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DAILY ORGAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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By Jack Gale

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TORIES



THEIR FAVOURITE POSE: Hugh Scanlon, Jack Jones, Harry Urwin (T&GWU) and Terry Parry (firemen's union) outside No. 10, of course.



Victor Feather (right) with Tory Chancellor Anthony Barber on a more public occasion after talks on state pay laws.

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'It is clear from the debate that the General Council sees this motion as a mandate to continue and intensify its secret talks with the Tories.'

Who was right?

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We reported his assertion that the TUC would enter talks 'without preconditions'. The talks, he said, were conducted on the trade union side by 'people who have got a great deal of experience in the negotiating field and such people don't make anything a precondition.'

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There was, he said, 'no machinery' for state control of wages.

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'This is an extremely dangerous move that disguises trade union co-operation with state pay control.'

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£100,000 PARTY BUILDING FUND

ANOTHER good post from Socialist Labour League branches:

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Willesden	8.20
Croydon	50
Leeds	36
Battersea	5
Glasgow North	31
Tooting	10
Lewisham	1.43
East	1.50
Holloway	1
Paddington	2
Sheffield	10
OTOs	5
Southampton	12
Glasgow	25

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186a Clapham High Street
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NUR chief Sir Sidney Greene leaving No 10. He welcomed talks at the premier's residence in his speeches as TUC chairman last September.

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workers press

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Dangerous sabre-rattling diversion by Nixon

PRESIDENT Nixon yesterday tried to divert attention from the Watergate scandal by issuing a bellicose warning that the United States would go to war again if North Vietnam did not change its course.

In a wide-ranging foreign policy report to Congress the President declared that Hanoi was committing 'ominous' violations of the Vietnam ceasefire and said the US would not stand idly by while North Vietnam sent thousands of troops and hundreds of tanks to the south.

In the most direct threat issued in public by the United States since the Paris agreement was signed at the end of January, Nixon said that it was not clear whether the North Vietnamese build-up was a prelude to another offensive, 'but what is clear is that it must cease'.

The President also said he would continue the bombing of Cambodia

which has been the most intensive ever known in Indo-China. Other military aid would also be given to the dictator Lon Nol. But Nixon said he would not send US ground troops into Cambodia.

His foreign policy speech ranged over other aspects of the world situation, including the Middle East, Africa and Europe. But the sabre-rattling against North Vietnam was clearly intended as a desperate attempt to divert attention from the catastrophic scandal engulfing him at home.

Nixon has his back to the wall over the Watergate affair. In his Monday television speech he stressed his intention to devote his time to foreign affairs. Is he now planning a new military adventure in Indo-China in the hope that this will dispel the reek of corruption around the White House?

Sympathy speeches

will not save the President

DEMOCRATIC presidential candidate Senator George McGovern has rallied to Nixon's support as new disclosures in the Watergate scandal shake the foundations of the American political system.

He told a meeting of newspaper editors: 'There is no direct evidence to implicate Mr Nixon in the planning of political espionage or the subsequent obstruction of justice. Like all of you, I hope he was not involved. He denies that he was—and I, for one, must believe him.'

One of the facts which has now come to light is that Republican agents in the Democratic campaign did what they could to obstruct McGovern's opponents in the bid for the nomination because he was seen as the candidate least likely to defeat Nixon.

By TOM KEMP



McGovern

individuals' who were not criminals but did 'something that was stupid and foolish'.

These attempts to save Nixon come too late to stop the crisis which is engulfing the American ruling class.

Practically the entire Press is

sceptical about Nixon's ignorance of the Watergate bugging plot.

Some commentators are linking his domestic political methods with the sensational August 15, 1971, speech when the US suddenly defaulted on its obligation to sell gold at \$35 an ounce.

C. Gordon Tether in the 'Financial Times' sees it as 'only another "character flaw" in the Nixon Administration that had begun to find expression—or so many US Treasury watchers maintain—in its approach to international financial affairs much earlier'.

Nixon has been trying to take the heat off himself by a series of forced resignations and dismissals which has stripped the White House of its inner staff.

TEN MEMBERS of the 'palace guard' of the President's trustees are now under indictment by the Grand Jury investigation.

TWO top figures, 'Bob' Halde- man, White House chief of staff, and John Ehrlichman, the Pre-

WHAT WE THINK

WORKHOUSE BUTTER

THE EXPECTED Tory announcement that cut-price butter is to be sold to people on Social Security has a sinister aspect. Of course this aspect has not been and will not be dealt with amid all the ballyhoo in the capitalist mass media about 'cheap butter for the needy'.

It is that here the Tories are trying to create yet another sub-class of people who depend on hand-outs from the state, and against whom the threat of withdrawal of those hand-outs can be used to whip them into the service of that state.

