HOUVER

JAN 31 1970

INSTITUTION

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By

David

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China-Soviet crisis

ANEW WAR DANGER

W. German coalition agreement near

By a foreign correspondent WEST GERMAN coalition talks between the Social Democrats and the liberal Free Democrats have produced what FPD leader Walter Scheel described as a 'far reaching agreement' on most domestic policy issues.

As the two parties share common ground on most foreign policy issues including closer relations with the Soviet bureaucracy the main obstacles to the formation of the coalition seem to h ve been over-

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But that is only one problem out of the way.

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B.O.A.C. stewardesses threaten strike

BRITISH Overseas Airways Corporation stewardesses are threatening to strike by the end of October because they feel that they are being overworked.

Some of the stewardesses have such long hours that they are too tired to sleep and have no time to prepare proper'y for flights.

Many of them feel they would be unable to cope with an emergency in this condi-

As one stewardess said at a recent protest meeting: 'We are dead beat. There

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strike action towards the end of October unless the situation can be resolved'.

Union representatives claim that much of the sickness is due to the short time cabin staff have off duty between

The union also stated that the agreement for stewards and stewardesses is that they should do 22½ trips a year but the actual number worked varies from 28 to 39.

Chinese aid for Vietnam

THE North Vietnamese government has been promised increased Chinese military and economic aid until all the US aggressors are driven out of South Vietnam', according to the official Hanoi newspaper 'Nhan Dan'.

KOSYGIN'S five-point plan for settling the Sino-Soviet border dispute must not be taken at its face value. The Chinese leaders are highly suspicious of such offers, coming as they do after a long period of Soviet troop movements along the Chinese frontier.

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Fight

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tion in the workers' states.

Chou En-lai's speech in Peking on Tuesday made it clear that while the Chinese government accepts the offer to open talks it remains on its guard.

The need for vigilance is underlined by fresh news from Moscow 'leaked' by Victor Louis, a Soviet journalist known to be very close to the Soviet bureau-

Louis claims that 'some circles' in the Soviet leader-ship are advocating the application of the so-called 'Brezhnev Doctrine' to China. This can only mean what it involved in Czechoslovakia -invasion.

Hint

In a dispatch to the London 'Evening News', Louis hinted at the Kremlin's future China policy:

'Whether or not the Soviet Union will dare to attack Lop Nor, China's nuclear centre, is a question of strategy, and so the world would only learn about it afterwards.'

This revelation has triggered off a round of excited speculation among the imperialist owers, eager as always to ignite the already inflammable relations between Moscow and Peking.

Mr William Rogers, US Secretary of State, claimed that the Soviet government had moved a great deal of military equipment 'to-wards the border'.

Under tremendous pressure itself in South-East Asia, and faced with a whole range of uncertain-ties at home and in Europe, the US government will gladly seize on this latest turn in the conflict between the Chinese and Soviet bureaucracies.

Visit

Neither will Nixon hesitate to encourage China when it suits US imperialism's inter-

His recent visit to Romania, a country whose government has always had the closest relations with Peking, was part of this strategy.

The Bucharest trip was never criticized in the Chinese press - a sure sign that the Chinese leaders approved.

These are dangerous times for both the Soviet Union and

The parasitic Soviet bureaucracy which for more than 40 years has played a counter-revolutionary role in the inworkers' moveternational ment, now more than ever places the gains of the Russian and Chinese Revolutions in great jeopardy.

Feared

Stalin always feared and opposed the development of the Chinese revolution and many times sought to drive into a capitalist coalition with Chiang Kai-shek.

The Chinese Revolution frustrated the Kremlin's strategy, but the Soviet bureaucracy never reconciled itself to the existence of the new Chinese workers' state. And neither has US perialism, which for the last 20 years has propped up the corrupt Chiang dictatorship on

Taiwan island. (The same Victor Louis has also been active in Taiwan, making contact with the Chiang regime.)

While using the Soviet bureaucracy to hold back revolutionary movements throughout the world, the leading imperialist powers still hold fast to their longterm goal of restoring capitalist rule in all those areas where planned economy



By

Robert Black

ASK FOR

Deutsche-mark crisis

End of **Bretton Woods** agreement

CONFUSION and uncertainty have continued to dominate the currency markets since the West German government's decision to 'float' the mark was anounced.

Indeed it is by no means clear whether the Bonn government will eventually decide on a mark revalua-

Some leading financial spokesmen now believe that the recent round of wage settlements—some involving pay rises of up to 15 per cent may have such an adverse effect on German exports that the case for revaluation has been seriously undermined.

This lack of confidence showed itself on the New York stock exchange where the Dow Jones index fell over six points on Wednesday, its greatest daily points loss in three weeks.

The same uncertainty is seen in the reaction of other currencies to the Bonn announce-

While sterling appears to have been relatively unaffected the French franc has been forced down to its 'floor' level. Although French exporters would normally have obtained some competitive advantage from a mark revalution the decision of the West German

● PAGE 4 COL. 4 →

BOLIVIA

Dictator shows his hand

GENERAL Alfredo Ovando Candia, the new Bolivian president, has announced that his government will not nationalize foreign oil companies. Ovando ousted Luis Salinas last Saturday in a military coup.

Despite initial statements that his new regime would act against the big oil companies, Ovando's decision comes as no surprise.

During the presidency of Stalinas he was accused of taking bribes from foreign oil

Ovando's pledge to satisfy the land hunger of the peasants will also meet a similar fate.

Ovando was the military

Brazil—junta splits

From a special correspondent

RIFTS developed within Brazil's three-man ruling junta as the regime deprived seven Federal deputies of their political rights for ten vears.

Tuesday's move accompanied news that a struggle for the presidency had broken out

between Generals Emilio Medice and Alfonso Lima. The ruling post in the junta becomes vacant shortly due to the continued ill-health of President Arthur da Costa e

Like Bolivia, Argentina and several other south and central American regimes, the Brazilian junta has only held on to power by a combination of repression and demagogy.

take a hand in the strike of 2,000 London dustmen, a spokesman for Haringey council announced on Wednesday.

MRS. Barbara Castle is to

The employment minister was called in as the strike
—which began in Hackney

The displayment with the strike has piled up in Hackney's Ridley Road is to be removed because of the health ten days ago - spread to Southwark and Westminster. Thirteen other boroughs are already involved.

Dustmen are to meet the employers and union representatives today to discuss the situation.

leader mainly responsible for

the hunting down of the guerrilla leader Che Guevara.

This new military coup cer-

The average life expectation

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Education

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Stubbs, who is also chairman of the local National Union of Public Employees, said afterwards:

'It took a coloured lad to show the way.' It is reported that Hackney

borough council has appealed to the Greater London joint negotiating council to recognize that the basic pay rates are inadequate and called for 'immediate steps to consider an immediate increase'. Hackney Council has also

written a letter to other boroughs asking for support for the immediate increases. In Newham some ambulancemen came out in support of the dustmen on Wednesday,

Other claim

Other local authority manual workers struck yesterday at Streatham cemetery, south London, in support of their

claim for an 18s.-a-week

The 18s. claim is at present being negotiated by the National Union of Public Employees, who held discussions with local authority representatives earlier in the week.

Another US army scandal

FOLLOWING hard on the 'Green Beret' case comes news of corruption in the US Army stationed in West Germany. Mr Irvin Meard, a former

military investigator, told the permanent investi-sub-committee that gating Sergeant-Major William Woolridge, the first Sergeant-Major of the Army, headed a 'tightknit clique of high-ranking non - commissioned officers' that ran army service clubs in Augsburg and Munich. Woolridge is accused of

running a 'criminal conspiracy' which brought in around 350,000 dollars a year from slot-machine rackets at service clubs in West Germany. Other rackets involving the

sale of drugs to troops on active service in Vietnam have already come to light. But the biggest 'criminal conspiracy' of all, the war against the Vietnamese people, continues.

Nixon let **Green Berets** off the hool

PRESIDENT Nixon personally approved the Central Intelligence Agency's decision not to provide witnesses in the murder trial of six Green Berets, the White House spokesman said on Wednes-

day.

The CIA's refusal to testify against the Green Berets, accused of killing a Vietnamese reported to have been a double-agent, resulted in the case being dropped.

'Tribune' lefts hold a meeting

By our industrial reporter REFORMISM with a 'left' face . . . but still reform-

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Said Foot: 'It is only by democratic socialism that our problems will be solved . . .

