

LEFT THEATRE REPERTORY

*Is it worth while for the Working-Class Movement to trouble with the Professional Theatre? **Yes.** The Movement needs a Theatre as well as its Press and Platforms*

LEFT THEATRE aims at setting up with the least possible delay a Repertory Theatre, a Workers' and Trades Union — in fact a People's Theatre for London.

A minimum of £2,500 is required. A considerable part of this has already been subscribed: but the process must be speeded up if London is to have a Socialist Repertory Theatre by this autumn: and you can help.

For this purpose Left Theatre has been formed into an Industrial and Provident Society and you are invited to take 1s. shares (to an amount not exceeding £200 for each individual), according to the limit set by the Act.

A REPERTORY THEATRE in a working class district of London as central and easily accessible as possible.

A THEATRE where every night the curtain goes up on comedies, chronicles, tragedies, revues.

PLAYS with a tendency *FOR* instead of *AGAINST* the working class, *FOR* instead of *AGAINST* peace.

A PROFESSIONAL COMPANY which would also take the plays to the out-lying districts of London and farther afield.

A BUILDING which would be a centre in London for cultural activities for the working class movement, with a reading room, library, lecture room, etc. as well as a theatre.

WE WANT YOUR CO-OPERATION

WHAT YOU CAN DO

TAKE UP as many 1/- shares as you can afford ; then become an individual member of Left Theatre Ltd. by paying an annual subscription of 5/-, or 1/- if you are a member of a trade union or the Co-operative movement.

GET YOUR ORGANISATION to take up blocks of shares, and to join Left Theatre Ltd.

ASK FOR A SPEAKER from Left Theatre to come to your next meeting.

GET THIS NEW FORM of Socialist propaganda, which the Left Theatre represents, discussed at your branch, guild, council, area or executive committee.

BOOK A NIGHT for a showing of "Stay Down Miner" in your Area in October next. Write or ring Left Theatre, 6, Meard Street, Dean Street, W.1. GERrard 1454. Left Theatre has scored a great many successes in producing plays of working class interest, in Town Halls in various districts as well as in the West End theatres. The present plan to consolidate this work by forming a Repertory Theatre has the wholehearted support of large sections of the working class movement. The Conference which launched this campaign was called by Left Theatre in conjunction with :—

A. V. ALEXANDER, M.P.

JOHN JAGGER, M.P.

JOHN PARKER, M.P.

TOM SMITH, M.P.

A. M. WALL.


ELLEN WILKINSON, M.P.

Past Productions of Left Theatre

SAILORS OF CATTARO by Friedrich Wolf.

THEY SHALL NOT DIE by John Wexley.

PEACE ON EARTH by Albert Maltz and George Sklar.

 **MOTHER** by Maxim Gorki, adapted by Barbara Nixon.

EASTER 1916 by Montagu Slater.

STAY DOWN MINER by Montagu Slater.

Phoenix Theatre.
Greenwich

Boro' Hall.

Holborn Empire.
Greenwich

Boro' Hall.

East Ham Town Hall.

Phoenix Theatre.
West Ham Town Hall
Greenwich

Boro' Hall.

Battersea Town Hall.

Phoenix Theatre.
Greenwich

Boro' Hall.

Islington Town Hall.
East Ham Town Hall.
Battersea Town Hall.

Phoenix Theatre.
Islington Town Hall.

Westminster
Theatre.

95 organizations are already affiliated to Left Theatre, representing a membership of 19,874

STAY DOWN MINER was written by Montagu Slater especially with a view to its being toured by a small professional company among working class organisations and working class halls around London, and, if possible, further afield. A professional company will bring the play to your hall at a cost approximately of £12 for one night. This covers Left Theatre's expenses — actors' wages, cartage of scenery, etc.

It means no more risk and no more work than running an ordinary dance or whist drive.

And you will be assisting to bring together a permanent Left Theatre company of professional actors and actresses. You will be helping to put British Socialist drama on its feet. You will be helping to make possible the most vivid and powerful presentation of the working class case that exists — for that is what the theatre is.

The Tour will start in October and go on through the month. A number of dates have already been booked. So choose your date and get in touch with Left Theatre, 6, Meard Street, W.1, as soon as possible.

WHAT THE PRESS SAYS

T. W. MERCER in the **Co-op News** says :

"I was convinced that the Left Theatre had made an auspicious start, that its registration under the I. & P. Act had aroused general enthusiasm, and that the £2,500 required will be forthcoming very soon in the form of applications for shares from individual Co-operators and Trades Unionists, and from Guild and Trades Union Branches, in fact, I know of no reason why each of the great metropolitan Co-operative Societies should not immediately take up 500 or 1,000 1/- shares. The Left Theatre will not be a bad investment. "The Left Theatre . . . now definitely established in London may prove to be the beginning of a new movement in the theatre and, ultimately, the forerunner of a new flowering of English Drama."

REYNOLDS :

"One expects virile drama from the Left Theatre . . . certainly it has found a likely author in Montagu Slater whose *Stay Down Miner* was warmly applauded. *Stay Down Miner* is dynamic, gripping, and, within its limits, intensely dramatic."

NEW STATESMAN :

"Montagu Slater alternately bludgeons the feelings of his audience and soothes them with humour . . . If Left Theatre can continue to produce plays as interesting and as well acted as this its future should be assured."

COUNCIL OF LEFT THEATRE LTD.

Executive Committee :

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Abercrombie.

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Lewis Casson.
Vera Brittain.
Fenner Brockway.
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Tyrone Guthrie.
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Neil Lawson.
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Kingsley Martin.
Joseph Reeves.
Paul Robeson.
John Strachey.

W. H. Thompson.
Ernst Toller.
Ellen Wilkinson, M.P.
A. M. Wall.
E. E. Wishart.
S. Brief (Hon. Treas.).
Rollo Gamble.
E. A. Mylam.
Barbara Nixon
J. Pole.
Anita Pinero (Hon. Sec.).
Montague Slater.
Margaret Webster.
Ralph Wright.