taken into account the per-head growth has averaged only 1.7 per cent.

Given the doubtfulness of many countries' statistics, the optimistic assertion that progress is being made looks unconvincing.

Interference by the World Bank in the internal affairs of countries receiving aid is made clear in the statement that many of the developing countries are now better able to make efficient use of aid. They have adopted "more effective economic policies and are better at encouraging private investment, production, the programming of government investments, the regulation of exchange rates and promotion of trade." This report shows just how little the underdeveloped countries are being paid for their complete abandonment of any possibility of socialist development. The hypocrisy of the Labour Government in creating a Ministry of Overseas Development with none of the resources needed to tackle the problems before it needs to be made very clear. The OXFAM mentality may satisfy those in the Liberal Party but a far more radical solution to the problems generated by the neo-Imperialism of Western capitalism is required of a party with any pretensions to socialism.

ARE THE INTERNATIONAL BANKERS COMING TO WILSON'S RESCUE AGAIN? by Pat Jordan

The defeat of the Wilson Government at the Brighton T.U.C. and the subsequent Labour by-elections reverse have made it clear that the present leadership of the Labour Party is in big trouble. It is virtually certain that at least some of the most important aspects of Government policy will again be rejected at the Scarborough Labour Party conference. This will lead to the situation where official Labour Party and official trade union policy is at odds with that of the Labour Government. This is, as has been explained many times before in The Week, a very favourable situation for the emergence of a mass left wing opposition to the Government. If this occurs Mr. Wilson will have lost his value for British capitalism and, therefore, international banking circles. From the capitalist point of view the purpose of the Wilson administration is to get the working class to accept rationalisation measures without resistance. A mass left wing will make this much ^{more} difficult. At this stage the Tories are not an alternative because they would not command sufficient loyalty from the trade unions. British and international capitalism would, no doubt, prefer the Tories to come into power after defeats have been inflicted on the unions. Thus international finance has a vested interest for keeping Wilson in power for the time being and assisting him in face of the growing criticism from the Labour movement.

It is in this light that one must consider the statement made by Mr. Pierre-Paul Schweitzer, managing director of the International Monetary Fund, at the Rio de Janeiro press conference, preceding the Fund-World Bank meetings. Peter Jay, in a special report to The Times Business News (25/9/67) wrote:

Britain does not have to deflate any more even if sufficient payments balances cannot be earned in time to pay off her International Monetary Fund £500m. loan in 1970.

M. Pierre-Paul Schweitzer, I.M.F. managing director, gave me this definite assurance here today. Given the outlook for the British economy and world trade, he said it would be economically wrong as well as politically unrealistic to expect further deflationary action There would be no obstacle to a new drawing on the rights reconstituted by repayments. All that would be required would be the usual examination by fund staff culminating in what M. Schweitzer called "a nice letter from Jim".....

This reassurance from the man who is effectively Britain's bank manager has major economic and political implications. M. Schweitzer made it clear that Britain must still aim to pay her way in the world. But more time means that unemployment will not have to be forced up to yet more drastic levels in order to make sure of the £200m. annual surplus otherwise needed. This means that Mr. Wilson's strategy for raising productivity by direct Government promotion of industrial reorganization and modernization will, perhaps, have the time which, as even its defenders admit, it needs in order to produce results.

..... It puts a new complexion on Britain's economic situation since one of the main arguments against the Wilson strategy was that it could not work anything like soon enough to meet the 1970 deadline. It also means that Mr. Wilson may be able to choose a later election date if he wishes..... (MY EMPHASIS P.Jordan).

THE CAMERON REPORT - A DISTORTION - statement by the Joint Sites Committee

The Myton Dispute arose because three Steelfixers were sacked, while the whole site was on a Work-to-Rule due to a bonus dispute. Normal working was resumed on the instructions of the N.F.B.T.O. Executive, on the 3rd November 1966, to allow the Dispute to be resolved. Even while Trade Union officials and Myton representatives were in negotiations Myton Management were preparing for the dismissal of all workers the next day. This is what caused the Myton dispute that has lasted 11 months. Myton's have sacked every worker on the site, then insisted that work could only be resumed if the Shop Stewards and steelfixers were kept outside the gate. The scandal is that the N.F.B.T.O. leaders agreed with these arrogant demands. But the workers refused to betray their stewards and continued to be Locked Out. On Sunley's Site, the management on 24th October, 1966, without consultation tore up a Bonus Agreement which had been in operation on the site for 12 months. Before the Dispute at a meeting of Sir Cecil Mant and Mr. Chadwick of the Ministry of Works, 3 Sunley bosses and J. Mills - President of N.F.B.T.O., Mills, A.S.W. Executive Council member, was alleged to have advised sacking the Works Committee. The Court refuses to state whether it was true or not. We wonder why?

