

# THE BULLETIN

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for  
Socialists*

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Letter to Readers.

This issue is two or three days late, we had intended bringing two issues out in three weeks to give the opportunity of making these twelve-pages cover the extra material over Easter. Unfortunately, the Editor who, contrary to quite a number of expressed opinions 'is only human', fell ill with flu. We shall catch<sup>up</sup> during the course of the next two issues.

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The coming rail strike: This has now been fixed for the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of the week AFTER the Municipal Elections. The date is probably a concession to the myth being spread by the capitalist press that industrial action is injurious to Labour's electoral prospects. We need to counter this myth, but to do so is fairly easy. In Municipal Elections, Labour's biggest enemy is apathy. A vigorous campaign and espousing of the railwaymen's case by Labour candidates would mobilise all the railway trade union activists (and many more besides.) An army of angry railwaymen, filled with hatred for the Tories, would be the finest counter to apathy that could be devised. The fact that a few old ladies would be stirred to vote against Labour should worry no one. The Tories are the ones who should be worried. The reaction of the Association of County Councils shows the the feelings aroused in the countryside. Dozens of safe Tory seats will be completely denuded of railway services - surely, if a national campaign was mounted which gripped the imagination of people, big Labour inroads could be made.

Wilson has promised a big campaign on the whole transport question. This is clearly going to be one of the most important domestic issues in British politics for a long time. Circumstances are very favourable for the left to achieve the aim of turning this into a combined industrial struggle (against sackings) and political struggle (against the social effects of the Beeching plan.) For once the left will be swimming with the stream. But it is up to the left to be to the fore in the campaign, to take the running of it out of the hands of the bureaucratic fuddy-duddies who, regardless of their orders or personal opinions, are incapable of organising in a clear-cut class way.

The offer by the London busmen and the response of the delegates to the Scottish T.U.C. to Green show that the strike is popular among the advanced sections of the working class. This augurs well for any campaign to extend the scope of industrial. The strategy of the left must be to bring about such a campaign that the bourgeoisie hesitate and have a crisis of policy. This in itself would be a big victory in the class struggle. It would help expedite a Labour Government, it would be a big blow to the plans of the British capitalist class to rationalise the British economy at the expense of the working class, and lastly and most important it would demonstrate to British workers that struggle pays off.

The Murder of Grimau: The international revulsion against this crime is almost unanimous. The C.P.s are, of course, well to the forefront, but despite K's personal message, the workers states have not suggested taking real action against the Franco regime. Grimau was in charge of the CID in Barcelona during the period when terrible crimes were committed against the left forces of the Spanish revolution by the Stalinists. However, we should support the campaign against Grimau's murder - Franco killed him because he was a threat to Fascism in Spain. The murder was a sign of nervousness in face of the upswing of the Spanish workers' movement. By using the feeling aroused to get real action against the Franco regime we will be helping our class brothers still in Franco's jails and the Spanish revolution.

The aim should be to do economic damage to the prison house economy of Spain. Moves made by various unions to dissuade their members from spending holidays in Spain should be supported and emulated. A boycott of Spanish goods should be discussed. Most important, the coming Labour Government must be committed to breaking relations with Franco and actively helping the anti-Franco socialist forces in Spain.

**1553** This year's Annual Conference, when an appraisal of the resolutions passed is made, appears as a contradictory affair, but in fact, this is not entirely so. It would, at this stage, be impossible to assess the significance of the conference and I will content myself with an attempt to convey my own impressions of what happened this year. I will, however, reveal what are, in my opinion, the implications of what happened at Scarborough'.

The first debate, on the Party's program 'Signpost for the Sixties', was around a resolution of such ambiguity that it should either have been amended to give it form, or have been given a rubber-stamp passage. Unfortunately the debate developed into an unrepresentative Left-Right polemic, which resulted in the 'middle of the road' delegates voting for the resolution in accidental distribution. This was demonstrated by the fact that the resolution, which called for support of "Signpost", was first passed and then defeated by minute majorities. It is significant that major issues so sadly lacking in "Signpost" were to receive massive support later in the conference. Issues which the YS have championed since its outset, unilateralism - workers' control - nationalisation of land, banks and insurance companies - full maintenance for the unemployed - the abolition of private education were all passed by large majorities.

