Royal Commission on Trade Unions and Employers' Associations

RESEARCH PAPERS
5
(Part 1)

Trade Union Structure and Government

by
John Hughes

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Foreword

This paper by Mr. John Hughes, of Ruskin College, Oxford, is the first of two dealing with problems of trade union structure and government. It concerns structural problems and developments, inter-union relations, and the activities of federations. A second paper by Mr. Hughes will deal with problems and developments affecting trade union government, especially those relating to lay participation, and the election and selection of officers.

The views expressed in this paper are of course those of the author and do not necessarily represent or foreshadow those of the Royal Commission.

Royal Commission on Trade Unions and Employers' Associations

Lacon House

January 1967

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APPENDIX

(*AEU Journal November* 1966)

A joint statement by the Amalgamated Engineering Union and the Amalgamated Union of Foundry Workers

The membership of the AUEFW shall consist of members of the constituent unions, i.e, the AEU and AUFW and shall, for the purpose of administration, be organised into appropriate trade groups, i.e, Engineering Group and Foundry Workers Group.

The registered General Office of the AUEFW, unless otherwise decided, shall be situated at 110, Peckham Road, London, SE15.

The objects of the Amalgamated Union shall be:

(a) The control of industry in the interests of the community;

(b) The organisation of workers qualified for membership; the development of fraternal relations with other unions in the industry; and the maintenance of just and proper working hours, rates of wages, conditions of labour;

(c) The negotiation and settlement of differences and disputes between members of the amalgamated union and employers by collective bargaining and agreement, withdrawal of labour, or otherwise;

(d) To promote the welfare of the members of the amalgamated union;

(e) The provision of benefits to members as provided by the Rules;

(f) The furtherance of political objects as provided by the Rules;

(g) To co-operate with other trade unions and with federations of unions and to subscribe to their funds;

(h) To promote schemes and provide facilities for the educational advancement of the members.

And shall include the whole of the objects of the unions party to the amalgamation.

Organisation

There shall be a general committee of management known as the National Executive Council of the amalgamated unions, which shall consist of the following members:

(1) The President, General Secretary and Members of the Executive Council of the AEU;

(2) Two representatives elected from the National Executive Committee of the AUFW, one of whom may be their General Secretary, for a period of twelve months, and eligible for re-election.

The President of the AEU shall preside over the meetings of the National Executive Council. The AEU General Secretary shall be the General Secretary and Treasurer of the amalgamated Union and the General Secretary shall, in circumstances where he cannot perform the function, delegate his authority to an Assistant General Secretary.

A national conference shall be held each year, at such time as determined by the National Executive Council, and shall consist of:

(1) The President of the amalgamated union;

(2) The members of the National Committee of the AEU; and

(3) Nine representatives elected by and from the delegates of the National Annual Delegate Meeting of the AUFW.

The President of the amalgamated union shall have a casting vote.

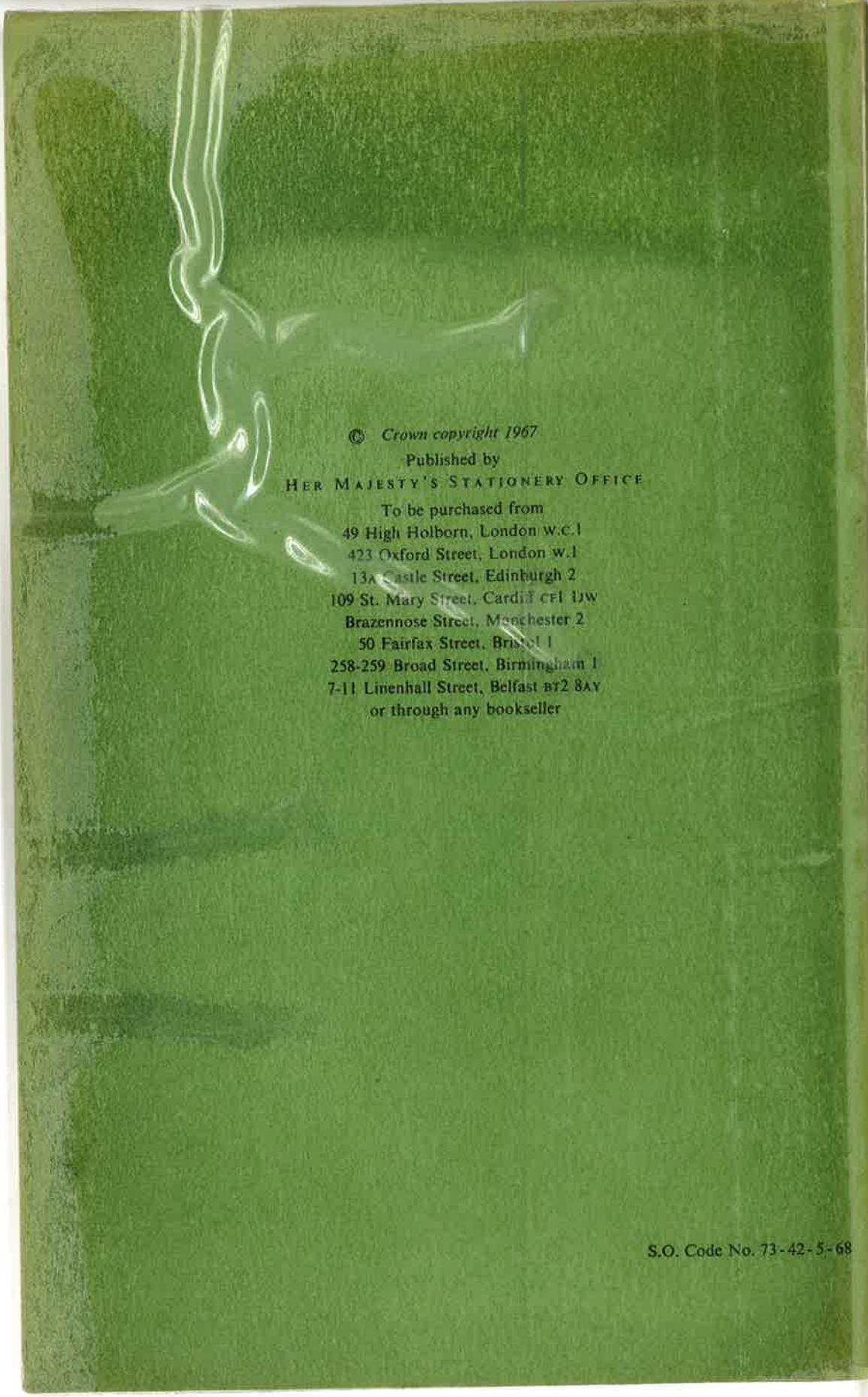
All decisions of the National Conference shall be binding on the National Executive Council.

Funds of Amalgamated Union

There shall be a General Fund which shall be held in joint ownership by FIVE General Trustees, who shall be elected by the National Conference and who shall hold office three years.

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