

KEEP LEFT

ORGAN OF THE WEMBLEY LABOUR LEAGUES OF YOUTH

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EDITORIAL

BEWARE OF PICKPOCKETS

After obviously having had second thoughts, Mr. Butler has presented the country with a very clever Budget that (almost) conceals his true intentions. Having dazzled the population with the glittering spectacle of income-tax concessions, he hopes they may not inquire too closely as to who actually gains and by how much. In fact, it is the £2000 per annum class that gets most out of it whilst the 8 million people who are already exempt, receive nothing to compensate for higher food prices. Incidentally, with the increased cost of transport (petrol etc.) it will not be long before the price of food has risen by much more than Mr. Butler's 1/6d per head, and this, with the destruction of the utility scheme, will mean that the niggardly increase in pensions and family allowances will soon be swallowed up.

However, it is the increased Bank Rate which stamps this as a typically Tory Budget. For whilst calling for higher production, the Tories have deliberately introduced legislation which will cut back capital investment (by raising interest rates as a whole). This is designed to increase unemployment and will also lead to higher priced mortgages, higher rents and further increases in the cost of Hire Purchase.

This is the Tory 'solution'— "Tax concessions for the rich and higher prices for the poor."

WHO SAID THAT?

Fleet Street is a street composed almost entirely of gutters.

"KEEP POLITICS OUT OF POLITICS!"

No one was surprised when the cuts in the Social Services raised the question throughout the Labour Movement of industrial action to fight against them. What was more surprising, was the intense and unanimous opposition of a section of the leadership of our Movement to any such proposals.

Brother Deakin tells us that the strike weapon is out of date. "We have got a Tory Government, and now we must make the best of it." Comrade Morrison says that such action would be "wrong in principle and damaging to the Labour Movement." Alf Rubens summed it up in the phrase: "Keep politics out of industry!"

To me, this statement is as preposterous as the title of this article. For what is socialism but the realisation that industry and politics are absolutely inseparable? Moreover, a cut in the Health Service or in Education is as much a lowering of the living standards of the working class as a cut in wages.

I am not qualified to say whether a strike in this or that industry would be advisable; this is a question for the workers themselves to decide. What I do contend is that speeches like those of Deakin and Company can only weaken our cause. By tying the hands of the Trade Unions, they are playing the Tory game.

A study of the General Strike of 1926 shows the way in which Churchill and his strike-breakers were aided by similar statements from MacDonald and Jimmy Thomas. They showed that they were more concerned about not shocking the Tories than about achieving victory for Labour. (For their pains, the Tory press called them — revolutionaries!)

We are told that the Communists will gain from industrial action. But it is certain that the position of Communists in the T.U.'s is enormously strengthened by this campaign of the Labour leaders. While the 'Daily Herald' attacks the decision of the South Wales miners, the 'Daily Worker' is only too pleased to support it. Mr. Churchill is not the best recruiter for the Communist Party -- Arthur Deakin beats him by a short head.

The attack of the Government on the Welfare State is part of an attempt to lower the living standards of our people.. There is an alternative to this policy: Socialism. Humbug about the Constitution and the threat to Parliament, is no substitute for a programme which can rally the people and bring down the Tory Government.

Cyril Smith.

"TERRIBLY LEFT"

"It is rather unique, you know. It shows the way Wembley South Labour Party are going. I thought from the behaviour of the Socialist candidate at the last election that they were pretty left; the Labour League of Youth is terribly left; so now we know where we are." (Ronald Russell M.P.)

"Gad Sir! Some of them are downright Socialists" Wg. Cdr.
Bogey N.B.G. & Bar

Scene: A DINGY CELLAR 'neath ALPHINGTON SCHOOL. IN THE CORNER A BLOOD-STAINED DINNER-JACKET INDICATES THE PRESENCE OF A YOUNG TORY CAPTIVE.

Enter Raskeatin He speaks.

Raskeatin Have you damaged his essential fabric? Good! That will teach him to sing "Land of Hope and Glory" outside D-M---O's!!

Martinovitch Tomorrow we blow up the Police Station. Have you made the arrangements?

Raskeatin Our orders from Comrade Bevanski arrived on the red-tape machine early this morning---All is prepared.

Goise Ramskie They will regret not letting us go through the High Road. (She hurls her bible at the Young Tory and blows her nose vigorously on the Communist Manifesto).

Young Tory You beastly rotters!!

Raskeatin Throw him to the liberals!

FOOTSTEPS ARE HEARD WITHOUT. ENTER MORRISOW WITH SNOW ON BOOTS. HE REMOVES HIS CLOAK AND DISCARDS TWO BOMBS FROM HIS HIP POCKET. HE SPEAKS.

Morrisow Here are the copies of "Keep Left" straight from Kingsburg H.Q. I hid them under the "Daily Mirror" as I passed some policemen.

Ramski (Darkly) Little do they know!

Y.T. You utter cads! (Struggles upright) This will kill Winston!!
EXEUNT SEVERALLY, SHAKING WITH DEMONIAC LAUGHTER.

CURTAIN

RITA'S COLUMN.

