Join the **LABOUR PARTY**

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 1953

3 Million Workers

Demand More Wages

Gold Coast Independence

The Case For

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CEYLON IN REVOLT

By M. BANDA

brewing in Ceylon, and the cause is basically

Its economy is highly sensitive to foreign trade and rests on a very tenuous foundation—tea, rubber and coconut. The aggregate exports of these three industries constitute approximately 90 per cent. of the total exports of Ceylon and account for about 40-50 per and account for about 40-50 per cent. of the national income. Moreover, 40 per cent. of the Rubber Estates (in terms of acreage) and 80 per cent. of the tea estates are owned by Europeans mostly British peans, mostly British.

Thus most of the profits derived from the tea and rubber industry are not used to develop the national economy but are instead siphoned off into the City of London.

In 1950 the amount paid out in the form of interest, profit and dividend to European companies was Rs. 72 million (approximately 45 million). The average wage of an estate worker, with cost-of-living allowance included, is approximately 3s. daily!

TEMPORARY PROSPERITY

In 1948, Ceylon like the rest of the capitalist world, was affected by the recession in the U.S.A. The rubber industry was on the verge of collapse. Then came devaluation, re-armament, stock-piling and finally the Korean war. These combined factors gave the tea and rubber industries a new lease of

In 1950 the U.S. took 50 per cent, of her rubber exports. As a result, Ceylon became one of the principal dollar earners of the Commonwealth.

Ceylon's prosperity, however, was temporary and superficial. The Socialist opposition warned the Government of it.

Mounting inflationary pressure and the increasing supply diffi-culties caused by Western re-arma-ment soon revealed the inherent weakness of Ceylon's economic structure. Once more tea and rubber prices began to slump while import prices continued to rise-a trend which was reflected by an adverse balance of trade and an enormous budget deficit.

In April, 1953, the Government —like a drunkard searching his wallet on the morning after a spree

TATIONWIDE revolt is suddenly found itself confront-brewing in Cevlon and ing a financial crisis of the first years of "independence"!

There was only Rs. 150 million available for Government ex-penses! According to the most liberal estimates, this sum would last only five months.

CAPITALIST SOLUTIONS

The United National Party the governing Tory Party or the local foreman of British Imperialist interests) with despicable but characteristic callousness, decided to place the major burden of the crisis on the backs of the already impoverished people.

It did this by slashing the social services, cutting the rice ration, increasing the price of basic foodstuffs, imposing a 20

Continued page 2 col. I

N. Dinning on Engineers' Conference engineering workers have

15 per cent. wage increase. Speaking at the recent conference of the Engineering Confederation in support of this claim, Mr. J. Mathews, of the General and Municipal Workers, referred to the "reactionary antics of the Tory Government' and then made this significant comment:

submitted a claim for a

"Unless it (the Tory Government) is very careful, something like what is happening in France could happen here."

The "News Chronicle" describes Mr. Mathews quite correctly as

Unemployed Ceylon Plantation Workers. When they lose their

jobs-they lose their homes.

The resolution for the full claim was carried unanimously. The rank and file must do something about more "bite", by ensuring the implementation of Jack Tanner's statement: "... the 38 Unions in the Confederation (now will organise a giant self-run publicity campaign to convince the electorate that our claim is a justifiable one"

Also unanimously carried were resolutions on Redundancy, Overtime, Guaranteed Week, 40-hour Week, and Full Employment.

On the latter, the "Manchester Guardian" comments that the President's statement that "they would take the earliest opportunity of making this resolution work was made "somewhat drily". Ye this remark cannot be separated from the notable political realism throughout the proceedings.

THREE million organised "the most moderate man in the This same realism drew from the President the remark that "'Challenge to Britain' falls seriously short of the Confederation's 'Plan for Engineering'".

The proposals of the Labour a few sections of the industry, in a way that brings economic plan-ning no nearer. The Confedera-tion's "Plan" advocates public ownership of Aircraft Production, Builders Castings, Heavy Electrical Equipment, Wagon Manufacture, Machine Tools, Marine Engineer-ing, Heavy Motor Vehicles and Textile Machinery. (A table of comparison can be seen in the "Outlook", July 10, 1953).

These differences have inspired the Press, eager to see a split between the Trade Unions and the Labour Party, to discover a divergence on Nationalisation policies between the Confederation unions and the Party. Nothir could be further from the truth. Nothing

"Challenge to Britain" is the view not of the Party, but of the N.E.C. The Party has yet to

In moving the implementation of the "Plan". J. Mortimer (A.E. & S. Draughtsmen) "re-affirmed the necessity for the extension of public ownership", because he was "... concerned with the maintenance of living steadard." maintenance of living standards".
He said: "the main test before the Confederation was to make sure that the rank and file, as well as the leaders, understood the need for nationalisation. If that could be done, an extension of public ownership was certain."

Bro. Mortimer need have no qualms about the rank and file. Thirty-four resolutions on the Labour Party agenda are for the extension of nationalisation. Nine of these are specifically for the "Plan for Engineering". My own party, Tottenham, has submitted the "Plan" as an amendment to "Challers to Pitche". 'Challenge to Britain".

Brinham (A.S.W.) reserved the right to adopt another attitude at the T.U.C. and the Labour Party Conference. Our qualms arise

G. I. Brinham is on the N.E.C. which produced the timid "Challenge to Britain". There are other Trade Union leaders with similar views, whose organisations are part of the Confederation.

The Constituency parties are clamouring to support the "Plan for Engineering". Its fate rests with the Confederation unions themselves. They can carry their "Plan" through Conference and, at one blow, destroy the Constituency parties' present prefudice stituency parties' present prejudice against the block vote.

Jack Stanley's (C.E.U.) contribu-tion at the Confederation's Con-ference seems particularly apt: "Belief in state ownership and control of industry should embody the willingness to fight for it."

If all members of the Confedera-The Confederation was unanimously "for" the "Plan", but G. I.

tion fight—and really fight—for the "Plan for Engineering" its adoption is certain.

We Must Aid French Strikers

garbled reports in the capitalist press, that the French workers are in a mood reports of the support from the strikers and give different from the leaders of our of any country are above the own trade unions. They, no more interests of the so-called "nation".

The T.U.C. wasted no time in 1926, will relish a showdown the challenge of Laniel's distruggle for power. On the other strikers in East Germany, but they railwaymen, postmen, builders, civil servants, engineers, domestic and foreign policies—and printers and miners have defied millionaire Laniel's ultimatum to use troops on a large scale unless the strikers returned to work today (Tuesday).