The standard of debate was often abysmal and the effectiveness of the policy was often nullified by the inability of many delegates to articulate their demands. This was clearly demonstrated when, during the defence debate, a resolution was moved deleting from the main resolution the section which called for opposition to both the Warsaw Pact and NATO. This amendment was thrown out, defeated, in fact, by a hundred votes. But it must be said that in this debate, as in other debates, issues were never really put and 'sloganisation' was substituted for reasoned argument. However, well over 200 of the 350 delegates voted for a resolution which called for the unilateral renunciation of nuclear weapons linked to policies for the advancement of the working-class and which recognized the 'Bomb' as a product of capitalist society.

Conference had met under the suspicion that this might be the last time - a suspicion heightened by the presence on the platform of an unusually large number of Party officials. These included the General Secretary, the National Agent, the Chairman of the Youth sub-committee, and the assistant National Agent. The presence of Tony Greenwood on the platform did little to allay the delegates fears. By Sunday's secret session, the question of YS autonomy and a 'NALSO type' constitution had been fully discussed by delegates outside the conference and attitude were fixed. There remained little time for the debate and both these resolutions were heavily defeated.

Many resolutions had been declared sub-judice due to the pending 'Prots litigation', those which remained deplored the expulsion of the YS NC members. The section of the Chief Officer's report dealing with unofficial papers were referred back (In fact, most of the report was referred back). Conference clearly supported those who had been expelled, and yet, paradoxically, conference did not see the call for a new constitution was timely; in fact, many delegates thought that the Party officers present would not countenance the passage of such resolutions and would react along lines which many feared was the reason for their presence. Rejection of the 'autonomy' resolutions is a reaffirmation of the idea that the YS must be within the Party, but this is not to say that a 'NALSO' type' formula is thought to be incompatible with this attitude. (We will carry additional material in the next issue - Ed.)

1554

The conflict between the leaders of the French Communist Party and the Communist youth of the UEC is far from subsiding. At the recent congress the UEC was openly opposed to the CP leadership. When the congress was over, the CP leadership began a systematic campaign against the leadership of the UEC. Day after day, L'Humanite, the daily newspaper of the French CP published letters from Communist students. In general these represented small groups while the greatest party of the Communist students, notable at the University of Paris, continued to hold their own opinions. This was likewise the case at a recent assembly of students in Paris. Finally the political bureau had one of its members open attack in an article taking up a half page of L'Humanite. There can be no doubt that the leadership of the Communist Party has decided to do everything possible, including breaking up the organisation of students, to achieve its aims. The leaders are placed in a position of which they never dreamed — an organisation officially recognised by the CP is in disagreement with the policies and above all the methods of the leadership.

SOVIET-INDIAN TRADE TO DOUBLE IN NEXT 3 YEARS.

Chinese press reports have carried the news that Soviet-Indian trade will double in the next three years as compared with 1962 to reach 265-275 million dollars. Viktor Spandaryan, a high-ranking official at the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Trade, has conducted talks with Indian experts in Delhi on a third long-term agreement to extend from 1964-1968. He said that "The terms of the new agreement and the list of goods to be exchanged by the two sides have in the main been specified." Apart from sets of industrial plants to be delivered under State credits, the Soviet Union would supply India with machinery and equipment, rolled steel and oil products. Spandaryan stressed that these were "the items that India needs for developing its key industries".

RUMANIANS DISPLEASED WITH KHRUSHCHEV.

Several activities of the Rumanian CP leadership indicate that their relations with the Russian leaders may leave something to be desired. Alone in Communist Eastern Europe, the Rumanian press has failed to publish the full text of Mr. Khrushchev's speech of March 30th printed as a letter to the Chinese CP Central Committee. Early this month, the Rumanian Ambassador became the first European Ambassador from the Communist world to return to his post since the break between Moscow and Tirana in Dec. 1961. On April 8th, Rumania signed a trade agreement with China, said to provide for an increase of 10%.

ALBANIANS ATTACK KHRUSHCHOV FOR BEING SOFT WITH THE ARTISTS

Since Khrushchev made his speech laying down the line for the artists and officially ending the brief period of 'freedom,' all the trends in the international Communist movement have taken a position on the question. The Bulgarians and East Germans, as one might expect, have merely parroted K's formulations. The Poles have agreed in words but made it clear they aren't going to impose the new line. The Hungarians have not publicly disagreed with K. but have issued statements put the contrary point of view. <sup>which</sup> Togliatti, in the middle of an election campaign, has simply said he thinks the Russians are wrong in their attitude. However to one section K. can do no right. In the April issue of their cultural magazine the Albanians accused K. of making the speech to cover up his revisionism in the field of arts!!