The above were the real "causes and circumstances of the disputes". The alleged "disruption, and illegitimate and mischievous activity" was the work, not of the Stewards or the Joint Sites Committee, but of the employers, Ministry of Works and right wing Trade Union Officials. Since when has the right of workers to Work-to-Rule become a crime?..... Cameron accuses Myton Federation Stewards, Lou Lewis and the London Building Workers Joint Sites Committee of actions "to further by illegitimate means" the Committee's policy of fighting the Government's Incomes standstill. Since when has opposition to wage freeze, unemployment and anti-trade union legislation become illegal?.... Any worker will understand that 450 men on Myton's and Sunley's labourers and tradesmen, would never have struggled for 11 months unless they had the deepest sense of grievance, belief in the justice of their struggle and in the honesty of their Stewards.

Cameron's recommendations are an unprecedented threat to all workers. He wants:-

1. Myton's Site re-opened without the Shop Stewards.
2. Sunley's re-opened with the Stewards banned from holding office on the site.
3. Appointment - not election of Shop Stewards on both Sites.
4. The Unions to take "measures of appropriate severity" and withdraw credentials from any Steward who leads a struggle against the employers.
5. Destruction of the Joint Sites Committee with a stop on financial support from the workers.
6. Major changes in the Working Rule Agreement to hamstring the workers and help the employers.

All workers must condemn this vicious report. Send your views to Gunter and Union Executives. We call on all Building workers and trade unionists to stand by any action by Myton & Sunley workers to defend their Shop Stewards, and the Joint Sites Committee pledges its full support for any action taken.

WE DEMAND: No victimisation of the Stewards. No interference with the rights of workers to elect their spokesmen. All workers, who wish, to be reinstated on the Sunley and Myton Sites.

Full support to the lads and their families who have stuck it out in this 11 months struggle. Thanks to those Trade Union officials and the thousands who have supported them morally and financially. We have come a long way since the woodworker-pioneers withstood fines and the pillory to establish T.U. organisation. Cameron or no one else will turn the clock back.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES from John Leonard.

Vauxhall Workers Stand Firm.

At a meeting of 10,000 Vauxhall workers last Monday only one vote was cast against a resolution calling for a continuation of the work-to-rule and overtime ban until the management agree to give a date for pay-productivity talks on union terms. Harold Horne, AEU official, told the workers, "Vauxhall's wage plan is a charter for slavery. Wages at Vauxhall are the next to the bottom of the league for the motor industry." The men are asking for an interim increase of 1/- an hour immediately followed by a further 1/- when grading and productivity agreements have been reached. They have flatly rejected the company's claim that there can be no further rise for two years after the immediate one. The management's stubborn refusal to negotiate on reasonable terms has drawn support from two Labour M.P.'s. Gwilym Roberts, M.P. for South Beds., who addressed last Monday's meeting, said afterwards that if there is no move by the end of the week from either Vauxhall's or the Government, then he will take the matter up with Ray Gunter and the Prime Minister. This not very radical solution to Vauxhall's intransigence was followed up by a statement from Will Howie, M.P. for Luton. He described the management's scheme for inviting selected workers to clock on as "extremely provocative!"

Building Unions want Guaranteed Wage.

A guaranteed weekly minimum wage of £15 for labourers and £17 11s 8d for craftsmen is the basis of a new claim by the National Federation of Building Operatives. The employers claim that this represents an average rise of 15% obscures the fact that wages in the building industry vary drastically from region to region. A guaranteed minimum weekly wage based on a realistic hourly rate would be a first major step in the union's campaign to end the present casual system of hourly paid employment. It would also act as a much needed safeguard for those building workers in the high unemployment regions who are at present paid the minimum rate of 6s 6d an hour for labourers and 7s 7½d for craftsmen. Even under the present pay freeze this claim is more than justified by the rapidly increasing productivity in the building industry due to the new technology. A new wage agreement is due to start in November of next year. Negotiations start next month and the employers will attempt to take advantage of a comprehensive agreement on wages and conditions of employment to remove the present bonus system and to drastically cut into what little negotiating power men on the site have gained in the past. The building workers must fight against this with practical plans for full control of the industry by the men themselves.