When Laniel says that the strike is a strike against the Government he is speaking the simple truth. The "Daily Worker" reports the Secretary of the Paris Railwaymen as saying: "I don't think there is a single French worker in whatever union who doesn't want to get rid of this Government." "And", added a railwayman member of the Socialist Union, "we're going to get rid of it"—and he emphasised his point with a tremendous thump of his fist on

The slogan of a joint Socialist- a great perspective. Communist Government would,

for decisive action. Five million credited collection of big business-

Editorial

thus transform the entire international situation.

That is why this great French strike has such international significance. France is on the edge of a revolutionary struggle which can inspire all of Europe's workers to take similar action against their own reactionary governments—the Italians and the Germans espec-

All the plans for war in Europe thing.

hand, the Communist trade union men and neo-fascist politicians, leaders, if they lead a decisive would change all of France's struggle for a revolutionary change of government, are bound to clash with the present diplomacy of Russia which is very clearly not in favour of a violent disruption of the present "status quo".

But-and this is where the British workers can play a decisive rôle - sufficient international support to the French workers can encourage the strikers to a point where it will be extremely difficult for their leaders to call it off.

Internationalism—so long absent from the world situation—is now beginning to emerge as a new and, for the capitalists, an alarming feature in politics. But internationalism is a very concrete

great perspective.

One's fellow workers. Above all it ist governments. It is the workers' However, the leaders of the is a recognition of the fact that answer to capitalist secret diptherefore, receive tremendous French Socialist Unions are little the interests of the working class lomacy.

declaring its support for the strikers in East Germany, but they have so far remained silent on this magnificent struggle in France.

It was right to send aid to our fellow workers in East Germany fighting—not for capitalism—but for democratic socialism. All the more so is it necessary to support the French workers fighting reactionary French capitalism.

We therefore call upon all our readers to fight for the success of the French Strike. Demand in your trade union branches that the T.U.C.—as well as individual trade unions—send substantial sums of money to help the strikers.

The leaders of the capitalist world have signed a secret 16 nation agreement to make war on China. Let us fight now for an agreement a mong Europe's workers to aid one another in All the plans for war in Europe can thus be disrupted by decisive workers' action of this kind. It is support, of a refusal to scab on decent living conditions and social-

Profiteering In Drugs Dr. J. Martin Raynor

pamphlet to General Practitioners and Hospitals, listing 600 proprietary drugs which were not to be prescribed under the National Health

discovered that these drugs had a National Health Form U.LAE.

Many of these proprietary drugs were exorbitant in price and after many months of pressure by the Labour Members in Parliament, a Com-mittee was formed by the Ministry of Health many months ago to carry out this work. When the large combines of drug firms discovered this circular had gone out, their representatives swooped down on the General Practitioners and Hospitals, carrying with them a new price list of all drugs made and supplied by their individual firms. The new price list showed how great the reductions on drugs had come down over night.

ing profit with the prices attention.

THE Ministry of Health slashed. Some form of Govern-has issued a circular and ment enquiry should be in-

STOP THE SHILLING CHARGE

The shilling charge on pre-scriptions should be abolished The Committee headed by immediately. The cost of Sir Henry Cohen, after many living is on the increase but months of intense research, wages are being maintained at low level, no better therapeutic value hardship a mong working than the drugs listed in the people with families who have to pay a shilling on each prescription.

> Obviously, each shilling is a great sacrifice to families when it could be spent in meeting the increased cost of living. Furthermore, this charge of prescriptions has stopped many people from seeking medical attention who may need it, and also prevented some working class families from having their prescriptions dispensed, not having the available shilling at hand.

Fifty per cent. of illnesses today are indirectly caused by the hardships experienced by working class families in meeting the daily cost of livelihood.

If people had better housing Obviously, the colossal and were able to buy the food profits made by these firms necessary for their health, under the National Health doctor's surgeries would be Scheme showed the percentage greatly reduced and more of profit being outrageous, time spent on medical cases since these firms are still mak- which needed true medical

Extracts from the speech of Dr. Kwame Nkrumah addressing the Gold Coast Legislative Assembly on a motion for Independence on July 10, 1953.

R. Speaker, I beg to **▼** move that this Assembly, in adopting The right of a people to decide the Government's White Paper their own destiny, to make their the Gold Coast a sovereign and independent State within the Commonwealth; (Hear, (Hear, hear). Assembly do authorise the Majesty's Government, without prejudice to the above request, to amend as a matter of urgency the Gold Coast (Constitution) Order in Council 1950, in such a way as to provide inter alia that the Legislative Assembly shall be composed of members directly elected by secret ballot, and that the Assembly and directly responsible to it. (Hear, Hear.)

Mr. Speaker, we have frequent examples to show that there comes a time in the history of all colonial peoples when they must, because of their will to throw off the Again, on 12th July 1950, in hampering shackles of colonialism, the House of Commons, Mr. boldly assert their God-given James Griffiths, Mr. Creech Jones'

Our Case For Independence

Inalienable Right

on Constitutional Reform, do way in freedom, is not to be authorise the Government to measured by the yardstick of request that Her Majesty's colour or degree of social develop-Government, as soon as the ment. It is an inalienable right necessary constitutional and less to exercise when forces, administrative arrangements stronger than they themselves, by for independence are made, whatever means, for whatever should introduce an Act of reasons, take this right away from Independence into the United them. If there is to be a criterion Kingdom Parliament declaring of a people's preparedness for selfgovernment, then I say it is their readiness to assume the respon-For who but a Hear) and further, that this people themselves can say when they are prepared? How can Government to ask Her others judge when that moment has arrived in the destiny of a subject people? What other gauge subject people? can there be?

Britain's Policy

Mr. Speaker, pray allow me to quote from Britain's own Ministers. Mr. Creech Jones, as Colonial Secretary in the first postwar Labour Government, stated "The central purpose of that all Members of the British Colonial policy is simple. Cabinet shall be Members of It is to guide the Colonial Territories to responsible self-government within the Commonwealth in conditions that ensure to the people concerned both a fair standard of living and freedom from oppression from any quarter".

right to be free of a foreign ruler. Today, we are here to claim this right to our independence. By Kwame Nkrumah (Gold Coast Prime Minister) Representative Ministers. For we are ripe for freedom, and our right to our independence. Representative Ministers. For we are ripe for freedom, and our people will not be denied. They

successor, reiterated this principle: "The aim and purpose", he said, "is to guide the Colonial Territories to responsible self-government within the Commonwealth and, to that end, to assist them to the utmost of our capacity and resources to establish those economic and social conditions upon which alone self-government can be soundly based"

Last, I give you the words of Mr. Oliver Lyttleton, Colonial Secretary in Her Majesty's Conservative Government of today: "We all aim at helping the Colonial Territories to attain self-government within the Common-

Nor is this policy anything new in British Colonial history. The self - government Dependencies has its Colonial origin in the British North American Act of 1867, which conceded to the Provinces of Canada com- olive branch of peace and love, plete self-rule. The independence of the other white Dominions of Australia and New Zealand were followed by freedom for South Africa. And since the end of the Second World War, our coloured brothers in Asia have achieved independence, and we are now proud to be able to acknowledge the sovereign States of India, Pakistan, Ceylon and Burma.

