

# THE NEWSLETTER

1, Seymour Terrace,  
London,  
S.E.20.

April 1957.

## DEAR FRIEND,

On May 10 I am publishing the first issue of a weekly newsletter that will contain news and documents of interest to socialists.

The Newsletter will not be a journal of opinion. It will not be a forum. It will not provide a platform for any one group or organization.

Its main concern will be NEWS — and primarily news which the Daily Worker and the capitalist Press alike, for their various reasons, distort or mutilate or suppress altogether.

A host of topics have lately been engaging our attention:

**The continuing crisis** inside the Communist Parties of Britain, the USA and other countries;

**The rapid growth** of the socialist forum movement in which communists, ex-communists and others are coming together to discuss the advance to socialism;

**The apparent 're-Stalinization'** process in Russia and Eastern Europe;

**The fate** of Harich, Hay, Dery and other victims of Stalinism;

**The rise** of the mass movement in Britain.

There is a real thirst for information among socialists. In recent months they have all too often stayed thirsty.

All too often the facts have either had to be dug out of the foreign Press; or are published in British papers after a considerable timelag, and then only in part; or simply are not published at all.

This is where a service such as I aim to provide will be useful, especially for the majority who lack time or opportunity to dig for the facts themselves.

I will do the digging and put what I find into the hands of subscribers to The Newsletter.

Already I have built up a team of helpers who will comb the newspapers and other publications of Russia, Poland, Hungary, France, the USA and other countries.

But The Newsletter will not be merely a digest of the foreign Press.

It will have its own regular correspondents in New York, Paris, Rome, Munich, Cairo and Tokyo, from whom well-informed and authoritative articles will be received.

It will have a correspondent in the Lobby of the House of Commons.

It will keep subscribers in close touch with the discussions and decisions of the Labour Party and Communist Party Executives and of the TUC General Council.

Accurate and lively industrial reporting will complement accurate and lively political reporting.

Accurate — because The Newsletter will make a decisive break with the bad old practice of tampering with disagreeable facts.

Another frequent and important feature will be news from the Colonies.

At first The Newsletter will normally consist of four printed pages, containing approximately 5,000 words. When important documents are run, extensively or in full, there will be six or eight pages.

The Newsletter will be posted to reach subscribers on Friday mornings.

The subscription of ten shillings for 12 issues post free includes a quarterly index which will help subscribers to make the best use of this service.

If you agree that The Newsletter will fill a necessary gap you can help, not only by taking out a subscription (see form below) but also by:

- 1) Suggesting the names and addresses of others who might wish to subscribe;
- 2) Acting as a local correspondent;
- 3) Sending in comments and criticisms.

There is yet another way in which you can help. The subscription is rather less than the absolute minimum on which it is possible to produce a newsletter of reasonably attractive appearance.

The income from subscriptions will have to be supplemented by donations and guarantees.

I am not opening a 'Fighting Fund' with astronomical targets and a furious monthly crescendo of appeals.

But you can be certain that any donation or regular guarantee you can spare will be used to perform, honestly and efficiently, the elementary task of socialist journalism: finding out the truth irrespective of preconceptions and of any 'line'—and presenting the facts to the readers.

Yours sincerely,

PETER FRYER