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COMMUNISM AND POPULAR CULTURE IN THE
20TH CENTURY, 1911-1988

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Explore communism through the lens of...

British Online Archives' updated collection, *Communism and Popular Culture in the 20th century, 1911-1988*, sheds light on the cultural politics of sport, cinema, and the arts through one of the Communist Party of Great Britain's (CPGB) busiest figures, Ivor Montagu (1904-1984).

Montagu was best known for his work as a filmmaker, scriptwriter, and producer.

He was also a trained naturalist, the founder of the International Table Tennis Federation, president of the Southampton F.C. Supporters' Club, and a prominent communist activist.

The collection draws from Montagu's extensive personal papers, which offer a detailed and often intimate portrait of Montagu's busy life, from his childhood in elite education to his numerous political activities with the CPGB.



This collection is part of the *British Communism at Home and Abroad, 1883-1991* series.

SOCIETY FOR CULTURAL RELATIONS WITH THE USSR
14, Kensington Square, London, W.8
(MS. 1571)

Minutes of Executive Committee of Sept. 16th, 1953
Present: Mr. Collins (in the Chair), Mr. Kessel,
Mr. Ling, Mr. Richnall, Mrs. Rosen, Miss Todd.
Apologies Received from: Mr. Prite, Miss Merrill,
Mr. Sandison, Professor Penrose, Dr. Joules,
Mr. Rothstein.

Minutes of the meeting held on July 8th, 1953, were signed as correct.

Matters arising from the Minutes.
The Medical Section review was not on the agenda owing to the many items on the agenda for this evening.

S.O.R. House. Mr. Finkbeard to be pressed to present to the Executive Committee, at its October 14th meeting, a report on the condition of the house fabric and the stage reached in alterations planned for front hall, structural changes, etc.

New Members. A list of new members, affiliations and Resignations was accepted. Attention was drawn to the fact that the information normally requested of new members as for source of membership, must be attached to the existing membership form forthwith, as decided at the June 1953 Executive Committee. The new members list presented was therefore conditionally accepted on this basis.

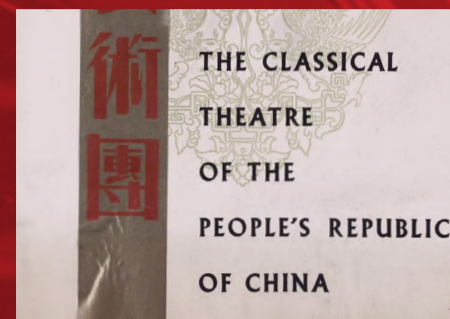
The fact of an exchange of correspondence between Sir Robert Watson-Watt and Mr. Prite on the former's resignation

The collection contains over 25,000 unique images.

... international sport, cinema, and the arts



According to Professor Kevin Morgan, Montagu "was a significant journalist and publicist of communist causes, whose less intensive involvement in party activities allowed him scope for an extraordinary range of interests."



Professor Morgan has written 3 contextual essays to accompany the collection.

43, Leicester Square,
W. 1.
7th February, 1948.

Dear Brian,

a. I certainly think Hitchcock the most interesting.

b. Depends. If you found a socialist and director with congenial mind probably a few talks would get your point of view clear enough over to them, for them to get your meaning and go ahead. If they're not congenial you'd have to watch them every minute and then you'd break your heart.

c. British International is good. Gainsborough is very good technically but too venal. British Instructional solid and unvulgar but maybe too solid. Mine of course.

Let me answer with a question. Have you ever been inside a big studio?

Montagu worked with famous film makers Sergei Eisenstein and Alfred Hitchcock

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