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NEXT

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LORRYMEN REFUSE TO SCAB ON DUSTMEN

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DANGEROUS WEAPON

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approved the Central Intelli-gence Agency's decision not to provide witnesses in the murder trial of six Green Berets, the White House spokesman said on Wednes

day.
The CIA's refusal to testify against the Green Berets, accused of killing a Vietnamese reported to have been a double-agent, resulted in the case being dropped.

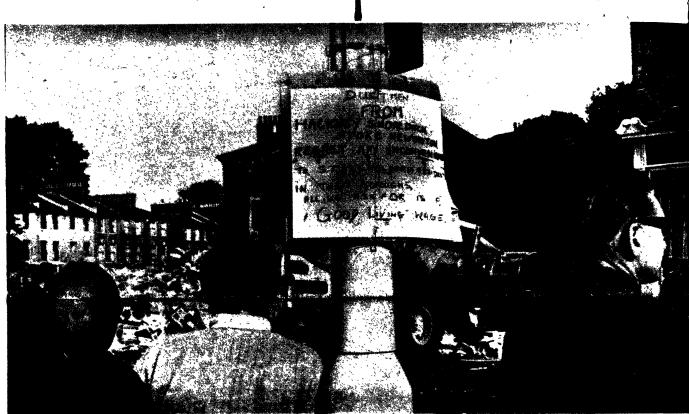
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Deutsche-mark crisis

Bretton Woods agreement

CONFUSION and uncertainty have continued to dominate the currency markets since the West German government's decision to 'float' the mark was anounced.

clear whether the Bonn government will eventually decide on a mark revaluation.

Some leading financial spokesmen now believe that the recent round of wage settlements—some involving pay rises of up to 15 per cent may have such an adverse effect on German exports that the case for revaluation has been seriously undermined.

This lack of confidence showed itself on the New York stock exchange where the Dow Jones index fell over six points on Wednesday, its greatest daily points loss in three weeks.

The same uncertainty is seen in the reaction of other currencies to the Bonn announce-

While sterling appears to have been relatively unaffected the French franc has been forced down to its 'floor' level. Although French exporters would normally have obtained some competitive advantage from a mark revalution the decision of the West German PAGE 4 COL. 4 ->

BOLIVIA

Dictator shows his hand

GENERAL Alfredo Ovando Candia, the new Bolivian president, has announced that his government will not nationalize foreign oil companies. Ovando ousted Luis Salinas last Saturday in a military coup. Despite initial statements

that his new regime would act against the big oil companies, Ovando's decision comes as no surprise. During the presidency of

Stalinas he was accused of taking bribes from foreign oil Ovando's pledge to satisfy the land hunger of the peas-

ants will also meet a similar fate. Ovando was the military

Education Only 20 per cent of the

attended school, while only 1.8 per cent completed just their primary education. These are but a few of the enormous social and economic

been forced to carry for gener ations. The new regime, tied as it is from the very beginning to internal reaction and the foreign oil monopolies, will remove none of them.

General Council'.

And this was the same opportunist line that came

under attack in the Bolshevik Party and the Communist

Klugmann completely distorts Trotsky's position when

he attributes to him 'a com-pletely negative view of the role of British workers in the

General Strike. . . .' (p. 321.)

position on the General Strike.

The Left Opposition attacked the cover given by Stalin and the Soviet trade

unions to the sell-out policies of the TUC General Council.

of the political independence

Party to the tactical alliance

concluded between the British and Soviet trade union leader-

ships well over a year before

The 'Platform of the Left

Opposition' is quite explicit

the General Strike began.

This involved the sacrifice

British Communist

This was never Trotsky's

US tentacles encircle globe BOOK REVIEWS

Monthly Review Press, New York and London, 1969 UK price, hard covers, 54s.

Review by Tom Kemp

IUDGED as factual and statistical proof that the United States is an imperialist country this book is a first class professional job.

Harry Magdoff, who once earned his living as a top statistician for the US government and has lately become joint editor of the radical journal 'Monthly Review', has scoured all the available material to argue his case.

After a cursory glance at the theoretical issues in the introduction the reader is rapidly assailed by a barrage of facts and no less than 44 statistical tables.

All to the good, and very impressive in its way— studies of this kind are certainly needed. The book nevertheless suffers from some basic flaws in method. Magdoff reveals the major flaw on page 22.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the book is, he says, 'to show the cohesion and interdependence of the United States economy and the world capitalist system. The contradictions and are referred to only incidentally'.

In fact, however well this task is carried out, it remains an examination of forms without reference to their content if the 'contradictions and tensions' of imperialism are left out.

But this is not all. We are given a very complete picture of the articulations of American business expansion and foreign policy.

EMPHASIS

The reader could very easily come away with the impression that Magdoff had proved his case all right: no one after reading it could maintain that the United States is not an imperialist

But the emphasis is so heavily placed on US world power, the control it exercises over the less developed countries and the growing penetration of US capital into the advanced countries with the backing of an impressive military machine that he might also conclude that nothing can be done to

It is true that one of Magdoff's main points is to show the dependence of the US on the raw materials obtained from foreign countries.

ANTIDOTE

In that respect his analysis, based on trade statistics, is a useful antidote to those evisionists who claim that this kind of relationship becountries (especially USA) and the rest of the world is a thing of the past.

The development of technology, while it has reduced the importance of some imported raw materials, has made others indispensable.

The big corporations operate on a global scale to seize control of the sources of supply of these materials.

At the same time, the US has become by far the most important exporter of capital and foreign affiliates of US corporations have become a major source of profit.

The fact that much of this investment is in other industrial countries by no means contradicts the Marxist theory of imperialism, but results from the role of the US as organizer and leader of the world imperialist system.

STAKE

US government politics and diplomacy are geared to maintaining and extending the world stake of the corporations and cannot be made intelligible on any other basis. It has to maintain this

position at the expense of the capitalists of other It has to keep the loss de-

countries. veloped countries within the orbit of the capitalist world

It has to deal with the threat constituted by the existence of workers' states, however degenerated or deformed they may be.

Besides facts and statistics Magdoff has found some telltale statements by defenders US policy to substantiate this view.

SEVERE

The strain of maintaining its premier position in the capitalist world market. indeed to keep the system in being at all, has been very severe for US capitalism.

immense sums quired for foreign aid and military spending abroad required to support the American empire together with the

flow of private capital in search of higher profits than could be earned at home have greatly reduced US

gold reserves and put the dollar at risk. Magdoff only touches on the causes and consequences of the international liquidity crisis. He is so busy explaining the post-war expansion of US capitalism that its contradictory character is left

NOT ENOUGH

It is not enough to prove that US imperialism exploits Latin America and other parts of the dollar empire.

To show the dependence of the technologically advanced industries upon imported raw materials or the imperative necessity to find outlets for surplus capital is very essen-

But this task could be carried out from a reformist perspective or simply as an objective' presentation of

Magdoff's purpose seems to be to convince sceptical middle-class radicals and liberals that imperialism imperialism does exist. He is not writing for workers.

LOST

The working class does not appear in his analysis; it has somehow been lost sight of while he was assiduously collecting facts and figures for this book.

tendency in the US movement which radical Magdoff represents, while able to criticise capitalism, has no confidence in the ability of the working class in the advanced countries to overthrow it.

This leads him to write a book about imperialism in which the working class is left out completely.

Now Magdoff may believe that the American working class is a politically back-ward aristocracy of labour.

APATHETIC

He may believe that the workers in the advanced countries of Europe have become apathetic and conser-

He may follow Herbert Marcuse in thinking this. We cannot be sure because he does not bring the

But if capitalism has survived into the second half of the 20th century, someone who claims to be using Marism and quotes Lenin's Ti perialism' with approval owes his readers an explana-

In fact the flaws in Magdoff's method are very funda-

Claiming to deal with the most recent historical developments in the capitalist mode of production he leaves out the basic social relations which distinguishes it from other systems.

NO ANALYSIS

He does not analyse the process of production and re-production from which the drive for imperialism eman-

The class struggle is kept out of sight. The contradictions are re-

served for later inquiry. political conclusions are drawn.

Apart from a few passages which theoretical ques-

tions are dealt with in a cur-sory way the book merely provides a useful compendium of facts.

Anyone who wants to know what imperialism is

about and how to fight it will still have to go back to

Union Square, New York 1930-Thousands rally against effects of

'THE AGE OF IMPERIALISM' By Harry Magdoff

'HISTORY OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF GREAT BRITAIN. VOL. 2: THE GENERAL **STRIKE 1925-1927'**

By James Klugmann

'BABI YAR'

By Anatoly Kuznetsov

Marx in paperback

Review by Peter Jeffries

Engels, always modest,

certainly underplayed his role in the partnership. He

and others were 'talented'.

he declared, whereas Marx

'Engels: Selected Writings',

W. O. Henderson (pp

edited, with an introduction

had been a true genius.

