

07

the common cause



the origin and aims

Common Cause was formed in 1951. It is a non-party, non-Sectarian organization. The aims and objects are to oppose any kind of totalitarian movement or policy and to maintain individual freedom in Britain.

Today Communism is the real danger to the free world, and since its foundation in 1951 Common Cause has taken an active and important part in struggles with the Communists and is proud of many tributes received.

Common Cause believes that when people realize that there is a real danger of their being robbed of their birthright of political democracy and individual freedom they will take steps to preserve it. Therefore Common Cause sets out to make people aware of the danger.

In the political field Communism carries little weight, and actual membership of the British Communist Party is only about 34,000. But their supporters number twenty times that amount, and they concentrate their activities in other directions. Common Cause does not organize 'witch hunts' against individuals or organizations, but it does publicize facts about Communist organizations and Communist subversive activities. To this end it passes material to the Press and to Sound and Television Broadcasting authorities; it publishes pamphlets, films, brochures and leaflets, and it organizes lectures.

But its most important impact is through working groups in specific fields where Communists are most active, and with particular reference to Industry, the 'Front' organizations, and in the educational field.

industry

For Communist propaganda to succeed it must take the line that it supports the workers in a mythical class struggle. It also identifies itself with the Soviet Union and other Iron Curtain 'people's democracies' as places where 'workers have triumphed' through Communist Party leadership.

For too long the Communist Party has been able to influence shop stewards through various Communist organizations, to such an extent that many believe the word 'shop steward' is a synonym for a Communist—although this is entirely erroneous.

In the past, too little attention has been paid to counteracting Communist propaganda on the 'shop floor', and their ability to represent themselves as the acknowledged leaders of workers in many industries has put Britain at a decided industrial disadvantage.

In fact in no other country in the western world is the Communist influence within industry so great, and the Communist Party's network in British Industry is of greater value to the Soviet Union than its London Embassy.

fronts

Some forty Communist, Marxist and Fascist organizations are proscribed by the Labour Party which indicts them as being alien to democratic society. These banned organizations have innocent-sounding names, usually incorporating the word 'friendship' or 'peace', and very often include leading Communist trade unionists and distinguished professional people among their officers.

Common Cause tears aside the veil, and exposes Communist activities hidden behind the 'front' organizations—both international and national.

education

The teaching profession, with its unique opportunity to influence youth, is a most important target for the Communist Party. So much so, that the Communist Party Education Group produces a bi-monthly journal and Communist articles for many established non-Communist teachers' periodicals.

The Communist Party claims 2,000 members in the teaching profession, of whom 1,000 are said to be in the London area.

Common Cause opposes Marxist influence among teachers and is constantly working to break this source of corruption of Britain's youth.

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The title of a religious or political organisation following a Councillor's name indicates that he is a member of it, not that he represents it on Common Cause Council.

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PRESS RELEASE THURSDAY OCTOBER 31

"THE COMMON CAUSE" brochure

Nearly 10,000 copies of this brochure were distributed to the recent four national conferences with a different insert for each -

- The Brighton Trades Union Congress
- The Brighton Liberal Party Assembly
- The Scarborough Labour Party Conference
- The Blackpool Conservative Party Conference

The operation proved most successful and was welcomed by many delegates attending these conferences.

"COMMON CAUSE BULLETIN"

This week Common Cause publishes a unique survey of some of the national and international Communist front organisations. A mass of detail is presented in order to offer information for Reference Libraries.

Your particular attention is drawn to "Amnesty Campaigns - Using Prisoners for Political Ends" on Page 11. These campaigns are the new Communist front organisations and when the Labour Party National Executive Committee met in July this year, it decided that "Amnesty International" was the organisation through which activities ought to be channelled.

We have since learnt that the Labour Party assists Spanish political prisoners through its own organisation known as "The Spanish Democrats Defence Fund" and has a separate bank account through which payments are made.

This information is of interest in view of the conference being held under the auspices of the "Appeal for Amnesty for Spanish Political Prisoners and Exiles" (See Page 13) in London's Prince Charles Theatre on Saturday November 2.

It is believed that trade union leaders and many Spanish exiles are getting rather concerned that cash donated for political prisoners is not providing the most effective assistance.

COMMON CAUSE

100

APPLICATION FOR ENROLMENT AS A SUPPORTER

Having acquainted myself with the aims of Common Cause, I apply for admission as a Supporter.

Full Name
(Block letters)

Address

*Occupation

*Political Party Membership (if any)

*The information requested need not be given if the applicant does not wish.

Source of information about Common Cause

SUBSCRIPTION:

I will subscribe annually the sum of
(minimum one guinea) which entitles me to receive the quarterly "Common Cause Bulletin" free of cost.

Signature

Date

This form when completed should be sent to the Secretary, Common Cause, Ltd., 2 & 3, Norfolk Street, London, W.C.2. (Temple Bar 6866).

An open letter to Trade Unionists

THE saying "Never mind my enemies, save me from my so-called friends", would have a ring of truth about it if the Communists had their way. These "friends" of the workers, operating through "front" organisations, and "liaison" and "advisory" committees, organise unofficial industrial stoppages.

Communists and their supporters will tell you that such strikes are necessary to win higher wages, less hours and longer holidays, to safeguard jobs and to protect workers from attacks by employers.

The annual Trades Union Congress is a good time to look back and think about these things. Have you ever gained any lasting benefit from an unofficial strike?

Mr. George Isaacs, when Minister of Labour, said about an unofficial industrial stoppage :

"Evidence showed that throughout the strike there was a 'cold and deliberate plan', and that unofficial leaders were 'completely indifferent' to the loss and suffering that might result".

Sir William Carron, AEU President, referring to Communists in trade unions and factories, said :

"These subversives have built a machine which challenges the control of the unions. So we have the fantastic situation of these officials with key positions in British industry, acting under the dictates of a foreign power, with the declared purpose of wrecking Britain's economy. I have seen how, as full-time officials, and as part-time shop stewards and committee members, they use their training skilfully to carry out the policies of their Russian tutors".

Mr. Jack Cooper, NUGMW General Secretary, said :

"In these industries where local negotiations are carried out by shop stewards, it is frequently the case that the authority of the full-time trade union officer, and of the executive organs, is weakened and often ignored. This is the result of deliberate and calculated action. We are all too familiar with the propaganda which fosters the unctuous philosophy that all virtues lie with the rank and file".

The Trades Union Congress document "The TUC and Communism" pointed out that "as soon as a democratic organisation seeks to arouse its members to the dangers of Communist infiltration, the comrades 'squeal'." It went on to say that any attempts to "frustrate outside interference by the Communist Party in internal trade union matters", is depicted by the Communists as a blow to all freedoms of democracy.

Therefore, when unofficial leaders ask you to strike, ask yourself :

Have I, or my fellow trade unionists, ever gained any real improvement in wages or conditions following an unofficial strike ?

What right has an unofficial leader to override trade union decisions and procedure, and organise a stoppage of work ?

OCTOBER

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OF MANKIND"

No. 107

1/6d.

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World Communist Fronts

Twenty-four years after Britain entered a world war to make the world safe for democracy and to destroy Nazi dictatorship, we find that about one-third of the peoples of the world are under Communist dictatorship. Another third of the world's population, concentrated mainly in Asia, Africa and Latin America, are subject to intense pressures to join the Communist camp. Most of the nations in this second group take a position of neutralism in so-called East-West controversies.

Fortunately, strong industrial nations in North America, Europe, and Asia are opposed to Communism. Many belong to one or another of the alliances, such as NATO or SEATO, designed to protect the freedom of their peoples. So long as they remain united, they have the military and economic power needed to stave off Communist aggression.

The conflict between the two strong opposing forces has been called the Cold War. It would be more accurate to call it war, even total war, since Communist theory calls for world conquest by various means, including military action, political and economic pressures, and internal subversion within free nations.

There are several special, even unique features to the Communist threat that makes it different from other forms of aggression known to history. First, there is the fact that Communism is a body of doctrine, an ideology, that has won millions to fanatical devotion to its cause. Because of this doctrine, and related techniques for winning power, the major Communist powers have secured adherents in almost every nation of the world.

There are forty million Communist Party members to-day, and eighty-six national Communist Parties. Thus, a country that is politically opposed to the Communist bloc has within its own frontiers thousands of potential or actual traitors.

Another feature of major importance is the military might of the Soviet bloc. It has large well trained land armies, while its air power is formidable—even though the air forces of the West may surpass it. But the critical factor is its possession of a large arsenal of thermo-nuclear weapons, with powerful, accurate and technically superior missiles to deliver these weapons.

