

The Week

A NEWS ANALYSIS FOR SOCIALISTS

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Teachers
to go into
action

CROSSMAN BLOWS THE GAFF

71, Onslow Gardens, London, N.10.

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Vol. 8, No. 5, 1981

GROSSMAN
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CROSSMAN'S "SAME MEDICINE AS BEFORE"

According to Frank Cousins, Richard Crossman has the habit of "blurting out truths as he sees them at the moment," when from the Government's point of view they are better left untold. In other words, the anger which Cabinet members have shown is because Crossman let the cat out of the bag. Crossman's denial and explanation that he had unemployment in mind, if anything, shows up the Government in a worse light. The Financial Times, in a recent survey of the British economy demonstrated that the improvement in the balance of payments position was due to two factors: a shift in terms of trade favourable to Britain (the world market cost of British imports dropped as against the world price for British exports) and reduced imports due to a reduction in home demand caused by increased unemployment, etc. Thus all the talk about "getting Britain going" is shown up for what it really is: verbiage to cover up old-style Tory economic policy.

The "best" interpretation that one can put on Crossman's remarks - by taking him at his word - is that the Government is thinking in terms of re-introducing unemployment measures should it fail to hold down wages. At worst - and this seems the most likely explanation - his statement means that the Government will bring in the wages' standstill whenever it thinks fit. There is no doubt whatsoever that the Government is geared to anti-working class measures as a permanent feature of its policy.

Many in the movement, because of the fine working class tradition of loyalty to its organisations, have been persuaded to support the Government because they thought Wilson's policies were a temporary feature. They have been prepared to give the Wilson Government the benefit of the doubt. Now there is no doubt. Let us turn the furore over Crossman's boob into a campaign to clarify this issue. Let us use this situation to do all in our power to ensure that this year's Labour Party Conference and T.U.C. reject Wilson's policies. Only mass action against the wage freeze will destroy the incomes policy - but this mass action will be much facilitated (and perhaps impossible without) the left being able to speak unambiguously in the name of the movement and with an alternative programme of anti-capitalist demands.

THE TEACHERS TO GO INTO ACTION

The result of the teachers' ballot is fine news. Not merely because it means that an important section of the movement is to take militant action but also because action by the teachers will create a stir in the working class as a whole. The rest of the labour movement must, of course, support the teachers. In particular it must campaign against the outrageous hints that teachers will be victimised for trade union action. We must insist the Government prevent any victimisation and that Labour-controlled local authorities set an example by pledging themselves to respect the trade union rights of teachers. So far there is no indication that Labour local authorities have behaved any differently from Tory-controlled ones in local authority organisations. Labour's Representatives on these bodies must be called to order.

LONDON LABOUR SELL-OUT

The caucus in control of the London Labour Party appears to have succeeded in their delaying tactics to avoid calling the all-Labour representative conference demanded unanimously on the L.C.S. resolution carried at the London Annual Conference in May.

Sara's ad hoc unrepresentative committee of hand-picked stooges - Bert Fry, Les Hilliard (Michael Stewart's agent), Jim Daly (the Co-op's McCarthy) & co., has nearly finished its work and no doubt when it's too late to do anything about it, London's million Labour Party members will be told what has been decided on their behalf.

Key proposal to watch out for will be the appointment of all officials for the new London Regional Organisation by Transport House - that is, by Sara or her successor (Bro. Underhill?). The present democratic arrangement whereby, ever since the days of Herbert Morrison, the London Party has appointed and paid its own staff is anathema to the Stalinists of Smith Square.

Political rejuvenation of the regions demands a measure of regional autonomy - rather than the dead hand of central control. If Sara has her way, Labour is set to lose a generation of local and regional elections in London.

In the long-term interests of the Party, the rank and file must fight for regional autonomy under the control of London's members.

IRISH EMBASSY PICKETED

30 people - Irish Republicans, British marxists and trade unionists took part in a protest picket outside the Southern Irish Embassy on Sunday, 2nd July to protest the jailing of Joe Dillon, one of the leaders of the left wing of the I.R.A.