ONE INDICATION of the growing interest in Marxism is the increasing availability of Marx's and Engels' writing in paperbacks.

Penguin, for example, include in their list three selections writings which every reader of our paper who wants to start a serious study of Marxism would be well advised to

Perhaps the most useful selection — particularly for those interested in political economy — is provided by 'Marx on Economics', edited by Robert Friedman, (pp 251,

Here is made easily available a wide selection of Marx's writings on the nature and functioning of capitalism, together with extracts from the more important writings on the materialist concep-

Follow up

It will be easy for a reader to follow up each extract given in 'Das Kapital' and Marx's other writings.

The volume edited and introduced by T. B. Bottomore and M. Rubel: 'Karl Marx, Selected Writings in Sociology and Social Philosophy' (pp 272, 5s.), starts off with extracts from the writings historical materialism, then provides a small selection from the considerable writings on pre-capitalist economic formations (most of which are still unavailable in English).

Next there are extracts from 'Capital' and elsewhere on the nature of modern society followed by selections from the field of what the editors choose to call sociology of politics'.

Greatest

Finally, some of Marx's general and relatively limited comments on the nature of future society are provided. Friedrich Engels was the first and greatest of Karl Marx's followers.

Lenin was later to write of their long years of friend-ship and collaboration:

'In ancient history there are many moving stories of friendship. The European proletariat may say that its science was created by two scholars and fighters whose relations to each surpassed the most moving stories of human friendship among the

ger. 'great sociologist' who has much to give to modern

DESPITE the intentions of its author, this book throws a great deal of light on the origins of British Stalinism.

The book reproduces a great deal of material issued by the Communist Party in the General Strike period.

Much of it only serves to underline all the criticisms made by Trotsky at the time of the General Strike, that the bloc between the leaders of the British and Soviet trade unions - the Anglo-Soviet Trade Union Committee-prevented the development of a revolutionary leadership independent of the trade union bureaucracy.

Klugmann naturally rejects Trotsky's criticisms of the policy followed by the Communist International:

'The British Communist Party was strongly opposed to those leftist groups in the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and in the Com-munist International who wanted to bring to an end the Anglo - Soviet Trac Union Committee'. (p. 324.)

Yet what function did the British side of this Committee play before and during the General Strike?

After the return to work. the Communist Party de-nounced the TUC leaders



414, 7s. 6d) does a little to restore Engel's right to a place as an outstanding thinker in his own right and THE Soviet invasion as an original contributor to the Marxist world outlook. of Czechoslovakia in August 1968 was ac-

Henderson's selection has some of Engel's writings on the English working class, in-cluding extracts from his famous 'The Condition of the Working Class in England in 1844' as well as the later writings from the 'Labour Standard' of the 1880s when he was campaigning for a Party to express the independent interests of the working

Engels' deep interest in the problems of the German proletariat is reflected in extracts from some of his many articles on the German working-class movement.

Also included are pieces from his work in the fields of political economy, philoso-phy, history and military questions. A small selection of his voluminous correspondence with Marx and others is also provided.

Two words of warning need, I think, be issued to all intending purchasers. First the very nature of a 'selection' from Marx and

Engels is somewhat of a con-

The danger is that an integrated body of theory will be split up into its 'component parts', in the manner of bourgeois social science. None of the three volumes altogether avoids such a dan-

Second, the introductions to all the volumes should be treated with great care. Particularly is this true of

Bottomore and Rubel's long commentary on Marx, which prefaces their selections. Here they seek, in the manner of the New Left, to

'sociological theory'. In so doing they attempt to destroy the revolutionary spirit which infused all Marx's and Engels' theoretical writings.

But these three volumes available together for under £1, are certainly worth buying as a guide to the literature of Marxism.

in the following manner: 'The General Council's decision to call off the General Strike is the greatest crime that has ever been permitted, not only against the miners, but against the working class of Great Britain and the

companied by an in-

tensified disciplining

This is because the

bureaucracy fears the bold

protests of Sinyavsky,

Ginsberg, Daniel and

others will link with the

new generations in the

working class, determined

as these intellectuals are

to defend the October Re-

volution from imperial-

ism and the bureaucracy.

Anatoly Kuznetsov re-

cently fled from the Soviet

His books, including 'Babi Yar' had been strongly attacked, but not as strongly

as those of Yevtushenko who

had adapted sufficiently to the

regime to support the victim-

ization of Sinyavsky and

been dismissed from the board

of the magazine 'Yunost' ('Youth'), despite his com-

promises, Kuznetsov was ap-

pointed to take the place of

As one western commenta-

tor put it at the time, the

bureaucracy wanted neither a

diehard nor a liberal, but a

SECOND RATE

vasion the bureaucracy was, however, unable to clear out

all dissenting intellectuals. It

took them two months to pro-

duce an 'open letter' in sup-port of the Czech invasion

and even then it was only signed by second-rate writers.

Kuznetov made good his escape. The capitalist press

suitably applauded this and

gained an opportunity, to-gether with Gerald Brooke's

release, for a spot of anti-

communist propaganda. Kuznetsov has been frank

about his defection. In an

interview last month he said:

'The Soviet Union is noth-

Under these conditions

After the Czechoslovak in-

a liberal on the board.

While Yevtushenko had

Union to England.

Daniel.

safe bet.

of Soviet intellectuals.



Klugmann still excuses 1926 sell-out

Lawrence and Wishart pp. 373 70s.

Review by Robert Black

whole world. . . . The General Council has miserably thrown itself and the miners on the tender mercies of the workers' worst enemies—the Tory government'. (p 210-211.)

If this denunciation of the General Council had climaxed a whole period of preparation by the Communist Party for such an historic betrayal, then mann's defence of the Party's line would carry some weight.

The author describes in some detail all the preparations made by the ruling class for the strike. He also brings out many of the vacil-lations of the 'lefts' of the General Council, as well as the downright treachery of open right wingers such as Jimmy Thomas.

But how does Klugmann find it possible to justify the support given by the Com-munist Party to these same leaders right up to and during the General Strike? The British Party had a

calist traditions of the previous two decades in working class. This fight began in the early years of the Communist

fighting against all the syndi-

responsibility

International. Lenin's 'Left-Wing Communism' played a large part in laying down the theoretical guidelines in the struggle for a communist leadership in Britain.

The bureaucratic degeneration of the Bolshevik Party and the Communist International brought to an end the process of Marxist training begun by Lenin, Trotsky and ne other Comintern

After 1924, the formation f the Anglo-Soviet Trade Union Committee served as a means of corrupting the British Communist Party alliance with the bureaucratic TUC leaders.

Council's actions.

On January 8, 1926, the Party called for 'All power to the General Council' (p.95) and developed this slogan

The National Minority Movement, under Communist Party leadership, echoed this new policy:

of the Trades Union Congress.' (p. 102.) All the demands put forward by the Minority Move-

main perspective was one of handing over all power and leadership to the General Council. At all costs, Stalin's block with the TUC had to be preserved.

single axis. Klugmann turns himself

'Just before taking the vote on the General Council's scheme for action, the chairman, Arthur Pugh, made the scheme requires that the Miners' Federation hand over to the General Council the conduct of this dispute"

leadership, driving it into an

The old syndicalist traditions again became dominant as the Party worked as a left apologist for the General

throughout the next five

'The real central body through which we must func-tion is the General Council

ment were entirely trade union in character—as deed they had to be if the

The Communist Party's policy, consciously or revolved around that

inside-out attempting to re-concile the General Council's treachery before the strike with the Communist Party's uncritical support for the same body:

(p. 112.)

Why ominous? Surely this was just the policy the Communist Party had been calling for throughout the previous five months: 'All power to the

on this point: 'The tactic of the united front should under no condi-

tions be interpreted as a bloc with the traitorso f the General Council of the TUC. . . . Such a policy weakens and confuses the working class, increases the prestige of the indubitable traitors, and prevents the maximum consolidation of our own forces. . . . It is necessary . . . once and for all to put an end to the policy of a "hearty accord" with the traitors of the General Council of the TUC. (pp. 91-95.)

It is obvious that Trotsky's 'negative views' were aimed exclusively at the traitors of the General Council and those who continued to work with them in the Soviet Communist Party leadership.

After its first flush of anger against the TUC sell-out, the Communist Party again drifted back to its original position of support for the General Council.

