FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 1954

The Crisis in **Br. Honduras Explained**

(See article p. 2)

MORE TORY ATTACKS O

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper]

THE Labour Government | hundred added Regulation 68CB to the Defence Regulations. This gave local authoriworkers in property where accommodation was available if the householder or tenant wished either to sublet or to take in lodgers.

If the landlord objected, or even if there was any provision to the contrary, in any lease or tenancy between the landlord and house-holder, the local authority was able to grant permission. The local authority entered "the accompany of the company of the co commodation and terms in the

Thousands of these registered lettings were agreed to through-out the country, especially in the towns, during the term of the Labour Government. On 7th December, 1952, Regulation

Change of Address

The new address of Socialist Outlook to which all correspondence should be addressed is

59 Fleet St., E.C.4

68CB was revoked by the Tories, but accommodation already registered by local authorities under still remained the Regulation,

The Tory Minister of Housing and Local Government has re-cently (12th Feb.) issued Circular now their obvious intention—to 10/54, which warns Councils that smash the whole structure of the the Regulation is to be completely Rent Acts. revoked by December, 1954.

Whereas the Regulation (Paragraph 4) had stated categorically that the householder was protected by law against actions by land-lords for breach of covenant, the Circular states just as explicitly, that there will be no legal protection when Regulation 68CB is that there will be no legal protec-tion when Regulation 68CB is revoked. Accordingly, the tenants concerned "may become respon-sible to their landlords for breaches of the terms under which they hold their tenancies."

SUB-TENANTS' DANGER

In short, the householders are likely to find themselves outside the protection of the Rents Acts should they permit registered subtenants to remain after December

Provision for this action to be taken is made in the Housing Repairs and Rents Bill (clause 36). In explaining the clause the Circular is quite explicit and states that if the clause is accepted by Parliament, the occupants of registered lettings still existing when the Regulation is revoked will not enjoy security of tenure under the Rent Restriction Acts.

The obvious purpose is to allow the fixing of a **higher** standard rent for the whole dwelling. This is admitted in clause 36 of the Rents Bill which declares that the Rents Acts will not apply to registered lettings until there is a subsequent letting after a "fresh standard rent" has been imposed (my emphasis).

To protect themselves from eviction, tenants must inform their registered sub-tenants to find alternative accommodation as soon as possible and certainly no later than December.

With thousands on the waiting lists of local authorities where are the new homeless to find alternative accommodation? In Lambeth, for example, there are two struggle, but before the Engineer-

registered About 750 new units of accommodation are being built this year and there are nearly 10,000 families on the waiting list. Local ties extra powers to house authorities will consequently have yet another burden put on to them which may be impossible to solve.

> The revocation of Regulation 68CB, required so as to fulfil just one clause of the Housing Repairs and Rents Bill indicates one of the main objectives of the Bill. The Rent Restriction Acts are under attack.

MORE EXAMPLES

Not only are the Rents Acts amended in this respect, but in Clause 28 of the Bill, lettings by local authorities, development corporations, housing associations and trusts are excluded from the Rent Acts. For example, working class families living in Peabody and Guinness Trust buildings, with 6 months of the passing of the Act have no protection ("shall not be entitled...to retain possession as a statutory tenant"). These families can be evicted or have their rents increased without even the conditions laid down in the other parts of the Bill (biassed though they are in favour of the landlords).

More than ever is it necessary for the N.E.C. and Parliamentary Labour Party to take the fight against the Bill from the House of Commons and mobilise the opposition of the entire labour movement including labour-controlled Local Authorities. If the Bill becomes an Act it will strengthen the Tories in what is

Cllr. D. Finch

German Workers Oppose Rearmament **British Labour MUST Support Them**

Opinion organisation recently asked this simple question of 1,500 young West Germans. Seventy-one per cent. answered . . . No!

In the German Labour Movement today anybody who wants to retain the slightest influence must publicly voice opposition to both German re-armament and the so-called "European Defence Com-munity". For this reason, Herr

O you want to be a ference of the Socialist Interna-soldier? A Public contains which debated E.D.C. and German Re-armament.

> Only those who have been taken in by fifteen years of anti-German propaganda will be surprised at the existence in West Germany of a mass working class opposition to capitalist militarism. Those who know the true history of German Labour will not be surprised at

HISTORICAL REMINDER

They will know that the care-Ollenauer, the leader of the German Social Democrats (Labour)
Party defied all pressures and cast his vote against at the recent Concording to the Congenital fascist thug was a

man workingman as some sort of

no longer be relied upon to keep peace between Capital and Labour, the Krupps and the Thyssens of German industry financed Hitler's gangs of middleclass hooligans, trained them and let them loose on the great Labour Movement. The German workers were, in fact, the first victims of German

By the Editor

piece of war propaganda pure and

Since the end of the First World War, the German workers twice took up arms—in 1918 and again in 1923—to overthrow the hated German industrialists. Having realized that Parliament could be longer by a realized that the second warms and the second warms.

in a disastrous war, poverty, death and destruction, German Labour has arisen again. And, as if to confound all those "socialists" who preached hatred of the Germans as such, German Labour is today right in the forefront of the struggle against world reaction's dastardly attempt to unite all its forces—American, British, French and German—in a war to win back for capitalist exploitation, Russia, China, and the countries of Eastern Europe, including Eastern Germany, which have been torn from the plundering rule of private capital.

The East German workers-despite their expressed hostility to the dictatorial regime have shown absolutely no desire to exchange a planned economy for the insecurity of the profit-making system. Adenauer's 'liberation' forces—if ever they are permitted to march—will be bitterly resisted by Germans in Eastern Germany!

In the West, the workers are flatly opposed to the creation of a capitalist army of 'liberation'.

A BETRAYAL

Seen against this background, support by British Labour for the re-arming of German capital is, first of all, a gross betrayal of our fellow workers in Germany.

It is a rejection of unity with the German workers in favour of unity with the German capitalists. It is a murderous violation of international working-class solidarity in favour of support for international capitalist reaction.

For, make no mistake about it, despite differences of opinion among French capitalists, the men of property, the industrialists and the bankers of all the Western Powers are in favour of German

All of them are united because all of them fear the revolution which since the end of World War Two, has broken out of the distorting straight-jacket of an iso-lated Soviet Union, spread to China, S. E. Asia and Eastern Europe and now presses relent-lessly on the bankrupt capitalist economies of France, Italy and Britain. 🗫

It was not Stalin, nor is it Malenkov, who planned this extension of the revolution. It is, primarily, the utter inability of "private enterprise" to offer the workers, either at home or in the colonies, anything except wars and the preparations for wars.

Opposition to the re-armament of Adenauer's Government is obligatory on all socialists. But to defeat the reactionary plans of Eisenhower and Churchill (of which German Re-armament is but a part) it is necessary that our opposition be now extended into a vigorous resistance to **British** re-armament, for Churchill's guns point East as well.

-here's one of the reasons whu!