Dillon's appeal was due to be held the next day, Monday 3rd but for some unexplained reason has not been held. Many in the Irish Labour movement believe that the London picketing plus a similar one in Dublin and a promised one in New York, have given the Dublin Government second thoughts ESPECIALLY as the transcript of the Judge's summing-up shows that the Judge - an in-law of President De Valera - told the jury that if they thought that the police had not proved their case "they may well form the opinion that the State had bungled their case." This was clearly meant as a direction to the jury to find Dillon guilty, even if the police had not proven their case.

There remains a great need to pour protests into the office of the Irish Minister of Justice, Mr. Brian Lenihan, Department of Justice, Merrion Street, Dublin 2.

LOW EARNINGS, WAGE-STOP MAJOR CAUSE OF POVERTY by a special correspondent

Last week's issue of New Society had an editorial note about the Government survey on poverty: Circumstances of Families (HMSO 17s. 6d.) This is extremely useful because it analyses the main facts which come out of the report. The editorial also draws attention to Margaret Herbison's statement that the government will tackle the hard-core problem "so far as is possible in the light of other competing demands on national resources." This underlines the point made by The Week in its last issue that the fight against poverty is a fight against the whole Government's economic and social policy. "Competing demands on national resources" have to be given an order of priority, that order of priority is determined by Government policy.

The most important parts of the article read: "Circumstances of Families broadly supports the case of those who have argued so tenaciously that poverty among large families is one of the major deficiencies of our society. It is all to the good that the arguments of a pressure group should be reinforced by these official findings. It only remains now for officialdom to offer a solution... On the basis of a sample of approximately 2,500 families with two or more children and drawing family allowances, the survey suggests that, last summer, some 280,000 families had resources, excluding national assistance, which were less than their requirements as defined on the basis of national assistance scales. These families included 910,000 children. If the supplementary benefit rates now current are applied, the number of families rises to 345,000 (out of a possible total of some 3.9 million), and the number of children involved goes up to 1,110,000. If you take into account the total of seven million families with one or more children, half a million families were below what is now the supplementary benefit level. Margaret Herbison points out, in her foreword to the report, the by now familiar paradox that every time you raise the benefit rate the number of people below the poverty level automatically increases. But this doesn't alter the force of the findings. Yet it is not so much the general picture as the breakdown which is really significant. Of the 345,000 below-scale families, 125,000 had fathers in full-time jobs. Some 60,000 families had sick fathers at the time of the survey, 40,000 had fathers unemployed, and about 75,000 were fatherless. The remainder included some 20,000 with fathers on holiday and a variety of other categories. Of the 135,000 families receiving national assistance last June and July, 15,000 did not receive full allowances because of the wage stop, and about 70,000 could not be paid assistance at all because the fathers were in full-time work.

The survey therefore makes it more than ever clear that the poverty problem is dominated by low full-time earnings, coupled with the wage-stop philosophy. The only cast-iron solution to it would be some sort of minimum-income guarantee."

At the TGWU conference this week, Frank Cousins' line of the £15 a week minimum wage carried; it is significant that the same conference went on record for a whole series of nationalisation measures and for industrial democracy. These points are all facets of the beginnings of an alternative policy to Wilsonism in the Labour movement.

HARINGEY COUNCIL TO RECONSIDER RENT INCREASES from David Robinson

Council tenants in the Labour-controlled borough of Haringey held a most successful mass lobby at the civic centre last Monday in protest against rent rises, (see The Week, June 8th, and July 6th.) By 7pm over 200 people had assembled outside the council chambers with banners reading: "Councillors fight the Government - not the tenants," "Rent Freeze - not Wage Freeze," and "Represent Tenants - not Profiteers." When the public gallery was opened the crowd had reached 400. Only 160 could be squeezed into the gallery - the remainder packed the foyer and overflowed into the street where they were addressed by members of the Haringey Tenants and Residents Federation over a loudspeaker.

The Federation has collected over 5,000 signatures to a petition protesting against the rent increases - tenants face immediate rent rises of up to 12/6 a week followed, in many cases, by a similar increase next January. When the meeting started the council had refused to receive either the petition or a deputation from the tenants. However, the mobilisation of such determined opposition to the rent increases threw councillors into a state of confusion. It was not merely a demonstration staged by a few activists but a natural reaction by working people to what amounts to a real cut in their standard of living. Pensioners, students, young married couples and a large number of children were present throughout the evening.

