

# Sheffield, Warsaw and the Future



*Mass Protest Meeting in Sheffield City Hall which took place on the evening of the day that the Congress should have opened.*

The noise of the battle to hold the World Peace Congress in Sheffield spread to every home, factory and office in Britain and though every possible effort was made to misrepresent its motives and methods, the fact that a congress of people who wished to talk peace, was prevented from doing so, is now known to every person in the country. That is a tremendous gain.

Although the Congress was prevented from meeting here, the struggle to hold it has turned the Peace Movement into a firmer, more realistic, more widely-known and, therefore, an infinitely **STRONGER** movement.

The great Message of the Congress—transferred and held in Warsaw—is that the peace fight must be broadened to include every shade of opinion provided it is opposed to war.

**£1.00**

# COLD WAR in

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# SHEFFIELD

The story of the  
Second World  
Peace Congress

November, 1950

by Bill Moore

## Foreword

In November 1950 the Second World Peace Congress was due to be held in the Sheffield City Hall. 2,000 delegates from all over the world were expected. In Britain 30,000 organisations of all types - political, social, religious and so on - had been invited to send delegates. In the event there was only one meeting in Sheffield, on Monday November 13th, and the Congress at the shortest notice was transferred to Warsaw.

The reason for this action was that the Labour Government of the day, while at first expressing its intention to exclude only any individual who was 'persona non grata' - that is, against whom there was a specific charge or objection - ended up by excluding well over half the foreign delegates (even world-famous cultural figures like Shostakovich, Pablo Neruda, Louis Aragon) thus aborting the central purpose of the Congress: an exchange of every kind of opinion on the danger of war and ways to eliminate that danger.

The story of this event is part of the 'hidden history' of the Cold War. Even today Government papers relating to the Congress are retained by the Foreign Office and are not available for inspection (See Appendix A). Only those who lived through the period know of it today.

On this 40th anniversary we want to put it on the record permanently.

# COLD WAR in SHEFFIELD

The Second World Peace Congress  
November, 1950

## Background to the Congress

The two decades after the end of the Second World War were marked above all by the most intense Cold War between East and West, particularly between Britain and the United States on the one side and the USSR and Eastern Europe on the other.

Because the USSR had ended the war as a military superpower, responsible above all others for the destruction of the Nazi war machine, successive British and American Governments appeared incapable of thinking of her as anything but a military rival, rather than an ally, prepared to act - as they themselves had done so often in the past - as an imperial power, ready to swallow up the rest of the world. "Russian Imperialism" became a popular catch-phrase in the press, which pointed to the countries of Eastern Europe as proof.

The truth was rather different, as many in the West - even some politicians - recognised. Not only had Russia lost twenty million men and women in the war, the flower of her youth (many times more than the losses of all her allies put together, perhaps more than all those lost in all the wars, big and little, since), but the whole of European Russia, the battleground for over three years between the Russians and the bulk of the Nazi forces, was a scene of indescribable devastation. (To a lesser extent this applied too to the countries of Eastern Europe.) What the USSR needed above all was a respite of at least a decade in which to restore her shattered economy.

But for the US and British Governments Russia was the "Red Peril".

What seemed to confirm this danger, ascribed to the influence of the Soviet Union, was not only the loss of Eastern Europe to the capitalist sphere, but also the liberation struggles that the war had unleashed all over the world. There were still clear memories for our ruling class of what had happened only a quarter of a century before after the Russian Revolution of 1917: revolt throughout the old colonial world, in India, Egypt, the Middle East, South-East Asia

the Far East, as well as in Central and Eastern Europe. Now there was an even more powerful movement of the peoples which affected Britain - hanging on desperately to her Empire - more than any other western power.

By 1950 India had rejected Labour's favoured Dominion Status and had won independence. Britain's mandate in Palestine had gone and an Israeli State set up. Egypt under Nasser was restless after 65 years of British occupation, as were many of the African colonies. China was now communist after the revolution of 1949. Greece, largely a dependency of Britain, was still in turmoil even though the British army had defeated the liberation army (which reckoned that its success in holding up many German divisions on their own during the latter part of the war had earned them a government of their own choice) and had set up the despised and hated old monarchy instead. The East Indies too were in turmoil even after the British had helped to destroy the liberation forces there and restore them to the Dutch. And the war in Malaya, started in 1948 against the Malayan Liberation Army which pretty well on its own had held the Japanese pinned down after the British surrender of Singapore, was still going on - as dirty a war as any on record. On top of it all the Korean War, fomented by the USA, began in July 1950, and the British Labour Government - already drawn into the American fold by the stick of cruelly ended Lease-Lend and the carrot of Marshall Aid, a subservience consolidated in our signature to the Atlantic Pact - was pulled in willy-nilly.

It was all put down to the Russians. And the consequence in the western world was a deliberate persecution of all Communists and any who by any stretch could be labelled "progressive" and therefore a "fellow-traveller". It was the era of McCarthy's Un-American Activities trials in the USA. Here in Britain there was a purge of the Civil Service. Lecturers in higher education and teachers in state education were subjected to trial and persecution by the press, often dismissal, as the present writer knows only too well (see Appendix B). Many Trade Unions excluded Communists from full-time office if they refused to sign the 'document'. And out of the 40-odd organisations which the Labour Party put on its proscribed list after the war, 22 were Peace Organisations or Friendship Societies with the prohibited Eastern Bloc countries, put on the list between 1947 and 1954 (see Appendix C).

This was the atmosphere when the Second World Peace Congress was called in the autumn of 1950.

But it was offset by the world-wide movement for the ending of the Cold War and the preservation of peace, which had also gathered strength in the five years after the war.

# COUNCIL CALLED

## BY U.S.

### ON RED CHINA

**Assembly Stand By For Veto**

From **RODNEY CAMPBELL** LAKE SUCCESS, Monday

THE U.S. has called for a special meeting of the Security Council on Wednesday to consider a proposal for a special meeting of the Council to discuss the situation in China.