Year after year, certain 'left' critics of the C.N.D. movement have predicted that Aldermaston would be a flop. Year after year, instead, the march has become bigger. This a fact must be faced and examined before other conclusions are drawn. There is no other political movement at this stage which can evoke such a response. This is all the more pointed because the demonstration is successful, despite, not because, the middle class pacifists who have placed themselves at the head of C.N.D. The winning of thousands of young people for action in support of the transitional slogan of unilateralism is of first rate significance and is phenomena which needs deep analysis.

This year the march was dominated by the 'Spies for Peace' pamphlet. The disclosures in it undoubtedly helped to make the march a numerical success. They also carried out another service, that of bringing out fake lefts into the open. Because this kind of thing is really 'anti-establishment', it sets the latter off scurrying sideways, like crabs, to disassociate themselves from people 'who threaten Britain's security'. The arguments vary, but inevitably those pursuing reformist policies show their true colours. The Daily Worker denounced those who had produced the pamphlet as splitters, and when it reported Lord Russell's message of greetings to Aldermaston cut all reference to 'Spies for Peace', actually making it appear to say something it didn't. Tribune bemoaned the damage done to the movement and claimed that it had helped the capitalist press to smear it. Of course, if they would ban young people from the march and carry 'God save the Queen' instead of 'Ban the Bomb' it would be impossible for the capitalist to smear it (or would it), maybe this would suit Tribune. Other journals, such as New Stateman, acted in a manner one has come to expect.

Tribune's claims looked pretty thin when the Observer, the Sunday after Easter, carried a report of a survey carried out in London suburbs. 54% of people asked had supported the aims of the Aldermaston marchers (although only 35% the march itself), questions about the 'Spies for Peace' got a break-down which shows not a sign of 'widespread horror at what had been done.' The 'Spies for peace' carried out a good function in showing that despite all the talk about defending freedom, the first result of a nuclear war would be a military Government in Britain. It showed too, that the ruling circles in this country do take nuclear war seriously. These two factors facilitate mass socialist explanation about the nature of war.

Some people have genuine doubts about the tactics of those who refuse to obey police instructions. The latter believe that it is of some important that there should be large numbers of people prepared to clash with the state machine. That this helps to harden out a core of people who can be relied on in the struggles of the future, and that, anyway it prevents to whole affair from merely being a safety valve. What is wrong is for the latter to behave in such a way that they separate themselves from new and no so advanced people. They should instead be very patient in explaining their point of view to those who are just breaking from convention by supporting C.N.D.. They should look upon the latter as potential allies who can be won for socialism.

Arguments have been heard for ceasing to participate in the anti-nuclear weapons. While some of these people (and not just S.P.G.Bers) discuss over a pint of beer whether Aldermaston is a diversion from Labour Party working, I and others on the demonstration were persuading people to join the Labour Party. Lenin and the Bolsheviki Party are quoted as authority for this abstentionist attitude. In 1905, the Bolsheviki denounced the petition to the Tsar organised by father Gapon as a provocation. However, once it was realised that the masses of St. Petersburg were taken in, the Bolsheviki decided to participate. Several Bolsheviki were among the hundreds killed by the Tsarist cossacks. Marxists must always go through the experience of the masses with them (with the duty of criticism.) Abstentionism has no place in Marxism.

CHINESE PLEASED WITH NEW ZEALAND COMMUNISTS

The Chinese press has given a lot of space to the recent New Zealand Communist Party Conference. The New China News Agency reporting the close of the Conference said: ".....The Conference held high the banners of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism and adhered to the Moscow Declaration and the Moscow statement. It stressed the importance of strengthening the unity of the international Communist movement and opposition to social democracy, and issued a call to struggle against imperialism and monopoly capitalism. The conference was filled with revolutionary enthusiasm and confidence in the cause of communism from beginning to end...."

In his speech greeting the conference, the Chinese fraternal delegate, Liu Ning-Yi, paid fulsome praise to the party and the role it had played in adhering to the "Moscow Declaration and Moscow Statement." It appears that the New Zealand C.P. had moved right into the Chinese C.P. camp.

BELGIAN COMMUNIST PARTY EXPELS FOUR PRO-CHINESE

At its 16th Congress, held over Easter, the Belgian Communist Party expelled four members of its Central Committee. The four dissidents stuck to their position that in the polemic between Mao and K., that the latter had completely misrepresented the Chinese case. The decision was carried by an overwhelming majority.

'LEFT OPPOSITION' EMERGES IN BRITISH C.P.