When the rents committee's report came to be discussed the council was forced to take vote after vote on whether to accept the petition, or a deputation or both; or whether to hold a special meeting to discuss the matter. An expression of disgust at their equivocation from a tenant in the gallery gave the Mayor the excuse to clear the public from the meeting. After this three councillors who have been supporting the tenants came out and reported on progress, or the lack of it inside the council chamber. Later representatives of the tenants association were called in and the suggestion made that there should be a special meeting of the rents committee next Monday followed by a special meeting of the full council to discuss the petition. This suggestion was also turned down but by this time the Labour whip was losing all semblance of control over his flock and by the last vote of the evening could muster less than a handful of "loyal" Labour councillors to his side. It was finally decided that a special open meeting of the rents committee would be held "within 14 to 21 days" which a deputation of tenants would be allowed to address, followed by a closed meeting of the same committee.

Apparently the council is unused to the workings of democracy and after this vote wild accusations of a "Marxist plot" were made by certain councillors who also threatened to report the matter to the regional office. Those involved, both inside and outside the council, in this dastardly plot to support the working people of Haringey in their pursuit of a decent standard of living must be exposed/disciplined/suspended/ran the argument.

Council election will be held next year in Haringey and it is now up members of local Labour parties to make sure that those councillors who insist on supporting the rent increases are not put up for re-election.

POLITICAL NOTES

from Tony Southall

KOREA STUDENT PROTESTS AT RIGGED ELECTIONS

Police arrested 159 students in Seoul on July 4th during street clashes after renewed protest demonstrations against alleged election-rigging by the Government in June 8th elections for the legislature. Several other student demonstrations took place in other parts of the country. Universities and colleges have been closed for 3 weeks since 6 days of massive protest in mid-June. But on July 4th, when they were reopened with Government approval for the semester examinations, none of the students turned up - 15,000 of them were on the streets demonstrating however.

FROM GLASGOW EVENING CITIZEN 5.7.67. article from Aden by Tom Pocock

Lieutenant Colonel Colin Mitchell, leader of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders who took over Crater, said, referring to 'terrorists' in the town: "They know that if they start trouble we will blow their bloody heads off".

AMERICAN SHIP OWNERS DO WELL OUT OF OIL SUPPLY CRISIS

"Although American flag ships, like British vessels, remain barred from most Arab ports, few of these engage in international trade, because of high labour costs. These vessels limit almost all their activities to coastal waters. But almost every owner of American flag ships also owns a larger fleet of foreign flag ships - usually Panamanian and Liberian - and these have not been subjected to the general lock-out at Arab ports. Few shipowners, however, are willing to discuss what amounts to out and out rate gouging. Some brokers in New York told me they had been able to obtain contracts to ship oil at \$18. a ton compared with only \$2.99 a ton before the Suez crisis began. "A 120 day voyage that grossed \$4,500. a day before the Suex crisis", said one broker, "is now grossing more than \$5,000. a day. The profits from such a trip are evident. It only costs \$2,000. a day to operate a tanker".

(From Harlow Unger, New York, The Times 6th July)

RUSSIANS CASH IN

An unidentified Russian tanker of 45,000 tons was chartered on 6th July by Japan Lines for 5 voyages from the Persian Gulf to Japan. For this payment was approximately 67/- per ton of freight as opposed to 20/- per ton before the crisis broke.

(The Times 7th July)

NOT SO LEFT?

The United Front Government of West Bengal decided this weekend to use force against a peasant revolt in Naxalbari. Police have been given full powers to use tear gas and shooting to crush the uprising. The U.F. Government includes members of the "left" Indian Communist Party. The rising is alleged to be led by expelled members of that group. (The Times 10th July)

Call for More Nationalization

At the T&GW biennial conference in Blackpool Frank Cousins called for full public ownership of natural gas resources, the ports and road haulage firms. He emphasized that the union regarded the decasualization of dock labour as only the first step towards full public ownership of the ports, which would bring security and higher pay to the union's members.

