

Меро 38/ 51

Corres. No.

301/ M. P. / 1914

Minute Sheet No. 1

S31

1 [redacted]
[redacted]
Vide minute thereon.

2

[redacted]
[redacted]

2013
5/14

Annul

Supt.

M.A.W.B.
1/8/29

3

[redacted]

13.11.30.

S31

[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

4

18.11.30.

S31

[redacted]
[redacted]

5

frank

[redacted]

E. Parker
Supt

SB
2/3/3

M.A.W.B.
25/2/20

[redacted]

6

[redacted]

10.

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11.

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S31

S31/10/33

12

[Redacted]

13

[Redacted]

S31

J. J. Foster
C. I. for Supt.

S31/12

14

[Redacted]

S31

J. J. Foster
C. I. for Supt.

S31/10

15

[Redacted]

S31

J. J. Foster
C. I. for Supt.

16
8

16

[Redacted]

S31/10/34

17

S31

[Redacted]

18

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J. J. Foster
3/3/35

J. J. Foster
C. I. for Supt.

19
[Redacted]

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S31

21
[Redacted]

S31

22
[Redacted]

23.
[Redacted]

S.B. 2/8

[Signature]
C.I. for Supt.

24
Periodical report att'd
Further report in due course.

S.B.
2/15

[Signature]
C.I. for Supt.

S31

[Redacted]

S.B.
1/16

[Signature]
C.I. for Supt.
[P.F.]

S31

26.



B. 28/11

to the
for Superintendent.

27



Chas. M.

Chas. M.
Supt.

S.B. 2²/₃₈

28.



to the
Supt.

S.B. 31³/₃₈

29



to the
Supt.

S.B. 20/5/43

30

Press cutting from
"London Forward"

309

31.

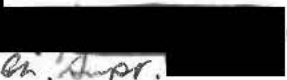


S40

S.B. 29. 11. 56

32

for Gen. Supt.



S40

S.B. 19-12-57

to Gen. Supt.

33.

Publications Contributor - 33A.

34.

Publications contributor - 34A

35.

Publications contributor - 35A.

36

S31



37



4

S31



Publications Contributor - 38A

39.

S31



40

Press cutting 'Morning Star'

40A

SB(R)

10/7/23

41

IDENTIFIED SPY/AD cutting dated O.C. 83, 50/21 O.C. 81.

41

FBI

42

Press cutting from Morning Star

42A

RA



S40

197/83

for the report

Morning Star Press Cutting dated 26.10.87
SB(R)
12.11.87

43A
lcb

26-10-87

Historian of the people

WITH the sudden death of A. L. Morton on Friday, the Labour and Communist movement has lost a true son of the British revolutionary movement.

He was an outstanding Marxist historian acknowledged by friend and foe alike. He eloquently brought to life the early pioneering struggles of working people in Britain through his researches.

A People's History of England, published in 1938 by the Left Book Club is still unequalled for its clarity and depth.

He made his mark as a historian and writer in many ways and will be remembered for his numerous articles, essays and pamphlets.

Among these was the volume of essays published on the occasion of his 75th birthday, *Rebels and Their Causes*, and his pamphlet published in 1981 by the Communist Party—*When the People Arose*, about the 1381 Peasants' Revolt.

Born on July 4, 1903 at Bury St Edmunds in Suffolk into a farming

COLIN WILLIAMS

pays tribute
to outstanding
Marxist writer
A. L. Morton
who died
at the weekend



family he went to Cambridge in 1921 as an undergraduate and joined the Communist Party in 1929 in which he remained all his life.

He took part in the Hunger marches in 1934 and was the Daily Worker correspondent for the East

Anglia contingent. 50 years later he was to take part in the People's March for Jobs.

Of his experiences of the Hunger March he wrote to the Morning Star in 1981, saying:

"We relied on support of the working people on our way and our

faith was always justified. But sometimes things were pretty tough."