April! the month of showers, the coming of Spring and sunshine we hope. Largely associated with April is Fool's Day and some, who won't deign to admit themselves members of this category, have no doubt by now given others definite proof of it. At the time of going to press, April 1st has not yet dawned so I don't know what's in store but knowing of the pranks which are played at our office, I have no doubt but that I shall be asked, among other things, to go round to the Hardware store for perhaps a box of elbow grease, but I'm no fool I know that elbow grease only comes in tins, still one never knows until the day and I hope that you are not still suffering from the effects of this day.

Last month brought the dance at the Town Hall which was a great success both financially as well as socially. Gosh! am I fed up with that line - if anyone can think of an original one will they please contact me. I know I've given out this S.O.S., before but as yet have had no offers. Needless to say, the bar (going back to the dance) attracted many who were seen to pop out every so often - more often than not - for a 'snifter' at least that is what I've heard people call it, not knowing of these things myself!?!? Members from many Leagues, old and young alike were there with Chris Stone providing the music. The raffle consisted of three prizes and although I crossed everything, including my eyes, which is rather tricky, I did not have any of the winning tickets still we live in hopes.

You've all heard about the Grand March so need I say more. The budget too has been amply discussed and depressing though the outlook may seem we are told quite cheerfully that it could be worse. How bad can it get?!

A grand slam profit of 14/2d., has been recorded for our own "Keep Left" gramophone recital. As already mentioned this Recital was given by Charles Finn on the origin of Jazz. Mr. Finn certainly taught us a thing or two and had some remarkably fine records, many of which are now unobtainable. We look forward to another visit from Charles Finn which we hope will be shortly so don't forget to watch out for the date.

May I add here that the refreshments provided on this particular evening were delicious, thanks to Margaret's careful preparation.

No engagements, no weddings not even probables; you certainly make it hard work for me and this a Leap Year too!

WARD REPORT.

At the March meeting of Dopyngton Court Ward, the most discussed item was the new constituency football competition. The Agent attended in order to explain the scheme and answer queries. Mr. Sprocket said as he understood it, it was very similar to betting on a line in a football pool, how then could they compete with the big pools? How many tickets would they have to sell to offer £50,000 as the first prize, or even £25,000. The Agent pointed out that the primary object of the competition was to raise funds for the constituency party and there was no intention to compete with L.....d's or even V.....n's.

If they only wanted to raise money Miss Sludge thought would it not be a good idea to have a jumble sale or a bazaar instead? She said her Sister was very good at knitting string bags and she was sure she would do some for He's coming!?! the Party. The Agent thanked her for the kind offer and assured her it was most appreciated but that they could hardly have a jumble sale every week and the demand for string bags was, to say the least, restricted.

Mr. Stickleback said while he was in full agreement with the scheme in principle, he thought they were being too ambitious and should investigate the possibilities in the next football season.

After further discussion in which several members put forward their own rather complicated schemes it was agreed that the Ward would try to sell twenty tickets.

R. H. T. Tokyngton Ward.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I would like to be able to take this chance of expressing my thanks for the enjoyable evening I found at the Leagues' Area Dance at the Town Hall on Tuesday 4th March.

The spirit I am sure was the friendliest one could wish for and the evening was a 'model' of efficiency and pleasantness thanks I am sure to all those who helped.

To the organising committee whom, I know, worked exceedingly hard and more than once must have felt 'butterflies' in their stomachs, I can only say a very big thanks and give best wishes for future successes and assure them their efforts are appreciated. May they get as much satisfaction at their own League functions.

NON DANCER.

HOUSES FOR THE PEOPLE.

It has at last burst into a 300,000 nothings except, of course, the usual Tory chatter about re-organisation which time whittles down to a lot of blarney.

Mr. MacMillan has bestowed upon the housing drive a wealth of enthusiasm which, for being without a firm formation, must I am certain, take the proverbial biscuit of Parliamentary history.

But let us put down a firm base from which we can progress with "Houses for the People". Should money dictate above the voice of need? As Socialists we must see that we put necessity before finance. With this in mind I submit the housing needs of the aged pensioners.

There are the very good charitable organisations such as "Eventide Homes Limited", but they cannot cater fully for the aged. It needs a definite national policy which while keeping within a monetary limit must remember that the aged are our responsibility as much as the young. When we have accepted the steel that the Worker provides don't let us when the rust shows through discard it.

When will we attempt to progress near to the Old Aged Pensioners Institute in Prague (built in 1934) which is a picture of modern architecture towering majestically to its 11th floor. If Comrade you think we may not have a suitable architect, look around the University building in London, most of the new London Transport Stations and then the never-to-be-forgotten, Festival Site; all had an architect somewhere in their construction.

We have the men in this great country who could design an institute that the world would want to live in, but we let their brains lie in frustration. We build to produce great wealth for the few and poverty at the end of the long trail for the aged many.

John L. Martin

The articles are the personal opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinions of the Editorial Board

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Published and Duplicated by Miss Morris & Miss Sheard assisted by members of the Wembley Labour Leagues of Youth!!!