But he stressed that security must be for all port employees, and nationalization could not be partial. They could not, for example, accept plans under which public port authorities need not necessarily take over tugs and lighterage. Frank Cousins dwelt on the promises which had been given that there would be no dismissals through redundancy in the docks, and sympathized with members who had been alarmed by the McKinsey report forecast that containers would eventually make 90% of dock labour surplus. Even if this were an exaggeration, he said, port employers were talking of a level of surplus labour in the next few years which would make the problems of railway and coal mining redundancy insignificant by comparison.

He was particularly critical of the Transport Holding Company which behaves as a sleeping partner although it already has a half share in this country's bus undertakings. The general manager of one bus company which is half publicly owned, the Midland Red, has stated his intention to take a leading part in organizing opposition to the Government's nationalization plans.

"How much of our money", Mr. Cousins asked, "is he using to campaign against the policy we put up?"

'The Times' Supports Docks' Nationalization

In an editorial in The Times on July 7th nationalization of the docks was supported in view of the likelihood of a massive cut in the labour employed during the next few years. What better way could there be of showing the working man the benefits of nationalization is The Times cynical attitude. In order to prevent this kind of manipulation dock workers must insist that nationalization be accompanied by full workers' control and not be fobbed off with the right to preside over their own funerals.

"If nationalization can be implemented efficiently it seems at least an even bet that on the whole the nation will gain through stronger planning and control..... Nationalization is something the militants in the docks have been demanding for years, but they may find it a disenchanting experience. There is clearly going to be a substantial reduction in the number of dock workers as the container revolution gathers impetus, probably at about the end of the decade. This suggests that one of the first tasks of the new authorities may be to preside over this disagreeable operation. And nothing could be further than this from the working man's views of the benefits of nationalization."

Industrial Notes continued from previous page.

Another 'Impartial' Labour Inquiry into Shipping.

Leslie Cannon, right-wing president of the Electrical Trades Union, is among five new members named by Douglas Jay, President of the Board of Trade, to serve with Lord Rochdale on the Committee of Inquiry into Shipping. The others are R.G.Soothill, chairman of Turner and Newall, A.Siddall, of Joseph Lucas (Electrical), R.G.Leach, of Peat, Marwick, Mitchell, and Professor A.D.Campbell, of St. Andrews University.

Cannon should find himself at home in such big business company. Labour's choices follow the Steel Corporation selections quite predictably. The trade union 'representative' being a bureaucrat from a completely different sphere to the one in which he is to work.

Miners' Night Work Strike Spreads.

A miners' strike against night work spread to a third colliery in Staffordshire this week. Plans were announced to involve collieries in Nottinghamshire. Over 1,100 men were on strike at Lea Hall, West Cannock No.5, and Cannock Wood. Jim Donnachie, strike committee chairman said: "The three remaining pits on Cannock Chase are expected to join in the strike during the week. We are prepared if necessary for a long battle."

The strikers oppose their union which has agreed with the National Coal Board on round-the-clock shift work at selected pits to increase production. The men say night work would ruin their social life and hasten the closure of the pits. The National Coal Board has stated that it "recognised only the NUM as the representative body in these matters."

Government Go Back on Pay Order.

The Government has been forced to revoke the Prices and Incomes Order against a pay demand by workers at Harland and Wolff in Belfast. It is understood that Ministers have felt unable to invoke the Order because of the High Court decisions two weeks ago in cases brought by the militant ASSET union against Thorn Electrical Industries and against Metropolitan Receivers. In both cases the decision went in favour of the union, and the circumstances in the Harland and Wolff case, together with an Order concerning Birmingham Corporation are so similar that the Government sees no alternative but to allow the wage settlements.

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WEST MIDDLESEX V. S. C.

PUBLIC MEETING

JULY 14TH 7.30 P.M.
CAVENDISH HALL, FIELD END RD.,
NEAR EASTCOTE STATION

Speakers:

Karen Wald of S.D.S. and Berkeley Vietnam Day
Committee - on the anti-war movement in the U.S.

Aziz Kurtha representing the International War
Crimes Tribunal and a specialist in international law.

Keith Veness of Northolt Y.C.L. and Chairman of
West Middlesex V.S.C.

Chairman: Reg Taylor (Secretary: Ruislip C.L.P.)