*BW* 19/10/50 **Truman and MacArthur carved up the East**

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

# ARMY CHIEFS PLAN FOR LONG WAR IN EAST

**COMMUNISM IN STATE SCHOOLS**

**"SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES" OF TEACHERS**

By the FOREIGN EDITOR

in with General MacArthur's office in London is Korea which will be a preseeable time ahead of many months of bitter danger of an extension This danger is centred in suffered crippling defeats in Four items of news confirmed lengthly and possibly spread

On November 5 the 29th Brigade will sail

# HUNDREDS ARE HANGED IN SEOUL

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

**WHILE** British and American forces were yesterday must be held for a full-scale attack on the Embassy in London on the United Nations was broken

**MALAYA PROGRESS NOT UP TO HOPES**

By the FOREIGN EDITOR

in with General MacArthur's office in London is Korea which will be a preseeable time ahead of many months of bitter danger of an extension This danger is centred in suffered crippling defeats in Four items of news confirmed lengthly and possibly spread

On November 5 the 29th Brigade will sail

# Britain to recruit 30,000 former Nazi army men

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

**BRITAIN** made the first move in the plans for rearming West Germany yesterday by announcing that 30,000 former Wehrmacht men are to be reorganised in a new so-called German Service Organisation

**BRITISH FEAR NEW TROUBLE IN MALAYA**

By the FOREIGN EDITOR

in with General MacArthur's office in London is Korea which will be a preseeable time ahead of many months of bitter danger of an extension This danger is centred in suffered crippling defeats in Four items of news confirmed lengthly and possibly spread

On November 5 the 29th Brigade will sail

*E. S. C. Milford St. 7. 30th March 1948*

# BY THE ATLANTIC WAR PACT

The LABOUR GOVERNMENT Pledges Britain

- [1] to increase still further its War Budget, already £760 million a year, at the expense of housing and social services;
- [2] to join in a Council and so-called "Defence" Committee, which is to control the armed forces of all the countries signing the Pact and organise preparations for war;
- [3] to undertake "action . . . including the use of armed force" when American big business thinks the time is ripe for war against the Soviet Union.

## THE ATLANTIC WAR PACT

is a violation of the Charter of the United Nations Organisation, giving the "Defence" Council the right to declare war over the head of the U.N.O. Security Council.

It ties British Labour to American big business plans to destroy socialism and democracy in Europe.

It will mean that more and more American troops and aircraft will join those already in Britain, which is designed to be America's chief war base against Russia.

It is an outrage against the British working class.  
It is an outrage against every section of the British people that wants peace and friendship with the other peoples of the world.

## Make your protest against the Atlantic War Pact

*Rally to Barker's Pool*

SUNDAY 3rd APRIL . at 7 p.m.

**WICK BENNETT & COLIN FULLARD**

FOUR DINNER TIME MEETINGS—TUESDAY APRIL 5th at

<b>RNALL TERMINUS</b>	<b>HADFIELD'S [East Hecla]</b>
<b>TERCLIFFE BATHS</b>	<b>FIRTH TOWN'S E.T.D.</b>

by Johnsons (Sheffield) Ltd. 92 Carver St. and published by THE C  
Area Committee, 1 Csmbr'g Arcade. PARTY, Sheffield & Rotherham

## The World-wide Movement for Peace

People world-wide viewed these developments with fear. Hiroshima and Nagasaki were in everyone's mind. And in many countries a great variety of individuals began to come together to try to formulate some basis of action to stop a Third World War.

This movement crystallised in August 1948 in the World Conference of Intellectuals for Peace held in Wroclaw, Poland. It was the first great gathering of intellectuals on such a scale since the war. 450 people from 40 countries attended, from the developed and from the underdeveloped countries, from East and West, from 'left' and 'right'.

The final resolution, passed by 423 to 12, with a few abstentions, underlined the danger of war, the need to preserve the culture of mankind only recently rescued from Nazism at the price of unheard-of sacrifices and privations, and placed the blame for the unhappy post-war developments on "a handful of self-interested men in America and Europe who have inherited fascist ideas of racial superiority and the denial of progress." It called for national cultural congresses to be convened in all countries, national committees for peace to be formed everywhere, and international peace ties to be strengthened.

An international organising committee was set up which had the task of calling the First World Peace Congress in Paris in April 1949. Its President was Professor Joliot-Curie, world-famous French physicist and son-in-law of Madame Curie. Its Vice-presidents were Louis Aragon of France; Anderson-Nexo, Nobel Prize winner from Denmark; Professor J D Bernal, world-famous British (strictly Irish) physicist; Signor Nenni, leader of the Italian Socialist Party; General Cardenas of Mexico; Mme Eugenie Cotton, French scientist; Alexander Fadeyev, world famous Russian novelist; Dr Rogge, the American Lawyer who defended the "Hollywood Ten" (accused of un-American activities); and Louis Salliant, leader of the CGT, the French TUC.

The First World Peace Congress brought together 2005 delegates from 72 countries representing 600 million people. Most of the delegates met in Paris. 400 of them who were excluded by the French Government met in Prague. The Japanese delegation was prevented from leaving by an edict of General MacArthur, the effective ruler of Japan, so held its own Congress in Tokyo. All three Congresses agreed the final decisions.

These decisions can be summarised in two quotations. The first is from the speech of Joliot-Curie: "We are not here to ask for peace, but to impose peace on the supporters of war." The second is from Pietro Nenni's speech: "We must compel the governments to abandon the Atlantic Pact policy and ensure the peace of the world." Delegates stressed



The man who holds these severed heads is a Briton . . . a member of a Royal Marine Commando . . . a Briton who smiles as he poses with the heads of two Malayan liberation fighters, one a woman, whose front teeth have been knocked out . . .  
 And below . . . a picture in some respects even more horrible . . . the same heads lie on the ground. A dismembered hand is propped up between them as if in a mocking salute . . . a hideous game adds insult to inhumanity

The publication of these photographs by the Daily Worker earlier in 1950 exposed the utter brutality of the methods used by the British commanders in Malaya in their efforts to destroy the Malayan People's Liberation Army. Dyak head-hunters were brought in from Borneo, not only to fight but by their inhuman methods to terrify the Malayan people into submission.

This exposure put a rapid end to the practice which brought only shame to the army and the Government.

But theorean War was soon to show that similar inhuman practices continued. The wars against liberation and independence movements in the old colonial world (as Vietnam later showed) have always been marked by outrageous brutality.

the urgent need to end wars already in progress in Malaya, Indonesia, Indo-China, and Greece; to end all colonial oppression; to end the policy of exclusive power blocs which had produced the Atlantic Pact; to end war talk and start disarmament; to ban the atom bomb and to control atomic energy. All these points were contained in the final resolution, to carry out which the Congress set up a permanent international co-ordinating committee. Two particular decisions followed in subsequent months: the decision to hold the Second World Peace Congress in Britain (eventually in Sheffield), and the decision to launch the 'Stockholm Appeal' for the banning of the Atom Bomb, (so named from the place of the meeting where it was launched). This Atom Bomb Appeal was being canvassed throughout the summer and autumn of 1950; by the time of the Congress it had won 473 million signatures world-wide.\*\*

The decision to hold the Congress in Sheffield was announced in September, 1950.

## What Happened in Sheffield

As soon as it was discovered that the Sheffield City Hall had been let to the British Peace Committee for the Congress, the attack began.