Fully committed to Stalin in the fight against Trotsky, the CP leadership was com-pelled to defend the continued existence of the Anglo-Soviet Trade Union Committee:

the Anglo-Russian Committee justified itself in action . . . the general situation in which workers find themselves makes international solidarity in action more necessary than ever.' (p. 226.) Smoothing over earlier attacks on the TUC leader-

ship, the Communist Party resumed its pre-General Strike policy: 'The campaign for "more power to the General Council" must be intensified.' (p. 227.)

The British Communist Party's role in the General Strike is undoubtedly a vital question for trade unionists

But for a Marxist analysis, as opposed to a Stalinist justification, of this first phase in the bureaucratic degeneration national and its relationship with developments in the Soviet Union, the following works by Trotsky should be given top prority:

'The platform of the Left Opposition.'
'The Communist Inter-

national after Lenin.'
'The Stalin School of Falsi-

fication.'

Defector's doubts on Revolution

Sphere Books pp. 268 6s.

Review by Dave Spooner

ing but hypocrisy. . . . The very principle upon which the Soviet Union is based is profoundly mistaken.'

the other hand 'you couldn't ask for anything better or anything nicer', apparently, than the British ruling class. Like the ex-Stalinists of the 1930s — Arthur Koestler and all—he comes to rest in 'tran-

where, on the eve of major class battles, he hopes to find refuge!

quil' (his description) Britain

DOUBTS His novel, 'Babi Yar' expresses, in an unconsciously Aesopian form, all the doubts hesitations about the 7 October Revolution

which finally hardened into this outright hostility. It recounts the Nazi occupation of Kiev and the mass executions at Babi Yar in September 1941 — 34,000 people executed in two days.
Out of context we are given, in episodic form, a descrip-tion of the fate of tens of thousands of workers and peasants who paid with their lives for the Stalinists' mis-leadership of the German

working class. Here is one of the factual incidents at the Babi Yar

'The guards brought baskets out of the booth and yelled "Bread! Bread!"— and then they announced that anyone who touched the bread before the order was given would be killed. 'The mob stoood motionless. After talking and smoking for a while, the guards would turn around and

go away. 'At that the prisoners rushed for the bread, but the guards turned around and fired their submachine guns.

Dozens of bodies were left lving on the ground. . . .

THE AUTHOR The novel is related by

Kuznetsov as he was at the time—a 12-year-old boy—but

it tells us, of course, about Kuznetsov as he is today. Despite all the political description and the insistence that this is a documentary account, the book is about the

helpless ('a very small gnat') and aloof from the struggle of what he calls 'the mob' or at other times 'the herd'. The effect of the book is contradictory. On the one hand Kuznetsov describes the atrocious brutality of the Nazis, and yet he

has an underlying contempt

The small boy feels both

for the victims whom he blames, with characteristic petty-bourgeois arrogance, for not helping themselves. His peasant grandfather is the most richly described of the characters, insisting as he does that everything was wonderful in the 'old days' under

the Tsar. Symbolically, when the young Kuznetsov is hiding from the fascists under a house he discovers a newspaper which is over 50 years

'It was madening to think that there had been a time when people had lived serenely, buying watches and phonographs and pearls.'

REFUGE

He seeks refuge in some legendary political period — the more remote the better where the petty bourgeoisie is believed to have occupied a more stable position. And he squares accounts

with his meagre conscience

while looking on the horrific political spectacle.

Seeing everything in terms of individuals and seeing himself as outside of the conflicts in society, he cannot make head or tail of those major clashes that give rise to revolutions and counter-revolu-

No. He expects the world to obey the laws of reason in whose platonic name the bourgeois revolution is made. 'I cannot, for the life of me, understand how such a delightful joyous [a novel, remember, about a concentration camp] world-with such a sky and such a sun-with people endowed with minds and the faculty of thought-not animals guided by instinct, but thinking, understanding people -could harbour such bound-

less idiocies as aggression, war and fascism.'

ARTIFICIAL All he can envisage is a world that progresses according to artificially imposed patterns of the mind and in this of course, he reflects the great theoretical degeneration that characterizes Stalinism.

He is unable to grasp the

relationships in world society as a relationship of classes, but looks at them only as a gigantic and overpowering relationship of individuals.

So he dutifully records the Soviet victory over the invad-

ing armies as a nationalist victory, that is, the victory of one agglomeration of individuals over another.
Yet the energy and heroism of the Soviet working class, derived from its iron determination to defend the property relations established by the October Revolution, lives on despite the crippling of the

Red Army and the enormous

political nervousness created

by Stalin's trials in the late

Kuznetsov's defection to the bourgeoisie is a conscious blow against the October Revolution.

It is those intellectuals within the Soviet Union like Sinyavsky and Daniel, whose art and political defiance reflect and draw strength from the struggle of the Soviet and east European working class, who carry forward the defence of the October Revolution.

THE establishment of 'law and order' by the army of British imperialism in Northern Ireland has proved a touchstone of revolutionary principle.

As always, the Irish question has forced home the class issues in the British labour movement.

In issues of 'The Newsletter' forerunner of Workers' Press, we have explained at length the stand of the Socialist Labour League— 'Withdraw Troops Now!'and contrasted it with the acceptance and even welcoming of these troops by the Communist Party, the Labour 'lefts' and the revisionists of the state capitalist group 'International Socialism'.

Now the so-called 'International Marxist Group' has added its voice to the chorus of opportunism. This is the group which was prominent in the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign, and includes Pat Jordan, Ernest Tate, and Tariq Ali. It is affiliated to the Pabloite socalled 'Unified Secretariat'.

The monthly journal of this group, 'International' for September 1969 contains Jordan's article, 'Ireland: the struggle goes on.

After all sorts of declarations of 'principle', Jordan discovers a formula to avoid fighting for the withdrawal of troops, and does a thoroughgoing whitewash job for the state capitalists. He writes:

'Withdraw British Troops Now: this slogan flows directly from the position of self-determination [of the Irish nation] but there are people who are willing to support the line of self-determination, but not the slogan of the immediate withdrawal of British troops. Again we have to make it clear to whom the slogan is directed and in what context it is being used.

'The civil rights movement of Ireland is opposed to this slogan and is anxious that the British solidarity movement does not advance it. It argues that the arrival of British troops prevented a pogrom and for it to demand their recall would be suicidal.

'This dilemma cannot be dodged by shouting about "revisionism" and "sell-outs". These are real problems involving—as has been demonstrated—people's lives.

'The slogan demanding the withdrawal of British troops is an educational one" designed to clarify the actual political relationship of forces . . .

'The demand for the withdrawal of British troops is one which the British movement must adopt if it is to correctly implement a policy of fighting for self-determination. The time to this slogan is a tactical question.

(our emphasis, Editors) You can take a horse to water, but you can't make him

You can assert that a question is a principled question (though in reality a different principle is involved from what Jordan thinks) and then say that whether you fight for it is a 'tactical question', i.e., in some cases you fight on it and in others not.

The British capitalist government, a Labour Government, has sent troops to defend the rule of the Northern Ireland Tory (Unionist) government, because that Tory government is the caretaker for British and other capitalist property in Ireland.

The capitalist state consists, Marxists say, of bodies of armed men for the defence of capitalist property, however this state may be dressed up with democratic rights, representative government, and so

This principled question cannot be altered in any way by



a touchstone of revolutionary principle

By **Cliff Slaughter**

'tactical' considerations. There are no situations in which troops and police are not used by the state for this purpose. Much less can Marxists confuse the question with talk about the saving of lives, as Jordan does. This is only the usual middle-class rubbish in objecting to the Marxist theory of the state: 'don't the police help old ladies across the road, rescue drowning children, etc?'

All these things are happening every day, but they do not affect in the slightest the Marxist theory of the state and the principled politics which

the 'return to normalcy'.

Resignation

TO THE EDITOR OF WORKERS' PRESS

THE role of the British troops in N. Ireland is clearly one

that has always been played, namely that of protecting the

imperialist possessions, the maintenance of 'law and order',

such as an increased profit for the indigenous bourgeoisie is

incidental to this role. Likewise the fact that they are

separating Catholic from Protestant in no way implies a

protectionist role—except in the sense that by effectively

stopping riots they protect capitalist property-shops, fac-

will enable the 'Catholic South' to aid those behind the

barricades raises the question of what kind of demands or

slogans one should use, given that a Civil War is what is

required to oust Stormont. The absence of an Irish Revolu-

tionary Party is a serious impediment to the Irish issue.