At its Easter Conference, the British C.P. had a wide discussion on many political questions. The Conference was marked by the emergence of a left opposition on several questions. We give an extract from the Daily Worker reporting the international discussion: ".....In private session only four out of the 480 voting delegates opposed the executive's resolution; there were ten abstentions.... four branch motions opposing the executive received a mere handful of votes. One from North Lewisham, called for the continuance of the public debate between the parties. It got only five votes, with five abstentions.....From Bell Green (Coventry) branch two further motions were overwhelmingly rejected. The first instructed the Executive to publish more factual information about other parties, implying that insufficient information about them was available. It received 14 votes, with four abstentions. The second on Yugoslavia, received 12 votes with eight abstentions."

Though the Daily Worker tries to play it down, the fact that 14 branches voted against the leadership is of immense importance. There is always a campaign against electing dissidents as delegates to National Conference, in which all the resources of the full-time apparatus are used. We know of at least one branch where the majority of the active members are dissident but a loyalist was elected delegate owing to the campaign waged by the C.P. apparatus. The next issue of the Bulletin will contain an extensive review of amendments, etc. submitted by branches.

The nationalisation of big properties of both European and Algerian landholders and the announcement of decrees definitively establishing Workers' Management Committees, Workers' Councils and Workers' Assemblies have been received with enormous enthusiasm throughout Algeria. In a nationwide tour following announcement of the new measures, Ben Bella was greeted with celebrations reminiscent of those when independence was won last July. Entire populations of towns and villages turned out to hail the head of government who, not so many months ago when he came to power in an unclear factional struggle, was met with chilly reserve.

Everywhere he went Ben Bella was appealing to the people to organise themselves by setting up workers' councils and workers' management committees. These are now being formed throughout the country at an accelerated rate. From various sources, including Le Peuple (formerly Al Chaab) and Alger Republicain we reproduce below extracts from Ben Bella's speeches, indicating the topics he covered during the tour.

"We will never accept our country serving as an arena for the testing of bombs. The French Government has been warned. It is up to it to decide." Elsewhere he said: "They say that taking back Bourgeaud's land is contrary to the Evian agreement. So be it; if we are violating the Evian agreement by this decision, so much the worse for the Evian agreement."

"This struggle consists in discouraging once and for all the bourgeoisie of this country. If we have plucked Bourgeaud and the others, this is not because of cism; we have suffered too much ourselves to resort to that. Believe me, this minority which consists around 5 % of the Algerian people is nonetheless powerful for that. Unfortunately, they hold the power of money. But the 95 % who constitute the other part of the people are absolutely with us in taking up the cudgels against this fauna. To carry this out, you, the humble, join the national organisations in mass, and particularly the humble and the UGTA (the Unions) to make this the November 1st of the Algerian Socialism." (November 1st 1954 was the day the struggle began for national independence from French imperialism.)

"It has been repeatedly said that women played their role in the struggle for freedom. The whole world has repeatedly said that women participated fully and in a way that did honour to the Algerian struggle for freedom.....But in the struggle for constructing the country? Women are searching for their place." Noting the presence of many women in the audience, Ben Bella continued: "Women must take their destiny into their own hands. Women must not wait for directions to follow from the men, but must integrate themselves fully and spontaneously in the public life." "Today we are opening a far greater struggle than that which ended July 2nd 1962, - the struggle for socialism. The time has come to struggle in order to roap. We don't want to replace one set of pigs by another set wearing turbans. This is the revolution of the poor people, of the widows, of the shoe-shine boys. We have undertaken these decrees swiftly in order to defeat the manoeuvres of imperialism and of certain Algerian elements who wanted to turn the vacated properties and all enterprises over to the colonialists."

"I thank God that France put us in prison, because thus we had time to think and to work out the policies which we are applying today. We studied the experiences of Cuba, the USSR and Yugoslavia. I am from the soil like you and I have the same difficulties as you."



FREEDOM STRUGGLE CONTINUES IN NORTH KALIMANTAN.

It was reported on April 18th. that British security forces had captured Sheikh Osman Bin Mahmud, brother of the Brunei rebel leader Inche A.M. Azahari. Osman was wounded three times in the chest before being taken in a village only five miles from Brunei Town.

A police spokesman said later that another brother had also been captured, but did not say how he was taken.