The Sheffield Telegraph on October 5th reported questions in the City Council: was the Council aware that it was a Communist Congress? that it was resented by many people in the City? that there were grave possibilities of disorder? The Labour Group on the Council stuck to its guns and confirmed the booking.

On the other hand the District Committee of the powerful Amalgamated Engineering Union (representing 20,000 workers) passed a resolution congratulating the Labour Group. So too did the Foundryworkers' branch (the biggest in Britain). By October 12 the first British delegate to the Congress was elected by the Works Committee of the English Steel Corporation: Herbert Howarth, later president of the AEU District Committee and in the late 50's himself the centre of a very dirty nationwide anti-Communist campaign.

Nationally the first blow was delivered by the Home Secretary, Chuter Ede, who refused to allow the Congress Preparatory Committee, as such, to enter Britain, though "that does not necessarily imply that the distinguished foreign personalities concerned will be refused admission on their individual merits . . ." a bit of gratuitous smugness since in the event hardly a one was admitted. It presented serious organizational problems for the British Peace Committee which was now landed with the entire preparations for the Congress.

There wer some local problems too. Sheffield had been heavily bombed

## Invitation Sent to 30,000 Organisations

DEAR FRIENDS,

We are writing to invite your organisation to be represented at the forthcoming World Peace Congress.

It is an honour for this gathering of some 2,000 delegates from every continent to be held in Britain at this time; it is a unique occasion, and a supreme opportunity.

All peace-loving people—irrespective of political, philosophical or religious convictions—are asked to discuss the proposals of the World Peace Committee and to elect delegates to express their opinions on:

The banning and control of atomic weapons.  
The general reduction and control of all forms of armament.

Condemnation of aggression and foreign intervention by force of arms.

A peaceful settlement of the Korean conflict in conformity with the U.N. Charter.

The banning of war propaganda in any form and in every country.

At this time we all realise how great is the threat of a third world war, and that in such a war our densely populated country would be particularly vulnerable.

We would therefore urge you to give this Congress all your support. Details and an application form for delegates are enclosed, and as there is very little time we hope that applications will be completed as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

J. G. CROWTHER,

President, British Peace Committee.

61  
30/ Socialists  
Back 'Peace'  
Booking

THE Labour Group on Sheffield City Council decided last night to stand by the Council's decision accepting the City Hall for the Congress unless the Council should otherwise decide.

NO LIMIT,  
SAYS HOME  
OFFICE

Daily Worker Reporter  
British Peace Committee  
it was not the Government's intention to limit the number of delegates to the Congress.

MAMMOTH JOB  
FOR PEACE  
Sheffield district prepares

U.S. ARRESTS OF  
COMMUNISTS  
ACTION AGAINST  
86 ALIENS

EFFECT OF NEW LAWS  
From Our Own Correspondent  
WASHINGTON, O.  
Three developments were at once apparent to Communists and their sympathisers in the United States.

Working force.  
Inspired by the news that the Congress is being held in their area, peace lovers in the South Yorkshire coalfield are working harder than ever to collect signatures to the Peace Petition.

Dearne Peace Committee's target of 5,000 signatures by October 8 has been surpassed—7,000 signatures have been collected.

COUNCIL STAND FIRM ON  
CITY HALL BOOKING

SHEFFIELD Estates Committee is not prepared to cancel the letting of the City Hall for the International Peace Congress in November.

This was stated at the City Council meeting yesterday by Councillor Percy Dinsley, chairman of the committee, in answer to a question by Councillor F. Lloyd.

Questions and answers were as follows:  
Is the chairman aware that since the City Hall was booked for an alleged meeting of the International Peace Congress, that meeting has been widely advertised in the Communist Press and over Communist-controlled radio programmes as a Communist meeting?

PEACE CALL IS  
MADE TO ALL  
BRITAIN  
From SHEILA

FIRST BRITON CHOSEN  
FOR PEACE  
CONGRESS

Daily Worker Reporter  
FIRST British delegate to the World Peace Congress to be held in Sheffield City Hall next month has been elected by the Works Committee of Vickers English Steel Corporation in Sheffield itself.



Mr. Herbert Howarth

There could hardly be a more suitable decision for the English Steel Corporation is one of the largest armaments factories in Britain.  
The delegate elected unanimously is Herbert Howarth, 43-year-old turner in West Shop and Amalgamated Engineering Union shop steward, who is one of the best-known trade unionists in Yorkshire.

He is a member of the Sheffield District Committee of his union, and was a delegate to the A.E.U. National Committee and the Brighton Trades Union Congress this year.  
Herbert Howarth lives in Upwell Hill, one of the seemingly endless workers' rows overlooking the smoking chimneys and corrugated iron roofs of the great factory where he works.

Although Sheffield has enjoyed full employment for ten years, and the factories are still labouring for more skilled men, there is little sign of prosperity in Upwell Hill.  
The new very modern plant and Mrs. Howarth as she invited him into the neat but tiny living room in such a fire-burned house to the old-fashioned range.  
Herbert was still in his working clothes about to take his seat as he came out to a meeting.

A useful job  
"I'm very pleased to represent the English Steel Corporation workers," he said.  
"It is right that Sheffield, the premier industrial city in this country for the making of high-grade steel, should be elected for the Second World Congress."  
The city does not feel the "whether or not" of the most serious of all peace questions, rather than the "how" of it.

Sheffield sets an example  
Councillors sign  
peace petition

From PETER FRYER  
SIGNATURES of eight Labour Councillors in Sheffield—the city of the Second World Peace Congress—were on a Peace Petition form that arrived at the British Peace Committee offices yesterday.

during the war; there were many open sites in the city centre where ruined buildings had been cleared (the final session of the Congress was due to be held in the open on a bomb site in the middle of the Moor) and hotel accommodation was minimal. Congress workers began a round of visits to Barnsley, Doncaster, Leeds, Chesterfield, Bawtry and the Peak District looking for the necessary places, not always a comfortable task in the atmosphere created by the press. Then it was necessary to line up a fleet of buses to collect and deliver the delegates every day - a complex timetable for the 2000 delegates expected. But it was done.

Food was easier: the City Hall had a large restaurant, and there was a Civic Restaurant (originating during the war) next door.

On October 10 invitations to elect delegates to the Congress went out to 30,000 British organisations, to trade unions, churches, women's organisations, Co-op Guilds, youth clubs, sports clubs and cultural bodies. The invitation included a list of matters for discussion at the Congress.

