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53RD LABOUR PARTY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

SPA GRAND HALL, SCARBOROUGH

27th September - 1st October, 1954

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CHAIRMAN: WILFRID A. BURKE, M.P.

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Wilfrid Andrew Burke, Chairman of the Labour Party 1953/54, and Member of Parliament for Burnley since 1935, has been a member of the National Executive Committee since 1944.

Born in November, 1889, he joined the I.L.P., in 1910, the Labour Party in 1918, and has been an official of the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers for the past 35 years.

Mr. Burke was a Labour Whip in 1943, and from 1945-47 was Assistant Postmaster General. In Parliament he specialises on such subjects as trade and commerce, and is an authority on the cotton industry.

The sympathetic interest in the welfare of his fellow-men, which led Wilfrid Burke to embrace Socialism, has caused him to study keenly the conditions under which people exist in other countries. He is Chairman of the Party's Commonwealth Sub-Committee and helped to make Party history by being a member of the fact-finding mission to West Africa - the Executive's first official mission to a group of Colonial territories - in 1952-3.

He was also a member of the Labour Party's delegation to Russia and China in August and September of this year.

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VICE CHAIRMAN: RT. HON. DR. EDITH SUMMERSKILL, M.P.

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Dr. Edith Summerskill has been a member of the Labour Party National Executive Committee since 1944. She is member of Parliament for the London constituency of West Fulham.

Born in 1901, educated at King's College Hospital, London, and Charing Cross Hospital, she qualified as a doctor in 1924. Her work has long been devoted to problems of public health. Not only was she a member of the Wood Green Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, but also a member of the Middlesex County Council from 1932 to 1938.

Dr. Edith started her political career - as far as parliamentary matters are concerned - in 1934. Then she unsuccessfully contested Putney. In the following year she fought Bury and was defeated.

Dr. Edith has represented West Fulham since 1938. Her long career in the Labour movement and her intimate knowledge of the problems of working people well qualified her for the post of Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Food, to which she was appointed in 1945. She held that position during the whole of the first Labour Government and then with the return of the second Labour Government in 1950 became Minister of National Insurance. She was made a Privy Councillor in 1949.

Dr. Edith's work has extended far into the medical profession and she is a vice-president of the Socialist Medical Association.

She was a member of the recently returned Labour Party delegation to Russia and China.

She is married to Dr. E. Jeffrey Samuel and has a son and daughter.

### REPRESENTATION

Up to 22nd September, 1954, the number of organisations and voting power to be represented at the Conference were as follows:-

(These figures are subject to last minute revision)

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Delegates</u>	<u>Votes</u>
Trade Unions	70	603	5,063,000
Soc. Societies	4	4	9,000
Co-operative Society	1	7	28,000
C.L.P.s	607	636	1,276,000
Federations	19	19	19,000
	<u>701</u>	<u>1,269</u>	<u>6,395,000</u>
Ex-officio (M.P.s Candidates and Peers)	.. .. .	.. .. .	186
Party Agents	.. .. .	.. .. .	129
League of Youth	.. .. .	.. .. .	2
Press	.. .. .	.. .. .	250
Visitors	.. .. .	.. .. .	1,500
<u>TOTAL ATTENDANCE 3,336</u>			

### A G E N D A

The final agenda contains 433 resolutions  
177 amendments  
610



Comparison - Margate Conference 1953 (28 September - 2nd October)

The number of organisations and voting power were as follows:-

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Delegates</u>	<u>Votes</u>
Trade Unions	73	603	5,086,000
Socialist Societies	4	4	10,000
Co-operative Societies	1	6	14,000
Labour Parties	606	631	1,287,000
Federations	20	20	20,000
	<u>704</u>	<u>1,264</u>	<u>6,417,000</u>

Ex-officio members	228
Agents	153
Visitors	1,500
Press	160
<u>TOTAL ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>3,110</u>

The final Agenda contained	410 resolutions
	<u>457 amendments</u>
Total	<u>867</u>

(Note: The 457 amendments included 302 to "Challenge to Britain")

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Telephones etc.

Press telephone facilities and cable and wireless service are available in the Press Room which is situated in the Green Lounge.

The Post Office is also in the Green Lounge.

Press material and notices will be circulated at the Press table and in the Press Balcony, and will be available in the Press Room.