The ancient city of Cologne after British 'saturation' bombing | Now, after twenty long years of



Lessons of the E.T.U. Strike

Victory—But at a Price

LECTRICIANS employed in the contracting industry have obtained a 2d. an hour increase and the employers have dropped their

In a large measure, of course, the success of the strike, the uncertainty as to the fulfillment of the employers contracts and the weakening of many small contractors, some of whom had signed agreements with the E.T.U., was responsible. But there is another reason.

ENGINEERS' CLAIM AT STAKE TOO

The electrical contractors were in the front line of the employers effort to defeat the Engineering Wages claim of 15 per cent, which would have been greatly influenced by any increase made to the contracting electricians.

They received the full support of the Engineering employers. have a fellow feeling for you said Sir Percy Mills, engineering boss, and this "comradely" relationship was obviously cemented by more tangible financial sup-

ing Union had reached a final de- self absolved from the same cision, would induce, not only the criticism, although of course it

infamous proposal to reduce Engineering Unions but all other demonstrated in comparably overtime rates. This victory unions with wage claims pending, greater fighting spirit. overtime rates. This victory unions with wage claims pending, to accept the shabby minimum recommended by the Court of Ensured Supply sections of the E.T.U., who

 $-B_{\mathbf{V}}$ An E.T.U. Member

ployers as a whole were prepared to pay to defeat the claim for 15 per cent., the real stake involved strike.

ployers, together with the Tory Government, have manoeuvred with consummate skill and class solidarity. The same cannot be said of the T.U.C. and the Engineering Unions.

They left the E.T.U.'s contract-

tenants to remain after December of this year. The sub-tenants will not be covered by the Rents Acts either, should they continue in occupation.

Why did it take the employers Thus the increase, which will cost the Contracting Employers and whose active assistance could messages of support, so much so only £15,000 per week in increased agreed to terms which the Union agreed to terms which the Union occupation.

Thus the increase, which will than the contracting electricians, and whose active assistance could messages of support, so much so only £15,000 per week in increased agreed to terms which the Union agreed to terms which the Union occupation.

While the E.T.U. confined the dered that sympathetic action by the other unions was merely confined to sites affected by the strike.

Trade Unions and Labour Movement."

It is clear that, in complete constrike

In the contracting electricians' dispute.

SOME LESSONS

Since the first phase of the industrial battle which was opened by the threat of a national rail strike in December, 1953, the employers the contracting electricians' and the E.T.U. enlarged the strike, they would also have provoked the T.U.C. into citing this as "evidence" of a "Communist attempt to disrupt the economy of the nation."

RANK AND FILE FIRM

Yet the real answer to all these hesitations was shown by the amazing rank and file response to the E.T.U.'s strike action.

From the contracting electri-They left the E.T.U.'s contracting electricians to engage in an isolated battle, and called off the ban on overtime and piecework, to enter the Court of Enquiry, at the very time when the E.T.U. was counting on the support of the big T.U. battalions.

Nor is the E.T.U. leadership itcians themselves whose discipline

themselves one hundred per cent. with the E.T.U.'s fight.

SUPPORT FROM OTHER **UNIONS** Whilst the Beaverbrook and

Rothermere press were pouring out their vicious slanders, trade unionists from all sections donated the staggering sum of £1,231 2s. 7d. to the E.T.U. strike fund.

The E.T.U. was flooded by merely asked to give financial last week of the strike published assistance.

Survey financial last week of the strike published five pages of messages and donations, and added. . . . "The volume strike to a small section of its membership it can hardly be won-

trast to the Right Wing T.U.

■ Continued on page 4

German Rearmament is PROFITABLE

War Stocks Rise in West Germany

War stocks are a good investment in West Germany today. Here is a selection of prices of the stocks of several firms engaged on re-armament projects:

	July 24, 1953	Sept. 30, 1953	Jan. 28, 1954
IG Farben	89.50	99.70	141.50
Siemens Electric	109.50	134.00	151.00
AEG Electric	86.25	109.00	119.00
Kloeckner Steel	198.00	258.50	279.00

'Whenever a subject people rises, the Tories invoke the Communist bogey'

The Crisis in British Honduras Explained

Tories are concerned. This the U.S.A. and Canada. "Gauleiters" are busy preparing the fire to cook up another constitutional crisis in British Honduras

At the beginning of 1950, the British Government devalued the Honduran dollar, which enjoyed parity with the U.S.

Central American Colony of British Honduras, we can anticipate coming events. As a first step, there is to be a post-Election on the basis of universal adult suffrage, and a onecrime" to fit the punishment.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Honduras is the largest British colony in the Caribbean area. It view to brin is located on the Atlantic side of Honduras Central America and area of 8,598 square miles—nearly twice the size of Jamaica. But, unlike Jamaica, which is the largest island in the West Indian group, with a population of 1,400,000, British Honduras is very sparsely populated. The inhabitants number 60,000, fewer than 7 persons to the square mile. They represent a medley of races— European, African and Amerin-

white, the overwhelming majority on the over-all economy. There is a considerable amount of mixed blood resulting intermarriage Negroes, Maya and Carib Indians, as well as Spaniards from the neighbouring Latin American republics of Guatemala and Mexico.

Like most of the non-self-evolution. governing territories in the Western hemisphere, British Honduras has had a chequered history. It was originally settled by Spaniards in the 16th century. But about the middle of the 17th century, British merchant adventurers from Jamaica, attracted by the promise of great wealth to be made out of logwood and mahogany, established a number of settlements along the Honduran

The Spaniards made repeated attempts to expel these settlers who, gradually annexed all the territor around Belize, the present capital This led to sparodic warfare be-tween the "Baymen," as the British settlers were called, and the Spanish colonists. The conflict only ended after the break-up of the Spanish Empire in the New World and the emergence of independent Central American republics in the early 19th century.

Thanks to the Royal Navy, the maritime shield of the Monroe Doctrine, behind which the new Latin American nations sought protection, Britain consolidated her grip upon British Honduras, was formally Crown Colony in 1862.

TIMBER ECONOMY

The economy of the country is entirely dependent upon the export of timber—mahogany, cedar and rosewood. For over 200 years, until the manufacture of synthetic dves, foreign concessionaires made fortunes from the export of log-

Next in importance to the export of timber, is chicle, the gum of the Sapodilla tree, used in making chewing gum, an essential American comfort, for children and adults alike!