On October 18th it was announced that a five-legged international marathon had been organised by the World Federation of Democratic Youth. The first leg, 2,200 miles long (it had started on October 11) left Bulgaria and passed through Rumania, Hungary, Austria, Italy, Switzerland and France. The second had started in Poland and would pass through Czechoslovakia, Germany, Holland, Belgium and France. The third, starting in Finland, would divide - one half going down through Sweden, the other through Norway - and would reunite in Denmark before travelling to Britain. The fourth was due to start from the top of Ben Lomond on November 4th, and the fifth was being organised from Dublin by the Irish Young Workers' League. Despite difficulties at the ports, the final runner did appear in Sheffield in time for the November 13th meeting.

The week before the Congress - Nov. 5 to 12 - was designated by the British Peace Committee as Peace Week, during which a last effort was to be made to elect delegates, with a special effort on the collection of signatures to the Atom Bomb Appeal. The Sheffield Peace Committee organised a competition which was won by Norman Greenfield of Barnsley with Percy Riley (then an unknown in Sheffield) coming third - but he had already collected 4,000!

News of foreign delegates now began to come in. The Czechs had elected 40 delegates, the Soviet Union 65. The latest British delegate was from the Royal Docks Group Peace Committee in London. But at the same time Chuter Ede was reaffirming that he was resolute in his intention to hand-pick all foreign delegates: "The self-styled British Peace Committee have been informed that applications from foreigners to attend the Congress will be dealt with on their individual merits.

Every road leads to Sheffield

# ALL EUROPE IN PEACE MARATHON

From PETER FRYER

IN thousands of cities, towns and villages of Europe, lovers of peace are turning out to greet "peace runners" as they pass through flaming torches and messengers.

## Czechs elect 40 peace delegates

Daily Worker Special Correspondent

PRAGUE, Tuesday.

FIFTEEN THOUSAND delegates at meetings throughout Czechoslovakia have chosen 40 representatives to attend the World Peace Congress at Sheffield next week.

delegates were elected at meetings of trade unions, political parties, co-operatives, clubs and many other organisations.

The aim is not only the banning of atomic bombs. It is the defence of the Prague regional office was told by their chairmen. Anezka Hlodinova.

WORK PLEDGES

region farm and factories were elected along with national leaders of the movement, and thousands of pledges were underwritten at the Congress. It was urged by churchmen of all religions that a marked election of peace delegates was the best way to bring about peace.

Elect your delegate  
to Sheffield now!

# PEACE WEEK FOR ALL BRITAIN

THE week before the Second World Peace Congress opens in Sheffield - November 5-12 - will be celebrated in every part of Britain as Peace Week.

The British Peace Committee has called on all local peace committees and other organisations that support the cause of peace to make Peace Week a really spectacular event.

Peace committees are urged to plan all their activities from now onwards to lead up to Peace Week as a grand climax to the Congress campaign.

Now and November

**Churches Denounce  
Peace Congress**

AT a meeting of the British Peace Congress in Sheffield yesterday (Dr. Beckett) the Bishop of Chester said the invitation to the British Peace Congress was "a trap".

## SOVIET ENVOYS FOR SHEFFIELD Catholic calls to believers

THE Soviet peace movement yesterday elected a 65-member delegation to the World Peace Congress in Sheffield.

**500 London  
dockers  
choose a  
delegate**

AT a luncheon meeting called by the Royal Docks Group Peace Committee, 500 dockers yesterday proposed unanimously Mr. Wally Jones as their delegate for the forthcoming World Peace Congress in Sheffield.

## Ede's new threat to Congress

MR. CHUTER EDE, Home Secretary, threatened yesterday to hand pick foreign delegates to the World Peace Congress in Sheffield in November.

Mr. J. R. Bevin (Con. Toxteth) asked the Home Secretary what steps he intended to take to prevent aliens coming to this country to attend the congress. Mr. Chuter Ede replied: "The self-styled British Peace Committee have been informed that applications from foreigners to attend the congress will be dealt with on their individual merits. But the Government must reserve the right to refuse admission to any foreigner who is persona non grata."

**'BAN IT,' SAYS TORY**  
Mr. Bevin: "Does he not think it would be better to prohibit it altogether?"  
Mr. Ede: "I have no power under the law of this country to prohibit public meetings which are held in accordance with the law."

**BRI.** Speaking in the House of Commons, Mr. R. Jennings (Con.) declared that there was a "trap" in the law about the election of peace delegates.

## AGENDA IS PLANNED

'Settle conflicts,  
lift barriers'

PROPOSALS for the agenda of the Second World Peace Congress, to be held next month in Sheffield City Hall, are to be submitted to the Bureau of the World Peace Committee.

This was announced in Prague yesterday in a communique from the Congress Preparatory Committee, which has just concluded a three-day session.

"The Preparatory Committee," said the communique, "expresses its gratitude to the British Peace Committee for the work done towards ensuring the successful progress of the coming Congress, and urges all national committees to expedite measures for sending delegates."

"This popular movement is concerned not only with the demand to restrict armaments, condemn aggression and prohibit war propaganda. It is also concerned with the peaceful settlement of present conflicts and the resumption of economic and cultural exchanges between nations."

but the government must reserve the right to refuse admission to any foreigner who is persona non grata." It was to prove a very elastic classification indeed.

Then three blows : the British Council of Churches declined the invitation to be represented; the Labour Party banned its members from attending; and the Prime Minister declared the Congress to be 'bogus'.

The Council of Churches denounced the whole world peace movement as "a trap into which millions of peace-loving people had fallen." The Congress was "mainly an instrument of Cominform propaganda." It was a statement stoutly rebutted by the Rev. Alan Ecclestone, vicar of Darnall, who was chairman of the Sheffield Peace Committee, but it led to the Provost of Sheffield refusing the request for an official service at the Cathedral on the grounds that "it might seem that we approve." The Methodists were warned against the 'Red Threat' while the Sheffield Council of Catholic Action protested to the City Council about the letting of the Hall. The Lord Mayor was polite but firm in refusing an invitation to give an official welcome to the Congress.

Morgan Philips, secretary of the Labour Party, declared that participation in the Sheffield Congress will be incompatible with membership of the Labour Party." The statement roused anger among Labour people because it applied not only to individual members but to all affiliated organisation, to all trade union branches. That it was not just a threat was shown when the Dunfermline Burghs Divisional Labour Party disaffiliated the entire 400-strong Lochgelly (Fife) Scottish Colliery Enginemens' Group of the National Union of Mine-workers which was supporting the Congress.