Already more than 2.25 million men, women and children are totally dependent on supplementary benefits from the Department of Health and Social Security, according to the latest DHSS figures.

Close on 80,000 families have to draw family income supplement each week in order to maintain themselves even slightly above the poverty line.

Like Britain's 8 million old-age pensioners, these people are forced by capitalism to struggle along at the mercy of the state just as much as the agricultural labourers who were pauperized under the

Speenhamland system which came in at the end of the 18th century.

Under Speenhamland, wages were driven down and down until hundreds of thousands of farmworkers were tied irrevocably to a miserable dependence on the parish subsidy.

Those who tried to break out of the vicious circle were, literally this time, whipped into the workhouses as 'sturdy beggars'. Today, as the capitalist class all over the world seeks to prop up its crisis-ridden system by cutting workers' living standards, the spectre of Speenhamland and the workhouse is raised again.

But it is typical of the British ruling class, whose 300-year rule makes it the most parasitic and vicious, that it tries to turn the clock back as cheaply as possible. In fact the cut-price butter plan has absolutely nothing to do with helping the 'needy'.

It is an entirely cynical move by the anti-working class imperialist conspirators who run the Common Market to keep up butter prices under conditions where a huge surplus of the product threatens to

send them plummeting. The Council of Ministers in fact took this decision in March—it is a strictly temporary arrangement lasting only so long as the present surplus.

In a bid to 'stabilize' prices, the Council decided, member-states could if they wished dispose of fresh butter at about 8p a pound cheaper than shop prices to those on Social Security.

This arrangement was separate from, and in addition to, the 'intervention' system under which the Intervention Board, headed by Tory Sir Con O'Neil, can take surplus stocks out of circulation in order to keep prices up.

Fleet Street will try desperately to portray the Tories as benevolent friends of the poor dispensing alms to those unfortunates who have fallen by the wayside in 'booming' Britain.

In fact this government of strikebreakers and price-hikers is once again ruthlessly pursuing its class-war strategy on two fronts; while maintaining the conditions for continued robbery from workers' wage-packets it is hoping to reduce yet more families to the state of second-class citizens.

One of the leaders of the bugging gang, Gordon Liddy, received large sums for the operation out of Republican campaign funds.

With shady operations like Watergate going on it is not surprising that the Nixon campaign cost \$10m more than it reported. Watergate was financed by a fund controlled by former Commerce Secretary Maurice Stans and the pay-offs made in \$100 bills.

This secret fund included \$200,000 from financier and alleged swindler, Robert Vesco, who took over Investors Overseas Services from Bernie Cornfeld in 1971. At the time Vesco was being investigated by the Securities and Exchange Commission. A Grand Jury is now investigating his activities.

Stans is reported to have told Vesco that he would get help from the administration in return for the money, which was handed over in notes.

The deal was known to Nixon's brother Edward, and his nephew, Donald Nixon, worked for one of Vesco's companies.

With the investigations into the Watergate affair still in its early stages it is clear that it was only one of the shady deals with which White House operators were concerned.

ident's adviser on domestic affairs, have resigned under pressure. These men are believed to have co-ordinated the Watergate cover-up together with former Attorney-General John Mitchell.

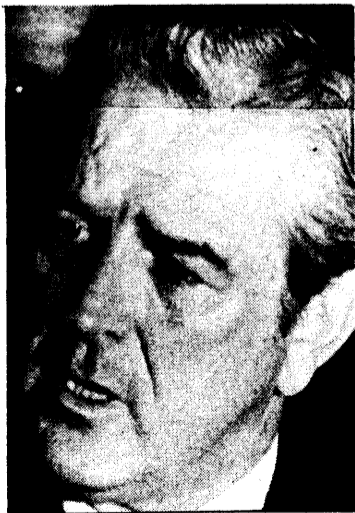
THEY worked together with Nixon's counsel John Dean, now sacked, to hush up the bugging when it came to light. These included payments to the seven arrested men, promises of executive clemency and a series of official denials.

ALSO indicted are former White House aides Jeb Magruder and Frederick LaRue.

AT LEAST four other men are under investigation, including the President's former appointments secretary Dwight Chapman.

NIXON'S personal lawyer, Herbert Kalmbach is also implicated.

Kalmbach, who was chief campaign fund-raiser during the presidential election, made a special effort to raise cash for the Watergate defendants.



Connally

In another effort to stop the rot, while pushing his own claim to be seen as a future President, former Texas governor John B. Connally has joined the Republican Party.

Support for Nixon has also come from the extreme right-wing Governor of California, Ronald Reagan. He has called the men who burgled the campaign headquarters of the Democratic Party 'well-meaning

The drive to nuclear war

THE 1973 SERIES of French nuclear tests is due to open shortly on the South Pacific island of Mururoa in the Tuamotu archipelago, 4,000 miles from New Zealand.