We Have No Colour Bar

There is no conflict, that I can see between our claim and the progovernments of the United Kingpeople are fundamentally doctrine are now an anachronism in our midst and their days are numbered. (Hear, hear).

ing world. Among the colonial turies ago, and present herself to resistance against the alien force her colonial peoples in new and within our borders. shining vestments and hand us the

working out our own destinies.

Our Proud History

In the very early days of the Christian era, long before England even had assumed any importance, long before her people had united into a nation, our ancestors had attained a great empire, which lasted until the 11th century, when it fell before the attacks of the Moors of the north. At its height, that empire stretched from Timfessed policy of all parties and buktu to Bamako, and even as far as to the Atlantic. It is said that lawvers and scholars were much dom. We have here in our country lawyers and scholars were much a stable society. Our economy is respected in that empire, and that healthy, as good as any for a the inhabitants of Ghana wore garcountry of our size. In many ments of wool, cotton, silk and respects, we are very much better velvet. There was trade in copper, off than many Sovereign States, gold and textile fabrics, and jewels And our potentialities are large, and weapons of gold and silver and weapons of gold and silver were carried.

society precludes the herrenvolk and those others who opened the humanity, and to civilisation which doctrine. The remnants of this doctrine are now an anachronism reach today the great moment at teach us! which we stand As with our enslaved brothers

The old concepts of Empire, of United States and to the West conquest, domination and exploita- Indies, throughout our tortuous made; a colonial people in Africa tion are fast dying in an awaken-history, we have not been docile has put forward the first definite under the heel of the conqueror. claim for independence. An peoples, there is a vast, untapped Having known by our own tradireservoir of peace and goodwill tions and experience the essentialthat they are ready to assume the
towards Britain, would she but ity of unity and of government, stature of free men and to prove
divest herself of the outmoded, we constantly formed ourselves to the world that they are worthy moth-eaten trappings of two cen- into cohesive blocs as a means of of the trust.

recounted the long and valiant struggle of his people against the impositions of Eritish Governments. He listed the names of the martyrs in the fight for Gold Coast Independence, and traced the evolution of the different con-

is not for ourselves on this side in itself. It is a means to an end, of the House, but for all the Chiefs to the building of the good life to and people of this country—the the benefit of all, regardless of right to live as free men in the tribe, creed, colour or station in comity of nations. Were not our life. ancestors ruling themselves before the white man came to these our I have earlier made reference to the ancient history of our more distant forbears in

Imperialist 'Theories'

To assert that certain people frustration. are capable of ruling themselves colonialism are a two-fold evil. and give us a guiding hand in while others are not yet "ready", while others are not yet "ready", This theme is expressed in the as the saying goes, smacks to me truism that "no nation which more of imperialism than of oppresses another can itself be

> heredity. We are determined to change our environment, and we shall advance in like manner.

called, here and now, as a result amicable relations which at present of the relentless tide of history, exist between us and the British by Nemesis, as it were, to a sacred may become strained. Our Chiefs charge, for you hold the destiny and people will brook no delay. of our country in your hands. The But I feel confident that our claim, eyes and ears of the world are because of the reasons I have upon you; yea, our oppressed already given, will be accepted and brothers throughout this vast con-tinent of Africa and the New deepened by our new association. World are looking to you with Mr. Speaker, Honourable Memhomogeneous, nor are we plagued with religious and tribal problems.

And, above all, we have hardly any colour bar. In fact, the whole democratic tradition of our whole democratic tradition of our society, precludes the horrowell.

History Is Being Made

At this time, history is being

are conscious that the right is theirs, and they know that freedom is not something that one people They claim it as their own and

want to emphasise, Mr. Speaker, As I said earlier, what we ask that self-government is not an end

> The self-government which we demand, therefore, is the means by which we shall create the climate in which our people can develop their attributes and express their potentialities to the full. As long as we remain subject to an alien power, too much of our energies is diverted from constructive enter-Oppressive forces breed **Imperialism**

Biologists of repute maintain that there is no such thing as a "superior" race. Men and women are the subject, but the dominant nation pays the price is a subject in a subjec a "superior" race. Men and pays the price in a warping of women are as much products of their finer sensibilities through their environment—geographic, arrogance and greed. Imperialism climatic, ethnic, cultural, social and colonialism are a barrier to

—as of instincts and physical true friendship.

A Warning

Unless, therefore, our claim to Honourable Members, you are independence is met now, the

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Mem-

Mr. Speaker, for my part, I can only re-echo the words of a great

"Man's dearest possession is life, and since it is given him to live but once, he must so live as not to be seared with the shame of a cowardly existence and trivial past, so live that dying he might say: all my life and all my strength were given to the finest cause in the world the liberation of mankind." (Hear! Hear!)

Mr. Speaker, "Now God be thank'd, Who has match'd us with resistance against the alien force
I know that you will not fail thank'd, Who has match'd us with
those who are listening for the His Hour!" I beg to move. (Loud
mandate that you will give to your and prolonged applause.)

Ceylon Revolts

(from page one)

per cent, excess levy on import Party has refused to join such a duties, freezing the cost of living front. allowances, retrenching Government employees and increasing postal, electricity and transport

The people, however, have refused to take these blows lying down. Under the leadership of the Socialist Party (the Lanka Somasamajat Party) and the Ceylon Federation of Labour, the workers, peasants and youth have taken the path of mass action with courage and determination.

WORKERS FIGHT BACK

On Budget Day (July 23) 50,000 people surrounded the Parliament House and, despite the baton charges and tear gas attacks of the police, demonstrated against the Budget proposals. In all parts of the country the movement of pro-

True Words From The Scaffold

scaffold by Richard Rumbold in 1685 are just as true today. Awaiting the axeman he said:

"I never could believe that Providence had sent a few men into the world ready booted and spurred to ride, and millions ready saddled and bridled to be ridden." F. G. R. Philpott.

Hythe (Kent).

test spread with amazing rapidity, spontaneity and discipline.