With the entire economy of the country geared to the maximum exploitation of its vast forest re-

Socialist Outlook

59 FLEET STREET, E.C.4.

Editor: John Lawrence

THERE is never smoke sources, agriculture has been badly without fire in the Colowithout fire in the Colo-nies, especially where the Honduras has to be imported from

sending up the cost of living to In the case of British Guiana, the British people were presented with a fait accompli. But in John Bull's as the value of exports fell and there were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accompliate the case of British people were presented with a fait accomplisation of British people were presented with a fait accomplisation of British people there was a corresponding cut in

The monetary policy imposed upon the Colony by the Colonial Office provoked widespread poliponement of the first General tical resentment and had the effect of arousing anti-British feeling. As a gesture of appeasement and man "Commission" has been appointed to discover the the Honduran Government out of to save the country from economic the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund. Since then, efforts have been made by the Colonial Development Corporation to esta-Next to British Guiana, British blish a number of agricultural and animal-husbandry projects, with a view to bringing about in British more covers an national economy. Some of these

NEXT WEEK

The Egyptian Crisis by Mahmoud

experiments have proved very costly and have not met with the gree of intensity that the Govern-Less than 5 per cent. are pure have made little or no impact

DEVELOPMENT REVIEWED

various stages of constitutional and 3 nominated members drawn exclusively from the English mercantile and business community of

After British Honduras was declared a Crown Colony in 1862, it was made a dependency of Jamaica, under Governor subor Lieutenant Governor subordinate to the Governor of the West Indian Eight years later, British Honduras recovered its separate status and the Legislative Assem-

* By George Padmore *

The well-known African author and journalist, and recognised authority on colonial affairs, gives "Socialist Outlook" readers the facts behind the British Honduras crisis—and explains significance for British Imperialism.

The Legislature will consist of 3 Guiana, they were supposed to be ex-officio members—senior British consort with Communists behind the Iron Curtain countries tary, Attorney - General, and Financial Secretary; 3 unofficial members nominated by the Governor; and 9 unofficial members in more convenient to use Guatemala as the "villain" behind the P.U.P. bers elected by popular vote.

Council consisting of 5 officials and 4 nominated unofficials apand 4 nominated upointed by the Lieutenant Governor, who presided over the

The next change took place in 1892, when the number of cio members-senior British civil servants-was reduced from 5 to 3 and the unofficial side of the Council increased by one, from 4 to 5. The principle of elected membership based upon income and property qualifications and literacy test was only conceded in 1936, when the Council was once more modified to contain, besides cials and 7 unofficials, of whom were elected.

As a result of the labour unrest and widespread riots throughout the Caribbean during 1936-1937, which led to the appointment of a Royal Commission, the Constitution was again amended in 1938 and 1945 by increasing the elected members of the Council from 5 to But since the voting qualifications remained unchanged, the workers, who had become more politically conscious and had started to organise, were still excluded from the vote.

By the end of the War, nationalist feeling had reached such a dement was forced to pay attention to the economic and social de-mands of the workers and the popular clamour for self-government.

During the war, hundreds of The crisis facing British Honducoloured workers had been ras is primarily political. Like its brought to the U.K. as lumber-sister Coribbean actions. sister Caribbean colonies, British Honduras has passed through tions factories and served in the forces, especially the R.A.F. It was originally ad-by a Legislative these repatriates reinforced the their return to British Honduras, Assembly composed of 18 elected political and labour movements, which united to demand the introduction of a democratic Consti-

POPULAR DEMANDS

In response to this popular demand, a deputation of unofficial members of the Legislative Council visited London in the summer of 1947 to present the peoples demands to the Labour Govern-Among them were the



George Padmore

income qualifications for voters adult suffrage without a literacy test be introduced;

- That the elected membership this, be increased to constitute a majority in the Legislative Council:
- That a Speaker replace the Governor as President of the
- That the life of the Council be increased from 3 to 5 years:
- That the Executive Council or Cabinet be reconstructed to provide for an unofficial majority elected by the Legislative Council with the right of control over Government departments.
- Complete reform of local government, based upon popularly elected membership.

A Commission was appointed in 1948 to enquire into constitutional reforms and make recommendations. It reported in 1951, and as a result a new Constitution was approved by the British Government in January, 1953.

THE NEW CONSTITUTION

The Constitution, for which a General Election was to be held on April 23, provides for a Legis-lative Council with an unofficial bly was replaced by a Legislative 1. That the existing property and majority presided over by a

Speaker appointed by the made against Dr. Jagan and other Governor from outside. leaders of the P.P.P. of British

The Legislature will consist of 3 Guiana, they were supposed to be

officio members and 6 unofficial of Moscow? members, of whom 4 will be In 1850 C drawn from the 9 elected members treaty with Great Britain, de-of the Legislative Council, in marking the northern frontier of

reserved powers to veto any bills a road from Guatemala City to passed by the Legislative Council, Belize. or to make law measures rejected Guatemala an additional outlet to by the elected members.

the one hand-majority representation—has been negated on on the other by the retention of the Governor, the principal agent of the Secretary of State for Colonies.

Even so, attempts are now being made to postpone the General Election. To justify bogey nism is being exploited. Since the announcement of the proposed Constitution, two political parties have emerged—the Peoples' United Party and the National Peoples' Neither is Socialist, but the former is closely associated with the trade union movement represented by the General agreed to submit their dispute to Workers' Union, and reflects the the International Court of Justice. economic and social aspirations of the plebian masses. It also demands self-government and selfdetermination.

Because the P.U.P. (Peoples' United Party) enjoys more popular support than the N.P. (National Party), which represents the European mercantile and coloured middle class interests, the British authorities have already started a smear campaign against leaders, accusing them of receiving support from Communist elements in Guatemala. The purpose of this smear is twofold. The imaway from the P.U.P., failing ment, which has with British character to suspend the Constitution and the Constitution are to suspend the constitution are to suspend the constitution and the constitution are to suspend the constitution are to suspend the constitution and the constitution are to suspend the constitution are to suspend the constitution and the constitution are to suspend the constitution are to suspend the constitution and the constitution are to suspend the constitution are to suspen

ANGLO-GUATEMALAN

When similar accusations were

bers elected by popular vote.

The Executive Council, which will be responsible for formulating and directing government policy, will consist of the Governor as chairman; the 3 exofficio members and 6 unofficial will be will be held the P.U.P. leaders: Mr. George Price, the Secretary; Mr. Nicholas Pollard, Secretary of the Workers' Union; and Mr. Leigh Richardson, Editor of "Billboard", organ of the party. Why Guatemala instead of Moscow? In 1859 Guatemala

addition to 2 from among the 3 marking the northern frontier of British Honduras. In return for thus recognising British soverthus recognising British soverciently over the colony, the British Government promised to co-oper-council, the Governor will have ate with Guatemala in constucting reserved powers to veto any bills a road from Guatemala City to the Atlantic for her products in In other words, what the Colonial Office has conceded on British Honduras. But the British have never kept their part of the bargain, and the Guatemalans have renewed their claims to of autocratic powers vested in sovereignty over British Honduras as a result of Britain's violation of the Treaty of 1859. They had only conceded their right in for co-operation in building the British Honduras - Guatemalan

Relations between Guatemala and Britain became so strained that in February, 1948, the British Labour Government despatche two cruisers—the "Devonshire and the "Sheffield"—to Beliz and landed British troops in expectation of an attack by Guatemala, although they had, in 1946,

IMPERIALISM THREATENED

Meanwhile, Guatemala taken the lead among the Latin American Republics to end European Colonialism in the Western hemisphere, upon which even the Americans have turned their back. Britain, therefore, considers Guatemala as embarrassing to her colonial policy in the Caribbeans as Moscow in Asia.