A company of No. 40 Royal Marine Commando arrived in Sarawak on April 18th. With troops of the 2/10 Gurkha Rifles they are part of a military build-up begun six days ago after an attack on Tebedu police station, near the border of Indonesian Borneo. According to reports this attack was carried out by the North Kalimantan National Army led by the North Kalimantan Unitary State Revolutionary Government. During the attack one police constable was killed and two wounded. All the arms in the station, according to a Kuching report, were carried away.

A spokesman of the British authorities in Sarawak admitted on April 12th. that the Tebedu police station had been raided. Kuching Police commissioner P.E. Turnbull revealed that the arms taken included one bren gun, two sterling guns, one revolver, fifteen rifles, one shot gun, and a quantity of ammunition. Troops were sent to this region from Brunei and Kuching on April 13th. & 14th. and a thirteen-hour curfew has been enforced in the first division of Sarawak. Since the Brunei armed uprising started last December, Britain has repeatedly sent troops to the area. About three thousand British Troops are now stationed there. According to an announcement of the Brunei authorities on April 9th., more than three thousand eight hundred people have been arrested since last December, and more than two thousand three hundred of them are still under detention. In Singapore on April 10th., the Chairman of the Singapore Socialist Front Lee Siew Chow defended the struggle of the North Kalimantan People. He said that the Front's open support for this struggle was perfectly correct and just, and that this was a firm struggle against colonialism.

BORDER ARRESTS BY THAI AUTHORITIES.

The Thai army and police have recently arrested in the Southern Border areas 160 people alleged to be "secretly providing the Malayan National Liberation Army with food and ammunition," said Trakarn Kosol, Thai under-secretary of state. He claimed that the arrests were made under the agreement reached between Thailand and Malaya concerning the "mopping up" of the Malayan National Liberation Army. ( Based on a Hsinhua report of April 16th. )

ZANZIBAR NATIONALIST LEADER RELEASED.

General Secretary of the Zanzibar Nationalist Party Abdul Rahman Muhaméd was released on April 13th after 12 months' imprisonment, according to a report from Zanzibar. Ten thousand people gathered early in the morning to welcome him. Abdul Rahman Muhaméd was detained by the British Colonial authorities in Zanzibar on May 5th. 1962 with other Zanzibar Patriots and sentenced to 15 months imprisonment on a trumped-up sedition charge.

Readers will remember the note in the last issue of the Bulletin about the new revolutionary South African journal, Assagai, now published in London. It does not take much political understanding to see that Assagai is edited by people who are close to the South African Communist Party, but who have an extremely healthy orientation to revolutionary struggle. It is also very clear that they have no illusions in achieving victory by their current sabotage campaign alone. Of exceptional interest is their study of guerilla warfare and the statement many times over that it is applicable to South Africa. On many questions they have abandoned the positions of Stalinism. They speak of the world workers' revolution of which the South African revolution is an integral part, and which fact "has too often been lost sight of by many South Africans in the past. In the present stage of the world the revolution should not be divided into separate stages: first the national or democratic revolution and then the socialist revolution.....There is nothing wrong with South Africa today which Socialism cannot put right; but everything that is wrong with our country....cannot be set right by capitalism. They are the logic of capitalist class rule as it has developed in South Africa; they all spring directly from the system itself. It is nonsense, therefore, to say that 'Socialism is not the immediate problem.' Socialism, now, is a burning necessity for our people..."

When compared with the South African Road To Freedom, the South African Communist Party programme adopted in October, 1962, the Assagai lacks all the ambiguities and confusion and comes out clearly for the Revolution and its socialist nature. Indeed the polemical nature of many of the articles could lead one to wonder if there is no internal struggle on this question, which in turn would explain many things.

There is perhaps only two questions which we would raise when reading this magazine. First, although there is a healthy emphasis on the role of the working class and Marxist ideology, there is not a full understanding of the vital role of the struggle of the peasantry. This is mainly a technical question: it is much easier relatively to fight in the countryside than in the city, particularly in the earlier stages of the revolution, and taking into consideration the conditions in the locations in the South African cities. Thus while the struggle must be under the leadership of cadres from the working class and under their ideology (as opposed to racialist or tribalist ideology) the struggle of necessity must be based upon the peasantry, for it is only in the countryside that an effective Army of Liberation can be constructed (as opposed to small clandestine secret sabotage groups in the city, where anything else is too easily crushed.)

We await with interest the further issues of Assagai as well as the future evolution of the South African Revolution itself. The Assagai speaks the truth when it says "The mass participation of the people is essential..." but this will in turn mean a Revolutionary United Front, no matter the different political origins of leaderships and groups, particularly if they have a common Marxist denominator.