The Socialist Party has challenged the Government to resign and hold a General Election on the issue of the present crisis. Pointing out that the financial crisis has reached such proportions that nothing short of radical and non-capitalist measures can meet it, the Socialist Party has put forward the slogan of a Workers' and Peasants' Socialist Govern-ment to be realised through a United Front of the left parties. So far, however, the Communist

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Editor: John Lawrence

Cevlon Federation Labour called upon all working class organisations to join a protest token strike and 'hartal' (civil dis-The outcome of the strike is well known.

Twenty-one people have been shot, 176 injured and 350 arrested. That is the short and brutal answer of a Government which the British Labour leaders and the Tories have claimed to be a "model of democracy in S.E. Asia"!

It is now absolutely clear that the U.N.P. Government will stop nothing short of military dictatorship to remain in power but (and I cannot emphasise this "but" too much) it cannot do this too much) it cannot do this without relying more and more on the backing of British Imperialism.

Armed intervention of British imperialism on behalf of the decrepit and reactionary Ceylonese capitalists and landlords is inevitable.

The Government has already death penalty for 'trespass' and the right to proscribe organisations "prejudicial to the public safety" are only a few.

WHAT BRITISH LABOUR CAN DO

The N.E.C. and the T.U.C. (who lost no time in protesting against the repressions in East Germany) can and must denounce these brutal and high-handed actions against the Sinhalese workers and peasants. Silence can only mean consent.

So long as British naval units and war planes continue to be stationed in Trincomalee, Koggala and **Negombo** (U.K. military expenditure in Ceylon for 1948, 1949, 1950 was Rs. 128 million), so long will the danger of military police repression remain—and so long too will the "independence" of Ceylon remain a colossal fraud.

A protest is a good thing but it is not enough. British Labour must organise a nationwide campaign for the real independence of Ceylon by demanding now the immediate recall of the British Governor General and the with-drawal of all British naval, military and air forces from

Why I Left the Communist Party ECENT developments * By Hugh Savage *

within the Communist resignation of a number of leading comrades and the rades involved, I am glad of

It was not an easy decision to take. In the ranks of the Com-munist Party are to be found the finest type of class conscious workers one could wish to work with. But it would have been impossible for me to ignore my conscience as a Marxist by a continued association with the bureaucratic type of official now being promoted within the Party.

situation existed wherein certain full time people who had and Glasgow offices and the majority have never been in in-

Party have led to the After 12 years membership of the Glasgow Branch of the Communist Party during which time he served on the District Committee of the Party, the author resigned together with Harry McShane and leading comrades and the other well-known Communist militants in the Glasgow district. suspension of at least two Hugh Savage is an active member of the Plumbing Trades Union others. As one of the com
and was one of the leaders of the great Apprentices Strike in

Glasgow in 1940.

press and the distortions being resent criticism and deliberately made by full-time officials of At the same time they promote political failures and who never criticise and who have no intention of criticising.

That is why they see nothing wrong with omitting to mention at the Scottish Congress of the Party that 103 branches had not bothered to send delegates.

SOME LIES ANSWERED

We were accused of violating a fundamental working class principle by giving statements to the capitalist press. dealing with honest individuals it never been in a factory in their is possible we should not have had lives, were criticising comrades to do this. But when so-called who refused to go into factories Marxists accused us of being a or shipyards irrespective of the "Trotskyite clique" and sent spies or shipyards irrespective of the "Trotskyite clique" and sent spies wages paid. I know most of the to our homes, when they accused full time officials in the Scottish us of taking our differences outside the Party and discussing them, then it was obvious we had to That is the finest gesture we can make on behalf of the martyred workers and peasants of Ceylon.

dustry, never been shop stewards make public where we stood—and and never been involved in any we had to use every available industrial dispute. we had to use every available fact in modern society is the class scientific basis for the working avenue for this purpose.

fact in modern society is the class scientific basis for the working struggle and, as Marxists, it is our class to achieve socialism.

clique", it was reported to the Secretariat that we were part of a group of comrades who had discussed the Scottish Congress during the meal-time break.

The actual truth is that another comrade and myself sacrificed our dinner hour in order to sell "Daily Workers"!

But these lies persist and no British Communist P disciplinary action is taken against at the present time? the liars who spread them.

WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

I am not the least bit pessimistic. I believe that the working class once it learns to apply Marxismwill hasten the end of capitalism. But I feel that all honest comrades who remain in the Communist Party will have to cease being honest and frank discussion, all mystical about it and stop believing in the infallibility of full-time officials.

The most important and dynamic succeed in really establishing a

the Communist Party can do this.

We feel that our stand can only lead to a strengthening of the fight for democracy within the Com-munist Party. Unlike the communist Party. Unlike the com-munist renegades of the past—the Hydes and Darkes—we are not interested in pandering to the filth of the capitalist press in order to improve our own financial posiopinions in your columns. That is why they see nothing opinions of the capitalist press and the distortions being resent criticism and deliberately.

That is why they see nothing opinions in your columns. That is why they see nothing to leading committees instead of spread by the bureaucrats in the allowing the membership to elect them. That is why they bitterly press and the distortions being resent criticism and deliberately.

Let me give one further indications. What we are concerned to not the lies that are being about is that, despite the growing acceptance of marxist leadership throughout the world, the British Communist Party's influence is not communist Party's influence is not constitutions. accused us of being a "Trotskyite growing in a situation where the workers are looking for a lead.

Do not let us be deluded by artificial recruitment campaigns. Experience shows that a political party can only grow when it is leading mass movements and political campaigns. Where and what are the movements which the British Communist Party is leading

Finally. Recent events and developments have shown that our point of view has strong support amongst the rank and file, and we have now discovered that other comrades in Lancashire and London have also resigned on similar grounds to ourselves.

We hope that on the basis o comrades interested in a strength-ening of Marxist thought within the Labour Movement can now

Waste is Wealth

... for the armament Kings

lectured for "wasting and munition makers, the continue" (that is, having a day tractors who supply the food, clothing, footwear and other things. with idlers, gamblers, sharpers, touts and all the rascality that

A section of the organised workers puts in a claim for more wages (previous increases have been more than swallowed by price rises) and, on the same day, the airplanes, ferryships and hotels

__ *By* _ J. S. Grose

are all booked up to capacity by the people who live on rent, interest and profit and who are off to the continent for a few days, weeks or even months holiday.

Agricultural workers ask for a bit more money. The farmers are aghast! Cant' be done. Farming doesn't pay! (if doctors, dentists, Ministers and such-like are buying farms it is only, of course, because they are trying to increase food production as Lord Boyd Orr tells them they should!)

Yet the same day as the farm workers ask for more—the press is full of glowing accounts of some naval or military review where thousands of men, and heaps of material, have been got together to do what? To go through some evolutions which give pleasure to those who have time and nothing better to do than to

Which brings me to this militarist business.