While it would be untrue to say that the threat of nuclear war has paralysed Western diplomacy, there is always the possibility that weaker allies may drift to neutralism under the pressure of nuclear blackmail.

These points taken together paint a very sombre picture, and seen against a background of the world structure of Communism we can develop realistic measures for preserving human freedom.

Mechanics of World Communism

In the early days of international Communism its structure was the relatively simple one of a "pipeline" whereby the Communist

International (CI), situated in Moscow and supervised by representatives appointed by the Soviet Government, passed its instructions down its Secretariats, which in turn passed them to the Central Committees of the national Communist Parties; who then took the responsibility for seeing that these decisions were carried out by what Communist jargon of the period called "the lower organs of the Party."

The Western Secretariat, responsible for Western Europe including Britain, was situated first in Berlin, then, after 1933, in Copenhagen. Until the dissolution of the Comintern in 1943, the Communist Party of Great Britain membership card included among its conditions: "Immediate carrying-out of the decisions of the Communist International is obligatory on every member."

At all times, the Communists have recognised the necessity of bringing in outsiders to support their aims unwittingly through the medium of disguised organisations. **Clara Zetkin**, a founder-member of the CI, said of such organisations :

"Such organisations must not be placarded in red with the words 'Communist Organisation.' On the contrary, they should bear the outward and visible signs of neutral organisation . . . It is not merely desirable, but essential, that representatives of all schools of thought should be admitted to their controlling bodies. **What really matters is that the aims and programme of these organisations should be dictated to them (without their realising it) by the Communist Party.**"

Fortunately for the rest of the world, this perfect theory was not so perfectly applied in practice. Satellite organisations were set up with names that proclaimed their Communist origins to the world. To give only two examples: The trade union organisation was christened "Red International of Labour Unions," and the legal organisation was the "International Class War Prisoners' Aid", otherwise known as the "Red Aid."

The Communists, in fact, never learned the exact application of Clara Zetkin's advice until, in 1931, **Willi Muenzenberg**, the publisher, joined the German Communist Party. He initiated what he termed "innocents' clubs," and had an unholy gift for launching and maintaining Communist organisations—all of them with the most harmless-seeming titles and purposes. Under his guidance, committees for the relief of this and that, leagues to protest about everything, and societies with the highest-sounding ideals sprang up, **and every one of them was under Communist control, serving the purposes of the Comintern.**

Muenzenberg came to the same end as have so many Communists who have outlived their usefulness. **Hugo Dewar** in his fine book "Assassin's at Large" (Wingate, 1951) tells the story of Muenzenberg's death. During the Nazi invasion of France in 1940, he was turned loose from an interment camp and fled southwards in the company of two Stalinists. These two men have never been seen since, but Muenzenberg was found hanging from a tree in a wood.

Dewar comments upon the wholesale murders of German Communists by Stalin and adds: "What were the two men with whom he fled doing when he hung himself? Who were they? What became of them? And why should Muenzenberg commit suicide when he was within a few miles of the French Riviera, where he had good friends, a refuge, money, the possibility of getting out of the country?"

But the lesson Muenzenberg taught the Communists they have never forgotten and, after the war, his influence was clearly discernible in the new shape of the Communist satellite system.

With the exception of the Cominform, a simple transmission-belt from the highest Party organs to the lowest which was disbanded in April 1956 at a time when Krushev was making strenuous efforts to improve his relations with the Western countries, a camouflage has been adopted. Words that are almost slogans in themselves, such as "Peace," "Democracy" and "Amnesty," are in wholesale use.

Throughout the world the Soviet Communist Party has formed thousands of Communist front organisations, ostensibly non-Party in character, but used as instruments of Communist policy. They are groups whose public purpose is some respectable aim, often in the field of social reform, peace, friendship and civil rights.

Membership of these groups, including most of the executive committee members, is non-Communist. But controlling officers are concealed Communists who direct the activities of the groups toward Communist ends, since the executive members are usually busy persons, willing to give their names but not their time.

Communist fronts have been well designed to push concealed Communist programmes, obtain funds for Communist Party purposes, give respectability to Communist causes, and secure mailing lists for future front groups.

Lenin urged persistent agitation and propaganda in the "societies and associations"—even the most reactionary—to which "proletarian and semi-proletarian belong." These ideas are special applications of the "united front" technique. The Communist front organisations are the bodies to which, in accordance with that technique, specific tasks are assigned.

Their interests coincide with almost every area of public concern; foreign policy, use of atomic energy, racial justice, civil rights, youth problems, consumer problems, legal concerns, and issues that appeal to churchmen.

Persons who belong to such organisations are generally classed as dupes. The fact of membership by itself does not indicate sympathy with Communism, since Communist control is effectively concealed. Even membership maintained after exposure of Communist control may not necessarily indicate Communist sympathies, because organisations investigating Communist activities have been under such sharp attacks from Communist sources that their list-

ings were often considered of doubtful value. In fact, such exposures have been in general both accurate and useful.

The international headquarters of these various front bodies is rarely Moscow, but some other European capital more often behind the "iron curtain." Between them, these Communist satellites have so departmentalised the work of international subversion that open Communist Party organisation seems to exist only for disciplining its own members and to distract the attention of the rest of the world.

In its annual conference report, published in December each year, the Labour Party issues cumulative lists of "proscribed" organisations—they are bodies whose philosophy, policy and / or constitution, is incompatible to that of the Labour Party and, as such, have been declared by the Labour Party's annual conference to be ineligible for affiliation to it. Members of these organisations are not eligible for membership of the Labour Party.

The current list of 44 organisations contains 38 described as Communist or Communist front bodies. They are detailed below, and to save the irritating necessity of turning back to this page for constant reference, such organisations are marked with an asterisk where they occur in the text of this issue of "Common Cause Bulletin."

TUC Attitude

The question often arises as to whether or not the Trades Union Congress (TUC) issues such lists. The simple answer is "No." At the Douglas TUC in 1953, its executive body, the General Council, defined categories of organisations which are proscribed, but requested local trades councils to communicate with them for advice on any specific organisation.

The TUC definition was as follows:

"Organisations which have sought to disrupt trade union machinery or to use it as a cover for their own activities are proscribed. These organisations fall into three categories:— (a) 'breakaway unions;' (b) the Communist and Fascist Parties (which aim at one-party dictatorship); (c) subsidiary organisations of the Communist and Fascist Parties."

The List

Heading the Labour Party list is the Communist Party of Great Britain whose members were proscribed in 1924. Since then Communist attempts to build a mass movement in Britain have failed miserably, therefore they have employed front organisations, the one method with which they can achieve any reasonable prospect of success.

The other proscribed organisations are:

Ten "friendship" organisations:

British Soviet Society.

British Soviet Friendship Houses Ltd.

- Scottish U.S.S.R. Society.
- British-Polish Friendship Society.
- British-China Friendship Association.
- British-Czechoslovak Friendship League.
- British-Rumanian Friendship Association.
- British-Hungarian Friendship Society.
- The Committee for Friendship with Bulgaria (now known as
"The Society for Friendship with Bulgaria").
- British-Soviet Friendship Society.
- Eleven Communist "peace" organisations:
 - British Peace Committee.
 - Welsh Peace Council.
 - People's Congress for Peace.
 - West Yorkshire Federation for Peace.
 - World Peace Council.
 - Medical Association for the Prevention of War.
 - Artists for Peace.
 - Musicians' Organisation for Peace.
 - Authors' World Peace Appeal.
 - Teachers for Peace.
 - Scientists for Peace.
- Three Communist "professional" organisations:
 - The International Association of Democratic Lawyers.
 - The International Organisation of Journalists.
 - The World Federation of Scientific Workers.
- Two Communist organisations active in Britain's trade unions:
 - World Federation of Trade Unions.
 - Labour Research Department.
- Four Communist women's organisations:
 - Women's Parliament.
 - International Women's Day.
 - Women's International Democratic Federation.
 - National Assembly of Women.
- Five Communist youth organisations:
 - Student Labour Federation.
 - International Youth Council in Britain.
 - World Federation of Democratic Youth.
 - British Youth Festival.
 - The International Union of Students.
- Two Communist organisations that fall into a general category:
 - Marx House (the Communist Party's educational centre,
which also houses its record office known as the Marx
Memorial Library).
 - League for Democracy in Greece (a Communist "friendship"
organisation with a country which, although not under
Communist domination, is of particular interest to the
Soviet Union).