THE WEEK Readers at Scarborough

Any readers of The Week who can get to Scarborough for part or all of the Labour Party Conference, October 2 - 6, will be put to good use distributing leaflets, selling literature etc. They should report to The Bookshop, 52, Eastborough, Scarborough, on arrival. As well as the C.S.E. meeting at 5pm on Sunday October 1st at the Olympia Ballroom there will be a C.N.D. march in the afternoon - bring you Vietnam banners, contact The Bookshop for details.

Over 20,000 stickers publicising the international rally in Trafalgar Square on Sunday October 22 have already been distributed and 3,000 posters are on display in coffee bars, bookshops, student hostels and strategic points throughout London. Among the speakers already lined up for the meeting before we march on the American Embassy are Tariq Ali (who recently visited North Vietnam), John Palmer, Ken Coates and Ralph Schoenman. Messages of support have been received from Bill Jones (T&GWU) and Frank Allaun M.P., who has also agreed to be a sponsor of the meeting. The text of Frank Allaun's message is printed below:

From Frank Allaun, M.P.
House of Commons,
London, S.W.1.

There is growing war weariness in America. So President Johnson knows he must get the war over soon - and well before the Presidential elections in November, 1968. Whilst he is being pressed very strongly by the U.S. peace movement - a magnificent one - to end the bombing of North Vietnam, without which there is no possibility of peace talks, he is also being pressed by the hawks to get the war over by wiping out the whole population of North Vietnam. The hawks are prepared to risk a war with China and with Soviet Russia. So the decision could go either way. At this moment of decision it is most urgent that the British Government be pressed to bring its influence to bear against the terrible war in Vietnam.

With best wishes.

Frank Allaun, M.P. for Salford East.

A picket outside New Zealand House has been arranged by a group of New Zealanders living in London on Monday October 9 from 2.30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Leaflets with details of the October 22 demonstration, stressing the point that the march will stop outside New Zealand House while a letter of protest is handed in, will be distributed. The reverse side of the leaflet will make clear to prospective immigrants and New Zealand tourists the extent of the Holy-oake Government's participation in the Vietnam war.

The protest movement throughout the world is responding to the recent American escalation with increasingly militant and widespread action as the following news-item shows:

TOKYO YOUTHS BREAK UP TRIAL OF ANTIWAR DEMONSTRATORS

Demonstrators have continued to prevent the trial of the ten youths accused of destroying facilities at the Nittoku Metal Industry Co. in Tokyo last October 19. They raided this plant which produces machine guns for the United States in protest against Japan's cooperation with U.S. aggression in Vietnam. The demonstrators interrupted the trial August 28, breaking their way through a police cordon. They were evicted from court after "a fierce fight in the corridors", according to the Japan Times. This was the second time an anti-war demonstration has succeeded in postponing the trial. New hearings are scheduled for September 21. In another demonstration of opposition to Washington's invasion of Vietnam, a young man sneaked into the U.S. embassy compounds September 7 and poured flaming gasoline over three cars.

The establishment of military dictatorship in Greece five months ago is an alarming development. It has survived without support from a single social class in contemporary Greece. It is a junta of the colonels, i.e., of a section of the military: not only the rank and file of the army, but even certain more eminent officers, including generals, cannot be identified with the coup. The colonels have attempted to purge the military, but, following his recent trip to Washington, King Constantine has refused to sign a document 'retiring' some four hundred junior Army officers considered 'unreliable' by the junta. Divisions, then, exist within the hegemonic classes in Greece. Contradictions divide the external powers whose support is crucial to any regime lacking a popular base. The U.S.A. has withheld its support, and the results of President Johnson's secret talks with the monarch will not be known immediately. But it is expected that the regime will be strongly bolstered this week by support from the Common Market. A loan of \$57 million from the EEC is expected to postpone for many months the balance of payments crisis which would soon crystallise social problems in Greece.