No date has been given for the start of testing, but in past years tests have begun in late May or early June.

The New Zealand deputy prime minister recently visited Paris to protest against the projected test series. But he was told categorically that the French government would not agree to fix a date for ending all Pacific tests.

A New Zealand government spokesman said yesterday that as a last resort the government might send a frigate to the danger area to try and stop the tests.

Australian trade unions have reaffirmed their intention of boycotting French goods if the tests go ahead. The dockers will refuse to load or unload French

ships, postal workers will boycott mail to and from France and shopworkers will not handle French products.

The French government claims an absolute right to do what it likes with its South Pacific colonies. But both New Zealand and Australia are planning to take France to the International Court of Justice in the Hague.

This is unlikely to impress the Pompidou regime which has repeatedly flouted international protests to carry out the testing of nuclear weapons in the atmosphere. Levels of radio-active fallout in all the Pacific countries have risen noticeably since the French began their tests in 1965.

Nobel prizewinning professor Linus Pauling has said in Australia that he will testify against France at the Hague.

He has calculated that for every 20 megatons of nuclear explosive detonated in the atmosphere, 500,000 children will suffer physical and mental damage and cancer will be caused to

another 500,000 of the world's population.

Australia's National Radiation Advisory Council has calculated that past French tests have already caused one case of thyroid cancer a year and one to four other cases of cancer a year in Australia.

There could be one mutation in every three and a half years leading to death and disability in the first generation, with 100-200 deaths in subsequent generations, the Council calculates.

The French tests are very much part of the drive towards war by all the imperialist powers. Militarism is being fostered and encouraged throughout the capitalist world as the economic crisis worsens and the class war intensifies.

Pompidou's arrogance over the nuclear tests is in the putrid French capitalist tradition of imperialist grandeur and colonial exploitation.

Pompidou is continuing de Gaulle's policy of 'tous azimuts',



Pompidou

preparing to meet all comers with nuclear weapons if they infringe French sovereignty.

De Gaulle refused to sign the 1963 Test Ban Treaty, which outlawed atmospheric nuclear testing. He denounced the treaty as an attempt by the major nuclear powers to maintain their monopoly.

The latest series of tests are believed to involve the perfecting of an A-bomb 'trigger' for the French hydrogen bomb.

The strike that could halt the car industry

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT
IN DARLASTON, STAFFORDSHIRE

RUBERY OWEN workers, resisting the imposition of a Measured-Day Work scheme, meet today as their strike at Darlaston, Staffs, continues through its stormy fifth week.

The firm has totally closed its Seven Acre and Kings Hill factories, laying off some 500 non-strikers and apprentices.

The mass meeting of strikers held on May Day put the strike firmly back on again after weekend Press reports had forecast that it was all over.

Talks on a peace formula worked out by national union officials Moss Evans (T&GWU) and Bob Wright (AUEW) in Birmingham last Friday broke down.

Local union officials walked out of a meeting on Monday because they claimed the company had changed its mind over the proposed terms for a return to work.

NO HOPE Can't negotiate

Fred Griffiths, AUEW Wolverhampton district secretary, says there is 'no hope' of an immediate return to work. No future meetings are laid on with the company.

Griffiths told the strikers: 'You cannot negotiate a settlement with a company that is continually changing its mind.'

Mr Fred Straw, Rubery Owen's production services director, told the 'Wolverhampton Express and Star':

'We agreed in principle last week to a union proposition. But when we came to identify details it would have put us beyond the government's limit of £1 plus 4 per cent.'

Mr John Owen, managing director, told the same paper: 'We do not know what other moves can be made—major principles are at stake.'

DIG-IN Drawn-out fight

Many workers are wondering whether these lay-offs and the decision to shut up shop signify that Rubery Owen has decided to dig in for a long drawn-out fight.

Mr Straw's comments about the Tory pay norm and Owen's talk of 'principles' certainly point that way.

One of Rubery's welders expressed the feeling of many workers when he told Workers Press that everybody was in high hopes over the weekend that the dispute was going to end.

'But we are now prepared to stop out until we get a fruitful agreement. I have no intention of going back on Owen's terms.'

FEARS Not happy

Another Rubery Owen worker, who works on components for the Land Rover, told of his fears about the official trade union leadership.