The Rest

The other six proscribed bodies, not named above, are:
Two political parties:

Common Wealth (non-Communist).
 Union Movement (Fascist).
 Three Trotskyist/Marxist organisations and one of their weekly journals:
 Militant Labour League.
 Socialist Fellowship.
 Socialist Labour League.
 "Newsletter."

World Federation of Trade Unions

Ironic as it now seems, it was the British Trades Union Congress (TUC) which took the initiative in setting up the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU). In 1943 it issued invitations for a preparatory conference which finally took place in London in February, 1945. An administrative committee was set up to draft a constitution, and when this was ready a Foundation Congress was called in Paris in October, 1945.

In recognition of Britain's leadership, **Sir Walter Citrine** was elected the first President of the new organisation. But the Russians insisted, as the price of their co-operation, on having their nominee, **Louis Saillant**, as Secretary-General. Saillant called himself a "Socialist," but actually proved to be a dedicated Stalinist. He followed Moscow's order implicitly and proceeded to pack the Secretariat with other Stalinists, and, as a full-time official, he became more powerful than the President.

He was still, however, answerable to the General Council, Executive Committee and Executive Bureau of WFTU. But this did not trouble him long. These bodies were elected—the number of votes for each affiliated organisation depending on the size of its membership—so Saillant and his Communist friends set to work to gain control by increasing the Communist vote.

First of all the trade union centres of Eastern Europe were all brought under Communist control, the last being Czechoslovakia which was captured by the putsch of 1948. Then came the Communist conquest of China in 1949. Lastly, membership figures of these and other Communist-controlled national union centres (which could not be checked) were artificially inflated until the Communists had control.

By 1948 the late **Mr. Arthur Deakin**, Transport and General Workers' Union General Secretary until his death, who had succeeded Sir Walter Citrine as WFTU President, said:

"The WFTU is rapidly becoming nothing more than another platform and instrument for the furtherance of Soviet policy."

To show how powerless he and other non-Communists were to prevent this, he gave the following figures of how the Communists had captured control:

	1945	1948
Executive Bureau - - Communists	4	6
Non-Communists	5	3

Executive Committee	-	Communists	11	14
		Non-Communists	11	8
General Council	- -	Communists	26	34
		Non-Communists	38	30

By January, 1949, the position of the non-Communist had become intolerable and, led by the British TUC, the American CIO and the Dutch NVV, they withdrew from the WFTU. Later, in November 1949, they set up their own organisation, the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU). Inaugurated in London, the ICFTU has established its headquarters in Brussels.

Although the non-Communists knew from their experience between the wars that it was difficult to get the Communists to co-operate as equals in trade union matters, they had been determined to make one more try in the new atmosphere created by the joint victory over Germany and Japan. They failed because, as usual, the Communists could not be trusted. As the late Mr. Arthur Deakin reported to the Trades Union Congress at Bridlington in September 1949:

“We started with an honest intention, but we were not dealing with honest men.”

It was a classic example of the capture of a democratically-controlled organisation by the manipulations of a determined and unscrupulous Communist faction. From January 1949 onwards, the WFTU has been a Communist front organisation. It represents not the workers of the world, but the Soviet Government.

Officers

From 1949 until his death in 1957 the President was an Italian, **Giuseppe Di Vittorio**, who was Secretary-General of the Communist-controlled Confederazione Generale Italiana Del Lavoro. He was also a Communist Deputy and a member of the Central Committee of the Italian Communist Party. In 1959 he was succeeded by another Italian, **Agostino Novella**, who still holds the office and also the same posts in Italy as Di Vittorio did.

The Secretary-General is a Frenchman, **Louis Saillant**, who was formerly Secretary-General of the Communist-controlled Confédération Générale du Travail and is a Bureau member of the Communist World Peace Council. He was awarded a Lenin Peace Prize in 1957. As a full-time paid official, he is in charge of the large WFTU headquarters in Prague, and responsible for all the day-to-day business.

Saillant has eight full-time salaried officials assisting him all of whom are either Communists or near-Communists. They are:

Vladimir Berezin (U.S.S.R.). In charge of the WFTU's Press and Publicity Department. Member of the Soviet Union's Praesidium and head of the Foreign Department of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions of the U.S.S.R.

Marcel Bras (France). In charge of the WFTU's European section of Department of National Centres; former Secretary-

General of French Metallurgical Workers' Federation (an affiliate of Communist-controlled Confédération Générale du Travail).

Giuseppe Casadei (Italy). In charge of WFTU's administration. An official of Communist-controlled Italian General Confederation of Labour (CGIL).

Luigi Grassi (Italy). In charge of WFTU's Trade Union Internationals, member of Italian Communist Party's Central Control Commission and Secretary of International Trade Union Committee of Solidarity with Algerian Workers.

Ma Chun-ku (China). In charge of WFTU's Afro-Asian section of Department of Relations with National Centres and member of Praesidium and of Executive Committee of All-China Federation of Trade Unions.

Sugiri (Indonesia). Assists Ma Chun-ku (China) with responsibility for WFTU's Afro-Asian section of Department of Relations with National Centres, and a member of the Central Committee of Foreign Relations Department of the Communist-controlled Indonesian Central Trade Union Federation.

Elena Teodorescu (Rumania). In charge of WFTU's Department for Economic and Social Questions, and a member of the Praesidium of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party.

Ibrahim Zakaria (Sudan). Shares responsibility with Ma Chun-ku (China) and Sugiri (Indonesia) for WFTU's Afro-Asian section of Department of Relations with National Centres, and WFTU representative on Algerian Solidarity Committee. Is a member of the WFTU Secretariat of Middle East Broadcasts Committee. The Central Committee of Sudan Communist Party (now banned) and Sudan Federation of Trade Unions.

WFTU In Britain

Although the WFTU is the most dangerous of all the Communist front organisations, it does not operate openly in Britain, but through an innocent-looking publicity centre, off London's Chancery Lane, known as WFTU Publications Ltd.

Often referred to as the Soviet Union's "industrial embassy" in Britain, WFTU Publications Ltd. was first registered with the Board of Trade on April 30, 1951, with a nominal share capital of 100 £1 shares. Its articles of association in addition to publishing material, carry on business as journalists and news collectors, allow it to:

" . . . erect, construct, lay down, enlarge, alter and maintain any roads, railways, tramways, sidings, bridges, reservoirs, shops, stores, factories, buildings, works, plant and machinery necessary or convenient for the company's business . . . "

Moreover, provision is made to:

" . . . do all or any part of the above things in any part of the world either as principles, agents, contractors . . . either alone or in conjunction with others."

Board of Trade records show there are four directors: **Stanley**

Moor, William Ward, Jeffrie James Mildwater and Joseph Henry Parker. Stanley Moore is a 43-year-old solicitor of Templars Avenue, London, N.W.11, who was a Communist candidate in Hendon's municipal elections of 1952 and 1955. He is, or was until recently, secretary of the Legal Section of the Society for Cultural Relations with the U.S.S.R., and in 1960 he was an executive member of the British-Czechoslovak Friendship League.*

William Ward is a retired Amalgamated Engineering Union official of Hallowes Rise, Sheffield. Until January, 1960, one of his co-directors was another Amalgamated Engineering Union member, 54-year-old **Leslie Smith** of Rotskell Road, London, S.W.15. Leslie Smith is President of his union's Barnes Branch and from 1949-54 was secretary of the unofficial body known as the Engineering and Allied Trades Shop Steward's National Council, once referred to by former TUC President **Jack Tanner**, as "an alien body grafted on to the British trade union movement." Leslie Smith was also chairman of a "Conference on Peace, Trade and Friendship with the U.S.S.R." organised by the South-west London Area of the British-Soviet Friendship Society* held in June, 1950.

Jeffrie James Mildwater, of Mosswell House, Colney Hatch Lane, London, N.10 was North-west London District Secretary of the Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers. Described as a "building workman," he was Communist candidate for Bethnal Green during the 1950 General Election, and was quoted in the "Daily Mail" (December 1952) as saying "I joined the Communist Party in 1932 and am proud of it."

The fourth director, Joseph Henry Parker, a sheet-metal worker of Dibdin House, London, W.9., and a member of the National Union of Sheet Metal Workers, was appointed on the resignation of Leslie Smith, but the latter still holds 20 shares, as do Stanley Moore and Jeffrie Mildwater, while William Ward holds five shares. Joseph Parker was the man for whom the British Light Steel Pressing workers, at the Rootes Group factory at Acton, threatened to strike in 1958 because the management refused to employ him. On this occasion the management gave way, but he was one of those dismissed after the two months abortive strike at these works in 1961.