What we spend on armaments in a year would meet all the claims at present being put forward for better working conditions and a higher standard of life.

Think of the thousands—nav tens of thousands—of men and who are not producing but instead are being expensively trained to destroy it!

ARE WE BOY SCOUTS?

Our militarists tell us we must "be prepared". Prepared for what? Oh, in case some other nation, envious of the happy heaven in which we live, might try to take it from us. The bogey man will have us if we don't look out. And the favourite bogeys at the moment are the Russians, the Chinese and the Communists. If you are not prepared, you will go under, say the militarists. Bunk.

All the military geniuses tell us we must have a strong Army, a strong Navy and a strong Air Force. There is wonderful unanimity about it. But the best antidote to this kind of nonsense is to read what these same military geniuses have to say about it after their efforts have reduced whole countries to rubble and after they have slaughtered millions of

THEY'RE NOT MAD

There are, of course, good that than to draft thousands of young productive workers into the army and make them live under martial law which, as the lawyers used to say, is no law at all.

And while all this wasted effort is going on, the workers are told to work harder, produce more, do with less, save more etc., etc., etc. Old Cobbett used to say, "It's the King's Army, the King's Navy, and the King's Government—but it's the National Debt!" that's still true today.

Another reason for the militarist propaganda can be expressed on one word . . . boodle. War and

Read the full report of the debate in the Commons

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THE CENTRAL BOARD FOR CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS, 6 Endsleigh Street, London, W.C.I.

day as miners are being time for the "snapper-up of un-lectured for "wasting". The armament that an army needs are all in the swim. The captains of industry touts and all the rascality that normally congregates in such places.

A section of the organised

PROFITS GALORE

In pursuit of their own interests these people are prepared to do almost anything. Business is busi-ness—and to hell with all other considerations. The more that is spent on the waste of war—the more profits they make. The greater the waste, the greater the wealth-for them!

Some of the militarists are fully aware of these reasons for all the blather about "preparedness". They are quite conscious that the more they can frighten people, the more profits in arms contracts will come their way.

But other militarists are not like that. They are quite honest. They know no better. They are gullible people who are led by the nose. You can even find them You can even find them in the Labour Party!

'The People of the Abyss'

* International Survey of Working Class Housing Conditions *

THROUGHOUT the 19th century, the vile living conditions of England's workers in the infamous East End of London were widely indicted.

Professor Huxley, who as a medical officer knew the East End the way an anthropologist knows primitive tribes, wrote, "Were the alternative presented to me I would deliberately prefer the life of the savage to that of those people of Christian London."

In 1902, the American writer, Jack London, spent the summer in London's East End. He reported what he saw in his book, The People of the Abyss.

The year 1902 was also the heyday of U.S. capitalism. Then the capitalist buccaneers, described in such books as The Robber Barons and America's 60 Families, were building the money empires that still rule this country. Golden tribute from a growing country was ruthlessly appropriated. New Riss spear headed a reform.

filled him with undying hatred. His 25 years as a police reporter on the slum beats reinforced his ambition to cleanse the city of these "dens of death" and "infant and threatening in the slums slaughterhouses", where "the work and threatening the well housed, to arouse civic conscience. New York got the truth for once; and in 1879 the Citizens Council of the slum beats reinforced his ambition to cleanse the city of the well housed, with cholera at the door".

(I) The United States The utter decline of capitalism confronts the international working class most graphically in the deplorable housing conditions which

it offers to the workers in every country of the world. In this series of articles we shall survey housing conditions in many countries of both Europe and the colonial world.

Hilda Smith, an American socialist, starts off the series with some remarks on conditions in the richest of all the capitalist countriesthe United States of America.

proved that in his books, How the fere with 'causes that operate Other Half Lives and The Battle sociologically'." The slum land-of the Slums. Riis, as an immilelords were making 40 per cent. grant boy, lived in those slums. profit, which is a powerful damper The horror he experienced there on sense and conscience, even filled him with undying hatred with cholera at the door".

tribute from a growing country was ruthlessly appropriated; New York was the capital of that empire of gold, its might flaunted there in lavish living.

Riis spear - headed a reform movement he never let rest. He gives us an account of the 50-year battle, beginning in 1857 when those "dens of death" were exposed by a Legislative Committee. But WORST IN THE WORLD by a Legislative Committee. But II.

In 1902 the New York slums then "The wise men had their day were the worst in the world. The and they decided to let bad enough Astor leasehold property. Trinity

great reformer, Jacob A. Riis, alone; that it was unsafe to inter-

the Citizens Council of Hygiene was formed. It had taken vears to win that first small victory, so many and powerful were the profit interests opposing

I was plied with questions about

our nationalised industries and

these German trade unionists were

shocked to discover that the National Union of Railwaymen is

still fighting for a degree of workers control.

enterprise, they have a larger measure of control and consulta-

In Germany, even under private

Church, the wealthiest church corporation in the land and a slum landlord, fought the reform threat

to its source of wealth. The slums were so shameful and threatening that civic conscience was shocked into action; the reformers got backing; some of the

worst tenements were wiped out

under reform administrations.

But after 50 years of unremitting struggle, Riis admitted, "The truth of the matter is that the job is too big for the law alone". He counted on organised labour. The union label of the garment workers was instrumental in wiping out the worst sweat shops in the slums. He wrote, "When the Union label deserves public confidence as a guarantee against such things, it will receive it. On that day the label will be mightier than any

The limited victories led Riis in 1902 to believe that reform methods could whip the problem—perhaps within ten years.

SLUMS REMAIN

Now half a century since 1902, take a look at the New York slums. Take a look at Harlem where the "dens of death" and "infant slaughterhouses" are still going strong. New York has done more than most cities about housing reform. But reform could not keep up with the spread of the Demolished in one area, they spring up in others, fed by the need, ever-increasing, for low-rent worker dwellings. That need rent worker dwellings. That need finds always profit-hungry ex-

Organised labour has never fulfilled the expectations of Jacob Riis. On paper, it has the correct programme — large-scale public housing. Until it is implemented with organised action, it will remain largely on paper. Meanwhile the slums are doing their vile job on another generation of workers' children.

£2.10.0 a Room!

Many workers in this coun-

Socialism is Indestructible NOR his many years of natural light, and fresh air must and discuss with the Shop Stewards of nearly two million, is the

A Report On Germany

From John Lawrence

concentration camp. Hitler's thugs failed to break

his Socialist spirit.

of the Social Democratic Party. A big, jovial German working tion and bureaucracy inside the point. Labour Movement.

have suffered cruelly for their beliefs—and they are once more appearing on the German political scene as a force which, sooner or later, will change the whole course of European and world history.

