6.15 09.21-05.2 27 Jule 151 de · 27-7-51. 114780 RAPPORT: Van : KA-RA Aan : HB No. : E/1271 a ONDERWERP : Engels Maandoverzicht Juni 1951. - ----U gelieve hierbij aan te treffen het Engelse Maandover-zicht over Juni 1951 om te behouden.

# SECRET

# THE BRITISH COMMUNIST PARTY

### JUNE 1951.

#### PEACE CAMPAIGN.

1.

(a) The National Conference of the British Peace Committee took place, as arranged, in the Battersea Town Hall on the 9th andloth of June. There were four sessions, at which the average attendance was just under 500 people.

At the conference the officers, Council, and Committee of the British Peace Committee were appointed for the next year. D.N.PRITT, K.C., whose other activities have prevented him from devoting enough time to the Peace Movement, resigned from the Presidency and was replaced by Gordon SCHAFFER. PRITT remains, however, on the drafting Committee. Herbert Gordon SCHAFFER is an active Communist sympathiser. He is assistant Editor of REYNOLDS NEWS, Treasurer of the London Trades Council, Chairman of the British Polish Friendship Society, and on the National Committee of the British China Friendship Association.

Numerous speeches were made on aspects of the Peace Campaign, but the main effort of the Committee still appears to be the collection of signatures to the appeal for a Five Power Pact.

A large proportion of those attending the Conference were members of the British Communist Party or known Communist sympathisers.

(b) During the last few months several peace groups have been formed amongst professional men. Examples are "The Medical Association for the Prevention of War", the "Authors Peace Appeal", "The Musicians Organisation for Peace" and the "National Committee of Science for Peace".

Most of these organisations appear to be instigated by Communists or Communist sympathisers, but to be designed to attract members of the professions who are not in any way politically connected with Communism. It is probable that this is a fresh attempt by the Communist Party to run the Peace Campaign on a "broad" front and that it has become necessary because the British Peace Committee is now generally known to be Communist controlled.

#### COMMUNIST P.RTY FACTORY CONFERENCES.

Two Factory Conferences were held in London on 27th May, and in Manchester (Salford) on 3rd June. Peter KERRIGAN was the main speaker in both cases. The most important points made were:-

- (a) The Party is too week in the factories and considered it essential to build up factory branches and groups.
- (b) There should be collaboration by the Communists with the Labour Movement against employers.
- (c) Industrial comrades must do their best to obtain signatures for the petition for a Five Power Peace Pact.

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- (d) Approaches must be made to women workers and there should be women delegates to factory conferences.
- (c) The Daily Worker is the main weapon of the Party.

# 3. SUMMER SCHOOLS.

The courses at the Communist Summer Schools this year are to give special attention to the new Party programme "The British Road to Socialism", since the Party leaders consider it vital that the programme should be known and thoroughly understood by the mombership. Applications for attendance at the schools are, however, fewer than was expected, and POLLITT is personally taking steps to encourage more members to go.

# 4. SUMMARY OF RECENT ANNUAL CONFERENCES.

(a) <u>The Civil Service Clerical Association</u> met at Prestatyn at the end of May. The Conference passed by a large majority a resolution declaring complete disagreement with the policy and principles of the Communist Party, and also disaffiliated the Union from Unity Theatre and the Civil Service International, both of which are Communist Front Organisations. The complete list of the new Executive Council has not yet been received, but it is known that Betty JONES, a member of the Communist Party, was not re-elected as Vice President.

In spite of all these demonstrations against the Communist Farty, when several resolutions calling for a projevere considered they were all heavily defeated, and the Conference went so far as to re-appoint L.C.WHITE as General Secretary for a further five years after his retirement becomes due in 1953. L.C.WHITE is a close sympathiser with the Communist Party and is believed to be an under-cover member; it is not surprising that he called this a vote of confidence in himself.

(b) <u>The Constructional Engineering Union</u>, meeting at Morecombe, demanded the withdrawal of troops from Korea and acceptance of China's claim to Formosa. The Conference also protested against the rearmament of Germany and Japan, but accepted the decisions of the Trades Union Congress prohibiting Union officials from appearing as such on the platforms of "proscribed" bodies.

(c) The National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives at Eastbourne decided that Communists should not be allowed to hold office.

(d) The National Union of Vchicle Builders at Llandudno adopted unanimously a six-point plan, as follows:-

- (1) Protest against the release of war criminals.
- (2) Resistance to the rearming of ex-enemy countries.
- (3) Representation of the Chinese Government on the Security Council.
- (4) To press the Government to use every avenue to maintain peace, even if this is contrary to the Policy of the United States.
- (5) To support progressive disarmament.

(6) To secure the banning of the atom bomb.



(e) The only security matter at the <u>Union of Post Office</u> <u>Workers'</u> Conference at Llandudno was that Charles GEDDES, the General Secretary, urged members not to be apathetic towards Communist attempts to dominate the Trades Unions. He claimed that the Communist Party must be very disappointed with its adherents in the Post Office.

(f) At the Conference of the National Union of Furniture Trades Operatives at Margate, R.S.SHUBE, the President, a member of the Communist Party, spoke against the rearmament programme. The Conference, however, rejected a motion for the re-affiliation of the Trades Union Congress to the World Federation of Trades Unions.

(g) at the <u>Tobacco Workers'</u> Union conference at Brighton, an attack was made on Percy <u>BELCHIR</u>, the General Secretary, who is a fellow traveller. This was overwhelmingly defeated. The Conference also rejected a resolution calling for the expulsion of Communists from full time office in the Union; an amendment however was carried which demanded that any member or official of any political colour found guilty of conduct prejudicial to the Union should be expelled.

#### 5. Mrs.Monica FELTON.

The Communist Party is doing all that it can to ensure that what Mrs.Monica FELMON says reaches as much of the public as possible. Full publicity has been given in the "Daily Worker" to her case. The Communist Party is also attempting to stimulate the holding of public meetings throughout the country, at which all that Mrs. FELMON says may be heard and discussed. These meetings are generally sponsored by organisations which are not publicly sympathetic with Communism, but which neverthtless may be influenced directly or indirectly by the Party. (Mrs. FELMON recently visited North Korea as the British delegate in the Party which went there under the auspices of the Women's International Democratic Federation.)

# 6. HOLIDAYS ABROAD.

During the next few months many of the leading Communists, both at Party Headquarters and in the Districts, will be taking their holidays abroad. Parties are visiting several of the "Iron Curtain" countries, either on cheap terms or as guests.

2.7.51.

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