Another shareholder, **Hillel (Jack) Wodd's** of Coventry Road, Ilford, Essex, is the 49-year-old manager of the company. He holds 16 shares, once worked in the Communist Party's London District office, is regarded as one of their experts on Africa and has written articles and pamphlets on African problems. He is also an executive member of the Britain-China Friendship Association* and the Movement for Colonial Freedom.

Key figure in the company is **Thomas Fulton McWhinnie** the 49-year-old English editor of the WFTU's well-illustrated magazine which is written in Prague and published monthly in German, Russian, French, English, Spanish (two editions), Portuguese, Swedish, Finnish, Rumanian, Japanese, Arabic and Chinese. The English edition is published by WFTU Publications Ltd. in which Thomas McWhinnie has 20 shares.

During the last war he served with the RAOC, but in February, 1945, he was transferred to the Reserve List in order to take up employment as a clerk with the Scottish Trades Union Congress; with whom he remained until September, 1946, when he commenced working for the WFTU. To-day he is on the Regional Press and Publicity staff of the WFTU, the head of which, as already mentioned, is Vladimir Berezin (U.S.S.R.) a member of the Soviet Union's Praesidium and head of the Foreign Department of the All-Union Central Council of the Trade Unions of the U.S.S.R.

Thomas McWhinnie's wife, **Anna Maria McWhinnie** whom he married in 1950 in Paris, is of French origin and former private secretary to Louis Saillant, Secretary-General of the WFTU. To-day she is a London school-teacher in East London, but according to the "Sunday Pictorial" (September 1954) she acted as:

"London correspondent of the Vienna headquarters of the WFTU, and is especially responsible for 'planting' material in unofficial shop stewards' journals in Britain. Her English advisor in this work is 45-year-old Les Smith."

Serving with Thomas McWhinnie on the Regional Press and Publicity staff of the WFTU is **David Goodman**, of Cobbetts Avenue, Ilford, Essex, the 45-year-old circulation manager of WFTU Publications Ltd. and former secretary of the Devon and Cornwall District of the Communist Party. David Goodman is also secretary of the Ilford Peace Movement and attended the Communist "World Peace Congress" in Stockholm in July 1958.

The secretary of WFTU Publications Ltd. is **Arthur William Prior**, a 50-year-old school-teacher of Mountview Road, London, N.4. He was a member of the Arrangements Committee of the Communist Party's London District Congress in 1960 and both he and his wife **Lena Prior**, have been Communist candidates in municipal elections in Hornsey, Middlesex.

Another important figure associated with the WFTU in Britain is 68-year-old **Bert Edwards** of Waghorn Road, Kenton, Middlesex; a retired full-time London organiser of the National Union of Vehicle Builders who still retains his seat on the union's London District Committee.

In 1952 Bert Edwards was a sponsor of the Communist-inspired Vienna Peace Congress and, more recently, a sponsor of the London Peace Campaign. In 1957 he attended the inaugural meeting of the WFTU-sponsored Conference of European Car Workers held in Paris, which set up a committee of eight to carry out its deliberations, among whom were three British Communist shop stewards: **Leslie Gurl**, of the British Motor Corporation, **Peter Nicholas**, of the Rover Company, and **Jack Mitchell**, at that time employed by the Ford Motor Company, Dagenham, but now full-time Amalgamated Engineering Union District Secretary for South-east Essex.

At a recent meeting of readers of the new left-wing monthly journal "Union Voice," Bert Edwards claimed he was a promoter

of this Paris conference. Later in the meeting he volunteered, and was accepted, to handle the distribution of the paper. The chairman of this "Union Voice" meeting was **Ernest Roberts** an Assistant General Secretary of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, who founded this journal in February, 1963.

In 1959 Bert Edwards attend the WFTU conference in East Germany and in December, 1961, he attended the WFTU's Fifth Congress in Moscow at which he claimed to be a member of its Praesidium. Bert Edwards is a member of the Harrow (Middlesex) Labour Party.

Final words from **Victor Feather**, Assistant General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress in a foreword to a book exposing the WFTU intrigues entitled "Focus on a Communist Front."

"The World Federation of Trade Unions is a sham organisation which exists only because the Soviet Union says it must. Nobody respects it and nobody wants it, least of all the workers living within the Soviet empire who gain no benefit from it and see it clearly as a fraudulent device."

Amnesty Campaigns

Using Prisoners for Political Ends

Communist campaigns for the release of political prisoners attract support from non-Communists by their ostensibly humanitarian aims. But the motives behind such activities are usually political.

Few people would dispute the humanitarian case for leniency towards "prisoners of conscience" in many countries, not the least of all those in the Communist "bloc." It might therefore have been expected that Communists, given their own record, would be chary of promoting campaigns for the release of political prisoners in other countries—particularly as past Communist-inspired amnesty campaigns have been discredited as politically motivated. But the ostensibly spontaneous campaigns for the release of Greek "political" prisoners, which recently attracted the sympathies of a number of non-Communists in London and elsewhere, in fact has a long history of Communist sponsorship and planning.

The present campaign dates from a meeting of West European Communists in Rome in November 1959. This meeting set its members the task of organising, with as wide a participation as possible of non-Communist sponsors, campaigns directed at political prisoners in Spain, Portugal and Greece. There followed in Paris in May 1962, a meeting of "jurists" from 13 West European countries.

They included representatives from the Labour Party-proscribed Communist front bodies known as the "International Association

of Democratic Lawyers" (IADL) and the "World Peace Council" (WPC).

Several prominent non-Communists also attended, but a conference launched at the meeting—the "West European Conference for an amnesty for Greek Political Prisoners and Exiles"—was little more than a platform for Communist front activities. The conference met last March, and it was at this time that plans for the recent "amnesty" campaign in London seem to have originated.

Arrangements for the British delegation, although nominally in the hands of a non-Communist committee, were made by the (British) "League for Democracy in Greece" (LDG), an organisation founded in 1945, and proscribed by the Labour Party in 1948 as Communist-controlled. Its General Secretary, is **Mrs. Diana Pym**, of North Hill, London, N.6., and its National Organiser, **Mrs. Betty Ambatielos**, of St. Paul's Crescent, London, N.W.1., is a member of the Communist Party's London District Committee. Both were prominent in the recent London campaign which was timed to reach a climax during the July visit of **H.M. King Paul** and **H.M. Queen Frederika of Greece**.

President of the LDG is well-known author, **Sir Compton Mackenzie, O.B.E.** Its chairman is one of the most active members of almost all the major British front organisations, **Mr. Denis Pritt, Q.C.**, of Pamber Heath, Basingstoke, Hants. Mr. Pritt is not a member of the Communist Party, although he was expelled as long ago as 1940 from the Labour Party for associating with it.

Among the executive members of the LDG are **Mr. John Platts Mills**, a barrister and former Labour Member of Parliament who was expelled from the Labour Party in 1949; **Mr. Hugh Brock**, editor of "Peace News," and **Mr. Jack Lindsay**, a member of the Communist Party's "History Group."

Communist Claims Refuted

The Greek "amnesty" campaign played up its humanitarian aspects; Greek "political" prisoners were said to include prominent "anti-Fascist fighters" as well as old sick women; many exiles were claimed to be prevented from returning home. The fact that there had been civil war from 1944 to 1949 was glossed over.

On 3rd May a Greek Government spokesman refuted the Communist charges. The detainees, it said, could not be considered political prisoners in the usual sense; they had been convicted for "murder, and armed and active participation" during the civil war. It also pointed out that since 1955, over two-thirds of those in prison for such crimes had been released under various amnesties, and that "in cases where compassion is justified on grounds of health, age or conduct, the policy of leniency will continue to be applied." The Greek Government was not, however, prepared to "ignore en masse" the legal conviction of criminals for proven atrocities.

One such atrocity was the kidnapping of thousands of families from frontier villages by Communist guerrillas when they withdrew into neighbouring Communist countries at the end of the Civil war in 1949. The kidnapping of those families, including many children (estimated to number some 25,000) was the subject of several well-documented investigations by United Nations' Special Commissions and by the International Red Cross.

As far as the internal Greek political scene is concerned, the campaign has been part of the Communist effort to improve the position of the Communist Front Party, the EDA. The EDA daily newspaper "Avghi," has already given considerable publicity to the campaign in its attempts to discredit government policies. It is true that to some extent non-Communist Greek opposition parties have also been brought into the campaign. On a broader plane, the campaign is aimed at weakening the links between Greece and her Western allies while at the same time discrediting NATO for including a country with an allegedly "Fascist" government.