And on November 1st the Prime Minister delivered a bitter attack on the Congress in a speech (deliberately?) to the Foreign Press Association. He said the Congress was 'bogus'. "The desire for peace among our citizens is profound . . . we do not find it necessary to affirm it by signing Stockholm or any other petition . . . Communists say that this conference is not organised by them. Communist activities generally are camouflaged . . . it is part of their doctrine that lying is perfectly legitimate to further their cause," He alleged that no-one really knew beforehand what was to be discussed and implied that the agenda was 'fixed'.

The British Peace Committee replied immediately repudiating his charges and pointing out that the matters to be discussed were clearly laid out in the initial invitation. They concluded by inviting the Prime Minister to attend the Congress and speak to the delegates of the 70 nations - "by such an action you could powerfully further our common end in securing a just and lasting peace." Fourteen

### Engineers back the world congress

Daily Worker Reporter  
TWENTY THOUSAND engineers in the Sheffield and Rotherham district and delegates to the Peace Conference

### 'Peace' Meeting Bar To Labour

MR. MORGAN PHILLIPS, secretary of the Labour Party, today warned all organisations, and

### Sheffield plans a Yorkshire welcome

Daily Worker Reporter  
DESPITE the local Tory-inspired campaign against the holding of the second World Peace Congress in Sheffield, the people there intend that the Congress shall be a success. Hundreds of Sheffield people have written to the Organising Committee offering accommodation for delegates and officials. "Yorkshire people, with real Yorkshire hospitality, have helped us very much," Mrs. Nan Green, organising secretary, told a Press conference yesterday.

The Bishop of Sheffield, Dr. Hunter, who may not be able to attend the Congress because it clashes with a meeting of the Church Assembly, is keenly interested.

As "a question of civic pride," municipal officials and workmen have gone out of their way to assist negotiations for the Congress Organising Committee. A 19-man team of the committee, which is working in temporary offices in the Vestry Hall, Sheffield, is pleased with progress.

### IT MIGHT SEEM WE APPROVE

THE PROVOST OF SHEFFIELD

### 'Ringing Up' Iron Curtain

FOR more than half-an-hour today, in a room overlooking a busy Sheffield

### BAR HALL TO PEACE CONGRESS

SHEFFIELD Council of Catholic Action, which represents 25,000 Catholics, yesterday protested against the letting of Sheffield City Hall for the Second World Peace Congress from November 13 to 18. A letter from the town clerk, read by Mr. John Hoy, town clerk, at the city council meeting, declared that as the conference was recognised as a form of salepayers propaganda, Catholic ratepayers considered the hiring of the hall should be outside the normal conditions. The letting of the hall to the citizens of Sheffield affront to the citizens of Sheffield.

### Lord Mayor's 'No'

In response to a suggestion that he should receive the chairman of the Congress organising committee, Mr. Ivor Montagu, the Lord Mayor of Sheffield (A.S. Keeble: Harrow has written to the secretary, Mrs. Nan Green: "Like the rest of my country and women, I am wholeheartedly in favour of genuine and lasting peace, but I cannot as Lord Mayor associate myself with the subversive activities of the peace-loving world-wide. The adherents of the Communist

allitee of lineering resolution inches to eal of the se and to for dele-district. has been support o mmittee after backed with tes. ce vol of w ed to

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is to pers

country meetings - United

One of the duties of the Peace Movement, as stated in a Comin-form directive of September 22, this year, is "to encourage the evasion of military service by the youth of the U.S.A., Britain, France, Belgium, and Yugoslavia in countries where the

# MARATHON

FROM the very top of Ben Lomond, the 3,000-foot-high mountain that dominates one of Scotland's loveliest beauty spots, will set off for Sheffield on November 4 the longest leg of a great British youth World Peace Congress, which opens in

### "BOGUS" PEACE CONGRESS PRIME MINISTER'S WARNING

The PRIME MINISTER, in an address to the Foreign Press Association at a dinner at the Dorchester Hotel last night, spoke of the "bogus" Peace Congress which is to be held at Sheffield this month and in an analysis of its sponsors gave warning that there were limits to the toleration of free countries for those who attempted to undermine our liberties.

In the course of his speech Mr. Attlee said:

Last night and den- Nation: United merely this of which peace- una- find sig- sup- in coun- world wide. The adherents of the Cominu-

### ATTLEE Warns: Don't Be Deceived Peace Rally 'Bogus'

MR. ATTLEE last night described as bogus the so-called peace conference to be held in Sheffield this month. In a broadcast speech to the Foreign Press Association at the London Hotel, he said: "No one ought to be so simple as to be deceived." The chairman of the organisation, Mr. U. G. Crowther, if not a Communist, was "a very good example of a fellow traveller," declared Mr. Attlee. His committee was an offshoot from the World Peace Movement, an instrument of the Politbureau. "What are their aims? They are to try to paralyse the efforts of the democracies to arm themselves. At

Some who were excluded.



Alexander Fadeyev



Irene Joliot-Curie

Frederic Joliot-Curie



Pablo Neruda



The Metropolitan Nikolai of Russia



P. Nenni

### Delegate of 4 million

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Paul Robeson



K. Simonov



Ilya Ehrenburg

**SHEFFIELD PEACE CONGRESS**  
**REPLY TO MR. ATTLEE**

The British Peace Committee has issued the text of a letter sent to the Prime Minister on the subject of his speech to the Foreign Press Association in which Mr. Attlee referred to the forthcoming Congress.

**ATTLEE URGED TO ATTEND**

Fourteen Americans, including two bishops and Arthur Schnabel, Mr. Attlee today urged him to address the World Peace Congress in Sheffield. Describing the American Sponsoring Committee, the group also urged the British Government to encourage the problems of peace at the congress. Britain was the western world and no more appropriate for this than any other.

**STUDENTS TO 'PEACE' DELEGATES VISIT US**

Foreign students attending the World Peace Congress beginning in Sheffield a week on Friday will be invited to visit Sheffield.

**M15 chief is back in Sheffield**

A meeting of representatives will be held on Wednesday.

Tuesday, November 7, 1937

**Methodist Warns Of Red Threat**

FAILURE by the Church to emphasise the importance of the individual would lead to worldwide Communist domination, warned the Rev. Stockham, of Stockham, of Stockham.

**WASTED 'PEACE' INVITATION**

KEMBLEY HOUSE, LONDON, Friday.

**LONDON OPINION**

Conference have reached Prague after crossing Asia by the Trans-Siberian Railway.

**Firms Bar 'Peace' Congress 'Leave'**

A SHEFFIELD foundry worker has been told by his firm that leave of absence cannot be granted for the Congress at the City.

**FOUNDRYMEN'S REPLY TO BAN**

Mass delegations to go  
 From ERNEST HANWELL  
 SHEFFIELD, Tuesday.