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A Lambeth correspondent reports: The heavy defeats suffered by the E.C. of the London Labour Party over its report on Youth and on Civil Defence at its Annual Conference indicate the changed mood of the delegates and the movement as a whole.

Amongst the points from key resolutions (mostly composited) which were passed are:

(1) on Direct Labour: "...that conference urges that in order to raise housing production still further the Executive Committee calls for a conference of representatives of Housing Committees in London and Middlesex in association with the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives to consider the preparation of a three-year plan for London's housing and the formation of a consortium of authorities to undertake research, design, construction and the extension and coordination of Direct Labour schemes"

(2) on Municipalisation: urging "...all Labour-controlled local authorities to acquire progressively, rented accommodation, whether occupied or not, by negotiations or by Compulsory Purchase Order so as to afford protection to tenants against extortionate rents and fears of eviction."

Other resolutions on unemployment, on youth unemployment, road transport and London transport went through without much difficulty. For the Executive of the London L.P., the only changes were the replacement of Hugh Jenkins by Irene Chaplin, L.C.C., with the two runners up Hugh Jenkins, L.C.C., 97 bloc votes, and E. Hillman, L.C.C., 90 votes.

#### HACKNEY CENTRAL YOUNG SOCIALISTS SUPPORT ALGERIA

On Friday, April 5th, Hackney Central Y.S. passed an emergency resolution welcoming the Algerian Government's land nationalisation policy. Only three voted against.

#### RIGHT WING SHOW TRUE COLOURS IN STREATHAM AND NORWOOD

A South London correspondent reports: An echo of the battles within Norwood and Streatham Labour Parties in 1959 has been heard in the local press. Mr Ewbank, who played a principal part in the purge against the left, has now left the Labour Party for the Liberal Party. He has accused the local Streatham Party of being run by the same people as those who "ran" the party before the 1959 purge. In reality, Streatham Labour Party is controlled by a group of centrists who are extremely hostile to the expelled members.

A few months ago, in Norwood, a principal witch-hunter, a Mr. Darroch, resigned from the party, joining the Liberals becoming one of the Liberal Borough Council candidates in the 1962 elections - accusing Norwood Labour Party of being controlled by Communists and Trotskyists. These statements were without foundation and merely prove the evolution of the extreme right wing towards Liberalism is dictated by their frustration at being unable to force the Labour Party into their own image.

FREE OMAN MOVEMENT CHANGES NAME: The Committee formerly known as the Oman and Muscat Committee has changed its name to the Committee for the Rights of Oman (and the enslaved people of Muscat) "to give the public a clear and complete understanding of the Committee's name." The Committee, which runs a journal called Free Oman, carries out propoganda activity drawing attention to the British Government's suppression of the people of Oman. Further material will appear soon.

The struggle against antistrike legislation now pending in Parliament reached a new pitch at the Enlarged National Committee meeting of the Belgian Federation of Trade Unions yesterday when 43% of the mandates were cast against adoption. With 3.5% abstaining the right wing was able to muster a majority of only 53.5%. This is the smallest majority ever registered at a congress or enlarged meeting of the FGTB.

The vote is even more significant in light of the fact that 75% of the mandates from the Walloon part of the country were cast against the legislation, although on April 6 the Socialist Party congress adopted a motion instructing the Members of Parliament to vote in favour of the bill. The minority opposing the projected law got 30% of the vote but 59% of the Walloon ballots.

As a result of this sensational progress of the left wing in both the Socialist party and the unions, 12 Socialist MP's refused to follow the instructions of the SP congress when the antistrike legislation came up for a first vote today in the House of Representatives. This is the first time in the history of the Belgian Social-Democratic Party that such a large number of Members of Parliament have broken reformist discipline. They were suspended from the Socialist group in Parliament, but their future depends on the fate of the whole left wing in the Socialist party and the trade unions.

Leaders of the left wing have repeatedly made it clear that they will stick together. However, this does not imply that the expulsion of some of the rebels would automatically lead to a major split off. The district organisations controlled by the left wing, including the Liege district, Belgium's most important industrial, working class and socialist stronghold, would defy the decisions of the bureaucracy by reinstating the expelled comrades as members of their districts with full standing.

The bureaucracy would then have to either expel the districts with their tens of thousands of members or accept the new situation and the de facto autonomy of the left wing of the party in Parliament.