It is therefore, not surprising that Guatemalans are sympathetic to the aspirations of the British pend the Constitution as in British

Guiana.

with British Honduras into an outpost
of Communism in the Western hemisphere. This is merely Colonial Office propaganda to confuse the issue and prepare the ground for another Tory coup d'etat in British Honduras, where, for the first time, the people were to be given the right to elect majority representation to the local Parliament and to have a greater voice in the administration of their own affairs.

Mr. Oliver Lyttelton's colonital policy continues to show that wherever there is a chance of a subject people shaking off the dictatorial rule exercised over them under the disguise of Crown Colony Government, the Tories will invoke the bogev of Communism in order to murder Democ-

Why U.S. Hates Guatema UCH of the economic try, whether approved of by the Communist Party. Guatemala bedevelopment of the U.S. or not.

Latin-Âmerican countries has been due to U.S. capiexaggeration to say that Latin-America is Wall Street's wise characterised as "anti-American" and "Communist." allegation "Communist". The the United Nations, with inter-country was for years a part of ference in her internal affairs; the U.S. United Fruit Company's and it is alleged that this inter-America is Wall Street's wise characterised as "an American" and "Communist." ries have eased the shackles charges of Communst-control in others, such as Puerto Rico British press—is the little Central and Cuba, and a number of the little republics of Central conference at Caracas, Foster America, Ú.S. monopoly-capital still retains its insidious

Three countries in particular, nowever, have recently resolved o achieve economic independence. National sovereignty demands that U.S. monopoly-capital domination shall end; so Bolivia recently nationalised the tin industry. In Chile, politicians and business-men of all parties are demanding that Chile's copper mines be nationalised. At present, 95 per cent. of Chile's copper production is controlled by U.S. corporations. 80 per cent of Chile's copper goes to the U.S. and the balance is sold only to countries of which the U.S. approves. The Speaker of the Chilean House of Representatives forms of political organisation. its copper and nitre to any coun-munist Party but also an Anti-

When Bolivia the tin mines, the Government was denounced as Communist by the economic democracy; and it is this tal; and to-day, it is hardly an U.S.; Chilean demands for nation-

of U.S. economic domination; charges which are echoed in the

- $oldsymbol{B}\mathbf{v}$ -Peter & Barbara **Ibbotson**

Dulles lost no opportunity of de-nouncing Guatemala as a Communist country; two years ago the "Philadelphia Inquirer" said that "Democracy has a job to do in Guatemala" and made plain that democracy's job was suppression of Communism in that country, Communist Party.

connean House of Representatives forms of political organisation, is reported to have said that the standard of living of Chile's And in any case, as the late miners is going down while the dividends of U.S. shareholders (Senor Francisco Linares Aranda) are going up; and he has supported told me some months ago, there the claim that Chile should sell is in Guatemala not only a Comthe claim that Chile should sell is in Guatemala not only a Com-

lieves in political democracy; and nationalised shows it in a practical manner.

Guatemala also believes in has earned her the in a lengthy report submitted to Communist". The the United Nations, with interbelief that has "banana empire"; and the comference is calculated to upset the pany owned nearly a quarter of Arberz government and replace it the land of Guatemala (and, indeed, nearly half the land in Central America.) At the same time,

Communism in Guatemala spring

Communism in Guatemala spring nearly always underpaid.

as part of a comprehensive dence, referring to Guatemala as Labour Code which gave certain "red" or "Communist-domina-social service rights to women ted." The charge of "Communist" workers comparable to our Health against Guatemala is going to be the previous military dictatorship munism has been referred to in of General Ponze, was bitterly resisted by the United Fruit Comand discontinuance of toleration of the existence of a Guatemalan to conform to the minimum wages law; and this Code was the beginning of the Guatemalan legislation which U.S. propaganda was quick to label "Communist."

The bit that really got the U.S. going, though, was the law of 1952 which abolished unpaid labour and provided for agrarian reform.

easants; the land reform is in full swing; already thousands of peasants have been given

Guatemala has charged the U.S.

tral America.) At the same time, half the rural population of Guatemala owned no land; but much of United was exploitation of the workers, too; labour was often unpaid, results always underraid communism in Guatemala spring from the natural desire of Guatemala for national independence and cessation of economic dependence on the U.S.; Wall Street says "Communist," the State Department takes it up, and now we early always underpaid. have the British press quite 1947 saw a minimum wages law calmly, without a shred of evi-Service maternity benefits. This an important factor in the Hon-Code, put through by the Arbenz duras Constitution Enquiry; al-Government which had supplanted ready Guatemala's alleged Comthe House; it's part of the cam-paign against the P.U.P of Hon-

But if a desire for national economic independence is a sign of Communism, as the U.S. State Department and Wall Street think, then don't forget that the U.S.A. he bit that really got the U.S. may though, was the law of 1952 high, though, was the law of 1952 high the 18th century! And the Declaration of Independence hasn't yet been amended by Mr. Mc-Carthy; is still savs "We hold"

The Kabaka Defended

THE Buganda delegation in London—consisting of Messrs. A. K. Kironde, A. K. Malumbi, E. M. K. Mulira, and A. K. Sempaissued the following statement to the Press: -

"We protest against the remarks made by Mr. T. Reid, M.P., in Parliament yesterday, when, under the special privileges of Parliament, he made a grossly unfair attack on H.H. the Kabaka of Buganda. By itself this deplorable attack made against a person unable to defend himself would have been had apough but what makes been bad enough, but what makes it much worse is that it is part of a slander campaign which has been going on for some time with United Fruit Company were re-distributed among landless all men are created equal..." the apparent intention of under-mining the case of the Kabaka.



George Padmore

Our Readers Discuss German Rearmament

The Editor **Criticised**

In the editorial of March 12th Editor proposes as the key to a united socialist Europe lity communist party in Europe "— in short, a united front with the C.P.

many it is true—but how do they tackle this question? During the Berlin talks the "Daily Worker" constantly referred to "our recent" and "our former enemies," making no effort to differentiate between the ruling class and the working class of Germany. In the local press here, a letter from a C.P.er on German re-armament re-ferred to "the depraved Ger-mans." How can we join forces

The Editor implies support for the Molotov proposals—but whilst these proposals include the military withdrawal from Germany, they also include the continued exploialso include the continued exploration by the Soviet Union of Austria's natural resources for another 50 years. Does the Editor of the "Outlook", also support which "it is our duty to expose" which "it is our duty to expose "the support of the su

the Communist Parties did not then support the German workers' aspirations for freedom-the Red Army was called to suppress the workers' democratic rights little blood letting was not then considered futile. And here, in England, in the T.U. Branches and Trades Councils the C.P. opposed the demand for the withdrawal of

The Molotov proposals were a bit of diplomatic maneouvring and window dressing. The C.P.'s of Europe, appendages of the Mos-

There is but one solution to the all troops, leaving the German working class free and unfettered else. to build up their own labour organisations to combat and smash the rising German capita-Whilst in Britain, we continue the struggle to defeat the Tories, returning Labour to power, pledged to extend to the German workers every assistance in oppos ing the German militarists and agents of world imperialism.