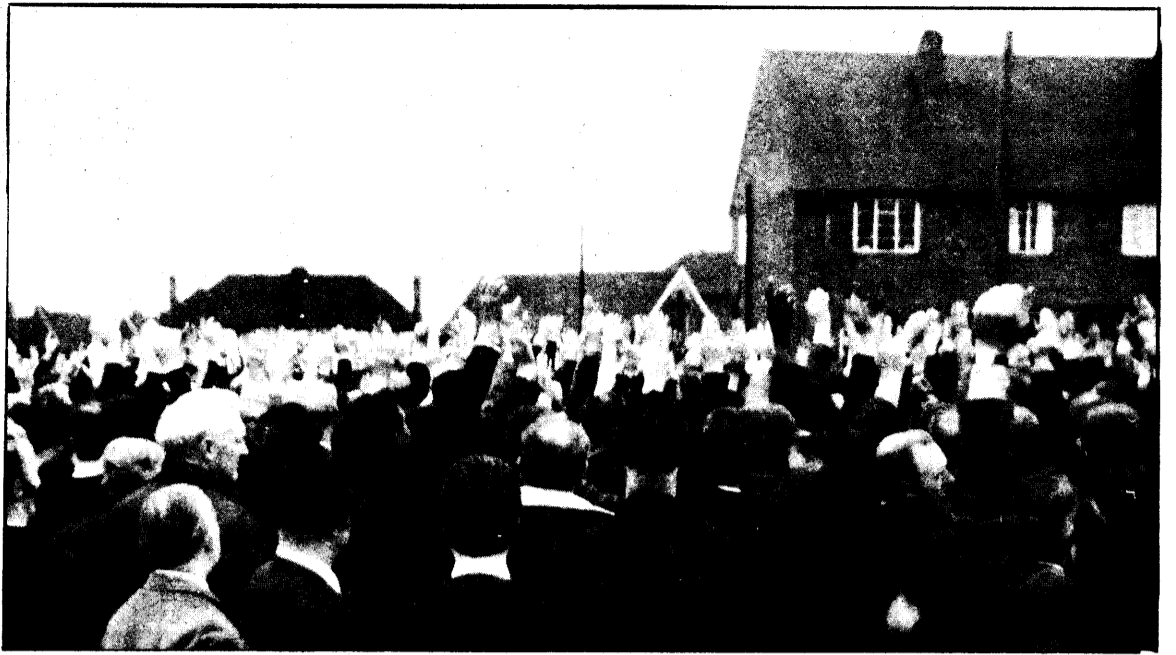
He said: 'I was not very happy about them moving off the principle of our opposition to the high base rate [MDW]. They were only authorized to negotiate on the £1 plus 4 per cent claim, not to commit us to the principle of high base rate.'

The position in Darlaston

NEWS DESK

01-720 2000

Right: A strike vote as Rubery Owen workers continue their fight against company moves to introduce Measured-Day Work methods into the Darlaston Works.



Rubery Owen strikers in fifth stormy week

Fred Griffiths, divisional organizer of the engineering union, speaking to a strike meeting last week.

Sparks' move back- fires

THE 120 electricians at Rubery Owen, who claim they were 'loyal' to the company by working during the production workers' strike, feel that they have been let down and are threatening to strike themselves when the present dispute is over.

They claim they were verbally promised a £4-a-week rise and therefore worked for the first four weeks of the production workers' strike until they were indefinitely laid off on Tuesday.

But under the terms of the agreement which the management reached with national union officials last weekend—and subsequently cancelled—their increase was to be reduced to £2.50.

Gerry Piddock, EPTU shop steward, told the Press:

'The electricians fear the company might be backpedalling on a verbal undertaking that they would be eligible for a £4 a week pay rise.'

'Now it seems that EPTU members who have been loyal and continued to work until as recently as last Monday are being asked to give up £1.50 a week each to subsidize shop-floor workers in other unions.'

now looks like being a lengthy struggle.

Many workers express the view that Rubery Owen's financial troubles go a lot deeper than is being brought out at the moment.

Many workers feel that this is what lies behind the company's determination to change relationships in its factories.



Raleigh stoppages over May Day scabs

MOVES WERE made yesterday to escalate the industrial action at Raleigh Industries' Nottingham plant over a handful who worked on May Day when the rest of the 6,000 workers came out on strike against the Tory pay laws.

The 70 members of the metal mechanics union who walked out over three scabs in their service department are still on strike. The plant's joint shop stewards met yesterday to consider what to do about a few scabs in other departments and whether to black any production they handle.

The CKD department has already blacked the scabs' work and there are plans to stop production completely over one scab in their own department. If the blacking and stoppages spread, the whole plant could grind to a halt.

Stewards at their meeting considered giving an ultimatum to suspend the scabs or face united strike action.

Jack Hallam, local metal mechanics' official, said: 'I warned the management before May Day they would be better off closing the factory completely or they could have a lot more trouble than the one-day stoppage could cause them.'

'They ignored this advice and instead put up a provocative notice condemning the May Day strike and encouraging people to come to work.'