Meanwhile, "harrassing" strikes continue in several parts of the country as protests against the proposed laws and advanced workers are following with the greatest interest this tug-of-war between the left wingers, who have remained faithful to the working class, and the reformist bureaucrats, who have sacrificed every principle of socialism to maintain a coalition government with the bourgeoisie.

FRENCH COMMITTEE FORMED TO AID ALGERIA:- A preparatory committee has been formed here to help organize aid, especially of a technical character, for Algeria. The committee is composed of J. Deboulene, J. Barcts, Claude Bourdot, René Catroux, René Dumont, A. Sauvy, J. Souleil, M. Stern, P. Teitgen. Committees are also being formed in Britain, Switzerland, Holland, Belgium, Austria Italy and a joint meeting of these committees is scheduled for the end of April. This meeting will organize and prepare for the conference in Algiers in May 1963. ( From a Paris correspondent. )

The N.P.D. of Ireland is conducting a campaign against the attempt of the Lemass Government to impose a wage freeze on Irish workers. They have issued a leaflet from which the following passages are extracted :

LEMASS has struck again. Yet another attack on the living standard of the worker. Remember 1947 .. he tried to bring in a wages stand-still order. The same man, in September 1961, tried to give a jail sentence of 5 years to anyone going on strike then. And he has struck again. This time it is a standstill on wages. Don't be coddled by Lemass's plausible statements that they will not enforce the standstill. The White Paper instructions to State and semi-State bodies not to accede to wage increases has NOT been retracted. Unemployment - at 70,000 - is ten thousand higher than last year. According to the Government's own report factories in nearly every city and town are closing or are to close. Workers are laid off at Shannon, Tuam, Sligo, Avoca, Verholme dockyard, Cork. Men are out of work at Inchicore. Ringsend dockyards have closed and Liffey dockyards are about to close. Flour mills throughout the country are closed. Over a thousand in the motor assembly and ancillary industries will be out of work according to the reports of the Commission on Industrial Organisation. The same organisation reports that over a thousand people will come to grief in the boot and shoe industry. They estimate that 2,000 will fall in the cotton and rayon industry and over 1,000 in the paper and paper board industry.

Support your trade union leaders in their action against the pay pause and press for further action. Form action committees and demand:-

- (1) That the Government publish immediately their plans to hold, compensate and re-train those made redundant by the re-organisation of industry.
- (2) That the unemployment benefit rate be increased to help those newly disemployed and unable to cope with H.P., rent and other commitments entered into when in work.
- (3) That enough capital be spent to make enough jobs for all who want them.
- (4) Ensure that the Government spend £100,000,000 on a capital investment scheme to build primary schools ; accept responsibility for building secondary schools ; embark on a scheme for major and other forms of road construction ; a nation wide harbour reconstruction plan ; increased housing drive to relieve many of our people from sub-human living ; greater emphasis on afforestation expansion.

Forty years of native capitalism has so dismally failed. It has created this crisis. It will continue to create more crises. Dr. Noel Browne and Deputy McQuillan have demanded that the Government scrap the wages standstill order. They have called for the introduction of a law to fix prices and restrict profits and dividends.

The Transport Workers Section of the Trade Union Committee of the N.P.D. has issued a special leaflet on the Dublin Transport strike. This leaflet argues the strikers case in detail, explains the role of the Government and ends up : Make no mistake it is to be a fight to a finish. Whoever loses now loses for good. There will be no "return" fight, especially since a section of the trade union leadership must help to sabotage the strike in order to justify their contemptible betrayal and earn whatever thirty pieces of silver is coming to them when the dust dies down.

We ask the trade unionists to support the bus workers in this strike. We ask you to help the bus workers win their battle by writing to you T.D. Call on Sean Lemass to insist that Dr. Andrews withdraw the one-man buses and allow a basis for negotiation on pensions so as to create an atmosphere for ending the strike. Help the struggle with funds and workers.

1563 The Economist of April 20th carried an analysis of company balance-sheets and profit and loss accounts published in the first quarter of this year. Its comment is optimistic about future prospects:

"If one takes the steel companies out of the reckoning of company profits published in the first quarter of this year, the result is a rise in trading profits, compared with the previous year's figures, of 3½%. These are the results for a year that ran roughly to the end of 1st September, when the industrial production index was teetering before the sharp winter fall. They may not be exciting, and some groups with their own special problems (paper and packaging, the textiles companies and engineering) make as bad a showing as that of the steel industry in its most miserable postwar year.....", the long article goes to consider in detail various aspects of profit prospects, and concludes:

"....Industrial confidence is better but hardly strong yet. External trade is lame. Sterling is stronger but not yet secure. The advantages that everyone had counted on from joining the Common Market will not be realised. Efficiency in industry has improved, but so far at the expense of under-employment of plants and men....Yet despite all this it will be surprising if the improvement in economic prospects, as measured by the general level of ordinary shares (and this has not been a bad guide in the past) does not continue for some time yet. It took the daffodils a long time to appear this year; but they are out now."