Press censorship continues, and, in large measure, has been accepted by the majority of major newspapers in Greece. The regime regulates not only content but also such details as the size of headlines. Arrests likewise continue. The King (and various other moderate forces) claimed credit for securing the release of 4,000 of the 6,000 Greeks originally imprisoned in the spring. But the number now in prison greatly exceeds such estimates and grows higher each week. The military junta has indicated that it will install military commissars in the universities -- without the consultation or approval of the civilian 'Government'. When the Dean of Athens University demanded of a military representative by what authority he could claim an office and a telephone at the university, the reply was simple: 'A law is now being prepared'.

The colonels are not hesitating to extend their arbitrary authority. The left outside Greece should mobilise protest against the extension of overt reactionary rule. We must campaign for the immediate liberation of all political prisoners. The EEC should be exposed for its complicity in an insufferable instance of clear-cut tyranny. And in broader terms, we should study not merely the character of this particular regime -- which may well prove short-lived and temporary -- but the contours of U.S. strategy for the entire Mediterranean, including Greece, Cyprus, and Syria. The importance of Greece to America is strategic, and no efforts will be spared to bring 'stability' to that theatre.

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Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation LONDON BULLETIN number two

Contents include: VIETNAM - Bertrand Russell's message to the Tokyo Tribunal, Isaac Deutscher: Vietnam and the Russell Tribunal.

BLACK POWER - Stokely Carmichael's speech to OLAS conference.

LATIN AMERICA - Articles by Ken Coates, Perry Anderson and Robin Blackburn.

2s 6d per copy from B.R.P.F., 49 Rivington St., LONDON, E.C.2.

Bus and train fares for London commuters over the past years have been caught in a seemingly endless upwards spiral. The constant pressure from the Conservatives for a "realistic" fare structure has never been countered by a comprehensive socialist plan for transport. In Cuba, however, the matter has already moved irreversibly past mere talk as the following article shows.

HAVANA - On Aug. 1 a number of measures went into effect in the capital of revolutionary Cuba to improve bus service,

Formerly bus fare had been 8 centavos [$\sqrt{1}$ centavo = 1 U.S. cent]. A transfer cost 2 centavos. The fare is now a straight 5 centavos and transfers have been eliminated. For many bus riders this meant an immediate saving. Besides transfers, the issuance of tickets has been eliminated. You simply drop a 5-centavo piece in a coin box.

The number of workers on the buses was cut in half, all conductors being shifted to other jobs or placed on the retirement list. Bus drivers are not required to give change or even to demand payment. This is left up to the control of the passengers. While waiting at a bus stop they must arrange with each other to make change. Four people can enter a bus by dropping a 20-centavo piece in the coin box. If a passenger does not pay, the other passengers are asked to call the oversight to his attention. If he refuses his name can be cited at his place of work for moral censure. Stops for buses are now mandatory at every designated bus stop. These are about five blocks apart.

By the end of August, the improvements had worked out so well that Havana residents were under the impression that many more buses had been added to the fleet. Schedules were being followed much more rigorously and because of the speedier service the buses seemed less jammed. Still more surprising, it was discovered that the number of people using bus service had increased considerably, the increase oscillating between 150,000 and 200,000 daily. The 3,765 conductors suffered no loss inasmuch as their wages were guaranteed until they found other jobs. The Aug. 22 Granma reported that 3,264 were already in other occupations. The remainder were either on vacation or had taken out retirement.

Besides lowering bus fares in Havana, Cuba's revolutionary government has instituted another highly subversive innovation - free public telephones.

The Ministry of Communications announced the new benefit to the people on July 17. Telephone workers began rewiring the coin boxes the same day and by July 26, the fourteenth anniversary of the famous attack led by Fidel Castro on the Moncada barracks, the changeover had been completed throughout the island.

Now when you want to make a local call from a public telephone in Cuba, you don't start by fumbling for a coin; you just lift the receiver off the hook and dial the number you want.

* * * * *

BLACK POWER

war cry on Rhodesia

&

South Africa

GRAND RALLY

in support of the

FREEDOM FIGHTERS IN ZIMBABWE AND AZANIA

organised by the

UNIVERSAL COLOURED PEOPLES ASSOCIATION and

PAN AFRICANIST CONGRESS OF AZANIA

Full support for armed struggle and guerrilla warfare!

FRIDAY OCTOBER 6TH 7 P.M.

MAHATMA GANDHI HALL

41 Fitzroy square. Nearest tube station: Warren street.