1.) Withdraw all British troops now! Disarm and dis-

2.) Build the Revolutionary Party of Irish Workers and

The persistent failure to analyze the Irish issue in class

terms, i.e. Marxist terms—the adoption of the flabby policies

of People's Democracy with their accent on subjective instead

of objective factors has led to IS falling in line with the CP,

who also see the role of the troops as that of 'peace makers'.

The anti-communist and opportunist pro-Cathoic mutterings

of Bernadette Devlin have never been commented on by

'Socialist Worker' and thus her role and that of the Catholic

Church becomes blurred in the attempt to smother criticism

place among the Protestant proletariat in N. Ireland has led

to a one-sided view which panders to an assessment posed in

ethnic, sectarian terms rather than a Marxist class analysis.

As Lenin once said: 'Tactics must be based on a sober and

strictly objective appraisal of all the class forces of the

particular state'. (Page 45, 'Left Wing Communism, An

ship of IS and of course my position on its National Com-

Because of this issue and others I have resigned member-

The almost total silence on what developments are taking

Therefore a slogan emphasizing this must be made.

Slogans in my opinion should include:

3). For a United Socialist Republic!

band the RUC and 'B' Specials!

lest the tenuous links are snapped.

Infantile Disorder'.)

working class.

Small Farmers!

To imply that somehow the presence of the British Army

That their presence in any country brings by-products



Derry youth attack armoured police vehicle during early stages of the fighting.

troops the forces of capitalism reorganize themselves — restructuring of the police and security forces, closer liaison with the British High Com-

Under protection of these mand and Westminster Cabinet,

September 9, 1969

take of logic, but the direct result of the political contortions of Iordan's group: it follows directly from their whole orientation towards middle - class protest movements like civil rights: they end up as 'Marxist' attorneys for the middle class.

This is why they present the principle involved as simply that of the self-determination of nations, of defending in Britain the right of a colonial country to independence.

In this way they avoid the history of the working-class movement in Ireland, betrayed the bourgeois nationalists in 1916-1922, confronted with socialist tasks as the only way of completing the national struggle, and more and more now brought into relationship with the struggle for revolutionary leadership in the British Labour movement.

The issue presents itself very concretely in the British Labour movement and in a way which allows no 'tactical' watering down.

To carry through the fight against Wilson and against the Tories, and to build a revolutionary leadership for the struggle for workers' power in Britain, it is essential to fight the Irish question as a prinquestion requiring cipled socialist solutions.

Those who are unable to fight for the withdrawal of British troops now will be utterly incapable, as they are now, of carrying through fight against the British ruling class and its agents.

The activity and political line of the 'International Socialism' group on the Irish struggles is an anti-working class line of the most craven kind, and yet it is this line which Jordan is covering up for when he says there are 'tactical' limits to the demand for the withdrawal of troops.

In its editorial of September 11, the state capitalist paper 'Socialist Worker' repeated its

'The breathing space provided by the presence of British troops is short but vital. Those who call for the immediate withdrawal of the troops before the men behind the barricades can defend themselves are inviting a pogrom which will hit first and hardest at socialists.'

A week earlier the 'International Socialists' had held their national conference, and so this represents their considered line.

It seems that the socialists of Northern Ireland are to be grateful for the presence of British troops as the guarantor of their ability to arm themselves and fight back against the repressions which are undoubtedly coming.

Of course, within days of this editorial being printed, the barricades were down, and Northern Ireland once again takes the road of class conflict, some of it in religious guise;

with this difference — 7,000 British troops.

The 'International Socialists' (state capitalists) have no political strategy for the workers of Ireland. Instead they say things like this:

'The lessons of the past week's rioting for the be-leagured Catholics of Belfast are plain. The barricades must stay. More must be built, and more must be reinforced.'

After many months of a disastrous reliance on the middle-class civil rights leadership, the Catholic workers find themselves isolated from their Protestant brothers in the barricaded slum areas.

Whatever the problems of 'law and order' for the capitalists, this situation is politically a good one for them.

All those who work to perpetuate the divisions and the isolation of the Catholic workers of Derry and Belfast, instead of turning to the Labour movement for the urgent, job of mobilizing the workers as a class, Catholics and Protestants, are playing a reactionary role which is subservient to the Catholic hierarchy and the Unionists.

The 'International Socialism' group is playing such a role.

Having advocated maintaining the isolation of the Catholic workers in the North, they go

'They (the Catholic workers) should call on their supporters in the South to open a second the Green Tory front on regime in Dublin: to send them arms from the Southern arsenals to enable them eventually to demand the withdrawal of the British troops in the confidence that they themselves can stave off a pogrom.

Of course the workers of the South started a long time ago a real 'second front', in a series of strike struggles which posing insoluble problems for the Lynch regime.

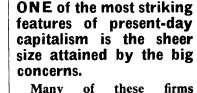
What is required in Northern Ireland is a class orientation in the trade unions and the Labour movement which will link up with this powerful development in the South and the struggles here in Britain.

All the talk about arms is adventurist rubbish at this stage.

The first and essential requirement in Ireland is political and theoretical preparation, above all to work for the independent political action of the working class, the only force which can bring the necessary socialist solutions to the problems left in Ireland by imperialism.

Basically, the struggle for Marxism against idealism in all its forms, from Catholicism and Protestantism to the middle-class adventurers who call themselves 'International Socialists' is the key to the building of the revolutionary party, section of the Fourth International, which is needed in Ireland.

The 'International Socialists' offer no policies to workers in Ireland. They say that the barricades should stay. This can now only isolate Protestant workers from their brothers in the Catholic areas.



Many of these firms operate on an international scale. Of these about 80 per cent are US based and owned.

However, other capitalist countries do have their giants and the business magazine 'Fortune' makes an annual review of the 200 largest non-American industrial firms.

From the latest results it appears that of these 47 were British, 45 were Japanese, 25 German and 20 French.

Royal Dutch Shell, the mammoth petroleum com-pany, leads the way with assets of 14,000 million dollars and a turnover of 9,000 million dollars.

EMPLOYMENT

Shell is not, however, the biggest in terms of employment. In Britain it is exceeded by the National Coal Board with 364,841 employees and by the Unilever combine with 312,000. The British Steel Corporation and British-Levland are high amongst the other British giants.

In fact, by employment standards, British - Leyland with 188,347 workers is larger than Fiat with 158,445, with Volkswagen over 145,000 and Renault with 122,000.

In terms of assets and output Volkswagen is now the largest motor firm outside the USA. The European giants have now outstripped the US Chrysler firm, weakest of the big three on the American

With British Petroleum and Imperial Chemical Industries among the world leaders in terms of size, and almost one quarter of the non-American giants under British control, it is clear that capitalism in Britain is more highly concentrated than that of other countries in Western Europe. The rapid rise of giant capitalist enterprise in Japan has also to be noted.

EXTEND

Bitter competition is now taking place between these giants who must extend their share of the world market if profitability is to be main-

While in relation to technique and organization the industrial giants bring the economy to the threshhold of socialization, the contradictions of the capitalist mode of production become more in-

The tendency for business operations to become worldwide indicates how the demands of modern production conflict with the limitations imposed by the national state.

At the same time there is the cut-throat drive for supplies of raw materials and markets and the struggle for the world market continues. The anarchic, unplanned conditions of capitalist production are thus revealed.

giant businesses are forced to drive against the working class by pushing ahead with automation and speed-up.

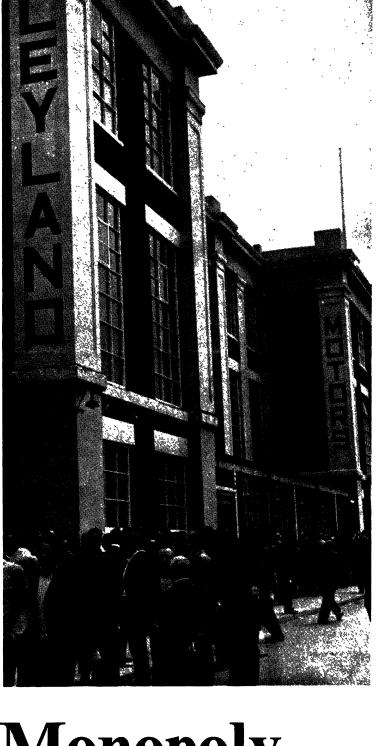
NO ACCIDENT

The synchronization of big strike movements throughout Europe is thus no accident. It is not the reflection of some imaginary international conspiracy.

The most important and hard fought strikes in the major capitalist countries are precisely in plants belonging to the firms which figure on 'Fortune's' list, together with those of their Americanowned rivals.

These big concentrations of capital are engaged all the time in a desperate struggle to cut unit costs, raise sales and vield profits in order to make possible further investment and attract bank and other outside capital.