**Factory sending Labour man to Sheffield**

From JACK OWEN  
 OVER 400 workers of Metro-Vickers, Trafford Park, Manchester, yesterday elected a delegate to the World Peace Congress in Sheffield.

**BRITAIN BARS**

**11 'PEACE' VISAS**

BRITAIN has refused visas for six Czechoslovaks, three Albanians and two Brazilians to enter England for the Sheffield Peace Congress, it was disclosed in Prague today.

**"PEACE" MAN IS TOLD NO**

SHEFFIELD branch committee of the Amalgamated Union of Foundry Workers have withdrawn their "World Peace Congress" delegate, Mr. Ernest Croft. Mr. Croft was elected a branch delegate and was then informed by his firm that no leave of absence would be granted.

**U.S. WOMEN PEACE DELEGATES QUESTIONED**

From PETER FRYER  
 THE first three American delegates to the World Peace Congress, three women from Chicago, arrived in London yesterday evening.



In 1937 Clement Attlee, leader of the Parliamentary Labour Party, went with a Labour Party delegation to visit the International Brigade (organised by, but by no means confined to, the international Communist Movement). He greeted the British battalion with the clenched-fist salute, and agreed to having the No 1 Company named the "Major Attlee Company".

When the survivors returned to Britain in December 1938, Major Attlee was at Victoria Station to welcome them back.

Then, the Communists were defending freedom and democracy and the hope of a peaceful world.

In 1950, Major Attlee, Prime Minister, declared that their defence of peace was "bogus".

Americans, including two evangelical bishops and the pianist Artur Schnabel, cabled Attlee urging him to address the Congress. He rejected the invitation.

Locally a stir was caused when the Foundrymen's delegate, Ernest Croft was refused permission to attend the Congress by his firm; and the English Steel Corporation posted a notice saying that "permission will not be given to any employee to absent himself", thus putting Herbert Hpwarth on the spot. In the event, of course, there was no problem since the Congress was aborted, but at that stage the Union decided to send a mass delegation to one of the evening sessions of the Congress.

In the last week before the Congress it soon became clear what the hand-picking of delegates really meant and what a wide net was being cast under the guise of 'persona non grata'.

The Civil Aviation Authority withdrew its permission for nine charter flights from Prague by Czech Airways and nine by British European Airways. The Ministry had given its sanction for the flights five days before, but now announced that sanction had been withdrawn. No reason was given.

Only 12 of the East German delegates were given visas. Only 23 of the 57-strong Czech delegation had been given visas. Five French delegates arriving at London Airport were sent back to France. Forty-three delegates from Western Europe who did not need visas had been put on the Home Office banned list and "were likely to be refused leave to land" if they attempted to come to the Congress. ". . . those whose names are not on the list can still not be sure that they will be allowed to land." Mlle Salak Tazari, a writer and delegate from Syria, was given a visa but was turned back when she arrived in Britain. In a lightening raid in Mexico the police rounded up the entire Mexican and Cuban delegations - some 150 in all - and put them in gaol on a charge of "violating a decree forbidding subversive acts against the Republic." One of them was Lombardo Toledano, head of the 4 million-strong Latin American Workers' Confederation.

Other leading delegates who were eventually excluded were the following: Professor Joliot-Curie, president of the World Peace Council; Pietro Nenni, leader of the Italian Socialist Party (a member like the British Labour Party of the Socialist International); Shostakovich, world-famous composer; the Metropolitan Nicolai, head of the Russian Orthodox Church; Bishop Deszo and Peter from Hungary; Anna Seghers and Arnold Zweig, famous anti-Nazi German writers; Ilya Ehrenburg, Russian publicist; Aleksander Fadayev and Konstantin Simonov, Russian writers; Yves Farge and Louis Aragon, famous French writers; Louis Saillant, leader of the World Federation of Trade Unions (which the American AFL and the British TUC had tried to wreck two years before): Pierre Cot, former French minister for Air; and Paul Robeson. (Robeson had

attended the first congress in 1949 but subsequently had his passport taken away by the US Government. They took Paul jnr's too).

Altogether the British Peace Committee reported that some two-thirds of the foreign delegates had been excluded, and 19 out of 20 of the leading delegates. In these circumstances they had no option but to hold one meeting in Sheffield and then transfer the whole Congress to Poland whose government, at short notice, accepted the Congress with all its delegates - nobody barred.

## The Sheffield Meeting

The people of Sheffield - described in the local press as quite 'indifferent' to the whole event - packed the 3000 seats of the City Hall, with some 1500 in an overflow meeting outside!

The meeting was naturally concerned very much with protesting at what the BPC leaflet called "the meanest act in history" of the British Government, which had "made it impossible for the Congress to take place in Sheffield." But the main purpose of the Congress was outlined by Alan Ecclestone, the Dean of Canterbury, John Rogge, Dr Endicott of Canada, J G Crowther (president of the British Peace Committee) and others, some very controversial. Perhaps Pablo Picasso, the most eminent Communist allowed into Britain for the Congress, best expressed the feelings of all the delegates :

"I have contributed to the utmost of my ability - and with the same ardour that I have given to my art - to fight for the greatest and most just of all causes. I stand with life against death, I stand for peace. I take my stand against war."

During the meeting he drew a dove which was auctioned on the spot to raise money for the Congress. The following day he had been invited to attend an exhibition of his works at the New Burlington Galleries in London. He wrote to the secretary of the Arts Council which was organising the exhibition under the auspices of the government :

"In view of the Government's repressive action towards the Second World Peace Congress, and its conduct towards so many of my friends and colleagues, I have decided to cancel my acceptance of your invitation."

So ended the Sheffield Congress. The following day, after some trouble in getting passports for scores of British delegates who did not possess one, all the delegates moved to Warsaw.

On Tuesday, November 14th, Chuter Ede made a statement in the Commons defending the way he had dealt with the delegates :



# SHEFFIELD GIVES

## ANSWER Meeting overflows from City Hall

From ERNEST HANWELL  
SHEFFIELD, Monday.

THE most enthusiastic meeting ever seen here tonight answered Attlee's "banning" of the World Peace Congress.

By packing the City Hall, the supporters

many miles around gave those through the "iron curtain" to send-off on their journey to gates, who left immediately after the given a place of honour on the platform peace workers from the factories.