Always alive to political events as they developed he was for years the chair of the East Anglia district of the Communist Party, following a period as a district organiser in the early part of the Second World War.

He was on the editorial board of the Daily Worker in the 30s and acted as owner—an office required those days when the "owner" was the person who went to prison if the paper was sued.

He contributed many articles and reviews for the Daily Worker and the Morning Star, and was generous in the help he gave to many organisations on the left with lectures and talks on both political and historical subjects.

He leaves a widow, Vivien, daughter of T A Jackson and a son Nicky.

A. L. MORTON: RF 301/MP/1917.
(file not available.)
NO URN.

13/11/87 B.

27 OCT 1987

SEARCH RECORD

✓ P.A.



for on

People's historian at 80

Marxist historian A. L. Morton is 80 today.

THE well-known Marxist historian A. L. (Leslie) Morton celebrates his 80th birthday today.

He has made his mark as an historian and writer in several ways, but he will be especially remembered by generations of those who have read his *People's History of England* since he published it in the mid-1930s. The book has been translated into many languages.

In the years that have followed he has played a leading

part in what is sometimes called "the alternative history" or "history from below" with a dozen or more books covering centuries of popular struggles and of the real social life of the people.

But it is not only as a historian that he is thought of among his many friends. He has always taken an active part in politics and was for years chairman of the East Anglia district committee of the Communist Party, after having been the

district organiser in the early part of the Second World War.

Born at Bury St. Edmunds in a farming family he went to Cambridge as an undergraduate in 1921 and joined the Communist Party in 1929. He took part in the 1934 hunger march and was the correspondent for the *Daily Worker*, forerunner of the *Morning Star*, for the East Anglian contingent in the march. This year — 50 years later — he met the *People's March for Jobs* as it passed through East Anglia.

A great admirer of the progressive educationalist A. S. Neill, he taught at Neill's Summerhill School for a time as a young man.

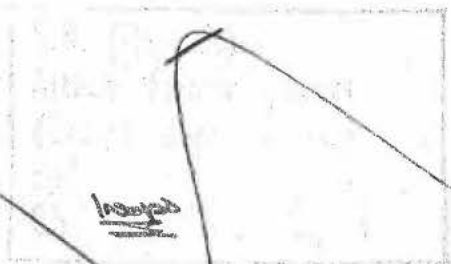
He was on the editorial staff of the *Daily Worker* for a time in the 1930s and acted as owner — a necessary office in those days when the "owner" was the person who went to prison if the paper was sued. On one occasion the paper was sued while he was owner, but fortunately he did not have to go to jail as the *Daily Worker* won the case.

Of recent years he has been generous with the help he has given to organisations on the left with lectures and talks on political and historical subjects.



A. L. Morton: initiator of "history from below."

124 15/7/83



A. L. (Leslie) MORTON 301/MP/1917



CHIA

816157 AH

HAVING taken part in two unemployed marches in the 1930s I found your accounts of the People's March most inspiring. And they set me thinking of some of the differences between then and now.

The first is the far broader base this time. The marches of the 1930s certainly stirred great enthusiasm among ordinary people but the official leadership did not want to know.

I remember especially the Brighton TUC to which we marched from London. No one was prepared even to listen to what we had to say. What an advance has been marked by the wide trade union sponsorship we now see; a new stage in the unity of employed and unemployed.

Resulting from this it has been possible to prepare and equip this march in a way never before seen. In the 1930s we



letters

set out on the road with no money and little organisation.

We relied on the support of the working people on our way, and our faith was always justified. But sometimes things were pretty tough.

All the same, I never met a marcher who regretted having set out. It was an inspiring and educative experience, as I am sure it will prove for today's marchers.

Finally, I can see a great political advance. Then, we were marching against the consequences of unemployment, against the means test, and for more humane treatment of its victims.

That was needed at that time, but it implied a tacit acceptance of the fact of unemployment. The People's March was based on a complete refusal to accept unemployment and this represents an altogether higher stage in the struggle.