This competitive anarchy of the market is heightened by the repercussions of the continuous inflation and the world monetary crisis. Interest rates throughout the



Monopoly capitalism and the working class

By Tom Kemp

capitalist world have soared to heights which would once have been considered fantas-

DEPENDENT

Only big profits can stand such payments to banks and financiers. There is also increasing pressure to finance the constant re-equipment and expansion made necessary by world competition from internal sources.

In a way, because of their size, the big monopolies can weather the high interest rates better than the smaller firms which are more directly dependent upon bank capital. In fact, the process of merger and take-over which is continuously taking place is speeded-up by the inflation and the penal interest rates which smaller firms cannot stand.

That only means, however, that the giants have to sweat it out of the working class all the more. Thus Measured Day-Work.

productivity deals and similar attempts to break down collective bargaining and get more work for less pay stem directly from the international crisis of capitalism.

The international monetary crisis, the struggle for a world markets, the inflation and high interest rates have a direct meaning on the factory It is a case of the needs of

capital coming more sharply than before into collision with standards built up by the workers during the boom.

OUT OF HAND

At the same time, in all

capitalist countries the costof-living has been rising at a rate of between three and five per cent each year on average. There is no sign of gains made in wage bargaining being stopped. In fact, all the indications are that the inflation is getting out of hand. A general lack of confi-

dence in the future purchasing power of national moneys contributes to this process. Nobody wants to hold money even with interest rates at their present level.

The weakest currencies are prey to every rumour and speculative move. Devaluation all along the line and international monetary collapse have become an actual possibility.

The questions which are posed to the working class, therefore, arise directly from the international crisis of capitalism. The working class also fights back as an international class, even though not vet consciously so.

It should be obvious, then, that there is no solution to these questions on national lines. Of course, each national group of employers tries to scare its 'own' working class with stories of the harder work, lower wages and trade union docility in other coun-

We have heard stories about the German, and to some extent the Japanese and Scandinavian workers, many times in recent years. Events are now showing that the conditions which these workers face are no different from those of workers in British

TEMPORARY

As the crisis deepens, it also becomes clearer that the employers are unable, because international competition conditions, to make the concessions which were possible in the past.

Even wage gains can have only a temporary significance in a period of inflation. Still more important, there

is no guarantee that wages will be forthcoming. Closures and redundancies are everyday occurences.

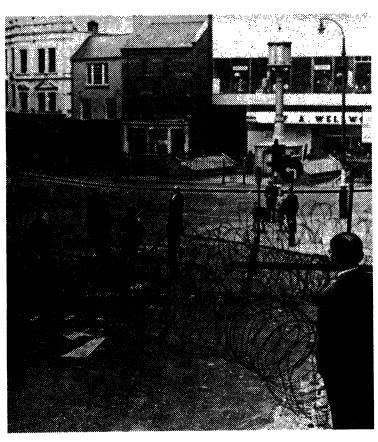
Capital must destroy jobs in order to survive. An understanding of these dominating economic trends in world capitalism is very

essential. Without seeing how the general issues are posed, in the context of international crisis, only the old-style mili-

tancy is possible. The development of capitalism itself has outdated this form of struggle just as much

as it has outdated reformism.

It is only by raising the political questions, that is to say, by indicating to the working class a path forward to power, that leadership can be offered which measures up to the needs of the class and the opportunities of the time.



Army barricades set up at the bottom of Waterloo Street, Derry, between the Catholic and Protestant areas.

In this specific case, the preparation of conspiracy proissues are very clear. The ceedings against the left-for middle-class leaders of the the coming attacks on both civil rights movement are for Protestant and Catholic British troops, because they want a few reforms under capitalist rule, and they fear the independent action of the

But Jordan says the slogan is purely 'educational', i.e. for

In reality it is a slogan which brings together the whole preparation necessary by the working class of both Ireland

Fraternally,

Tom Hillier

Not to fight on this slogan now in Britain is to leave the advanced workers under the domination of those who want to paralyse them while the employers prepare their ground for the end of the Labour government.

Jordan is contributing his own special talents — talents for twisting Marxist phrases to opportunist ends — to this bourgeois domination of the working class.

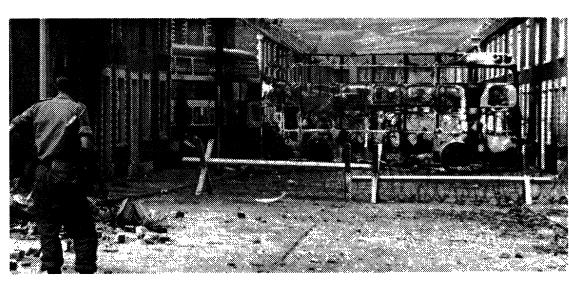
His talk about 'tactical emphasis' is his gift to the state capitalists to excuse their capitulation. Of course 'everybody', including the Stalinists, is in

favour of the 'withdrawal of

troops now' in general! But to say the emphasis given to the slogan at a particular time will vary is to deny the slogan: 'Withdraw the troops now'!

Jordan is for this slogan . . . but only for 'educational' purposes. For the slogan 'Withdraw the Troops now!'

but not now! This absurdity is not a mis-



CADEBY STRIKE

THE FOLLOWING appeal for support from other collieries in the Yorkshire coalfield has been issued by the Cadeby Main branch of the National Union of Mineworkers.

Already, six pits have followed Cadeby's lead and are on strike for higher market men's wages.

As the strike at our colliery enters its third week we appeal to you to support the strike at Cadeby Main colliery in order that the problem of wages being paid to our market men may be resolved once and for all; we would ask you to answer the following

What happened to our market Power - Loading agreement had been agreed upon in 1966—they were left high

and dry.

What is happening to our market men today?
What will happen to our market men if, and when the third day-wage structure is completed, will they still continue to suffer a loss in

wages? Is your job secure today? Will your job be secure tomorrow?

Examine your conscience today and think about tomorrow—Your Tomorrow. The things that are happening at Cadeby today can occur your pit tomorrow. Don't be complacent. Let us have your support.

Our market men are being paid 77s. for working away from the coal face when facework is available and our face-men are working under-

We ask you to support the Cadeby strike and take an insurance out against this probability. If you don't watch out, conciliation will crush you as

it is crushing Cadeby Main colliery. Please support us in our stand for the market men of Yorkshire.

SUPPORT THE S. Wales nickel men fight penal clauses

OFFICIALS of the Transport and General Workers' Union are likely to ask for government intervention if the 12-day-old strike at Clydach, South Wales, refinery of International Nickel is not settled soon.

which effectively does away

with the right to strike.

Drop

In return for a manage-

not lock out workers, the workers are asked to agree

that 'neither the union nor any employees should take part in, call, encourage, sup-

port or give any financial or

other assistance to any strike, work stoppage, go-

slow, overtime ban or boy-

Bretton

government to impose border

taxes on agricultural imports from the rest of the Common

Market will wipe out many of

outcome in Bonn and elsewhere, it is clear that the

decision to allow the mark-

a major currency—to 'float' is another step in the disin-

tegration of the monetary arrangements which were

hammered out at the end of

At the 1944 Bretton Woods

conference all the leading

capitalist economies agreed

to fix currency values in rela-

in turn pegged to gold.

tion to the dollar-which was

Whatever the immediate

these gains.

the last war.

800 workers walked out of the factory two weeks ago when the management began to operate the manning clauses of a proposed productivity deal before agreement on the deal had been reached.

By our industrial reporter

Another clause stipulates that if any employees take part in any such action, or if they fall below the work perform ance demanded by the company, they can be reduced to basic wage rates, with a sub-The deal contains a 'no stantial drop in earnings. strike-no lock-out' clause

This Draconian deal has already been accepted by the five craft unions in the works, including the Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundry workers.

An almost identical deal is in operation at the Henry Wiggin nickel alloy factory at Hereford and at one of the nickel company's Canadian factories.

The union leaders' proposal to call in the government must be resisted by the Clydach men. Mrs Castle has made abundantly clear that the government favours productivity deals—especially when they contain penal clauses.

Opposition

In fact, it appears that the union's opposition is not to the principle of the deal: are in fact negotiating with the management for an increased price—a 35 per cent wage rise instead of the present 19 per cent offer.

The T&GWU is proposing to return to work if conditions are restored to those existing before the strike. But this will not solve the question of penal clauses. International Nickel are

clearly determined to press their deal through to the end. They cannot be stopped, by fighting for a 'better' productivity deal, but by throwing out the deal completely. This is the only principled basis on which the strike can be fought to a successful

A whitewashing for the

education policies of the

Wilson government took

place at the start of the

Labour Party conference.