### THINGS

reclaimed a joint by Soviet and s who have not each Sheffield. e delegation of ce of the Soviet ople's China to ld Congress of ce send greet- l our meeting have served to mutual understanding

They had travelled to add their voices against the Government of the delegates' vi Many of them from work in coache ham, Doncaster, Th field, Manchester, elsewhere to sit in should have been delegates from all So many were t this vast hall was to hold them, and sizeable overflow n Many, especially brought messages o support. They de depend saw Cor enter hall th front o ss slogan t. A pro n Eccle Sheffield. rpose of as empl test agai rld Peac ed and possible t methods t dress carried s" protesting r" and the people a movement ent of being ities tha tives w really -in spit d falsch rmany. said: "It through the ace-loving ee leading ere che

### Two-thirds kept out of Britain

Daily Worker Reporter  
ABOUT two-thirds of the visas required by delegates to the Second World Peace Congress were refused—and 19 out of 20 of the leading delegates were not allowed to enter Britain. These facts, made known in Sheffield last night by the Congress Organising Committee, prove—despite any denial the Government may choose to make—that they are sabotaging systematically, arrested and interference in the holding of the conference in Sheffield. Seats are booked for 100 foreign delegates to fly to Poland today while the Polish liner Batory is coming into a British port to pick up British delegates.

### "PEACE" CONGRESS GOVERNMENT ACCUSED OF MEAN ACT

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
Nov. 13

The Work mere shade en route f of Warsaw to-day, ar of sulky Staten promise postpor mount' The mainly specta ione t three havi been ste

### Sheffield Is England's Shame

MOSCOW newspapers and the official Soviet news agency Tass yesterday launched bitter attacks on the British Government for preventing many delegates attending the Sheffield "World Peace Congress." Similar criticism came from Prague and other East European centres. Pravda, Soviet Communist party newspaper, said the proposed "peace congress had caused the hysteria and panic in Britain, speeches by Mr. Attlee, with his openly Fascist connections, only exposed his real character. "Even the most backward den- Government that the than heading their Socialist, hiding under the label 'polite' is only an ordinary aggressor." It may be noted that the British signatories and all over the press was going to which their right- on are not in attempt

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### Contemptible

London heralded the British signatories and all over the press was going to which their right- on are not in attempt

### Picasso's Speech

British tradition  
"The British tradition of freedom which has been built up over 900 years is being torn to shreds," said Mr. Crowther. "We And British officials sitting with their American advisers at their sides and guiding their hands when they draw a blue pencil through the names of those they want to keep out!" "I think the wrecking of the Sheffield Peace Congress has opened the eyes of millions to the true character of our rulers." "Much had been said recently about fellow-travellers, passports and visas," said Mr. Crowther. "We are all fellow-travellers on the road to peace, our passport is unity and our visa is courage." "There was a tremendous welcome for the great Spanish beloved of millions."

### PICASSO'S BOYCOTT OF ART SHOW

Pablo Picasso yesterday declined to attend an exhibition of his works at the New Burlington Galleries, London. In a letter to the secretary of the Arts Council he said that he understood that the exhibition of his work, organized by the British Government held under Government auspices. The letter continued: "In view of the British Government's repressive action towards the World Peace Congress, and its conduct towards my friends and colleagues, I have decided to cancel my acceptance of your invitation."

### A STORM OF PROTEST ABROAD

British Rulers "Alarmed": "Act of Hostility and Hatred"

Britain's action in refusing visas to "undesirable" delegates to the Sheffield "peace congress" provoked violent protests all over Europe yesterday.

### WHERE'S THAT IRON CURTAIN NOW?

LATE last night and all through this morning, personal calls flooded into the offices of the Organising Committee of the World Peace Congress from Sheffield, bringing the Committee "banned" from Sheffield, bringing the Committee messages of protest. The ordinary people of this enormous arms factory by the undemocratic action of the Government are to be transferred to Warsaw and their sor

### MR. SILVERMAN'S CRITICISM

RIGHT OF ASSEMBLY

Later MR. S. SILVERMAN raised the

time afterwards he was popularly known as 'Atom Bomb' Roberts.

So was the World Peace Council genuinely responding to this desire for peace? What it amounts to is this: was the Soviet Union and the Eastern bloc and China genuinely seeking peace? Were they to be trusted? Perhaps a couple of examples at the time can give a clue. They were both pretty well lost in all the shout about the Peace Congress.

On November 17, 1950 - four days after the Sheffield meeting - the United Nations Assembly rejected out of hand two Soviet proposals: the first to ban the atom bomb (which the Soviets themselves now possessed, so it was tit for tat); the second for a Pact among the Big Five (USA, Britain, France, USSR and China) to reduce national armed forces by one-third during the next year. Years later there would have been discussions, like those that produced the Test Ban Treaties. But at this point in time, rejection out of hand.

The second example is even more enlightening. It concerned the future of Germany. The Potsdam Agreement had emphasised two things in particular, the need to exclude all former Nazi Party members from posts of responsibility in the administration, and the need to make sure that Germany never again acquired the military power to threaten another war.

In total contravention of Potsdam the Western Powers had ended demilitarisation after the London Conference of USA, Britain and France in June 1948, and had failed to carry out denazification with any real seriousness. Now in 1950 the talk was of the need to allow West Germany to rearm. "Britain to recruit 30,000 former Nazi army men" ran a headline on October 25, 1950. The men involved were drivers, mechanics and technicians who could form the trained nucleus for motorised units and panzer divisions. They were to be organised in a new so-called 'German Service Organisation' and, according to a British Army spokesman in Bonn, were to be given a standardised Bottle-green German pattern uniform with distinct ranks, and would have to give the military salute to British and American officers and also to what the Spokesman called "senior German equivalents."

In response to these developments a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Eastern bloc on October 23 published a four-point peace plan for Germany that was based on a quite different approach, calling for

1. A statement by the Governments of the USA, Britain, France and the Soviet Union that they would not permit the remilitarisation of Germany, nor permit it to be drawn into any kind of aggressive plans; and that they would ensure the conditions for the formation of a united, peace-loving, democratic German State.

2. The removal of all restrictions in the path of the development of German peace economy and the prevention of the restoration of German war potential.
3. The conclusion without delay of a peace treaty with Germany, the reatoration of German unity, and the withdrawal of the occupation forces of all Powers within one year of the signing of the peace treaty.
4. The creation of an all-German Council on a parity basis, consisting of representatives of Eastern and Western Germany, which was to prepare the formation of a provisional, democratic, peace-loving all-German Government.

These proposals too - German unity forty years ago - were also rejected without discussion. One is led to the conclusion that these proposals were not rejected because they were not feasible, but because they did not fit in with the plans of the Western powers.

Today, indeed, when the rigid regimes of Eastern Europe have burst open, we need seriously to examine the responsibility of the Western powers, with their intransigent rubbishing of all the offers of peace from the East in those early days of the Cold War, for driving the socialist countries into intractable stances. There is surely an understandable limit, when surrounded by US bases in Alaska, Canada, Greenland, Europe, the Middle East, South-East Asia and the Pacific, to the credibility of Western good faith.