V.S.C. TRADE UNION CONFERENCE

The National Council of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign decided to hold a conference for trade unionists on Sunday, December 3rd, to explore means of taking the campaign against U.S. aggression into all sections of the trade union movement.

Among forms of activity to be discussed are: exposing and combatting the 'Labour' Government's complicity in American aggression throughout the Labour movement; the publicising of the links between the Vietnam War and the problems faced by British trade unionists, such as wage-freeze and anti-trade union legislation; activity to obstruct the American war effort; solidarity linking of British and Vietnamese workers on a regional and industrial basis.

The conference is hoping to involve the broad union movement by working on a local level between now and December - foreexample: visiting of branch secretaries, shop stewards' convenors and other militants in particular localities; publication of local leaflets relating Vietnam to local trade union problems; arranging for speakers to visit trade union branches; holding of local preliminary meetings.

Preliminary plans to publicise the conference include a public meeting to be held at Brighton during the T.U.C. Conference to be held there September 4th - 8th and a pamphlet specially addressed to trade unionists.

Anyone who wants to help or who wants further information, should contact

IAN BIRCHALL
27 MANOR ROAD
LONDON N.17.

Hammersmith Further publicity has been given to the Hammersmith Vietnam Solidarity Committee in another report in this week's West London Observer. Hammersmith Vietnam Solidarity Committee, whose members include numerous local Labour Party politicians, is now canvassing for increased support among the borough's trade union branches. This open support for the Vietcong and outright condemnation of the Americans by leading local socialists is embarrassing certain Labour Party officials in the area. But in the words of one Committee member, "That is just too bad, what we are doing is right and we shall continue." The report also mentioned the talk given to the Committee by Mr. Ba, a journalist from N. Vietnam.

V.S.C. PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

The recent showing of **the exhibition** in Tenterden certainly constituted an unprecedented success. This particular area of Kent is well-known for its conservatism on account of a predominantly middle-class population. However, during the three days on which the exhibition was shown, it was well-attended and well-received. The Hammersmith V.S.C. will be showing the exhibition next at the Hammersmith Town Hall from July 27th to July 29th.

STATEMENT ON THE RECENT STRIKE OF THE STUDENTS IN IRAN date 5/7/67

According to reports from Iran, the students of Teheran University have been staging strikes and demonstrations for the past two months in protest against the high fees recently imposed by the government. Following the strike of the students in Teheran, the wave of protest has reached other universities in Iran. In Tabriz and Isfahan, students have organised strikes and demonstrations demanding the abolition of the high fees. In Tabriz, there have been clashes between police forces and the students in which students have been killed and many wounded. The pattern of these atrocities is familiar: in 1953 armed soldiers entered Teheran University and opened fire on students killing three. In 1962, a mass demonstration of students in Teheran University was savagely suppressed by units of the regular army. Hundreds of students, several members of staff, professors and teachers were beaten and injured. In his letter of resignation, the Chancellor of the University wrote "I have never seen or heard of so much cruelty, sadism, atrocity and vandalism on the part of government forces. Some of the girls in the classrooms were criminally attacked by the soldiers." In recent years, the Iranian regime has paid no attention to the problems of Iranian students and by imposing high fees and several other restrictions has added to the intense dissatisfaction and exasperation among the university community. The imposition of high tuition fees is a policy to debar poor students from institutes of higher learning. The regime recently spent lavishly on the so-called elimination of illiteracy but 80 percent of Iranians are still illiterate and by imposing high fees on the students, it is hampering education and enlightenment in Iran. Iranian students are also deprived of all political rights. The regime never permits students to organise unions, and any dissenters against the regime's policy are sent to prison or else to the army. The recent strikes however, suggest that the Iranian government failed to weaken the strength of Iranian students in their fight for freedom. We oppose any interference in the affairs of students and the high fees imposed on them. We ask all students to protest to **the Iranian government** and demonstrate solidarity with Iranian students-Iranian Students Soc. in Gt. Britain.

THE CASE OF HOWARD PETRICK - A G.I. OPPOSED TO THE WAR IN VIETNAM from a special correspondent.