The figures the Economist uses to back up its argument, that despite the generally weak position of the British economy the outlook for profits is bright, are produced below:

PROFITS OF 367 COMPANIES REPORTING IN 1st QUARTER, 1963

	TRADING PROFITS (figures in £mn.)		
	Prev. year	Latest year	Change per cent
Breweries, etc.....	42.4	45.7	+ 7.8
Building.....	12.7	13.9	+ 9.4
Paper and Packaging.....	7.4	5.5	-25.7
Chemicals and Paint.....	20.4	20.9	+ 2.5
Clothing and Footwear.....	5.6	5.4	- 3.6
Electrical Manufacturing.....	37.8	44.3	+17.2
Engineering.....	34.2	30.1	-12.0
Entertainment.....	8.5	10.2	+20.0
Property.....	3.7	4.2	+13.5
Food and Confectionery.....	23.1	25.1	+ 8.7
Motors, etc.....	28.9	33.5	+15.9
Newspapers and Printing.....	4.9	4.8	- 2.0
Shipbuilding.....	0.4	0.4	--
Shipping.....	16.8	18.1	+ 7.7
Shops and Stores.....	45.6	49.2	+ 7.9
Cotton.....	6.3	2.4	-61.9
Silks, rayons and other textiles...	6.6	6.1	- 7.6
Wool.....	6.8	5.3	-22.1
Tobacco.....	104.4	107.3	+ 2.8
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	65.6	65.5	- 0.2
Miscellaneous others.....	8.3	9.4	+13.3
Total less steel.....	<u>490.3</u>	<u>507.3</u>	+ 3.5
Iron and Steel.....	<u>138.1</u>	<u>105.6</u>	-23.5
Total including Iron and Steel.....	<u>628.4</u>	<u>612.9</u>	- 2.5

Whilst vacancies exist at all the holidays of which details are given below, we recommend that people intending to take part in these should send as soon as possible both instructions as to where they would like to stay, and for what dates, together with the necessary deposit of 70/-.

YUGOSLAVIA Dalmatian Coast, situated on the Island of Brac, two hours from the town of Split. There is a private beach on the island and several small boats, a larger vessel, and a small yacht available for use free of charge. Departures are made each week on Saturday from Paris or Friday from London, starting June 15th until September 14th. The holiday lasts sixteen days, and the price includes visits to Split, Zadar, Rijeka and one half-day visit to Vienna.

Price : London to London £39 10 Od accomodated in rooms with 4/5 beds  
£41 10 Od " " " " 2 " .

It is likely that any body wishing to travel from Vienna to the Holiday Centre will be able to do so, and details are available on request.

YUGOSLAVIA Island of Losinj. Very much the same sort of holiday as that advertised above, but there are no boats for free use, and there are no visits to Split, Zadar or Rijeka. Price : £36 10 Od.

FRANCE Sea-resort of Brus, Nr. Toulon on the Riviera Coast. Departures take place each Friday from London from June 2nd to September 27th. Unlike the Yugoslavian centres, this is a permanent tent camp. Four meals a day are provided. 13 sail boats, 3 canoes, 2 kayaks and 2 motor boats may be used free of charge. Water-skiing at a modest charge. Accomodation is in tents with 3, 4, or 10 beds, with mattresses and covers. YHA style sheet sleeping bags must be taken.

Price : 2 Weeks stay, £33 10 Od. For any person wishing perhaps to hitch-hike through France to this resort, we will be glad to supply information as to the cost only, on request, of staying at this centre.

FRANCE Situated at the resort of Aix Les Bains, near the Bourget Lake and the Alps Chamonix. Mont Blanc is only a few miles away and facilities exist for organised climbing expeditions. Once again this is a tent camp. Private Beach.

Price : London to London, £27 10 Od for two weeks' stay. Any persons wanting to travel independently to this resort can be quoted for cost of stay only on request.

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Please send your bookings and any further enquiries without delay to:-  
EUROPEAN YOUTH HOLIDAY CENTRES,  
7, Elm Tree Avenue,  
West Bridgford,  
NOTTINGHAM.