My short visit to Cologne this summer was made possible through the generosity of Willi Poetz (and his daughter and son-Poetz (and his daugnter and only in-law, also active left-wing Socialists) at whose house in a workers' suburb I stayed. And and they compare favourably with of its own resources.

Wages are roughly introductions made for me our own municipal housing. Rents our own municipal housing. Wages are roughly unskilled the same as in ours, although unskilled the same as in ours, although unskilled the same as in ours, although the same as in ours, although unskilled the same as in ours, although unskilled the same as in ours, although unskilled the same as in ours, although the same as in ours, although the same as in our own municipal housing. by this comrade I was able, in my also were about the same as in short stay in Germany, to get England. A three-roomed flat or some little insight into the problems facing our German fellow marks a month—or 25s. a week. workers today.

dealt with all my many questions City Council is a prominent sharereasons for the panic propaganda of the militarists. They want to keep the working class disciplined, and there is no better way to do the workers' housing conditions. he workers' housing conditions.

> incessant shelling and bombing by the advancing American troops in 1945. The destruction was appalling. Nothing like it happened in Britain—as bad as that was in some of our bigger cities.

> The pre-war population of 778,000, was reduced by air-raid casualties and evacuations to 40,000 in 1945.

At the end of the war there was virtually no living accommodation at all in Cologne. It was just a heap of rubble in the cellars of

workers have now been re-housed in new dwellings—but there are urgent priority housing list. I so bitterly opposed to visited some of the air-raid militarism and re-armament. shelters ("bunkers" as they are called) — great concrete boxes divided up into cells, 7ft. by 14ft.

Again through my good from the control of the co

ivided up into cells, 7ft. by 14ft. Again through my good friend They are completely without Willi Poetz, I was enabled to visit

Socialist activity, from 1918 onwards, Willi Poetz

Tologne speet to purpose is terrible in these tiny

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Tologne speet to purpose is terrible in the purpos of Cologne spent ten years—rooms in which live families of from 1935 to 1945—in a Nazi ticelly new existent. But tically non-existent.

Preparing food, cooking and washing-up is all done in communal kitchens—two coal-burning Today he fights on the Left stoves serve the needs of no less understand the misery that in-volves—and why the working class women I met in these "burlet" stewards present —and all except one (a Com-munist) were members of the Social Democratic Party and man hating capitalism and women I met in these "bunkers" I soon discovered detesting all forms of corrup-looked strained almost to breaking were on the Left.

Since the introduction of a State Law giving the unions certain rights of participation in management, the trade unions have their own offices inside the factory—and that is where we met.

There were 12 stewards present

It should be understood, how-Labour Movement.

There are thousands of workers in Germany—men who have studied Marxism and who come from the ruins into the members or supporters of the baye suffered cruelly for their

Wages are roughly similar to ours, although unskilled workers

tend to get less than in Britain. But hours of work are longer—

The unions are organised on an

industrial (and not a craft) basis.

Everyone in this factory (7,000

workers) was organised into the same union, the Metal Workers Union which, with a membership

tion than exists in our nationalised industries. POLITICAL VIEWS

The oustanding political questions in Germany today are, of course, re-armament and re-unification. The first is absolutely opposed by the working class. The second is absolutely supported but only by peaceful means.

These workers told me that they have no confidence in the Communist leaders of Eastern Ger-many—but they understand very well that the East has a nationalised economy and they want to preserve it and extend it to the West. For this reason-because it will assist in the creation of a Socialist United Germany—they from the point of view of finance are fully in favour of unity and free elections.

> In concluding this very brief Poetz, "the workers have the same report, I want to say this.

> class solidarity. They urged me to get shop stewards in England to fight the oppressors of the intersend delegations to factories in Germany and then exchange the like in the hope of carrying

try cannot accept new Council houses because of the high rents being charged. It is the same in the United States— New York has now decided to clear away some of its worst slums—but the new flats it will

build on the old sites will cost more than £2 10s. per room per week! Assuming four rooms for an average family, that means a weekly rent of

Not even the best paid American workers will be able to get anywhere near such an exorbitant rent.

problems in all countries, and, when they realise that, no capital-All the workers I spoke to (and spoke to many) were devoted to ist propagandists will ever again the idea of international working prevail upon them to fight each

It is in the hope of carrying visits.

And they want these things British Labour Movement that I because, in the words of Willi have written this report.

Pictured above is Dresden, Germany, on the morning of February 14, 1945, when after Europe's worst raid of the war unidentified bodies were heaped up on girders in the street and burnt. A Swiss estimate of the casualties was between 250,000 and 300,000. The city's population of 650,000 was swollen to almost double by refugees fleeing from the advancing allied armies.

"bunkers" only stay there a few Social Democracy. However, this months before they are found proper housing accommodation. "rom the point of view of finance

I saw some of the new houses which it must provide entirely out

Cologne, having a Tory Coun-I was able, for example, to cil, there is practically no municispeak with members of the Social pal housing. The Council (and Democratic faction of the Cologne City Council (Cologne has a rates of interest to private builders Christian Democrat majority), and and private landlords to erect I must thank them once again for workers dwellings. There are also the patient way in which they Luilding Societies in which the

rades that when Germany gets a Social Democratic Government The old Cologne no longer they will introduce a plan for a exists. It was almost totally State and Municipal Housing destroyed in the mass British Scheme throughout the country bombing raids of 1943 and the and take steps to curb the powers of the landowners and landlords.

Destruction of school buildings was almost as bad as housing. Of Cologne's 159 elementary schools all but 16 were totally destroyed in the war-and all these 16 were heavily damaged.

Small wonder that the average size of classes is 60—and teachers and children must attend school in shifts.

It was pointed out to me that the the cost of building sufficient schools to accommodate Germany's

It is just one more reason why still some 96,000 families on the all the workers in Germany are

which—and in the air-raid shelters which—and in the air-raid shelters children would be $2\frac{1}{2}$ milliards of marks. A large sum—yet Germany pays every year for the cost of the Allied Occupation and the European Defence Community workers have now been re-housed

THE TRADE UNIONS

Military Censors in Kenya Why Malaya Fights

Journalists in East Africa are concerned about the military's control of news of Mau Mau.

Members of the National Union of Journalists working on the "East African Standard" have appointed a sub-committee to raise the question with the top military and Croydon Trades Council political leaders in the Colony as soon as possible.

member described it at a recent

All information on this subject is now channelled through General Headquarters, East Africa", says a report in the "Journalist", the National Union of Journalist National Union of Journalists paper published in London. "And there is grave suspicion that apart from the destruction of personal contacts established by newsmen. not all details of certain incidents are provided.