It is clear that the increasing opposition to the Vietnam War in the United States Army is posing a threat to the administration who are countering this with serious infringements of the right to freedom of speech, as laid down in the U.S. Constitution and applying to all citizens, civilian or otherwise. The question is whether the Army can deny a G.I. his right to hold and express political views differing from those of the Washington Administration. This is what is at stake in the case of Private Howard Petrick, the 21 year old soldier who is threatened with court-martial solely for expressing his anti-war and socialist opinions to his fellow soldiers.

Prior to being drafted last July, Petrick had been active in the anti-war and socialist movements and since then he has continued exercising his rights by expressing his views on Vietnam and other issues. Petrick had never crossed army regulations and was regarded as a good soldier by his superiors.

However, on April 1st, he was interrogated and told by an Army lawyer that there was a real prospect of his being court martialled. This news came after another interrogation at which he refused to answer 70 questions regarding his political beliefs and possession of anti-war literature seized by the authorities. Several other G.Is were also questioned and had their lockers searched. After that, Petrick was transferred to a new unit which isolated him from the G.Is who had been taking an interest in his beliefs. For several weeks he was not permitted any leave.

On April 17th he was told that the investigation on him had been sent to the Army department in Washington D.C. and his case is now pending decision in the Pentagon, with the threat of a jail term or court martial hanging over him.

In only a short time, support for Howard Petrick has grown tremendously. Over 200 prominent individuals have become sponsors of the Committee to defend the rights of Private Howard Petrick.. The sponsors are members of more than 70 anti-war organisations, veteran pacifists, draft-resistance unions, high school groups, etc. The Defence Committee has been circulating news sheets and would appreciate donations towards covering publicity costs. Address - Committee to defend the rights of Howard Petrick, Box 569 Cooper Station, New York, N.Y. 10003., U.S.A.

FRENCH STUDENTS QUIT I.S.C. from a special correspondent

The French National Union of Students decided on Sunday to withdraw from the western-dominated International Students Conference (I.S.C.) because of what it called the scandal of American Central Intelligence Agency subsidies. Disclosures that the C.I.A. had secretly financed student, labour, cultural and other organisations participating in international activities for the past 15 years, raised a storm of protest in the United States and overseas earlier this year. A U.S. Senate commission also revealed that several organisations contributing funds to the I.S.C. were themselves heavily financed by the C.I.A. The French union was one of 20 national students' unions which founded the I.S.C. in Stockholm in 1950 as a rival to the International Union of Students (I.U.S.) It later rejoined the I.U.S. while maintaining ties with the newer international body. Before the withdrawal of the French union, the I.S.C. had 46 member unions and the I.U.S. 96.

A report by the First National City Bank of New York about world-wide inflation reveals that Britain, despite the moans and groans of various governments, is far from being the worst country when it comes to inflation. Readers of The Week will be surprised to see that Sweden, which used to be given as the example to emulate, had a rate of inflation over 1956-66 some 31% higher than that of Britain. Other countries which are export competitors of Britain having a higher rate of inflation are: Italy, Netherlands, Denmark, Japan, and France.

Inflation, as a whole, was much worse in the year 1965-66 than in the preceding ten years. A glance at the table shows that nearly every country suffered more in that year than on average for the previous decade. Of the 45 countries, 10 saw more than half the buying power of their money melt away during the decade. In six others, the currencies lost at least a third of their value. Purchasing power of the U.S. dollar dropped much more sharply last year, however, than during the decade as a whole. It fell off 2.8 per cent. Eleven countries did better than that. In one, Iran, consumer prices eased.

Just how serious this is for the people of these countries is shown when one considers that inflation hit some countries last year on a disastrous scale. Some of the most serious losses of purchasing power of currencies struck in countries hit by severe shortages of food, particularly food grains. In South Vietnam, where a "rice panic" undermined inflation-control efforts, the local currency lost nearly two-fifths of its buying power in the single year.

Annual loss of currencies' buying power based on living costs.