Left-Wing Co-operation

While the Communists have little hope of achieving these aims, they have been more successful in enrolling the co-operation of the non-Communist Left in Western Europe in the activities of their front organisations. This success has been apparent in the campaigns for prisoners in Spain and Portugal, led by the major Communist front bodies.

A British Committee called "Appeal for Amnesty for Spanish Political Prisoners and Exiles," formed in London in 1959, has a number of sponsors of liberal and humanitarian outlook, in addition to **Mr. William Paynter**, the Communist General-Secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers, and the founder-secretary of the organisation, **Mrs. Eileen Turner**.

Mrs. Turner, who has been secretary of London's Norland branch of the Communist Party, has also contested a municipal election in Kensington as a Communist candidate. She is the wife of **Mr. Richard Turner**, a solicitor who has also been a Communist candidate in a Kensington municipal election, and the "Appeal for Amnesty for Spanish Political Prisoners and Exiles" formerly shared the address where they live in Pembridge Mews, London, W.11.

The "British Committee for Portuguese Amnesty," formed in 1962, has a similar list of sponsors in addition to **Professor J. D. Bernal**, chairman of the World Peace Council and President of the British Communist Party's education "institute," Marx Memorial Library, based on Marx House, London, E.C.1., both Labour Party-proscribed Communist organisations. Many non-Communists attended the conferences in Paris in March 1961, and December 1962, which launched campaigns for Spanish and Portuguese prisoners respectively, but on these occasions there seems to have been some attempt to conceal Communist sponsorship.

A Non-Communist "Amnesty"

In presenting their amnesty campaigns, the front organisations have adopted a familiar Communist tactic of propagating views identical with other similarly-named bodies. One such body is "Amnesty International," of Mitre Court Buildings, Temple, London, E.C.4., formerly known as "Appeal for Amnesty."

It is a non-political, non-racial organisation working for the release of genuine political prisoners throughout the world including those in Communist countries conveniently ignored by other amnesty bodies. Using such recognised channels of negotiation as the International Red Cross, "Amnesty International" has been instrumental in securing the release of many such prisoners including some in Communist countries.

Its former secretary, **Mr. Roger Burke**, recently condemned the exploitation of "prisoners of conscience" for political purposes. The July meeting of the Labour Party's National Executive Committee considered the increasing number of groups, organisations and committees being set up to deal with questions of political prisoners and acts of oppression in countries such as Spain, Portugal, Greece, Iraq and elsewhere. Apparently the Labour Party's National Executive Committee realised that these bodies, some of which were undoubtedly under some Communist influence, were constantly approaching Labour Members of Parliament, local Labour Parties and Trade Unions seeking support.

Concerned with the need to channel activities through "Amnesty International" rather than some of the others, the national executive agreed to (a) provide this organisation with facilities to approach local Labour Parties, (b) make a donation to its funds and (c) advise the Parliamentary Labour Party of their decisions so that Labour Members of Parliament could make use of the services of this body. It is also understood that the Conservative and Liberal Parties are considering affiliating to it.

Trustees and Officers

The Board of Trustees directing the work of the British Section of "Amnesty International" — known as the trustees of the "Prisoners of Conscience Fund"—consist of:

The Bishop of Birmingham (Anglican); **Professor Ritchie Calder** (Humanist); **Mr. Ian Gilmour** (Conservative M.P. for Central Norfolk and former editor of "The Spectator"); **Dr. I. Grunfeld** (Jewish); **Mr. Elwyn Jones, Q.C.** (Labour M.P. for West Ham); **Mr. Sean MacBride** (Senior Counsel, Irish Bar, and Member of Dail Eirann); **Rev. Ernest Payne** (General Secretary of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland), **Archbishop Roberts, S.J.** (Roman Catholic) and **Mr. Jeremy Thorpe** (Liberal M.P. for North Devon).

Its officers are:

Chairman, **Mr. Lionel Elvin** (Director, Institute of Education, University of London); Vice-Chairman, **Mr. Eric Baker** and **Mr. Henry Warner**; Hon Secretaries, **Mr. Peter Benenson** and **Mr. Neville Vincent** (Barristers-at-law); and Hon. Treasurer, **Mr.**

Duncan Guthrie (Director, Polio Research Fund); General Secretary, **Mr. Albert Lodge.**

Constitution

The constitution of "Amnesty International" was approved at the Second International Meeting held at Chateau de Male, near Bruges, Belgium, on September 29/30, 1962. This constitution provides that the policy is to be laid down at an annual International Meeting at which each National Section shall have two votes.

The third International Meeting took place at Konigswinter, near Bonn, West Germany on September 20/22, 1963. Among subjects discussed were "Developments in the realm of Personal Freedom in the Marxist-Leninist Countries."

RED CRUISE IN THE BLUE MEDITERRANEAN A FRONT FOR COMMUNISTS

Through what the "Sunday Telegraph's" diplomatic correspondent **Mr. Gordon Brook-Shepherd**, called "an ingenious attempt to stage a major propaganda operation in the Mediterranean," the Labour Party-Proscribed Communist front organisation: the "International Organisation of Journalists" (IOJ), invited delegates to the so-called "Third World Meeting of Journalists."

The congress was held on board the "Litvia," a small Soviet passenger liner of 4,722 tons, which normally plies between Odessa and Marseilles. The ship sailed from Naples on September 20, and called at Algiers, Tunis, Tripoli and Alexandria before holding its closing session in Beirut on October 3.

According to Mr. Gordon Brook-Shepherd writing in "Sunday Telegraph" in August.

"A special printing press is being installed in the vessel to produce information bulletins for distribution at ports of call. Arrangements are also being made for the delegates to meet selected 'fellow journalists and political figures' wherever they go ashore. This could prove excellent cover for contacts with local subversive Communist elements.

"The organisation sending out the invitations on Moscow's behalf is a European body set up as a further 'front' to disguise the Communist affiliation of the International Organisation of Journalists, which is based in Prague.

"This second 'front' body is the so-called International Committee for the Co-operation of Journalists (IC CJ), which used to operate from Paris and has now moved to Rome . . ."

The IC CJ hoped to rope in nearly 300 delegates for the operation. The first invitations were sent personally to many British Fleet Street journalists. These contained no mention of Moscow, a Soviet ship, or the full revealing agenda of topics to be discussed, which were understood to include "measures to liquidate the remnants of colonial rule in the field of Press and radio."

Instead, the tourist attractions of the trip were stressed (Pompeii, Capri, Carthage, the Pyramids, and Ballbek). On the mechanics of the congress it was claimed that "every participant has the full right to speak and vote, if there is a vote."

Said Mr. Gordon Brook-Shepherd:

"The cruise idea is a clever device to avoid repetition of the fiasco at the last of the Communist-sponsored international journalists' meetings. This was held in October, 1960, at Baden near Vienna. It was boycotted by the local non-Communist Press, and all the Indian delegates walked out in protest against Communist vote rigging.

"By meeting aboard a Russian ship, the embarrassing problem of picking a new venue on land is avoided. The security task of the sponsors in controlling the delegates is also facilitated. Unless he chooses to walk the plank, any disgusted delegate will have to await the next port of call before trying to leave the Congress."

SURVEY OF THE IOJ HISTORY

The IOJ was founded in June, 1946, at a congress in Copenhagen. Originally in London, the headquarters were moved in June, 1947, to Prague, Czechoslovakia, where they have remained. The pre-war International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) and the war-time International Federation of Journalists of Allied and Free Countries were both formally disbanded.

At first several Western Journalists' unions joined the new organisation and for a short time it was truly representative. But the Communists had from the beginning succeeded in capturing the key posts and gradually turned it into yet another front organisation. By 1950 all the non-Communist unions had withdrawn because the IOJ had become, in the words of its first President, **Mr. A. Kenyon**, "a branch office of the Cominform."

Confirmation of this assertion was provided in 1950, when the IOJ expelled the Yugoslavs because Stalin had quarrelled with Tito. In 1955, when Soviet hostility to Yugoslavia was relaxed, the IOJ apologised for the "error" and invited the Yugoslavs back (so far in vain). Those who had left the IOJ in 1950 restarted the International Federation of Journalists.