Earlier complaints by East African members of the Union were reported some time ago in

Manchester.



Dublin Unemployed

I hope the "Socialist Outlook" will not let the opportunity pass J. Mitchell. by of commenting on the brutal treatment now being meted out to the unemployed workers of

These workers are being attacked by the so-called Christian Government which talks about the "unity of Ireland". The "Outlook" must bring home to the Irish workers in this country that batons are just as hard whether they are green or orange in colour.

It is high time the Irish working class started to fight for the economic freedom of Irelandotherwise that part of Ireland called the Republic will become just a holiday camp for the rich, while the youth of Ireland will have been driven to England (or any other country that will have them) to seek work.

F. O'Connor. Birkenhead.

Women in Asia

I recently attended (as a delegate) the inaugural meeting of the British-Asia Fellowship and I found the interest in this new venture most heart-warming.

I was very pleased to see a lady on the platform representing Malaya, and she made an excellent My only regret is that she declined to be nominated as Vice-President—perhaps on the grounds that she would be in this country only for six months.

I feel, however, that with the great work being done by women all over Asia in the new awakening to their country's problems, a woman on the committee would have been invaluable. Further-more, it would have been far to have someone on the committee who was in constant touch with the problems of his or her country than someone who has settled here permanently and is therefore bound to be somewhat out of touch with the ever-changing struggles now going on in Asia

(Mrs.) Roshan Horabin.

NAME....



Calls Conference

The executive committee "A virtual military dictatorship" Croydon Trades Council have Open air meetings are to be over the dissemination of Mau approved arrangements for the held when possible, and trade Mau news was how one union calling of a delegate conference with the conference and the conference with the conference with the conference and the conference with the conference and the conference with the conference with the conference and the conference and the conference are conference and the conference and the conference are conference and the conference and the conference are conference are conference and the conference are conference and the conference are conference are conference and the conference are conference are conference and the conference are calling of a delegate conference, unions are being asked to coto discuss the effects of the cuts in Social, Educational, Cultural

> on Saturday, September 19, in the Stanley Hall, South Norwood, 3 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.

> All trade union branches in the Croydon area will be invited to send delegates. Delegates are also expected from the Croydon Labour Party and Co-operative Guilds.

To strengthen and broaden the scope of the conference, invitations to send delegates will also be sent Frank Allaun, out to numerous other bodies, usually associated with the Labour and trade union movement.

Conference will be followed I should like to thank Fred with a social and dance for Emmett, your industrial corredelegates and friends.

Press Officer.

Liverpool's Youth

the Labour Party League of Youth is organising a series of propaganda and recruiting "blitzs" on selected factories in the Mersey-

The factories are to be specially selected by the survey committees which have been set up by most sion Committee in order that the Leagues throughout the area, and rule excluding communists from who are carrying out a check on holding office could be re-con-the possibilities, number of young sidered. The resolution was ruled workers employed, are these out of order by workers organised in a union, and Orders Committee

membership recruiting campaign.

The information obtained by the survey committees is being supplied to the Federation who then select a certain factory or group of factories as a target for a concentrated canvass by the members of Leagues throughout of the area.

operate.

The aim is to enrol young trade unionists into the League of Youth, and encourage those young factory workers who are not members of a union to enrol in their appropriate union.

It is hoped by means of this concerted action to bring about a big increase in the membership political influence of the Labour League of Youth Liverpool

John G. Marsh. Liverpool



Accurate Reporting

spondent, for his reporting (in your issue of July 17) of my Branch protest at the Transport and General Workers Biennial Delegate Conference. Here's wishing your paper all the success it The Merseyside Federation of deserves for its truthful and

Haves (Middsx.)

Note: Bro. Evans was the delegate whose branch asked Conference to instruct the Executive Council to recall the Rules Revi-The resolution was ruled these out of order by the Standing

.... and why General Templer won't win

few years to the military situation in Malaya.

What we don't read about so often is the appalling conditions under which the people of Malaya live under British rule. The poverty and hardships suffered by a people doubly exploited—by imperialism and their own landlords, have been carefully con-cealed, lest the British people should become aware of the real reasons why our troops are in Malaya.

Commenting on a report on rice production just published in Malaya, the "Manchester Guardian" of July 28, admits: "For years Malayan Government officials have asserted that the problem of a peasant population in the grip of extortionate landlords, so common in most of Asia, was virtually non-existent Now it appears that for the past ten years a steady process of evicting rice cultivators unable pay increased rents for their land has been going on in many (My emphasis, B.S.).

All these abuses, according to the report, have been going on for years without the Malayan authorities being even aware of it. They are probably far too busy organising the fight against "com-

controlled at a ceiling of one-third ism. of the crop. (The "Manchester Guardian" suggests that even this is too high); that fertiliser should intensify the terror campaign and not to produce dollars for the be subsidised and that more money against the Malayan people. Un- City of London.

deal of space in the past technical schemes in the rice-grow-threatening them with starvation.

"Unfortunately"

What sheer hypocrisy! Tens of spent annually on the slaughter of the people of Malaya, whose only crime is that they want to free

By **Bill Soames**

But there's no money available to make life a little more tolerable for the peasants.

this report. Perhaps, then, he will ing with? The Malayans are understand why he gets no help from the people of Malaya; why they want him and his armies to get out of their country and leave and rich merchants in their own defied a erial bombardments,

munism" to concern themselves to Malaya to understand the prob-with the conditions of the peasants. lems of the people. His job is to threats of General Templer. From some of the recommenda- crush the national movement, to tions made in the report, one gets a picture of just how little the of the rubber plantations and tin people have benefited from British mines and to make sure that rule in Malaya. It proposes, for Malaya keeps up her dollar earn-example, that land rents should be ings, so vital for British imperial-

His answer to the situation is to

No. 13. The Shop Assistants Struggle

THE capitalist press in this should be allocated for improving able to frighten them with bombs country has given a great communications and for other and imprisonment, Templer is now

> On August 5, General Templer wails the issued an "ultimatum" "Guardian", "all the essential 4,000 inhabitants of Sunegi Palek, reforms . . . need a good deal of an isolated village in Central money and skilled personnel, and Malaya. He warned them that if both are short in this period of falling prices and world demand for technicians".
>
> The warned them that if they do not co-operate (with the forces of imperialism), all agricultural land and small rubber holdings around the village will be closed and put out of bounds. thousands of pounds are being Troops surrounded the village and told the villagers to remain indoors until questionnaires on local "terrorists" are answered.

> "I visited you on July 17", states the General in his ultimatum, "and told you that you had until August 17 to co-operate fully with the Government. If you do not their country from foreign rule. But there's no money available to punishment.

