

✓ LABOUR CRISIS.

That the Labour Party was on the brink of its biggest-ever crisis, there was no sign on the genial face of Bessie Braddock, as that veteran of many conferences strolled along the front. Many delegates attended Divine Service, at which the Archbishop of York preached, and Mr. Gaitskell read the lesson. Hatchets, if not buried, were suspended for an hour or so. Also there were Tony Greenwood, son of the great Arthur Greenwood, and that luminary of journalism as well as politics, Tom Driburg. There too, was a popular stalwart of the old School, Jim Griffiths.

Meanwhile Sidney Silverman, Ian Makardo and Canon Collins led an anti-H-Bomb protest-march along the front. It was clear, in case anybody didn't know it, that the nuclear issue was going to be used to dominate the Labour Conference. The big question was, Shall Britain give up the bomb while Russia has hers, or shall we continue as a nuclear power? About 3,000 people took part in the demonstration.

"I am six years old and want to live". That takes a lot of answering. In his hotel, Shadow-Chancellor, Harold Wilson, very carefully pondered his tactics of the next few days. Positive action was taken by Tony Wedgwood Benn. He resigned from the Party Executive, and was not re-elected to the new one. Barbara Castle, with strong husbandly support, relaxed on conference eve. Should Hugh Gaitskell be backed up or opposed? That was a question also puzzling Defence Expert George Brown.

The stage was set at Scarborough for the show down. If Frank Cousins carried the day with his Ban-the-Bomb policy what would the Party do...