'We will support any of our members who refuse to work with scabs. Other main unions involved, the AUEW, T&GWU and G&MWU, are likely to take the same line.'

Two May by-elections

WRITS for by-elections in West Bromwich, Staffs, and West Houghton, Lancs, will be issued in the Commons today. This means that important polls on May 24 will be staged during a month when local government elections are taking place.

The total result will give a fairly accurate guide to government popularity.

Labour held both the Commons

seats. Mr Maurice Foley, who was MP for West Bromwich is now a Common Market official. The vacancy at Manchester Exchange arose through the death of Mr Tom Price.

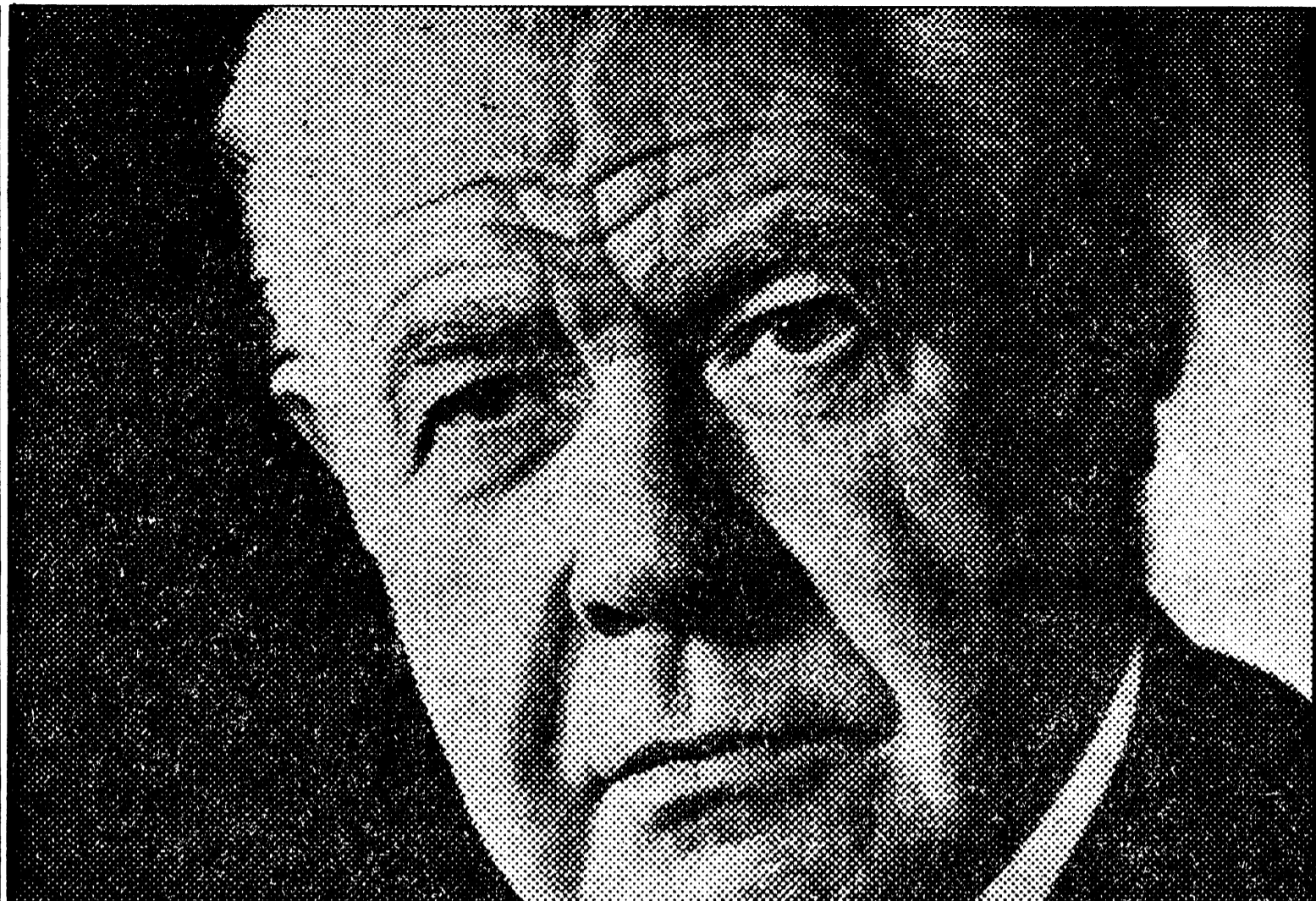
Outstanding is a by-election at Manchester Exchange caused by the recent death of Mr Will Griffiths.

General election figures: West Bromwich M. Foley (Lab) 23,412; G. Hawkins (C) 18,976. Labour majority 4,436. West Houghton T. Price (Lab) 29,674, Dr C. A. Unsworth (C) 23,847. Labour majority 5,827.