OFFICERS

The President is **Jean-Maurice Hermann** who is Secretary-General of the French Journalists' Union (which is affiliated to the Communist-controlled *Confédération Générale du Travail* (CGT), the chief editor of the Communist World Peace Council monthly, "Horizons," and chief foreign political editor of "Liberation." He is also a leading member of the French Communist National Peace Committee.

The Secretary-General is a Czech, **Jiri Meisner**, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Society for Promoting Political and Scientific Knowledge, formerly Foreign Editor of "Rude Pravo" and editor of Prague journal, "International Policy."

The Deputy Secretary-General is an Italian Communist, **Dante Cruicci**, now resident in Prague. He is a member of the Committee for Co-operation of Journalists and organiser of its conference in Vienna, November, 1959, and responsible director of "La Lotta," the publication of the Bologna Province Federation of the Italian Communist Party. He also writes for "L'Unità."

There are four Vice-Presidents, one of whom, **Huang Chen-sheng**, was one of the three Chinese correspondents expelled from Prague following the ideological dispute over the Sino-Russian conflict.

The other three are: **Michal Hofman**, Poland, chairman of the Polish Press Agency (PAP) and Chief Editor of its Foreign News Department. He is also President of the Polish Journalists' Union; **Daniel Fedorovich Kraminov**, U.S.S.R., member of "Pravda" editorial board, secretary of Union of Soviet Journalists, and responsible for the Moscow world affairs weekly, "Aboard," first published in 1960; and **Renato Leduc López**, Mexico, Vice-Chairman of IOJ Mexican section, winner of the IOJ International Prize for Journalists, and Foreign policy commentator and publisher of the Mexican weekly "Momento."

STRUCTURE

Congresses, according to the constitution as amended in 1958, are supposed to be held every four years. Actual Congresses have been:

Foundation	June, 1946	Copenhagen
2nd Congress	June, 1947	Prague
3rd Congress	September, 1950	Helsinki
4th Congress	May, 1958	Bucharest
5th Congress	October, 1960	Baden, near Vienna

All affiliated organisations and groups are represented at Congress; individual members and groups numbering less than 20, however, may not

vote. As already mentioned, the Indian delegates walked out of the Baden Congress in protest against Communist vote rigging.

The Executive Committee consists of delegates from each national organisation, or national group. At present it is composed of seven officers (see above) and 28 ordinary members, of whom 25 come from the Soviet orbit. It is supposed to meet at least once a year, and usually does. Between Congresses it is the supreme organ of the IOJ.

The Bureau, according to the constitution, is elected by Congress and consists of the President, Secretary-General and six Vice-Presidents. (At present there are only four, with two vacancies—one for Africa and the other for Finland). It meets as required.

The General Secretariat maintains relations with affiliated organisations and prepares IOJ programmes and publications.

Membership

Membership is open to journalists in the following categories:

1. National Unions of Journalists.
2. National groups of the IOJ.
3. Individual members.

In May, 1959, the IOJ claimed 70,000 members in many countries. However, national organisations were only affiliated from the following 14 countries (of which only two are outside the Soviet orbit):

Albania, Bulgaria, China, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, East Germany, Hungary, North Korea, Mongolia, Poland, Rumania, U.S.S.R., and Viet Nam.

In addition there are national groups in two countries, Ceylon and Mexico.

Finance and Publications

The IOJ claims to be financed entirely by affiliation fees, the rate being set by the Executive Committee, but no accounts are published. The Secretariat publishes a monthly journal called "The Democratic Journalist," in English, French, Russian, German and Spanish. It also published a booklet in April, 1956, about its organisation, entitled "The International Organisation of Journalists," and a pamphlet on the Helsinki meeting in June, 1956.

Relations with other Organisations

The IOJ has always had close contact with the Communist World Peace Council (WPC), and has helped to publicise the latter's activities and appeals. According to its constitution, "... the main aim of the IOJ is the struggle for peace all over the world . . .

To attain this end, the IOJ co-operates with other international organisations which fight for peace."

The IOJ statutes also include a reference to "support for the trade union movement in the struggle for journalists' demands," which in practice means support for the Communist World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU). In December 1953, "The Democratic Journalist" stated that it was the job of all "democratic" journalists to concentrate greater attention on the activities of the WFTU and its various organisations" (i.e. Trade Departments). In addition, the IOJ has given support to the other Communist front bodies, particularly helping to publicise their congresses and campaigns.

In the sphere of the United Nations, the IOJ was granted Category B consultative status by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in March, 1947, but this was withdrawn in July, 1950. Subsequent requests for reinstatement have been rejected.

The IOJ also enjoyed consultative status with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), but was relegated to the Register (now called "Special List") in December, 1952. Subsequent requests for reinstatement have been turned down.

Avowed Aims

According to its constitution, as published by the IOJ itself in a booklet dated April 1956, the IOJ is "a union of progressive and anti-Fascist journalists." Its aims are listed as:

1. The maintenance of peace and the broadening of friendship among the peoples, as well as international understanding through free, accurate,

honest informing of public opinion. The struggle against the spreading of war psychosis and war propaganda, against fascist propaganda of any sort, against nationalist or racial hatred and against the creation of international tension by means of falsehoods and calumnies.

2. The protection of freedom of the Press and of journalists against the influence of monopolist and financial groups. The defence of the right of every journalist to write according to his conscience and conviction. The protection of the rights of colonial peoples and of national minorities to publish in their native language. Support to journalists who have been persecuted for having taken up their pens in defence of peace, progress, justice, the liberty and independence of their countries.

3. The protection of all journalists' rights. The struggle for bettering material conditions of their existence. The gathering and dissemination of all information concerning the living conditions of journalists in all countries. (Collective agreements, salaries, right to organise). Support for the trade union movement in the struggle for journalists' demands.

4. The protection of the people's rights to receive free and honest information, the struggle against falsehood, calumnies and systematic misinformation by the Press, as well as against every form of journalistic activity in the service of individuals of particular groups of society whose interests are contrary to those of the working masses.

Actual Policies

In practice, the IOJ's "struggle for peace" has been the defence of the "peaceful policies" of the Soviet Union and attacks on the "imperialists," and "warmongers" of the West. Its opposition to "war propaganda" and Press "calumnies" has meant condemning any article criticising the Soviet Union or Soviet Communism.

As for the "protection of Press freedom" and "journalists' rights," this has been most blatantly selective. Alleged cases of persecution in the U.S.A., Latin America and British colonies are constantly being publicised and journalists of the free world criticised for being under the thumb of "capitalists." On the other hand, nothing is said about the censorship, official directives and stringent measures of Press control which are common to all Communist countries.

The leading article in "The Democratic Journalist" of January, 1954, for instance, accused "capitalist" newspapers of "poisoning the souls of the people" and praised the Communist Press for "developing in the countries which are leading the struggle for independence from imperialism."

Activities

An "Initiating Committee for an International Meeting of Journalists" was set up in East Berlin in June, 1955. Attempts to inveigle the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) into co-sponsorship of this meeting failed (see Relations with IFJ, below), but elaborate steps were taken to attract non-Communist journalists by pretending that the meeting was independent of the IOJ. In fact the IOJ Secretariat organised the meeting, which finally took place at Otaniemi, near Helsinki (Finland) in June, 1956. With few exceptions, participants were all Communists or IOJ members. The meeting set up a continuing organisation called the "Committee for the Co-operation of Journalists," which used to publish a "Bulletin" of its own from Paris. A second International Meeting took place in October, 1960 at Baden, near Vienna (see above).

A "Conference of Editors of Journalist Union Journals" was held in Warsaw in April, 1958, and an "International Conference of Reporters" was organised by the IOJ in Bucharest in May, 1958. For the latter conference, invitations were sent to both members and non-members of the IOJ. In Prague in June, 1959, the IOJ held an "International Conference of Foreign Affairs Editors."

The IOJ's two Regional Groups have attempted various activities. In 1955 an abortive attempt was made by the Latin American Regional Group to hold a conference of journalists in Montevideo. This was partly to further the "unity" campaign and partly to establish a Latin America regional grouping. It failed owing to lack of support from any but Communist journalists and to active hostility from official quarters.

The Afro-Asian Regional Group, in connection with the Helsinki International Meeting of Journalists in June, 1956, made some progress in setting up an Arab Federation. A number of Arabs attended the meeting, but little activity has been reported since. The emphasis now is being placed on Afro-Asian groupings, and an Afro-Asian Journalists' Conference has already been held.

An International Solidarity Fund was set up by the IOJ in 1953 in order to help "persecuted journalists" (in practice this is applied to those in non-Communist countries only). In 1958 an "International Journalists' Solidarity Day" was inaugurated, to be held on 8th September each year. IOJ members are supposed to donate their earnings for that day to the Solidarity Fund.

