

a lawful end. But what if the ill-effects on the community will probably exceed the good obtained for the strikers? Suppose a general strike which has for its real object the abolition of private property? We are not told by Mr. Williams.

One so able and well qualified to speak on these matters could have told us more of the well-directed efforts of the Communist Party to gain control of important unions. This is of vital importance. It has happened in Britain, in Australia, in New Zealand. If enough important unions are so captured a general strike can be instigated, and a general strike can just as easily be directed to the seizure of political power or to the overthrow of the constitution as to gaining an increase in wages. If, for instance, in New Zealand all transport and industrial production and distribution of food ceased and could start again only if permitted by a group of union leaders whom we shall suppose to be Communist, then we have a state of affairs in which the Government of the country has been taken over by Moscow. If we don't know this by now so much the worse for us in the future.

Once a strike commences the individual unionist is helpless. He has it, however, in his power in times of industrial peace to prevent people getting control of his union whose real object is not his welfare but the Party Line.

A third criticism is that this is a partisan account. The author frankly confesses at the outset an "emotional involvement." There is also the absence of all references and sources. These could easily have been included in an appendix. Nevertheless, this is a worthwhile job well done.

—F. J. Foot

EXITS AND PURSUITS

HE NEVER CAME BACK, by Helen McCloy; Victor Gollancz, English price 10/6. *BONES OF CONTENTION*, by Edward Candy; Victor Gollancz, English price 9/6. *SAFER DEAD*, by James Hadley Chase; Robert Hale, English price 10/6. *NEST-EGG FOR THE BARON*, by Anthony Morton; Hodder and Stoughton, English price 10/6.

[H]ELEN McCLOY is so good at conveying the tension of mystery that to say *He Never Came Back* is a little lower than two of her earlier books does not signify much. It may be that the spring of the plot, theft of a sacred jewel from India, and the guardians' pursuit, are too reminiscent of *The Moonstone*, and no doubt other tales. However, her gift for establishing and holding tension is here in force. Perfect of the kind is the opening, where the fugitive thief, presented with admirable mystery, in desperation drops the jewel among a trayful of cheap trinkets in an American department store. As Chesterton said in one of his short stories, the best place to hide a leaf is in a forest. But innocently shopping, the heroine buys the jewel, and another intricate hunt is on. You will certainly want to be in at the kill.

"When a doctor does go wrong," said Sherlock Holmes, "he is the first of criminals. He has nerve and he has knowledge." Edward Candy, who, I take it, is a doctor or something close to medicine, has followed that exceptionally good "first." *Which Doctor*, with

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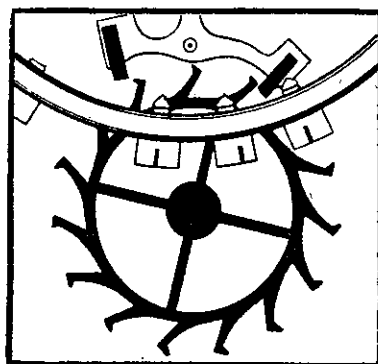
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