Shotton's new steel record

SHOTTON steelworks — threatened with closure before 1980—smashed production records last month, with more iron and steel being made there than in any previous four-week month.

A total of 94,574 tonnes of iron was produced to beat a six-year-old record by more than 5,000 tonnes, while the total of 135,507 tonnes of ingot steel surpassed the previous best, in January, 1965, by 555 tonnes.



Left: Lord Robbins, deeply alarmed by current inflationary trends, claims that a yearly price rise of 2 per cent may be necessary.

FOREBODINGS FROM 'FINANCIAL TIMES' CHAIRMAN

When Professor Lionel Robbins, late of the London School of Economics, is worried about capitalism, it must be in a parlous state.

The 74-year-old chairman of the 'Financial Times' took up half a pink page of that organ of finance capital to express his forebodings on April 24.

Robbins is an unrepentant defender of the free market and the rights of private property, including its right to exploit wage labour. Admitting that there has to be some state intervention to prevent

the forces of the market from tearing society apart, he nonetheless views with some concern the recent tendencies in that direction.

Even more, he is deeply alarmed by the current inflationary trends. As he says, the logic of the system, i.e. capitalism, 'involves more or less stable money. Acute deflation or inflation play havoc with its fundamental assumptions'.

He claims, however, that it is the responsibility of the state to ensure the stability of the value of money. Accepting that a yearly price rise of 2 per cent may be necessary, he says: 'When the increase

threatens to reach two figures, as it has done recently under the present government, then all sorts of obvious damages to production and distribution become evident.'

Strangely enough, he is unable to explain why there has been accelerating inflation, not only in this country but in all capitalist countries. He does not consider it at all as an international phenomenon of the capitalist crisis.

In any case Robbins is caught in a contradiction. If the free operation of market forces is the best way of organizing production, why do they not ensure that money will

keep its value?

Showing that government intervention to control prices income carries dangers and can become self-defeating, he nevertheless calls for government controls. And he balks when it comes to control of profits, providing a forthright defence of the capitalist to make as much profit as he can on the basis of 'an incentive to enterprise involving unusual risk', and so on.

But if an attempt to control profits would blight the very force upon which the capitalist system is based, how, he asks, can there be control of incomes.

After expressing a series of doubts which many bourgeois economists would no doubt regard today as old-fashioned, he nevertheless comes down on the side of direct control of prices and incomes as an emergency measure.

He does so because he recognizes that to control inflation, either through the budget or through credit restriction, 'is to run the risk of bringing about a really-damaging depression'.

So, for all his doubts, he falls in behind Tory government policy, which he hopes will be approved, as indeed it is, by 'non-revolutionary trade union leaders'.

But he realizes that unless this policy is regarded simply as 'a breathing space', more and more controls will be required to keep capitalism functioning and to prevent still further inflation.

Evidently addressing himself to the government, and speaking with some authority backed up in the City of London, he says:

'The belief that reasonable stability of the value of money can be re-established without proper constraints on the rate of increase of the credit base and public spending is wishful thinking; and whosoever tells Conservative Ministers that they can neglect these fundamental influences without eventually imperilling the whole free economy does grave disservice not only to those immediately advised, but also to the future of the country as a whole'.

Robbins's intervention is an indication of the depth of the crisis and the anxiety it is generating among the defenders of capitalism, particularly the capitalism of the classic style.

It is a far cry from the confidence in the system which Robbins and his like used to display and expresses the final bankruptcy of the kind of economic thinking which they represent.

MAKING MONEY FROM THE GOVERNMENT

The Tory government has once again been talking about tightening up on so-called 'scroungers', alleged to be 'fiddling' money they are not entitled to from the Social Security (SS).

Among other things, this means encouraging the SS investigators—that bunch of dedicated ex-coppers and the like who spend their time doggedly spying on women for evidence of 'co-habitation' or asking neighbours—and in some cases children—questions about who the woman sleeps with.

This heroic task of persecuting the weak and unprotected is, of course, vital to the national economy.

Furthermore, if anyone should churlishly suggest that the elaborate government spy machine probably costs more than all the so-called 'scroungers' put together, he should be told at once that that is not the point; it is a matter of principle—Tory principle!

Of course, some people may be reflecting that there are, in fact, easier ways of making far larger sums than can be got from the Social Security people.

In this connection, two names that probably spring readily to mind are: Ferranti and Bristol-Siddeley.

It was early in 1964 that

rumours began to circulate that Ferranti's contract for the Bloodhound missile had enabled the company to make what, even according to capitalist standards, was considered 'excess profits'.