Nottingham

The Editor Replies:

rounds its opposition to German Re-armament. Good — so am I. But if we only participate in a Re-armament. movement against German Rearmament which is pure and unsullied by any trace of anti-Ger man sentiment—we shan't participate at all.

Not only the Communist Party expresses these hateful prejudices against the German workers but so do most of the Labour M.P.'s who are fighting Mr. Morrison on this question.

This is by no means the first time that progressive movements have been supported by all sorts of people for the wrong reasons. For example; the opposition of the Irish people to British domination of Ireland did not lose one iota of its progressiveness because

fight—and aided of course by socialists with clear ideas—those who participate will either shed their implanted prejudices against the German workers, or they will German Re-armament the discover (especially as the war or proposes as the key to draws nearer!) that their "hosting "a united socialist Europe lity" to German Re-armament to German Re-armament worked for and fought for, was, after all, subordinate to their unitedly by every socialist and much greater hostility to Soviet in Russia!

short, a united front with the C.P. against German re-armament.

Does the Editor of the "Outlook" seriously pose this as a solution? Is he completely blind to the attitude of the C.P. on this ing, of course, on the Socialist United States of Europe which I suggested should be fought for by the united efforts of all European Labour—includate the attitude of the C.P. on this ing, of course, the communists of all European tabour—includates the attitude of the C.P. on this ing, of course, on the socialist United States of European Course, or the Course Course, on the Socialist United States of European Course, or t The C.P.'s in Europe are opposed to the re-arming of Gersals for a united and peaceful Europe offered an opportunity to British Labour to explore the question further with the Soviet Union. From all this comrade Shaw has the nerve to suggest that I am therefore a supporter of the blood-lettings in East Germany, the "diplomatic manoeuvres," and the "occupation of Austria for 50 years"!

mans." How can we join forces with people who express such sentiments.

Without in any way lending support to the foreign policy of the Soviet Union (which comrade the Soviet Union (which co Shaw knows very well I have publicly opposed on numerous occasions) I am more or less accused of conniving at all sorts of crimes. Why? Because I dared to suggest we discuss with Soviet Russia—with the "enemy"?

-how will this be done? Don't Also, are the June events in you think that asking him—and Eastern Germany so soon forgotten? The Soviet Government and a position on the Socialist United Europe could be most effective in this respect.

John Lawrence



Blackley Asks For Conference

The Manchester City Labour Party and the Blackley Divisional Labour Party have both passed cow diplomatic corps, will attempt resolutions against German Reto use the European working armament, and demanding a class as pawns in the diplomatic special national two-day confergame. It is our duty to expose ence to decide Labour's policy on this increase. this issue.

The Blackley resolution considered that "Dulles, Eden and Co. German problem—the complete sidered that "Dulles, Eden and Co. and unconditional withdrawal of at Berlin, were there to represent Capitalist interests and nothing

Jim Allen

The Millionaire Press at Work

THE way the millionaire press has treated the present wage struggles should enlighten any workers who still believe its professions of fair play

THE WAGES FRONT Here are some of the methods papers have used to exert their

anti-working class influence.

1. Playing down the tremendous response of the engineers, electricians, railwaymen and builders to the strike and demonstration calls. ("Workshy Wednesday" the "Express" called the engineers stoppage).

2. Playing **up** the handful of men who did not come out.

3. Making martyrs of blacklegs those prepared to accept wage though advances won by the unions while he was. themselves sucking bosses by staying at work.

4. Printing phoney letters, e.g. one from an alleged electrician's wife saying her husband was earning £22 a week.

5. Front page headlines saying of the National Union of Railwaymen: "These Scrooges Want To Spoil Your Christmas."

6. Ignoring the huge profits be-

7. Editorials accusing the en gineering unions of "holding the nation to ransom." Not the employers of course; and no mention of the union leaders' statement that even if the 15 per cent. claim were granted in full it would mean only three per cent. increase on export prices of goods concerned— and then only if profits were untouched.

8. Allegations that the whole wage issue is a Communist plot.

ANTI-UNION

I think it worth quoting a comment by the General Secretary of the National Union of Journalists, Jim Bradley, in his union journal:

" More (wage) demands are being made and a campaign is developing to show trade unions in a bad light. I am not at all surprised to see the pedalling once more of crafty articles hinting that the right to strike should be 'modified.'

"Some of us remember 1927 and the war years too well to bite at carrots of that kind dangled in Sunday newspapers.

E.T.U. VICTIMISED

I regard the Electrical Trades Union as having been treated even more shabbily in their dispute than the other unions.

The Week at Westminster

What They Said Last Month By Frank Allaun

papers at least one and sometimes conversation to delete one word two statements giving the facts of from his review. the latest developments. Many papers suppressed them altogether. Only a few attempted to give an Many objective report.

The "Daily Express" for instance, published on January 18th under the heading:

"BAN MY UNION SAYS THIS ELECTRICIAN" an attack from a Glasgow reader who was

Randolph and the "Daily Sketch" Randolph Churchill, who is definitely NOT my cup of tea, has performed a useful service by re-

newspaper intrigue. In concerns the editor of Lord

Rothermere's "Daily Sketch", Mr Herbert Gunn. It appears that Tom Hopkinson wrote for the Sketch a review of the new film

"Front Page Story." He was asked by the paper in a 'phone prietor is related to Lord Roth-

"Which word?" asked Hopkin-

"You say", came the reply, "it is not a great picture. Would you mind leaving out the word 'not'".

Hopkinson refused agreeing, however, to add: "but it is a good picture."

When the review appearednot even a member of the union, though the headline suggested that under Hopkinson's name—the editor had removed criticisms of the film and added several paragraphs.

And now it transpires that the editor's wife was the technical vealing a most interesting piece of advisor to the film company.

What makes the story more revealing is that the "World's Press News," the extremely Right Wing trade journal of the newspaper industry, refused to print Hopkinindustry, refused to print Hopkin-

ermere, proprietor of the Sketch.

SACKED BY THOMSON'S

The trade unionists sacked by D. C. Thomson — the big news-paper combine that made its workers sign a form saying they would not join a trade union—are still "out". Yet if the nation-wide ban on supplies of material and distribution of Thomson papers had not been lifted the firm would have been beaten.

Therefore I am glad to see a proposal that executives of unions inside and outside the printing industry should reimpose the ban is to come before the annual conference of the National Union of Journalists shortly.

Newspaper Headline.

EARL'S SEAT BURNT-END OF HISTORIC PILE

S'long for now, comrades. **~~~~~**

Is the "SOCIALIST

The "World's Press News" pro-

Engineers Want More Than 5 Per Cent

THE Court of Enquiry on the Engineering claim for 15 per cent. has found that what we have been saying for years is true—that basically the engineers' wage is too low for a reasonable standard of quarter—"If the leadership is not living.