I cannot but rejoice in these things.

A. L. MORTON

Suffolk.

A. L. MORTON 30/MP/1917



4 JUN 1981

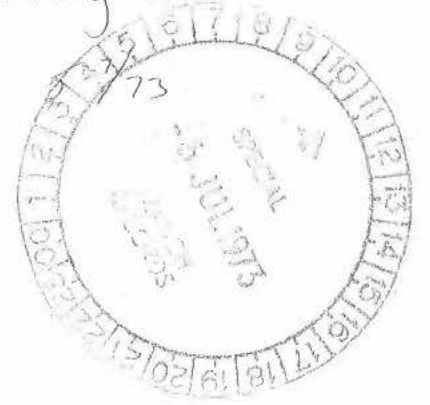


573 4/6/81

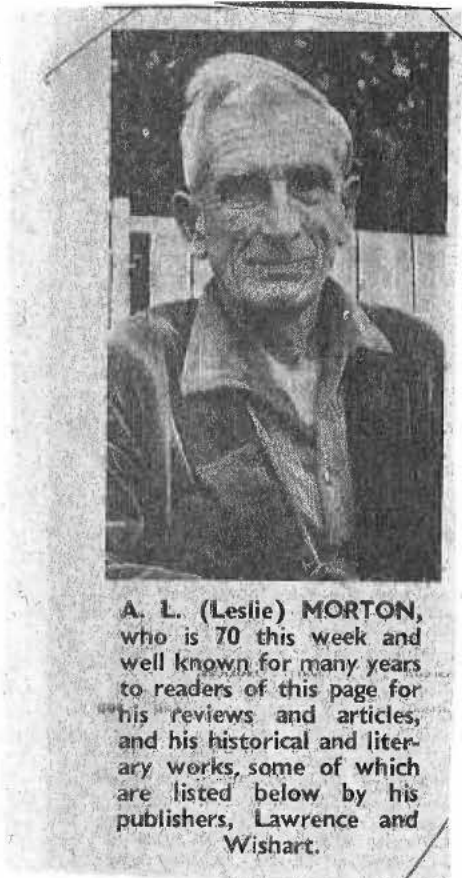
40A
Ⓢ



Morning Star



~~S.B.(B)~~
FORMER PAPER PSE.
~~ROOM 892~~



A. L. (Leslie) MORTON, who is 70 this week and well known for many years to readers of this page for his reviews and articles, and his historical and literary works, some of which are listed below by his publishers, Lawrence and Wishart.

301 MP. 1917

JK 6/7/73.



S.B.(B)

EA

Ch. Supl



E9 JUL 1973

PUBLICATIONS CONTRIBUTOR

U/38A

..... A. H. MORTON was a contributor to
the 26th February '66 issue of 'Comment'
His/~~Her~~ article dealt with Book Reviews.....

The publication is retained by Room 596.

301/MP/1917

S.B.(R)

P.A.

22 APR 1966



for Ch. Supd.

PUBLICATIONS CONTRIBUTOR

35A.

..A. L. MORTON..... was a contributor to
the ...April 1964.... issue of Marxism Today..

His/Her article dealt with Shakespeare 831

The publication is retained by Room 596.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
12/19/85

PUBLICATIONS CONTRIBUTOR

34A

RF-301-MP-1917

A. L. MORTON was a contributor to
the 13-7-63 issue of Comment

His/Her article dealt with Barry St. Edmunds

The publication is retained by Room 596.

PUBLICATIONS CONTRIBUTOR

33A.

301/MP/1917

A. L. MORTON was a contributor to
the ..4⁴/63..... issue of ..Daily Worker..

His/Her article dealt with ...a book... reviews.....

The publication is retained by Room 596.

820

24

BR

for the copies

HEAD ON FORWARD

24/1/53

300

23 JAN 1953 - 10 -
611

* *
**THE AUTHOR
REPLIES**

A SOCIALIST writer expects to be attacked in the capitalist press: in a journal like "Forward" he has the right to expect better treatment.