Sir Basil Ferranti, one of the directors, had been parliamentary secretary to the Ministry of Aviation from July 1962 until October, when he resigned. He was Tory MP for Morecambe and Lonsdale.

Ferranti's admitted, eventually, to having made more than the government bargained for, and offered to knock £1m off the price of future work. They added, mind you, that under no circumstances would they pay back cash, nor would they agree to an inspection of their accounts.

The government announced that there would be an inquiry, whereupon Ferranti's announced that they would open their books, after a while.

According to the government, Ferranti Ltd appeared to have made 113 per cent profit on its capital; 63 per cent on cost; and 40 per cent on turnover. 'By any standards excessive and unjustified', said Minister Mr Julian Amery.

A few months later, the committee of inquiry into the affair revealed that these figures were an underestimate. The true profits had been 45 per cent on turnover, 82 per cent on costs, and a really vast sum on capital.

The report said that Ferranti had 'submitted quotations and agreed prices which they knew were very likely to yield profits that the Ministry would not regard as fair and reasonable, profits which can only be described as excessive'.

It said that the company had submitted prices 'which they knew were much too



Sir Basil Ferranti—made 'excessive and unjustified' profits.

high' and had 'misled the Ministry'.

There was talk after the Ferranti affair of changing the costing methods in the Ministry; but three years later came the Bristol-Siddeley aero-engines case on similar lines.

As for Basil de Ferranti? He is now director of Interna-

tional Computers as well as Ferranti Ltd.

And the former Morecambe MP with the lightning Ministerial career is once again holding public office—he is one of 16 British members of the Common Market Advisory Economic and Social Committee.

LESSONS OF UCS

REFORMISM ON THE CLYDE

REFORMISM ON THE CLYDE

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Sino-Soviet

MOSCOW LAUNCHES ATTACK ON MAO'S 'DIRTY DEALS'

The Sino-Soviet war of words has reached a new pitch and, since China's entry into the United Nations, has been carried on in UN meetings and organizations.

At the meeting of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, the Chinese delegate accused the Soviet Union of wishing to dominate the area and of 'menacing the peace and security of Asia'. In reply, the Russian delegate described the charge as 'the product of a sick imagination'.

At a Kremlin meeting to mark Lenin's birthday on April 20 two Chinese diplomats walked out when they heard Politburo member Dimitri Ustinov attack what he called 'the anti-Leninist chauvinist position of Peking'.

He said: 'Peking's international policy is penetrated by anti-Sovietism and a divisive spirit towards the international communist and national liberation movement, and is in practice linked with the actions of branded enemies of communism.'

The Soviet and East European Press frequently accuses China of lining up with imperialism, as instanced by trade agreements with Japan and the US, while opposing the Soviet attempts at detente in Europe.



Lin Piao, Mao's second in command, who mysteriously disappeared.

Soviet analysts claim that there has been a shift in Chinese policy since the mysterious elimination of Mao's second-in-command, Lin Piao, in September 1971.

A Moscow broadcast to China on April 8 said that the 'situation in China has become volatile in the extreme, and it threatens to explode and rock the whole country at the slightest provocation'. It also said that foreign policy had been reversed since the Ninth Congress of the Chinese Communist Party.

Then the Soviet Union and the United States were both attacked, but now, the commentator went on 'The Peking leaders are making concessions on matters of principle to the imperialist force which had been declared to be the world people's most vicious enemy'.

Moscow also noted that any commemoration of the Ninth Congress of the CCP had been notably absent from the Chinese Press. A leading role at this congress was taken, of course, by Lin Piao.

A particularly harsh attack on Peking's policies was made in a Moscow broadcast in Rumanian on April 17 which was on the theme: 'Imperialism and Maoism—tell lies at the same time in the language of anti-Soviet and anti-socialist propaganda.'



Chairman Mao accused by Moscow of 'making concessions . . . to the imperialist force.'

'Acting in unison', the speaker went on, 'the Maoists and imperialists attempt to sow dissension in the socialist camp and to drive a wedge between this camp and the national liberation movement. They do this with the help of theories about the two super-powers and about the rich and poor nations.'

The Soviet bureaucracy is cynically inconsistent in accusing the Maoist bureaucracy of doing precisely what it is itself engaged in—making a dirty deal with imperialism at the expense of the working class.

In fact the Kremlin and Peking are trying to outbid each other in the concessions which they are ready to make to imperialism.

In recent weeks the Chinese position has been more one of injured innocence than of aggressive reply to Soviet attacks. Contacts with capitalist countries have expanded at an astounding rate both by visits to China of politicians and businessmen and as a result of Chinese diplomatic initiatives abroad.

Attacks on Soviet revisionism or great-power chauvinism no longer appear to be

stressed in internal propaganda, which is exclusively concerned with exhorting the masses to overcome practical difficulties and to repudiate the revisionist line of Liu Shao-chi and 'swindlers like him'.