Having said that, and also that profits in the industry can well afford an increase without further inflating the prices of engineering goods, they suggest—5 per cent.

I have seldom heard a quieter and file. meeting. There were no interjections. Everyone sat quiet and that with the militant backing behard Bro. Scanlon through to the hind them they will fight rather

We would not worry unduly but

Speaker after speaker expressed to procrastinate the wage claim. cians.

 $\boldsymbol{B}\mathbf{y}$ D. Burgess

and piece-work should never have been allowed.

by the employers. So why are they now influenced by a different been allowed.

A meeting of shop stewards under the authority of the Man-chester District of Confederation Unions—including the contracting electricians and building workers—heard the report from Bro. Scanlon, our Secretary, in the Milton Hall, Manchester, on March 16th.

The Confederation and Employers meet on March 17th. I cannot visualise at this stage what agreement, if any, they will come leaders will to be a substantial part of the 15 per cent. The Confederation leaders will have to answer to a hostile rank March, we shall be faced with a minutance of the minutance of the court of Enquiry?

From start to finish the Electricals and Engineering employers of front means but one thing in may opinion—when our leaders will have to answer to a hostile rank fait accombil and 2d, per hour

end. Then from the floor the than accept the miserable sugges-stewards had their say. tion of the Court of Enquiry.

During this week, the Electrical bitter resentment at the length of employers have conceded 2d. per time permitted to the employers hour to the contracting electri-Mr. Penwill, on behalf of Almost every day since January One very important statement rethe Electrical Employers has been wards them, and should they let 8th the union has issued to all the ceived applause from every reported by the press as having us down this time they will **GO**.

been "influenced" by the Court of Enquiry on the Engineers' dis-

Now this is very strange in view of the fact that the contracting electricians permitted their dispute to be the subject of a summer to be the subject of a summer Court of Enquiry. Although the malovers used "communist incourt of Enquiry. Although the employers then we should change the leadership."

It was expressed that the postponement of the ban on overtime and piece-work should never have

fait accompli" and 2d. per hour

We would not worry unduly but for one thing and that is the rightwing leadership which would accept any agreement rather than fight. But let them be warned, for the forces are now moving to-

FROM CADDY TO **COMMANDER!**

THIS time of the year the Estimates dominate the Parliamentary scene. Commander Pursey, our hard hitting Labour and navy man, let us know a thing or two on how to become a naval officer. then

tunity for the lower deck. He somewhere else, and I said that I told us of his own experience as a candidate before his own selection committee when seeking promotion as commissioned officer Have you got your sticks with the largest you? They again that I told us of his own experience as played golf. It was unusual for a sailor to play golf. The chair-tion commissioned officer Have you got your sticks with in H.M.S. Hood, then the largest you?' Then came the questions warship in the world.

"When the candidate was asked out. In my time the thing to avoid was to say that one read "The Times" in case someone said, 'What did you think of the second leading article yesterday?' The answer was to say the defunct "Morning Post". Pursey said this was because the Post was supposed to have a good naval correspondent who correspondent who gave a fair and objective point of view, but who stated the Admiralty point of view.

faked all the The thing is to good that I'd answers. I was careful not to play better quote most of this verba-tim my trump card in games too quickly. Here we heard all about the games he used to 'have Comrade Shaw is indignant at the anti-German propaganda with which the Communist Party surty sur about golf courses and clubs. We went on debating golf and a fine when the candidate was asked time was had by all. I was totting "Daily Herald" he would be up the points and thinking that I was getting well over this fence."

"Then the President said: 'What is your handicap?' I thought to myself 'My golly, that is the one question that I did not work out last night' I remembered how old retired colonels would argue one with another whether they would give each other a stroke a hole or half a stroke, and then I thought that I had better say nine. They said: Our Commander went on "As 'That is not bad' But if that had Our Commander went on "As of that is not bad' But if that had for accent—well, hell; if the candidate came from Yorkshire or Lancashire and said "Eh bah, an' attitude by the confused ideas of the participants in any given movement. They decide it by the class nature of the movement itself. Opposition to German Rearmament is progressive and anti-

by Harold Davies, M.P.



Pursey! So there it is in a net-shell from Caddy to Commander.

were told that our share of world come for an end of the uncer-output of shipbuilding has fallen tainty of the Government. from some 48 per cent. in 1948 to 25 per cent. in 1953.

less heavily booked up for orders and while some of these firms She thought the Trojan horse on end of 1955 there are cases of firms that are not booked up beyond the end of this year. Our factor that gave so much power to order books are not expanding, the Tory Rebels who wanted us they are contracting. To-day, 57 to stay on in the Zone. per cent. of the output is represented by orders for tankers and according to Nicholson, tankers realise that his misery in the of further orders. He considered that the important thing for us to be doing in this country. be doing in this country was to sity. It is dictated by the Governmentain our dry cargo fleet. In ment's cowardly and inept hand-1953 the House was told that only ling of foreign policy..." 520,000 tons were ordered and 250,000 tons were cancelled.

Last year 28 firms booked no orders at all. "We are well into the third month of this year, and so far, there have been virtually no new orders. There have been some cancellations, and a good many more are believed to be pending. Those are the plain facts

dredgers to countries east of the so-called Iron Curtain.

THE CANAL ZONE

During the Army Estimates, Barbara Castle referred to the army in the Canal Zone as the forgotten Army. She alleged that this army was doing a job which has no military sense and the time had

Barbara believed that one of the main deterrents to recruitment Orders for shipping are now was the fact that those who might be inclined to join the Regular that many of the smaller firms are less heavily booked up for orders. have orders to carry them to the the Government Front Bench was Our factor that gave so much power to

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Our Readers Write . . . | Sell-out in Indo-China?

Withdraw **U.S.** Troops From Britain

Please accept my warmest congratulations on your excellent editorial in last week's "Outlook."

I am convinced that the Left in the Labour Party must fight with increasing vigour and energy against this terrible menace of German Re-armament and must demand the immediate withdrawal of all American troops from simply. Britain. We should also expose Manche the disgraceful pact between Franco's Spain and the United States, under the terms of which Franco is now receiving tanks to keep "law and order" in Fascist Spain.

Wallasey

F. Turner

Nationalisation

of Chemicals Simple

"Challenge to Britain" Cleethorpes Town Clerk, to the ur says: "A substantial de-effect, "representations were made Labour says: gree of public ownership is required" in the Chemical Indus-

"Our main concern is with tives heavy chemicals, fertilisers, explosives, dyes, plastics and petrochemicals," the Party states.

"A Labour Government will from the industry itself such information and records as will enable it to determine the most appropriate sections to be acquired and the most appropriate methods of acquiring them.

This decision was welcomed by the Labour movement. The only regret was the possible delay suggested by the last paragraph. is, unless the electors get wise to

Therefore Constituency Labour

Parties and trade unions might action sent resolution for this Labour-controlled Grimsby Town year's conference requiring that Council, has brought forth definite the report on chemicals be presenresults. ted within three months of the election of the next Labour

Led by socialist councillor Matt.