And when a reviewer in a professedly Socialist weekly attacks a book, as your reviewer does "The English Utopia," solely on the ground that it contains passages expressing a favourable judgement of the Soviet Union, it seems to me that the limit of absurdity has been reached.

I think that many people in our movement are alarmed and bewildered at the spectacle of 'Socialists' whose first duty appears to be to slander the first Socialist country.

As for the particular slanders which J. H. Burns repeats, these have been disposed of so often that they can only be believed by those who want to believe them in the face of all the evidence. There is no space in a letter like this to refute them again in detail.

One word on 'forced labour' may not be out of place. In the Soviet Union, as in all countries, prisoners work. And in the Soviet Union the normal prison is of the open type with which the first experiments are just being made in this country.

It is a little comic to see that what in Britain is hailed as a daringly progressive experiment in penology becomes a slave labour camp when it exists in the Soviet Union.

Perhaps I am doing your reviewer an injustice: he did find one fault in my book — that of insufficient respect for the late George Orwell. Once more, it is odd to find a Socialist so concerned to defend a writer whose two last books touch the lowest level that anti-Socialist propaganda has yet reached in this country.

A. L. MORTON,

The Old Chapel,
Clare, Suffolk.

* * *

301/MP/1917

L

S.B.(R)

Please PA 840

S.B.
24/1/53

[Redacted] P.P.

4050

S.B. No. (Plain).

METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Ma

Special Report }

SPECIAL BRANCH,

Metropolitan Police,

Scotland House,

SUBJECT Arthur
Leslie MORTON.

20th day of May 1936.

Reference to Papers.
301/MP/1917.

With further reference to Arthur Leslie MORTON:-

This man still resides at 22, Bartholomew Road,
Kentish Town, N.W., in [REDACTED]

He is [REDACTED] the
proprietor of the "Daily Worker" and is registered under the
Business Names Act 1916, as the proprietor of the "Workers'
Press" and the "Marston Printing Company". [REDACTED]

531

He frequently writes articles in the "Daily Worker"
and has on various occasions reviewed books in that paper.
On 30/11/35, he was mentioned in the "Daily Worker" as being
in charge of a local receiving depot at his home for the
"Daily Worker" bazaar, which was held in November last. On
4/12/35, he reviewed a book entitled "Noah and the Waters" by
C. Day Lewis and on 22/4/36 he wrote an article on "Samuel
Butler, Satirist". [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
16/12/35. Said to be proprietor of the "Daily
Worker"

[REDACTED]
1/5/36. Present at May Day demonstration at
Hyde Park.

All minutes to be numbered in consecutive order.

No. 729

(Unruled).

Hyde Park/



MORTON is known to me.

E. Hathway

P.C.

Submitted.

R. Robinson
Inspector.

[Signature]
SUPERINTENDENT.

The
Unemployed Leader

21st.

March

5.

302/WM/496.

With further reference to 'The Unemployed Leader':-
herewith submitted are three copies of the
February and March editions of this publication. It has
not been possible to obtain the January edition as it is
now out of print.

This periodical is not yet registered under 'The
Newspaper Libel and Registration Act' at Somerset House
as it does not apparently come within the requirements of
the Act, but copies of the January and February editions
have been deposited at the Copyright Office of the British
Museum. The March edition has not yet been deposited.
This is expected to be done shortly.

The publisher remains Sam Langley, and the
publishing office, 11a. White Lion Street, E.1.

The Marston Printing Co. which still prints the
paper is now at Nelson Place, Cayton Street, E.C.1. Arthur
Leslie Morton notified the Registrar of Business Names on
11th. December, 1934, that this concern moved to Nelson
Place, E.C. on 8th. December, 1934. He is now living at
22 Bartholomew Road, N.W.5.

W. J. A. G.

Inspector.

Submitted.

J. A. H. S. L.
Inspector.

P.A. on Morton's file

W. J. A. G.
Superintendent.