The pamhlet called 'Fight

for Education', published by

director of the Nottingham

University Institute of Educa-

tion, says that scholastic standards of all children are

rising and there are statis-

tics to show increase in the number of GCE passes at 'O' and 'A' level.

Covering up

tion system.

Densioners protest

ABOUT 100 banner-carrying this afternoon as they entered the Labour Party conference Hall in Brighton after the lunch adjournment.

One banner read 'Labour has life, Labour has soul—We need extra pensions to buy extra coal.

LABOUR

EDUCATION CUTS

SWEPT UNDER

1,600 strike on Mersey docks

By our industrial reporter

ABOUT 1,600 Merseyside dockers employed by Ocean Port Services are on strike in support of a deck hands' claim to get 50 per cent of all awards given to

Dirty, dusty cargoes are worked by the ships' hold men in the worst conditions but as the deck hands are part of the gang they get paid a percentage of what money is awarded to the hold men.

Recently, the percentage has been going down and the deck hands, supported by the hold men, have called a halt to this trend.

Momentum

The employers, stewards claim, are trying to reduce the money paid out in awards in order to try and get agreement on a £21 basic for the abolition of awards. Some men get £8 to £10 a week in awards which brings

ITALY

their money up to £25 to £27 a week

The fight on the docks over wages is gathering momentum and a meeting of all Merseyside shop stewards is to take place on Saturday to discuss

Dockers have not had a basic wage rise for two years. All Ocean Port Services men were called to a meeting on Wednesday by their shop

The meeting voted to remain on strike until they get satisfactory outcome their claim.

Cargo 'blacked' AT King's Dock, Liverpool, 120 dockers refused to dis-charge cargo from a ship the 'Manchester Port'.

Turbulent

year ahead

in schools

THE NEW school year in Italy promises to be

By a foreign correspondent

It had been diverted from Manchester because of the strike of tugmen there.

ioin strikes

NEW STRIKES broke out

on Wednesday throughout

This time it is the brick

makers, who joined building

and cement workers already

out on strike for a national

The whole of the building

industry is now at a standstill

following national stoppages

and lock-outs in the engineer-

Held up

two hours in Rome on Tues-

day while strikers marched

through the capital in support

There is now hardly a sec-

tion of the working class that

has not been brought into

action over the last few weeks

in the fight against low wages

Businessmen

can raise

£1 million

for Powell

THE consortium of Mid-

lands' businessmen who are backing Mr Enoch

Powell for the Tory lead-

ership claim to be able to raise a million pounds within the month, pro-vided Powell accepts their

The original offer came from

a group of businessmen headed by Mr Marcel Everton, who is reported

to have interests in road

haulage, shipping contain-erization and building com-

He has refused to name the

ployers in confessing their lack of confidence in the Heath leadership of the

of their wage claim.

and unemployment.

Traffic was held up for over

Italy.

labour contract.

ing industry.

UP GO **PROFITS**

1969 looks like being another bonanza year for shareholders, according to figures published this week.

Average dividends for the first half of this year were 5 per cent up on last year's record averagedespite the government's much-vaunted 3½ per cent ceiling for dividend rises.

Profits were up too: the half-year trading profits for 1,345 large companies show trading profit increases of 21.2 per cent (from £3,197 million to

£3,878 million). The lowest profits increase was in shipbuilding with a 5.7 per cent rise.

LARGEST

No other section of industry had a rise of less than 10 per cent.

Shipping and oil had the largest profits increases: 34.8 per cent and 32.7 per cent respectively.

Shipping shareholders — who have been in the forefront of the drive for containerization at the expense of the dockers and seamenraked in dividends 9.1 per cent up on their 1968 divi-

BIG profits have been announced by the Bovis building and contracting company. At £632,000 its half-yearly profits were almost double last year's first-half profit of Mr. Harry Vincent, the

firm's chairman, sees the prospects for 1970 as 'most encouraging'.

In addition to paying an interim dividend of 10 per cent, he expects a final dividend of 13½ per cent.

Ford prices up

FORD car prices are to rise by from £16 to £39, company announced

increased their prices earlier this month.

A Cortina 2000E will now cost £1,184 instead of £1,133, while the Escort two-door saloon will rise in price from £672 to £703.

Trades Unions Alliance conferences

at least as turbulent as the last. Figures just issued reveal a chronic scarcity of the most elementary educational facilities. Educational authorities state that the new term begins with a shortage of

200,000 new pupils will

School administrative work-

ers have already £nd a strike on Friday and Saturday

for higher pay, while thous-ands of teachers excluded from

the civil service system are

threatening similar action un

less they are awarded equal

status with the rest of the

Acute

The crisis is nowhere mor

acute than in Rome itself. 900 new classrooms are

needed, yet only 531 are un-

capital are planning to operate on a shift basis.

Now many schools in the

In some areas even this

Ferment

This deepening crisis in Italian education, which hits hardest against working class children, only adds to the

tremendous ferment inside the

working class and poor pea-

Like all the basic questions

hours, wages, working conditions, housing and unem-

ployment (which today stands

at around two million)—the crisis in Italian education can

only be met with socialist

policies, not with Stalinist

structural reforms'.

der construction.

parts of Rome.

sants generally.

only make this worse.

150,000 classrooms. conference Most of Italy's 8,300,000 school children are already taught in over - crowded classes and the intake of

Digbeth Birmingham

2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Write for credentials to:

R. Parsons,

Oxford. Conference fee: 5s. a person

SCOTLAND

All motor workers are invited to attend a meeting in Kingston Hall, Glasgow, C.5. Sunday October 5, 2.30 p.m.

will not cope and provisions are being made to take pupils to discuss by bus to schools in other 'The economic crisis and the

> 'Unemployment and the lessons of GEC-English Electric'

> > Sunday, October 19

7.30 p.m.

Central Committee Socialist Labour League

THE latest episode in the squatter saga is the plan by a group of hippies to buy a desert island off the Irish coast on which to establish their ideal state.

other group members, but did say that a millionaire and company executives were included. The businessmen behind the fund proposal probably speak for many other em-

little grows there.

The present owner, Mr Herbert Marriott is reported to have made more than £100,000 by selling pieces of

The money to buy the island has so far been put up by one Swami Vishnudevananda, who is described as an 'extremely successful Swami from North America . . . with

meditation centre on the The Swami's spiritual meditation might well be guiding him along the same astral plane as that of the organizers

of the recent highly lucrative Bob Dylan Isle of Wight hap-

Mr Coates and the 'Morning Star'

'TRIBUNE' September 26 reports that: 'The organization sub-committee of the Labour Party National Executive Committee has decided unanimously that Ken Coates should be readmitted to the Labour

'A recommendation of that nature is to come before the full NEC meeting in Brighton this Friday. I believe it will go through "on the nod"."

Mr Coates has had an interesting career. In 1956 he indignantly resigned from the Communist Party following the 20th Congress revelations

His socialist conscience was apparently shocked by Stalin's

was one of the instigators of the revisionist theory that the Soviet bureaucracy would in

time liberalize itself. Some tire ago he founded his Institute for Workers' Control and immediately re-

ceived full support from the Communist Farty.
Leading Stalinist Bert Ramelson led the discussion

Star' September 30 under the nice things were said about 'Star' reporter Jim

to meet again today.

works.

The men are striking for

recognition of the union at

three Scunthorpe steel-

The strike has been weak-

ened by the intervention of TUC which demanded that

members in the Clayton De-

wandre (Lincoln) brake fac-

tory return to normal work-

The Clayton Dewandre

workers had been blacking

BSC steel in support of the

Condition

The lifting of the ban at

Clayton Dewandre was the

TUC's condition for trying to arrange a meeting between

the two main unions in-

volved in the fight for recog-

nition at Scunthorpe: the

CAWU and the Iron and

But this may not be possible

until Mr Dai Davies, ISTC

general secretary, returns from

The Scunthorpe CAWU strikers must fight for an al-

ternative leadership to that

given by the TUC which has

already shown, in its actions

at Port Talbot and elsewhere,

that it will not mobilize the

working class to fight the employers, but intervenes

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directly on their behalf.

abroad in a week's time.

Trades Federation

Scunthorpe men.

Steel (ISTC).

By our Political Correspondent

'We should like to express our appreciation of the sensitive and sympathetic reports which you have published, Jim Arnison, on the

GEC Liverpool struggle.
'On this question, the "Morning Star" has fulfilled a most valuable role, along with "Tribune", in presenting an accurate and clearly assessed picture of the development of the situation in the three factories, and the activities and policies of the Action Committee.