Larmour, the Grimsby Housing government.

As most of the information is independent action and protest to already available, having been ob- the Minister of Housing against tained by the Board of Trade in the excessive interest charged 1948, three months are long upon loans for housing purposes.

By nationalising the six giant cils follow suit. combines which control the indus-try the job can be done fairly Cleethorpes

Housing Loans

reduction in loan charges and

protest, in general, on the high cost of building materials.

on this matter as far back as last

October through Local Govern-

ment Associations by representa-

tives of the Cleethorpes Corpora-

appears, despite the more recent

However, a similar proposal for

have been extremely

Last week, I told of a Tory

Manchester

Frank Allaun

Mr. Lyttelton Should Read . . .

Committee have decided to take

I suggest all other Labour coun-

S. R. Pearson

Mr. Lyttelton has refused to receive a delegation from the Mauritius Legislative Council to councillor who was pressing his fellows to join in a demand for a discuss possible constitutional changes there. He says no precise suggestions for changes have been put forward, and that the request A resolution sent from my for a delegation to England union branch, (U.S.D.A.W.) urging passed by only a small majority. He adds that he wants full information in this direction is the views of the oppotion brought forth a reply from the mation on the views of the opponents to changes in the constitu-Cleethorpes Town Clerk, to the

The Mauritius Labour Party made it clear in the Council Debates in December that they want universal adult suffrage without literacy tests, and responsible literacy tests, and responsible government. The opposition made The strange thing about this is it equally clear that they wanted that no one seems to have heard no changes whatever, Mr. Lyttelof it before. So it does appear ton has all the information he that the Cleethorpes councillors needs in the Report of the Maurimodest in tius Legislative Council Debates thus hiding themselves behind a for December; perhaps he hasn't bushel. Even, so it further read the Report?

On February 23rd, the latest approach to this question, it is to Council Report available at the remain a pious resolution. That Crown Agents for the Colonies is, unless the electors get wise to was for September!

London

DIPLOMAT recently described Indo-China as a "stick of dynamite with the fuse burning closer every day". From reports in the press it now appears that the task of the Big Four (or Five) at the Geneva Conference will be to extinguish this fuse—before the stick of Vietnamese dynamite blows

the French out of Indo-China. The Paris correspondent of the New Statesman and Nation" declared on March 13th that during his tête-a-tête with Mr. Bidault at the opening of the recent Berlin Conference "Mr. Molotov appears to have indicated that China would be prepared to abandon Ho Chi-Minh on certain conditions.

It was presumably these assurances of Molotov that prompted Laniel to put forward in the French National Assembly terms for a cease fire which were clearly unacceptable to Ho Chi-Minh. He demanded a neutralised no-man's land around the key Red-River Delta in the North; the evacuation of 70,000 rebels within the French perimeter; the withdrawal of all Viet Minh troops in Central Viet Nam to fixed areas; the removal and disarming of all 'rebels' in S. Vietnam, and the total evacuation of the Viet Minh of Laos and Cambodia. President Ho has now replied by demanding the evacua-tion of Northern Vietnam by French forces and a cease-fire followed by a general election.

According to Philip Deane (Asian correspondent of the 'Observer') neither the French nor the Americans are willing to accept Ho's offer because it would mean the "de facto recognition of Communist state in Indo-China.'

However, this is not the only reason for French intransigeance. The French now realise that the Peter and Barbara Ibbotson. only way to bring the war to an

Asks M. Banda

end is by coaxing Red China into cutting off aid to Ho, in return for East-West trade and eventual recognition of China. The French want a deal with the Chinese and Russian leaders not with Ho.

Dejean (Commissioner-

and American forces in Indo- of China in 1927 "when many China, and the eventual smashing lost courage" because the Soviet of the liberation movement which Union "in the very interest of the is a threat to the military, politi- world revolution had turned back cal, economic and strategic inter- on itself." ests of Imperialism in Asia. If Indo-China is pacified then it will not be long before a similar impression of his speech formed policy is implemented in Malaya by foreign journalists was that it and elsewhere in S. Asia. More-was laying the theoretical groundover, a pacified Indo-China would provide a splendid spring-board for a future war on China. Al-ready the U.S. has despatched 250 technicians to Indo-Air Force hina and the financial aid from the U.S. for the current fiscal year is being boosted from 800 million dollars to 1.2 billion.

Will China accept France's

Report From British Guiana

barrister arrived in odds. British Guiana from Lonon February 25th to defend Fred Bowman and Nasrudeen, P.P.P. members Peking, Moscow, London or Washcharged with sedition, a misdemeanour at law in connection with a speech uttered on September 20th, 1953 during a Trade Union strike.

Mr. Pritt is going to move a motion to quash the indictment on the grounds that the indictment does not state in substance an indictable offence because sedition, as such, is unknown to the laws British Guiana. Mr. Pritt spoke for two hours on this motion, which the judge over-

The trial continues in the fourth day with the Crown and the defence challenging the selection of This case has a "special jurors. This case has a "specia jury" (higher income qualifications) and is the first case of sedition heard in British Guiana.

Six persons were arrested on the day of the opening of the Nasru deen trial at Mr. Burnham's chambers as crowds gathered to cheer Mr. Pritt. They were released on bail to the sum of one hundred dollars each. They are charged with holding an illegal meeting and unlawful assembly of more than five persons. Mr. Burnham is

The following reconditions? port from the French paper—Le Monde—indicates that leading elements in the Chinese C.P. may be toying with this idea. Chen Yun, a Chinese Government spokesman speaking on the anniversary of Stalin's death declared: "The maintenance of peace is in-despensable... but this can bring about for communism in other countries temporary and inevitable retreats." Quoting abundantly from Stalin, he continued, M. Dejean (Commissioner-General in Indo-China) stated quite explicitly in speaking on the Geneva Conference; "I am convinced that if we can get China to cease giving aid to the Communists a hig step will have been munists a hig step will have been to company the communists as hig step will have been seen with the communists as hig step will have been seen with the communist and the communists are recommendated to the communists as hig step will have been seen with the communistic and the communication of the munists, a big step will have been taken on the road to peace."

What M. Dejean means by as declaring that "the revolution 'peace' is an opportunity for the could only be successful on a unopposed intervention of French, world scale." He recalled the case

> Although not mentioning Indo China specifically, the general impression of his speech formed was laving the theoretical ground-work for a withdrawal of support from the Indo-Chinese revolution in return for certain concessions from the West to China.

Thus the stage is being set for Geneva. But if Mr. Molotov, Yung, Bidault or Dulles think that Indo-China is another Yugoslavia or Korea, to be divided on a 50/50 basis; or if they think that Ho is another Markos who can be sacrificed in the interests of the Big Powers, they ignore the social reality in Indo-China. They ignore the tremendous power and popularity of the liberation movement which has conducted a heroic war for almost seven and N. PRITT, Q.C., famous a half years against tremendous

The future of Indo-China will not be decided by diplomatic horse-traders. It will not be decided in the Chancellories ington or Paris. It will be decided in the forests, the hills and the plains of Viet Nam, by the Viet-namese workers and peasants and by no-one else. That is why I find it is necessary to state quite categorically that Geneva will not bring peace to the embattled people of Viet Nam. On the con-trary, it will certainly lay the basis for a cynical betrayal of the Viet Namese. British Labour must remain vigilant against such a betraval by denouncing the Geneva Conference and by demanding the immediate withdrawal of French troops from Indo-China.