	<u>1956-66</u>	<u>1965-66</u>		<u>1956-66</u>	<u>1965-66</u>
Guatemala	0.0%	0.7%	Pakistan	3.5%	6.7%
Venezuela	1.1	0.1	Iran	3.5	0.4
Honduras	1.5	1.6	Philippines	3.6	6.0
United States	1.8	2.8	Denmark	3.6	6.9
Luxembourg	1.9	2.5	Mexico	3.7	4.0
Canada	2.0	3.6	Sweden	3.8	6.3
Australia	2.0	2.7	Japan	4.0	4.0
Greece	2.1	4.8	France	4.7	2.6
Thailand	2.2	3.7	Finland	4.9	3.8
Belgium	2.2	3.9	Formosa	5.2	2.2
South Africa	2.2	3.6	Israel	5.4	7.2
Germany(Fed. Rep.)	2.3	3.4	India	5.5	9.7
Portugal	2.4	4.9	Spain	6.9	6.0
Switzerland	2.4	4.6	Vietnam	7.4	38.6
New Zealand	2.6	2.4	Turkey	7.7	7.8
Ecuador	2.6	5.2	Peru	8.5	8.4
Austria	2.8	2.1	Korea	10.5	10.6
U.A.R.(Egypt)	2.9	8.2	Colombia	10.8	16.4
United Kingdom	2.9	3.8	Bolivia	13.0	5.7
Italy	3.2	2.3	Chile	20.6	18.6
Ireland	3.2	2.9	Argentina	24.5	24.2
Norway	3.3	3.3	Brazil	31.0	31.8
Netherlands	3.4	5.6			

SUCCESS FOR JUMBLE SALE IN AID OF HUGO BLANCO by Millie van Gelderen

The Jumble Sale held in North Hammersmith last Saturday on behalf of Hugo Blanco realised a profit of approximately £30. The final account has not yet been made as we had some material to sell privately. This includes over two dozen delightful children's books (new) which we intend selling for Christmas gifts. All in all, the sale was well worthwhile and the Committee will be transferring the proceeds to Peru for the support of Hugo Blanco's two children and for the benefit of his impending trial, including his co-defendants. One of the contributions made to us is Harold J. Laski's book on the Communist Manifesto by his widow, Frida, one of our sponsors. We intend to raffle this book at a social.

The Committee are grateful to "The Week" readers, particularly the Hampstead comrade who contributed such a magnificent amount of material for the sale. And also to the two readers who assisted at the sale itself. Our thanks also to the reader in Glasgow who sent us a donation of £1. Another "Week" reader volunteered to organise a further sale in North London in the near future. In all, the Committee considered the results very gratifying and another concrete indication of the wide-felt support for the Committee for Solidarity with the victims of Peruvian repression.

U.S. ADMINISTRATION ORDERS £20 MILLION OF DEFOLIANTS

U.S. officials in Washington announced on July 11 that the Defence (sic) Department had placed orders with eight American chemical companies for another £20 million worth of "defoliant" for use in the Vietnam war. The chemicals, used to destroy food crops as well as to strip the jungle, have caused severe damage to South Vietnam's vital rice harvest when used in the past. In Saigon, U.S. Defence Secretary Robert McNamara concluded his tour of South Vietnam yesterday with a Press conference at which he said U.S. policy was still to provide commanders in Vietnam with the troops they needed.

MOROCCAN TRADE UNION LEADER GETS 18 MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT

Moroccan trade union leader, Mahjoub Ben Seddick, was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment on July 11 for failing "to respect the authority of the Government." The secretary-general of Morocco's Labour Federation had sent a telegram to the Royal palace challenging the Government's condemnation of an unofficial boycott of the 90,000-strong Jewish community in Morocco as a result of last month's Arab-Israel war. His arrest on Friday touched off a nation-wide general strike called by his union. M. Seddick had denounced what he described as the Government's "constant and unconditional support of a handful of Zionist provocateurs." The unofficial boycott of the Jewish community was organised by the opposition Istiqlal Party immediately after the Middle East war broke out. The Government described the boycott as "criminal."

TEAR GAS USED IN MALAYSIA

On July 11th in Kuala Lumpur, capital of Malaysia, clouds of teargas left shoppers gasping and streaming with tears in a busy street as police moved against demonstrators. About 100 banner-carrying demonstrators, protesting against detention of some Labour Party leaders last weekend marched into streets near the Chinatown district. The demonstrators carried banners in Chinese and Malay attacking the Government for detaining people "fighting against imperialism."