> What sort of people does General Templer should read General Templer think he is dealfighting against imperialist rule. They are fighting for the right to be free. For seven years they have held out against the armed might them to settle with their landlords of the British Empire. They have deportation, imprisonment the foul weapons of the imperialist But Templer was not sent out terror. Such a people will not be to Malaya to understand the prob-

Freed from imperialist bondage, the people of Malava will be able to re-organise their economic life so that never again will the rice peasant be subject to the exploitation of the landlord. The wealth of Malaya will be used for the benefit of the people of Malaya

Labour's History

John Lewis Girls Defeat 'Feudalism'

THEN I first organised ment Benefit in one week; and workers in the City, ants out of work. as Secretary of the London Wholesale Textile Branch of Workers who volunteered for Textile known as "City Lighthouses".

as late as nine, ten and even with the trade". eleven, several nights a week, alternatively, face the threat of and Porters. unemployment.

In Glasgow alone there were 500,000 unemployed and in London, S.W.1. been paid out in Unemploy- effect,

Wholesale Textile there were 13,000 Shop Assist-

In 1914, Wholesale Textile the Shop Assistants' Union, in Active Service were told that their November 1918, the Wholesale jobs would be kept open for them. Warehouses were But when they returned to "Civvy Street", and asked for the fulfil-ment of that promise, they were Their unfortunate staffs, on told that their places had been their return from World War filled by women at lower wages, One, were compelled to work and that in four years' Active Service they must have "lost touch

All the employers could offer without overtime pay, for was a wage of 30s. for experienced miserable pittances ranging Saesmen, Clerks, and Warehousefrom 18s. to 30s. per week, or men, with lower rates for Packers

'OLE . . . "

effect, "Sorry, old man, but we trades, where an equal slavery can't afford to pay more; we don't formerly existed. really need you as your place has been filled by a woman. Have a walk round and see if you can do After tramping wearily round the City and meeting with a similar patriotic reception everywhere—the Employers being members of their Trade Union and the Workers being unorganised as they had been afraid to join a Trade Union—these unfortunate victims of "Patriotism on the Home Front" were compelled to return to wage-slavery.

NO "EQUALITY OF SACRIFICE"

The inability of the poverty-56 textile firms made a total profit of £2,032,512—an average approximate profit of £36,294 for each firm. In 1918, these profits increased to a total of £4,527,653 or an approximate average of £80,850 for each firm. Then as now, there was no equal pay, and the employers could always rely upon a reservoir of cheap female bare subsistence level of existence. —a pillar of strength to its

OUR UNION'S ACHIEVEMENTS

When I first suggested to "City Lighthouse Workers" that our Union could obtain a minimum wage of 50s. for a 44-hour week, with overtime pay, they derided this modest objective as a mad "Utopian dream". Subsequently, however, we obtained an Agree-ment covering 30,000 wholesale textile workers, for a minimum

> The fight against the 'Living-in' system described for you by

Percy Allott

wage of 80s. per week of 44 hours, with adequate overtime pay, and "IF YOU KNOW OF A BETTER many other concessions including the abolition of the iniquitous The agreed formula to welcome lying-in system. Moreover, the U.S.D.A.W. has greatly improved Moreover, the London in 1919, £500,000 had these returning heroes was, in conditions in the retail distributive

TRADE UNION PIONEERS'

Holborn's "dispossessed" and was victimised for his Trade Unionism; Henry Solomons, who nearly stood with me in the Mansion House Dock, for the "crime" of distributing Trade Union literature within stricken wholesale textile firms to the sacred City boundaries: C. R. pay a living wage is well illustrated by the following figures: In 1914, 56 textile firms made a total profit christian Socialism: with Fred Archer, Harry Meek, and others whose souls go marching on. They laid the foundations of the City beautiful destroyed.

JOHN LEWIS GIRLS VANQUISH DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES FEUDALISM

Our Amalgamated Union the labour, and the fear of unemploy- U.S.D.A.W. is now one of the ment, to keep wages down to a six biggest Unions in the world

tion of non-members who reap mum rates.

rights as British citizens.

I shall never forget the dauntless "strike de-luxe". spirit shown by the girl strikers who fought because John Lewis broke an Agreement he had signed for minimum wage rates ranging the determination not to enter from 22s. 6d. at 16 to 72s. 6d. at again John Lewis's feudal strong-

SACRIFICES

Our "Utopian ideals" were largely realised because of the heroic sacrifices of the Shop Assistants' Union City District Committee—Arthur Pratt, hero of the Truck Act victory; Dick Rowe who fought valiantly in that dispute; Arthur Paul, who lit the torch of liberty in Shoreditch; A. E. (Bob) Hunter, who fought for Holborn's "dispossessed" and was and the firm, and that employees should be allowed to leave the premises during meal hours. The belief of the justice of their cause, and decide that no one shall return to work at John Lewis's."

They kept that pledge; found better iobs and by their gallant ting of the Agreement and other points at issue, and retire firm in the belief of the justice of their cause, and decide that no one shall return to work at John Lewis's."

They kept that pledge; found better iobs and by their gallant ting of the Agreement and other points at issue, and retire firm in the belief of the justice of their cause, and decide that no one shall return to work at John Lewis's."

They kept that pledge; found better iobs and by their gallant work at john Lewis's."

They kept that pledge; found better iobs and by their gallant ing of the Agreement and other points at issue, and retire firm in the belief of the justice of their cause, and decide that no one shall return to work at John Lewis's."

They kept that pledge; found better iobs and work at John Lewis's."

members and the economic salva- with bonus, more than the mini-

where they have not sown. But the emancipation of Shop Assistants has not been won without tremendous sacrifices by the active Trade Unionists.

They overcame the "feudalism" they threatened with eviction the fertial drapery trade employers of retail drapery trade employers. of retail drapery trade employers girls who lived-in. But the Union like the late John Lewis of Oxford countered this by finding the Street, as well as the "slave-strikers food, board and lodgings, mentality" engendered in their and they increased their strike pay. own fellow shop assistants by the Thanks to the support of the pubfoul living-in system which de- lic and the generosity of fellow prived its victims of their basic Trade Unionists, the strike became, in some respects, almost a

VICTORY

At the end of six weeks they with the Shop Assistants' Union retired unbroken in spirit and with 28 years of age for salesmen, and hold, expressed in this declaration:
18s. at 16 to 58s. at 28 years of age for saleswomen. "This meeting representing 400 of the employees of John Lewis & The Agreement also stipulated Co. resolved to direct the Union that a committee should be to now declare the strike off. At appointed to control living-in conditions and for those desiring to live-in, elected from the workers and the firm and that employees of the Agreement and other points

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