E.T.U. Strike

Continued from page I

leaders, the working class moveunderstood very well the issues in dispute and applauded the militant and vanguard action of the contracting electri-

This rank-and-file solidarity clearly underlines the vital necessity for a fighting alliance among the Trade Unions to back up the wage claims in which all workers are affected. Only by united miliant action will the working class

Janet Jagan be able to face the coming battles.

Class Distinctions Paralyse the general practitioners in their The Health Service attempts to obtain treatment for their patients."

TEARLY five years have optimistic analysis) produces the profession and not of the Health elapsed since the introduction of the National Health Service, one of the most since emerged.

medical care and treatment envisaged in the Act was undermined by the right wing of the Labour Party, and destroyed by the Tory Government with the introduction of charges for prescription. Some senior practitioners. troduction of charges for prescriptions and appliances.

the war drive and the re-armament sixth sense? programme, the building of new hospitals, health centres and clinics has been drastically cur-

There is now a grim situation doctors. in the shortage of trained nurses 45 pe for Mental Hospitals, I.B. hospitals and institutions for the care ments. the aged chronic sick; a further dilution of the trained staff in the name of economy, and a lowering of the standards of nursing as a consequence.

There is, moreover, authoritative evidence to show the degeneration of general practice as a whole and the extended growth of the class basis of medical treatment which existed before the introduction of the N.H.S. and which is paralysing its development today.

The rich who can afford specialist attention get the finest medical treatment, whilst patients registered in their thousands with the local doctor are in many cases getting inadequate medical attention. The treatment of the patients attention get the finest medical treatment, whilst patients register the patients attention get the finest medical treatment, whilst patients register the patients attention get the finest medical treatment, whilst patients register the patients attention get the finest medical treatment, whilst patients register the patients attention get the finest medical treatment, whilst patients register the patients attention get the finest medical treatment, whilst patients register the patients attention get the finest medical treatment, whilst patients register the patients attention at the patients at the patients attention at the patients attention at the patients attention at the patients attention at the patients attent tion. The scandals of wrong diagnosis, inadequate examinations minutes with most services given for emergencies.' and cases of patients who die be- in five minutes...this is pathe- 80 per cent of cause they are not allowed entry tically little time for "satisfactory into hospitals until too late, are work..." becoming frequent.

article in the Hadfield Report on General Prac-Joseph S. Collings, M.B., B.Sc.

DIAGNOSIS

"Seven per cent of the doctors progressive measures of the seen apparently made no attempt Labour Government. It is time at examinations (of patients) in the Labour Movement any circumstances, whilst a fur-ceriously analysed what has ther 24 per cent left doubts as to seriously analysed what has the satisfaction of the examination the satisfaction of the examination rice emerged. they conducted ... some of these seem ready now and again to take

"... Some senior practitioners, though undertaking little in the way of examination have ob-Secondly, to meet the needs of viously developed an instinct or

> This appalling admission in a profession where mistakes cost lives is further underlined by the results of a Postal Inquiry of

> 45 per cent of doctors have no direct access to pathology depart-

blood-counts. blood sedimentation rates.

'This would suggest" says Dr. nostic aids.

WHAT ATTENTION DO PATIENTS GET FROM **DOCTORS?**

ranging from $2\frac{1}{2}$ minutes to 15

Some reactionaries like Lady All this is borne out by an Barnett have attacked the National rticle in the "Medical World" Health Service on the grounds that Health Service on the grounds that November, 1953, entitled "The it permits over-prescribing and wasteful and unnecessary prescriptise; a critical assessment " by Dr. tions to patients. They do not realise however that this is in fact a

DOCTORS' SURGERIES

34 per cent of doctors' premises are unsatisfactory. Hadfield reports that accommodation varies with the "class" of practice... i.e. "Slum Surgeries for slum

"This hardly requires com-ment" says Collings. Perhaps the understatement of all time! In fact not only the surgeries, but the scale, extent, and thoroughness of examination of patients also goes "up the scale" for the "better classes.'

The failure of the scheme for figures are grossly exceeded and Health Centres, already sabotaged fourteen to eighteen to one are financial reasons is boycotted by

"33 per cent of doctors do not nursing. Collings "that the patients of approximately 45 per cent of doctors by appointment which is an essendo not get the benefit of these specific and frequently basic diagnostic are specific and frequently basic diagnostic are "says Colsings" (Similar conditions could be cited for T.B. hospitals and hospitals catering for the sick.

WAITING PERIOD FOR HOSPITAL SERVICE

70 per cent of doctors report six months or more waiting time for non-urgent admissions.

4 per cent report "serious diffi-

80 per cent of doctors report delayed for long periods.

70 per cent say that T.B. patients "wait many months" for admission into hospital. Hadfield sums up...

The Hadfield Report (despite its damning indictment of the medical causing considerable anxiety to the cause of death and destruction.

This scathing indictment of the present state of the diagnosis and treatment of patients under the National Health Service which "Over prescribing, for what ever reason is an index of unsatisfactory treatment" says f uncomprehensive medical care and
says treatment" demands an urgent
and searching enquiry by the and searching enquiry by Labour Party and the T.U.C.

It is a sign of the times that the Front Bench who are prepared at great length to debate the merits of the Belgian rifle cannot spare the time. The Conditions within hospitals

are perhaps even more startling. In Mental Hospitals in the Midland region overcrowding is so prevalent that the gap between

beds is in one hospital — four The Ministry of Health have calculated the ratio of patients to nurses in such hospitals should be no more than six or eight to In most hospitals these

Conditions within these instituthe doctors, specialists, and conthe doctors, specialists, and con-sultants for the simple economic reason that no matter what the special sedimentation rates.

the doctors, specialists, and con-sultants for the simple economic reason that no matter what the needs of the people, there isn't enough money in it for them.

tions are so bad and wages so poor for such onerous responsibilities, that 75 -80 per cent of nursing en-trants do not finish the training course, and elect to go into general

The restrictions upon the building of new hospitals, the lack of finance and planning, the shortage of doctors and nurses, stems in the first place from the demands of the re-armament programme, the administrative sabotage of the Tories, and the resistance of the B.M.A. and the medical profession culty in obtaining quick admission to suggestions and schemes which could improve the service.

If the Labour Movement is unthat admission to hospital of Aged able to retain and defend one of and infirm sick is "universally" its most progressive reforms, it its most progressive reforms, it will certainly fail to advance one inch on the road to the transformation of Society. It will certainly not do so while it allows the Tory Government to spend £1,600 million per year upon the means not "The hospital services are of easing pain and suffering, but in

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