In 1958 the IOJ also instituted an "International Journalists' Prize" to be awarded to journalists who distinguished themselves in the peace struggle. Very few have received the award among whom have been:

Manolis Glezos, former editor of the Athens extreme left-wing daily "Avgi," who was released from a Greek prison just before Christmas, 1962, after being found guilty by a Military Court for "failing to report" espionage during the period of the Communist-influenced Greek civil war in 1948. In the spring of this year, Manolis Glezos spent 10 days in Britain touring Labour Movement organisations under the auspices of the Labour Party-proscribed Communist front body, the League for Democracy in Greece. On Wednesday, April 10, he addressed a public meeting in North London's St. Pancras Town Hall, the chairman of which was the late **Sir Leslie Plummer, M.P.**

Jacques Kayser, Vice-Director of the "Institut Francais de la Presse."

Renato Leduc López, a Vice-President of the IOJ and publisher of the Mexican paper "Momento."

In 1957 the IOJ sponsored two specialist conferences. The International Conference of Journalists Specialising on Transport, held in Czechoslovakia; and the International Conference of Agricultural Journalists, held in Plovdiv, Bulgaria.

The International Federation of Journalists

When the non-Communists in the IOJ walked out (see IOJ history above), they restarted the old International Federation of Journalists (IFJ). After treating the latter with scorn and abuse for several years, the IOJ in 1955 switched, in line with the new Soviet strategy, to a Trojan Horse policy. It begged the IFJ to co-operate with it and eventually to form a new universal journalists' organisation.

As a first step, it asked the IFJ to co-sponsor two conferences—a Latin-American regional one in Montevideo and an International Meeting of Journalists in Europe. The IFJ refused to co-operate in either; the first was abandoned and the second, after many postponements and changes of venue, was finally held in Finland in June, 1956 (see IOJ activities above).

In rejecting the IOJ's overtures, the IFJ wrote to them as follows:

"The suggestion that an International could be formed to unite the IFJ and the IOJ takes no account of recent history. We can say that we played a very considerable part in forming the IOJ at Copenhagen in 1946, and it was only because of the persistent use of its forum for political propaganda of a particularly virulent kind, that we were forced to conclude that no useful work could be done within its framework. We—that is to say most of the organisations now represented in the IFJ—left the IOJ for this reason.

"It is not possible for us to consider a reunification until a radical change is effected in the conditions of the Press in those countries which are represented by national organisations in the IOJ. Our firm adherence to the principles of a free Press, which our constitution defines as 'freedom in the collection of information, freedom of opinion and comment, and freedom in the dissemination of news,' makes it impossible for us to collaborate with those organisations representing countries in which journalists do not enjoy those freedoms." ("IFJ Information," July-September, 1955).

International Association of Democratic Lawyers

In what Moscow claims to be "The new climate of opinion arising from the first step of a partial nuclear test ban treaty," the Soviet Union has decided to reactivate the international Communist front organisations.

One of the most important, the Labour Party-proscribed "International Association of Democratic Lawyers" (IADL), whose British affiliate is the Haldane Society, is due to hold its 8th Congress at Budapest, Hungary, in March, 1964. The Congress is the highest organ of the IADL, on which each affiliated organisation is represented. It is supposed to meet at least once every three years but, although at first it was held yearly, it has only met three times since 1949.

October	1946	Paris	1st Congress
July	1947	Brussels	2nd Congress
September	1948	Prague	3rd Congress
October	1949	Rome	4th Congress
September	1951	East Berlin	5th Congress
May	1956	Brussels	6th Congress
April	1960	Warsaw	7th Congress

The IADL Council, which is supposed to meet yearly, consists of the officers, plus one representative of each affiliated organisation and co-opted members. The IADL Bureau is composed of the 19 officers (listed below) who are, according to the Statutes, elected by the Congress. The IADL Secretariat comprises the Secretary-General, Secretaries and Treasurer.

Headquarters

The secretariat is at 234 Rue de Trone, Brussels, having been expelled from Paris in 1950 by the French Government. A certain amount of organisational work has also been carried on from Warsaw.

History

The Association was founded in 1946, at an International Congress of Jurists held in Paris, under the auspices of a para-Communist organisation, the "Movement National Judiciaire." Many Lawyers attended this congress and subsequently joined the organisation without realising its political nature. However, the Communists had control of the organisation from the beginning and by 1949 most of the non-Communists had resigned. The true nature of the IADL was made clear in October, 1949, when the Yugoslavs were expelled because Stalin had quarrelled with Tito.

Officers

The President of the IADL is **Denis Nowell Pritt, Q.C.**, of Barn End, Pamber Heath, Basingstoke, Hants., who is President of the British Peace Committee, Bureau member of the World Peace Council, President of the British Rumanian Friendship Associa-

tion, and Chairman of the League for Democracy in Greece—all of which are Labour Party-proscribed as Communist front organisations. Mr. Pritt is not a member of the Communist Party, although he was expelled as long ago as 1940 from the Labour Party for associating with it.

The Secretary-General of the IADL is a French barrister named **Joe Nordmann**, a Communist who is a counsel at Paris Court of Appeal. Formerly he was IADL official representative to the World Peace Council. He is also a member of Comite de Patronage Progressiste de Droit Francais.

There are at present nine Vice-Presidents, as follows:

Ali Badawi, a barrister at the Egyptian Supreme Court of Appeal; former Minister of Justice; former Dean of Law Faculty in Cairo University.

Henriques Fialho, President of the Brazilian Democratic Lawyers' Association and member of the World Peace Council (IADL affiliate) and his wife, Branca Fialho, is also a member of the World Peace Council and a Vice-President of the Labour Party-proscribed Women's International Democratic Federation.

Prof. Yoshitaro Hirano, a Japanese professor of law and a member of the World Peace Council.

Prof. Jerzy Jodlowski, President of the Polish Lawyers' Association and a Vice-President of "Sejm." He is Professor of Law at Warsaw University.

Peter Kudryavtsev, Assistant Procurator General of the USSR, and a member of the Scientific Committee of the USSR Law Research Institute.

Prof. Leon Lyon-Caen, first Honorary President of the French Court of Cassation and member of the Communist-controlled Comite de Patronage Progressiste de Droit Francais. But he was also a member of a group of French lawyers who protested against the execution of Imre Nagy, of Hungary, by the Communists following the uprising of 1956.

Shen Chun-ju, Vice-President of the Chinese Association for Political and Juridical Sciences, Peking; Chairman of the China Democratic League and Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress.

Umberto Terracini, an Italian Communist Senator, member of the World Peace Council, barrister of Court of Cassation and a Vice-President of the Communist front body known as "International Federation of Resistance Fighters."

M. W. H. de Silva, former Ceylon Minister of Justice and Senator.

The Treasurer is a Belgian barrister:

Jean-Charles Deguent, barrister of the Brussels Court of Appeal; Bureau member of Belgian section of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, and visited the USSR and China in 1959.

The Secretary-General is assisted by seven secretaries:

Dr. Jene Benedek, Secretary-General of the Federation of Hungarian Lawyers, and a Budapest advocate.

Mario Berlinguer, a Professor at the Rome Supreme Court of Appeal, former High Commissioner for the punishment of Fascist crimes in Italy and a former Italian Senator.

Rudolf Bystricky, a Professor at the Faculty of Law in Charles University, Prague.

Prof. Sergei Golunsky, a member of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

Prof. Letelba Rodriguez de Britto, secretary of the Communist-controlled Brazilian Democratic Lawyers' Association, and a Rio de Janeiro barrister.

A place reserved for East Germany.

A place reserved for United Kingdom.

Membership and Finance

Membership is open to organisations, groups or individual lawyers. The IADL has never issued a total membership figure but claims to have members in 48 countries. It claims to be supported by affiliation fees and donations, but no details are published.

Avowed Aims

The main aims of the IADL are, according to its statutes:

1. To develop mutual understanding among lawyers of the world.
2. To support the aims of the United Nations, especially through common action for the defence of democratic liberties.
3. To co-operate with other groups to ensure respect for the rule of law in international relations and the establishment of peace.

Such aims, in 1946, were supported by many. But the IADL's way of implementing them was far too partisan to be acceptable to non-Communists.