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PREVIOUS LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCES

(1900-1953)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Place of Conference</u>	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>No. of Delegates</u>	<u>Nationally Affiliated Membership</u>
1900	London	W. C. Steadman	129	-
1901	Manchester	J. Hodge	82	375,931
1902	Birmingham	W. J. Davis	110	469,311
1903	Newcastle-on-Tyne	J. N. Bell	243	861,150
1904	Bradford	J. Hodge	355	969,800
1905	Liverpool	D. J. Shackleton	348	900,000
1906	London	A. Henderson	363	921,280
1907	Belfast	J. J. Stephenson	347	998,338
1908	Hull	W. Hudson	404	1,072,413
1909	Portsmouth	J. R. Clynes	399	1,152,786
1910	Newport	J. Keir Hardie	448	1,486,308
1911	Leicester	W. C. Robinson	460	1,430,539
1912	Birmingham	Ben Turner	474	1,539,092
1913	London	G. H. Roberts	516	1,895,498
1914	Glasgow	Tom Fox	551	-
1916	Bristol	W. C. Anderson	608	2,093,365
1917	Manchester	G. J. Wardle	752	2,219,764
1918	Nottingham	W. F. Purdy	879	2,465,131
1918	London	W. F. Purdy	852	2,726,000
1919	Southport	J. McGurk	954	3,013,129
1920	Scarborough	W. H. Hutchinson	1,109	3,511,290
1921	Brighton	A. G. Cameron	872	4,359,807
1922	Edinburgh	F. W. Jowett	820	4,010,361
1923	London	Sidney Webb	939	3,311,036
1924	London	J. Ramsay MacDonald	1,059	3,155,911
1925	Liverpool	C. T. Cramp	1,032	3,194,399
1926	Margate	Robert Williams	1,042	3,373,870
1927	Blackpool	F. O. Roberts	1,011	3,388,286
1928	Birmingham	George Lansbury	972	3,293,615
1929	Brighton	Herbert Morrison	967	2,077,199
1930	Llandudno	Susan Lawrence	727	2,102,948
1931	Scarborough	Stanley Hirst	716	2,069,697
1932	Leicester	George Lathan	621	2,061,063
1933	Hastings	Joseph Compton	669	2,000,180
1934	Southport	Walter R. Smith	686	1,939,017
1935	Brighton	W. A. Robinson	664	1,897,231
1936	Edinburgh	Jennie L. Adamson	664	1,958,204
1937	Bournemouth	Hugh Dalton	705	2,013,663
1939	Southport	George Dallas	775	2,642,618
1940	Bournemouth	Barbara Ayrton Gould	743	2,663,067
1941	London	James Walker	642	2,571,163
1942	London	W. H. Green	738	2,485,306
1943	London	A. J. Dobbs	841	2,453,392
1944	London	H. J. Laski	883	2,503,240
1945	Blackpool	Ellen Wilkinson	912	2,672,845
1946	Bournemouth	H. J. Laski	1,011	3,038,697
1947	Margate	P. J. Noel-Baker	1,020	3,322,358
1948	Scarborough	E. Shinwell	1,114	5,040,299
1949	Blackpool	J. Griffiths	1,422	5,422,437
1950	Margate	Sam Watson	1,415	5,716,947
1951	Scarborough	Alice Bacon	1,414	5,920,172
1952	Morecambe	Harry Earnshaw	1,416	5,849,002
1953	Margate	Arthur Greenwood	1,492	6,107,659



FOREIGN VISITORS ATTENDING ANNUAL CONFERENCE, SCARBOROUGH, 1954

<u>Country</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Arrival</u>	<u>Date of Departure</u>
Austria	Dr. A. Schaerf (Vice-Chancellor)	28 Sept.	2 Oct.
Belgium	Mr. F. Tielemans (M.P. and Secretary of Belgian Socialist Party)	30 Sept.	2 Oct.
Canada	Mr. M.J. Coldwell (M.P. and Leader of C.C.F.)	27 Sept.	30 Sept.
	Mr. C. Cameron (M.P.)	25 Sept.	1 Oct.
France	Mr. G. Mollet (Secretary of S.F.I.O.)	1 Oct.	2 Oct.
	Mr. G. Brutelle (Asst. Secretary of S.F.I.O.)	1 Oct.	2 Oct.
	Mr. R. Pontillon (International Secretary of S.F.I.O.)	29 Sept.	2 Oct.
Germany	Mr. E. Ollenhauer (Chairman of S.P.D.)	1 Oct.	2 Oct.
	Mr. F. Heine (Member of Executive Committee of S.P.D.)	1 Oct.	2 Oct.
Holland	Dr. Drees (Prime Minister)	26 Sept.	2 Oct.
	Mr. E. Vermeer (M.P. and Political Secretary of Dutch Labour Party)	26 Sept.	2 Oct.
	Mr. A. Mozer (International Secretary of Dutch Labour Party)	26 Sept.	2 Oct.
India	Mr. A. Narendra Deva (Praja Socialist Party)	28 Sept.	2 Oct.
Israel	Dr. S. Levenberg (Israel Labour Party, Mapai)	29 Sept.	2 Oct.
Lebanon	Mr. C. Maksoud (Member of Executive Committee of Progressive Socialist Party)	26 Sept. (arranging own accommodation)	2 Oct.
Norway	Mr. H. Lie (Secretary of Norwegian Labour Party)	27 Sept.	2 Oct.
Sweden	Mr. T. Erlander (Prime Minister)	29 Sept.	2 Oct.
Socialist International	Mr. J. Braunthal (Secretary)	30 Sept.	2 Oct.