'All the evidence which has reached us at the Institute for Workers' Control confirms the value of Jim Arnison's work in reporting this exteremely important and formative experience of new forms of working-c'ass action. Congratulations to him!' So everyone has received a

BACK

Mr Coates is back in the Labour Party and the 'Morning Star' is congratulated for its reporting of the GEC dis-

none other than Coates' Institute, which only goes to show what you can do if you are not particular about prin-

Communist Party policy is r 'peaceful co-existence' with the employers, which is why it will never lead a real campaign for workers' control

in a million years. Whoever heard of workers taking control and maintaining 'peace' with the employers

and the government?

ALLIANCE

The centrist Coates likes ta!king 'left' about 'workers' control' bit believes it can all be achieved 'peacefully' in alliance presumably with the Communist Party and from within the Labour Party ranks. Hence the reason for this 'real'y broad' unity of fake

'left' talkers. As a slogan, 'workers' control' makes them feel really provided it remains a 'slogan' The moment the working

the strategy for taking power, then our 'left' talkers will

soon vanish from the scene.

class, led by a revolutionary leadership, begins to fight for 'workers' control' as part of **Fluctuations**

Fluctuations around these fixed (or par) values were rigidly and narrowly defined. Such arrangements were possible after 1945 because of the capitalist system's general expansion rate.

Any financial disturbances -like the 1949 sterling devaluation-could be assimilated with relative ease. The uncertainty now surrounding the mark comes at a quite different period.

Since 1964 there has been a growing crisis in the capitalist economy and its monetary system.

Failed Over this period world trade has failed to expand at a rate sufficient to guarantee stability in any of the big

metropolitan countries. This crisis reached a new stage with the November 1967 sterling devaluation which by March 1968 had triggered off a severe dollar crisis requiring the scrapping of the Bretton Woods gold price

agreements.
From that date onwards two gold markets -- 'official' and 'private'—have existed.
The measures which the US took to preserve the dollar, together with a new upsurge of the European class struggle, have since forced a French franc devaluation.

All the proposals currently under discussion at the International Monetary Fund and elswhere—for freely floating exchange rates, for a wider range in which currencies can fluctuate and so on—in some degree mean an overthrow of the monetary system which has served capitalism over the

In other words, capitalism

is moving towards a return to

A pamphlet that begins by covering up Wilson's attacks on education cannot possibly be an answer to the 'Black Paper'. For the Labour government, by scrapping class size limits, holding back teachers' pay and pruning grants to local authorities is opening the door for pre-cisely the Tory 'Black Paper' Nor will Mr. Short's proposed education bill to make

comprehensive schools on compre fool anyone. It is sheer deception to pass such a bill which cannot be implemented.

local authorities toe the line

CARPET

The government's monethe Advisory Centre for Education is supposed to be tary policies make it impos-'an answer to the Black
Paper' of the ultra right
Tory educationists.
No other country, says the sible for local authorities to carry through the necessary building programme. pamphlet, has a finer educain power Mr John Daniels, acting

And in any case Labour's

olicies have ensured that anti-comprehensive Tories are in power at the local level all over the country. It was Mr. Short himself at the Isle of Man National Union of Teachers conference who sought to use the 'Black Paper' as a diversion from the government's own policies of education cuts.

No doubt a similar tactic will be used by the platform when Miss Alice Bacon opens the education debate on

But this tactic cannot evade the growing anger of the teachers against low sal-aries and the Prices and Incomes Board nor the struggle the Coventry teachers against mass sackings of part-

Sheffield engineers vote for nationalization

factory of Davy and United Engineering voted at a mass meeting to campaign for the nationalization of the firm in the event of a merger or

takeover. This decision, announced by the shop stewards last week, followed speculation about the future of the facwhich is part of the Davy-Ashmore group.

Fears of a merger with similar consequences to the merger of GEC - AEI - EE when, as the stewards' state-ment says, 'thousands of workers were made redundant under the guise of rationalization', caused the shop stewards' committee to recom-

combine—of £12,000,000 on a single contract for Conoco (Continental Oil Company) on Humberside, the manage ment began merger discussions with Simon Engineering of Stocksbridge.

merger discussions have been discontinued, but the real decision will only be known when the contract for Conoco is delivered in November. Meanwhile the shop ste-

Already several other sections of the Davy-Ashmore group have been hit by sures. Brightside Engineer-

ing in Sheffield, as well as plants in Bournemouth and Glasgow, have sacked men. It is clear that the present Davy and United crisis is part of a whole rationalization programme.

Members of the Sheffield All Trades Unions Alliance support the workers' call for nationalization of the firm in the event of a merger. They point out that the ex-

pool and earlier at AEI in Woolwich show that the Labour government supports the moves to merger and even puts up the money to make sure the merger goes through.

the Tory party.

They evidently feel that only a right-wing Tory govern-This means, they say, that ment under Powell's leader-ship is capable of taking on the struggle for nationalization will require a political fight against the policies of the working class in this present government.

on Wednesday. The increases bring Ford cars into line with British-Leyland and Vauxhall, who

Prices increases are expected shortly from the BMW

Motor workers' conference All car, car components and

delivery workers are invited motor workers'

Digbeth Civic Hall,

Saturday November 8

21 Strawberry Path, Blackbird Leys,

All Trades Unions Alliance

motor industry. Which way the unions?'

LIVERPOOL

Museum Lecture Hall William Brown Street Speaker: C. Slaughter

Hippies' mystic isle

A trust of five 'underground' figures has been formed to buy the remote and dismal St Patrick's Island for

The island is uninhabited, has no fresh water and very

But the hippy leader Mr Sidney Rawle is undaunted. It's beautiful. I think we will have to buy it,' he said on landing on the island.

There is, not surprisingly, hard cash behind the creation of Paradise or Commune

Island, as the island is to be

the ruined monastery on the island at five dollars a time to devout Irish-Americans.

plans to set up a spiritual

INSTITUTE

For a time he was a member of the Socialist Labour League, then he left, entered the Labour Farty and joined forces with the Belgian ex-Trotskyist Ernest Mandel who

at the Institute's conference in Sheffield earlier this year. LETTER Relations appear to be get-

In a letter to the 'Morning Tony Topham the following

C.A.W.U. strikers

meet today

THE 400 members of the Clerical and Administrative

Workers' Union (CAWU) on official strike at the British

Steel Corporation's (BSC) Scunthorpe steelworks are

prize.

pute and the role played by

DEATHS IN

SOAR DEATHS from industrial accidents rose to 625 last vear-61 more than the 1967 total. In Wednesday's

INDUSTRY

annual report of the Chief Inspector of Factories a total of 238 fatal accidents in the construction industry—half resulting from falls—is cited as the main reason for the Altogether in 1968 there

> J. C. Plumbe, says that in-spectors have been conducting an inquiry based on a random sample of 5 per cent of reported accidents. The results of the survey showed that as many as half of all industrial accidents resulted from 'poor industrial housekeeping' and could have

were 312,430 reported acci-

dents, an increase of 2.8 per

The Chief Inspector, Mr W.

cent on 1967.

One factor not reported, but which undoubtedly plays a part in the increase, is the pace with which speed-up is being pushed in factories and

I.T.A. chiefs

meet

walk-out

executives

been prevented by more strin-

day strike

Tubemen

call one-

A one-day unofficial strike has been called for today by members of the Morden branch of the Associated Society of Locomotive En-

Spread The strike will affect the Northern underground line and could spread from Morden to other depots further

up the line. The men are not satisfied

Industrial Reporter

gineers and Firemen.

with the reply from London Transport that: 'The only staff authorized to drive a train in passenger

service are motormen al-though guards are qualified to

move a train in an emergency.'

A spokesman for the men said the strike was over the use of guards, unqualified as motormen, to drive trains be-tween Camden and Kenning-

A week ago Lord Aylestone saw London Weekend chiefs Mr Aidan Crawley, chairman, Lord Campbell, his deputy, and Dr Tom Margerison, the

By an industrial correspondent

TOP executives of London Weekend Television, who resigned after the sacking of managing director Mr Michael Peacock, met Lord Aylestone, chairman of the Independent Television Authority, in London on Wednesday.

new chief executive. Mr Frank Muir, one of the six executives to resign, said when he arrived for the meeting today that there would be

no statement afterwards 'un-

mend this action. Following a reported loss by the Power Gas Corpora-tion—another section of the By Jean Kerrigan

It is understood that the

wards are committed to campaign for nationalization in the event of any takeover.

periences at GEC-EE Liver-