The aborting of the Second World Peace Congress could only help to underline its incredibility.



Picasso arrives at Sheffield's Midland Station In 1950, and Tommy James (far right) looks on.

## A P P E N D I X A

In 1987 when I first decided to write the story of the Second World Peace Congress, as part of a wider project on post-war peace movements, I went to the Public Record Office at Kew in order to examine the Government documents on the event. I found the material listed in File PR 87 in the "Foreign Office : Index to General Correspondence, 1950, Vol 1" in the section headed "Communism (Peace Offensive)". The pejorative character of this description is accounted for by the fact that was the period of the most intensive Cold War.

File PR 87 was clearly a voluminous one. A few of its contents were listed, the final one being No 466. 269 items concerned delegates. After a prolonged search, with the help of two assistants and eventually of the department chief, we had to conclude that it was not in the Public Record Office. No one knew why, or where it was, or even if it still existed.

A week later I learned that it was retained by the Foreign Office and was not available for inspection.

I therefore asked Richard Caborn, MP for Sheffield Central, to ask the Foreign Office whether it could be seen. The reply he received said the following :

" Section 3(4) of the 1958 Public Records Act provides that certain documents may be retained within departments either because they are required for administrative purposes or for any other special reason. The documents concerning the 1950 Peace Congress have been retained under this provision.

While such retentions are regularly reviewed I can give no undertaking that this file will be released at an early date."

This remains the position today.

So what must we conclude? The material cannot by any stretch of imagination be dangerous to the security of this country. It can only be dangerous to the reputation of the people who were responsible for aborting the Second World Peace Congress.

## A P P E N D I X B

In May 1950 I stood as Communist candidate in the parliamentary by-election in what was then the Neepsend Division. At that time I was teaching at Shirecliffe (now Herries) School which was in the middle of the Division. I received 729 votes (despite the Cold War atmosphere in which the election took place) two-thirds of them around the school, where I was well known as a Communist, having regularly sold the Daily Worker and Communist Party pamphlets and collected signatures to the various petitions, especially over the war in Malaya, which we issued from time to time.

A week after the election two of the school cleaners showed me the Parish Magazine, written by Father Roseveare, vicar of Parson Cross, in which he deplored the fact that a Communist was teaching in a school in his parish to which parents had no choice but to send their children. In a paragraph that encapsulates the very atmosphere of the period, he wrote :

"We are an odd nation, aren't we? We demand the expulsion of Communists from posts of trust in Government administration, the TUC refuses to have a Communist on its executive, yet we are prepared to allow our children to be taught by a Communist."

I immediately got in touch with Charlie Darvill, secretary of the Sheffield Teachers' branch of the NUT. He saw the Chief Education Officer and insisted on an emergency meeting of the Education Committee (of which Father Roseveare was himself a member). By this time the Parish Magazine had been picked up by the Sheffield Telegraph - and the same evening by the Star - so the matter was in the public domain.

At the Education Committee meeting Father Roseveare and a Catholic priest found themselves in a minority of two, the majority declaring - in the words of one of the Labour Councillors - that while they might not agree with my opinions, they would fight to the death for my freedom to express them, so long as I did not express them to the children in school.

Actually I specialised in teaching the 'backward' classes, where the adventures of the characters in 'Toytown' was the extent of their political indoctrination.

End of the story. The curtain came down. No more references in the press. The issue never again arose in Sheffield thanks to this firm action by Charlie Darvill and the Labour Education Councillors. Elsewhere, however, especially in the London Area, it remained an issue for a long time.

A P P E N D I X C

PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP ORGANISATIONS PUT  
ON THE LABOUR PARTY PROSCRIBED LIST  
BETWEEN 1947 AND 1954

- 1947 British Soviet Society
- 1948 Scottish USSR Society
- 1950 British Peace Committee  
League for Democracy in Greece
- 1951 Welsh Peace Council
- 1952 British Youth Festival (held at Wortley Hall)
- 1953 Artists for Peace  
Authors' World Peace Appeal  
British-China Friendship Association  
British-Czechoslovakian Friendship Association  
British-Hungarian Friendship Association  
British-Polish Friendship Association  
British-Rumanian Friendship Association  
British-Soviet Friendship Society  
Society for Friendship with Bulgaria  
Medical Association for the Prevention of War  
Musicians' Organisation for Peace  
People's Congress for Peace  
Scientists for Peace  
Teachers for Peace  
West Yorkshire Federation of Peace Organisations  
(of which the Sheffield Peace Committee was  
a member).
- 1954 World Peace Council

## They Can't Stop the People Wanting Peace!!

The 2nd World Peace Congress in Sheffield would have brought together the peoples of East and West to ease the tension in the world so that peoples of different social systems might live together in peace.

The Government, by one of the meanest acts in history, has made it impossible for the Congress to take place in Sheffield. It is not the Peace Congress but the Government that has been brought to shame and ridicule. At one blow it has destroyed the centuries-old British tradition of free speech and international hospitality.

Church dignitaries like His Eminence, The Metropolitan Nicolai (whom the Archbishop of York desired to meet); Composers like Shostakovitch, whom the B. B. C. had asked to play whilst here; Anna Seghers who wrote "The Seventh Cross", the film that moved grown men to tears; Professor Joliot Curie, one of the world's greatest Scientists (son-in-law of the immortal Madam Curie). All these and hundreds more were turned away from our once hospitable shores.

Where is the "Iron Curtain" now?

### **The Congress Will Still Be Held**

The Polish Government has invited the Congress to Warsaw and it will open there next Thursday. All delegates including the 250 British and all the press representatives accredited to the Sheffield Congress are invited by the Polish Government to travel in special ships and planes (which are on their way), as the guests of the Polish people. There will be no "screening" formalities or visa difficulties. All who want to discuss peace are welcomed there. We in Sheffield would have liked all these people to have come here and seen how we live, for we are proud of our hospitality and good manners - but it was not to be. But no power on earth can stop the British people wanting peace. On the tenth Anniversary of the Sheffield Blitz, let Sheffield speak out for Peace.

Tonight (Monday) at the City Hall, at 7.30 p.m., a great Protest Meeting will be held. Please come along and add your voice.

The Speakers will include:

The Dean of Canterbury

Pablo Picasso

Dr. Endicott

Pudovkin

The Chairman: Rev. Alan Ecclestone.

The alternative to Peace is War - Sheffield stands for Peace.

**CITY HALL - TONIGHT, 7.30 p.m.**

Issued by the Sheffield Area Peace Council, Burngreave Vestry Hall,  
Sheffield, 3

Leaflet distributed at the main factories  
on the morning of November 13th