Actual Policies

In practice the IADL has:

1. Supported every move in Soviet foreign policy, and attacked Western policies whenever this was in line with Soviet propaganda.
2. Denounced as a "violation of human rights" any prosecution against Communists or Communist parties outside the Soviet orbit, while denying or ignoring the existence of any violations of human rights behind the Iron Curtain. For example, the Rosenberg trial in America was castigated as "judicial murder," but the Slansky trial in Czechoslovakia was never mentioned.
3. Assisted wherever possible the dissemination of Soviet propaganda, particularly the notorious "germ warfare" allegations (see below). It has also supported the various campaigns of the WPC.
4. Organised, as a contribution to "mutual understanding," visits of groups of "progressive" (i.e. pro-Communist) lawyers to the Soviet Union, its satellites and China, who, in return for lavish hospitality, extolled the perfections of "people's democracy," particularly its legal system (even in Hungary since the 1956 revolt).

5. Attacked the West for "imperialist aggression" in Korea, Indo-China, Malaya, Kenya, Cyprus, Algeria and Egypt. (But failed to make any protest against the brutal suppression of freedom by Soviet tanks in Poznan and Budapest, or China's invasion of Tibet.

Activities

Conference for the Defence of Democratic Liberties: In January, 1954, the IADL organised an International Conference of Lawyers for the Defence of Democratic Liberties in Vienna. Elaborate steps were taken to disguise its true nature in order to attract non-Communist support (which the IADL had little hope of doing under its own name). An "International Initiating Committee" was set up, headed by three lawyers, who, though not officers of the IADL, had connections with it. This method of camouflage, often used by front organisations, was not very successful.

Regional meetings. The IADL has also held the following regional meetings:

(a) "First (Latin-American) Continental Conference of Jurists," in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in November, 1952.

(b) "Second Continental Conference of Jurists" in Guatemala in October, 1953.

(c) "Congress of Asian Democratic Lawyers" in Calcutta in January, 1955.

Commissions: Periodically, when the Soviet or Chinese propaganda machines, or other front organisations, wish to make some particular point, the IADL is asked to set up an "Investigating Commission" to create the impression of impartiality. Examples are:

(a) **Commission of Inquiry on Korea.** This was sent to Korea from March to April, 1952. It was composed of eight lawyers selected by the IADL, four of whom were known Communists. On 2nd March, before the inquiry had begun, the Soviet "Tass" agency announced that: "The Commission was sent to Korea in accordance with the decision of the IADL to investigate **and establish** the crimes committed by interventionists in Korea." As was expected of it, the Commission announced on 16th March, 1962, in a telegram to the President of the IADL, that it had gathered "indisputable evidence" of germ warfare. Later, in its official report, the Commission claimed that its investigations had convinced it that the facts "verified with all rigour of judicial discipline," constituted "an act of aggression committed by the United States, an act of genocide and a particularly odious crime against humanity." The campaign, also waged by the WPC and WIDF, was later exposed by returning prisoners of war as a fraud. The "evidence" was based entirely on "confessions" signed by captured airmen under duress.

(b) **Commission on Karlsruhe Trial.** This was set up in 1954 "to examine the Karlsruhe trial of the organisers of the Referendum against the remilitarisation of Western Germany." The Referendum had in fact been organised by the West German Communist Party and had been declared illegal. The Commission

consisted mainly of IADL officers and met twice in Paris. It condemned the trial as "a trial of opinion, worthy of . . . Hitler and Mussolini."

(c) **Commission of WFTU expulsion from Vienna.** This commission was created in February, 1956, at the request of the WFTU, "to study what action should be taken concerning the publication and use of forged documents which were used as a pretext by the Austrian Ministry of the Interior for expelling the WFTU headquarters from Vienna and for arbitrarily seizing its goods." The Commission sent a delegation to Prague in April, 1956, to discuss its work with the WFTU Secretariat. It consisted of the IADL Secretary-General, Joe Nordmann, a Soviet lawyer, Korovine, and a Japanese Professor of Law, Hirano, who is a Vice-President of the IADL and a Bureau member of the WPC. Nothing further was heard of the Commission.

Campaigns

The IADL has assisted the WPC in its campaigns against atomic weapons, and the WFTU in its "struggle for trade union rights." It has also been in the forefront of the anti-colonial struggle, condemning the persecution of colonial peoples by the "Imperialist" Western Powers. It has not so far protested against the Chinese subjugation of the Tibetans, however.

Relations with other Organisations

The IADL was proscribed by the Labour Party as a Communist front organisation about 1952.

The IADL once had relations with United Nations. It had consultative status with ECOSOC until July, 1950, when it was rescinded. Subsequent applications for reinstatement have all been rejected.

It is on UNESCO's "Special List" (i.e., Register).

Publications

1. An "Information Bulletin" is published somewhat irregularly (though it is supposed to be monthly) in Brussels.

2. "Law in the Service of Peace (Le Droit au Service de la Paix), a review, should appear every six months, but does not always do so. It is printed in English and French, and occasionally in Italian. It is believed to have changed its name to "Revue du Droit Contemporain."

3. Pamphlets, among which are:

(a) Reports by IADL Commission on War Crimes in Korea and China (1952).

(b) "Defense des Libertes Democratiques," a report of the International Conference for the Defence of Democratic Liberties, Vienna (1954).

(c) "Lawyers Take Position Against Experiments and Use of Atomic Weapons," reporting the resolutions against atomic weapons passed by the Council meeting in Leipzig (June 1954).

(d) "International Law and Atomic Weapons" by D. N. Pritt (1957).

(e) "Contributions to the Study of Problems of Disarmament," by Prof. Jodlowski (May, 1958).

COMMUNIST FRONT ORGANIZATION

ALL those who wish to join the Communist Front should first read the Aims of Common Cause, which will be sent to you on request. It is a small book, but it is essential reading for all who wish to join the Communist Front.

INTERNATIONAL
Communist Front (C.F.)
The Communist Front is a movement of workers, peasants, and oppressed peoples of all countries, who are united in their struggle against the capitalist system and for the establishment of a socialist society. The Communist Front is a movement of the masses, and it is the duty of all workers and oppressed peoples to join it.

Having read the Aims of Common Cause, I wish to associate myself with its work and request a form of application for enrolment as a Supporter.

NAME

ADDRESS

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COMMUNIST FRONT ORGANISATIONS

All, except those marked with an asterisk (*), are proscribed by the Labour Party.

INTERNATIONAL

1. World Peace Council (WPC).
2. World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU).
3. World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY).
4. International Union of Students (IUS).
5. Women's International Democratic Federation (WIDF).
6. World Federation of Teachers' Unions (FISE).
(Technically a trade department of WFTU, therefore Labour Party-proscribed).
7. International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL).
8. World Federation of Scientific Workers (WFSW).
9. International Organisation of Journalists (IOJ).
10. International Medical Association (IMA), formerly World Congress of Doctors (WCD).*
11. International Radio and Television Organisation (OIRT).*
12. International Federation of Resistance Fighters (FIR).*

BRITISH

(a) "Friendship" Organisations—

1. Communist Party of Great Britain (CPGB).
2. British Soviet Society (BSS).
3. British Soviet Friendship Houses Limited (BSFH).
4. Scottish USSR Society (SUS).
5. British-Polish Friendship Society (BPFS).
6. British-Czechoslovak Friendship League (BCFL).
7. British-China Friendship Association (BCFA).
8. British-Rumanian Friendship Association (BRFA).
9. British-Hungarian Friendship Society (BHFS).
10. The Committee for Friendship with Bulgaria (now known as "The Society for Friendship with Bulgaria"). (SFB).
11. British-Soviet Friendship Society (BSFS).

(b) "Peace" Organisations—

1. British Peace Committee (BPC).
2. Welsh Peace Council.
3. People's Congress for Peace.
4. West Yorkshire Federation for Peace.
5. Medical Association for the Prevention of War.
6. Artists for Peace.
7. Musicians' Organisation for Peace.
8. Authors' World Peace Council.
9. Teachers for Peace.
10. Scientists for Peace.

(c) Women's and Youth Organisations—

1. Women's Parliament.
2. International Women's Day. (Subsidiary of WIDF).
3. National Assembly of Women (NAW).
4. Student Labour Federation (SLF).
5. International Youth Council in Britain.
6. British Youth Festival. (Subsidiary of WFDY).

(d) Miscellaneous—

1. Labour Research Department (LRD).
2. Marx House (The Communist Party's education centre, with a membership organisation known as the "Marx Memorial Library").
3. League for Democracy in Greece (LDG).
(A Communist "friendship" organisation with a country which, although not under Communist domination, is of particular interest to the Soviet Union).