On April 10 a Chinese trade delegation arrived in Moscow for talks on two-way trade. But no information seems to have been published about its activities.

The Soviet Union has also been making overtures to Albania, Peking's mouthpiece in Europe, which has bitterly criticized 'Soviet revisionism' in the past.

A new English edition of the 'First Five Years of the Communist International' incorporating hitherto unpublished material from Volume XIII of Trotsky's 'Works'



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Soviet Union

BAN LIFTED ON JEWISH EMIGRATION

The Soviet Union has decided to shelve its visa tax on Jews who want to emigrate, opening the way for the finishing touches to be put to the trade pact with the United States, signed last year.

The visa tax — a levy on emigrants calculated according to their educational and professional status — was supposed to protect the USSR against a possible 'brain drain' of skilled manpower.

It went hand in hand with the Soviet Stalinists' blatantly anti-Semitic attempts to suppress the right of Jews to practise their religion and crude Jew-baiting by bureaucrats and officials.

The Stalinists' reason for lifting the ban on Jewish emigration does not mean an end will be put to anti-Semitic manifestations within the boundaries of the USSR.

It is of no benefit at all to those millions of Jews in the Soviet Union who want to continue living there and have no ambition to leave for Israel.

But it does of course satisfy in considerable measure the demands of the Zionists who naturally want to encourage skilled Jewish manpower to leave the Soviet Union and come to Israel.

EXIT TAX

Zionist protests, for this reason, have been directed almost exclusively to establishing the right of Soviet Jews to leave for Israel without having to pay any exit tax.

There has hardly been a murmur of indignation in these circles for those victims of anti-Semitism who want to stay in the Soviet Union and are, in many cases, hostile to Zionism.

The Zionists are well aware that anti-Semitism on the part of the Soviet bureaucracy can only assist their reactionary ends by increasing the grip of reactionary separatist ideology over the Soviet Jews.

The constant theme of official Zionist propaganda is that a Jew can only live in dignity inside the promised land: the Zionists share with the anti-Semites the idea that Jews have no place in 'normal' society.

The actions of the Soviet bureaucrats have immensely assisted the Israeli authorities in spreading this totally erroneous and reactionary conception. The Stalinists' anti-Semitism is Zionism's finest ally.

REACTIONARIES

It is typical of the Soviet bureaucracy that having created through its repressions a desire among many Soviet Jews to leave for Israel, it should then enable them to do so for the most opportunist reasons.

The lifting of the exit tax for Jews was demanded by extreme reactionaries in the US Congress and accepted by the Soviet authorities purely because it would get them most favoured nation status with US imperialism.

The oppressed Palestinian people will no doubt view this move with less than total acclaim—under Israeli government plans the new arrivals will get the chance to settle in the occupied territories of the west bank, which were Arab lands before the 1967 war.



They will do this while British imperialist troops continue their occupation, their shootings and arrests. They will do this while para-military forces led by the extreme right-wing continue to flourish.

They surrender the independence of the working class at the point where Protestant workers as well as Catholic are thrown into struggle against the Tory anti-union and wage laws, thus leaving the way open for the right wing to lead backward workers into the arms of reaction.

These Stalinist and social democratic parties have consistently refused to mobilize the working class, particularly against imperialist occupation, against the Tory government in London.

They now turn on a working class frustrated by the military occupation and the reduction of the struggle to acts of terrorism and protest, and try to take advantage of any mood of exhaustion, of 'giving' the White Paper a chance, of clutching at any possible way out of the present impasse.

This is the role of Stalinism everywhere today: to translate every tactical step taken by the imperialists to deal with the working class as a 'victory', thus once again fragmenting and diverting the working class from the political task of defeating the enemy's preparation and uniting in a political struggle on the road to power.

EXCUSE

It is in this way that the Stalinists in Ireland join with the social democrats and liberals in advocating that the essential prerequisite for advance, for any relaxation of the Tory government's repressions, for any release of political prisoners, is the cessation of the activities of the Provisionals! And behind this miserable excuse they drop their demand for the release of prisoners. They are willing agents of imperialist repression.

The International Committee of the Fourth Inter-

national has always warned that typically middle-class nationalist methods of terror adopted by the Provisional IRA cannot defeat British imperialism and stand in the way of the political changes necessary to build a new leadership. But we support unconditionally all those in struggle against British imperialism.

Now we can see even more clearly than before the meaning of the Stalinists' campaign, in the last three years, for a 'Bill of Rights' and a Constitutional Conference on Northern Ireland. Whitelaw and the Tories have deliberately incorporated a fraudulent 'Bill of Rights' in the White Paper.

The Stalinists welcome the new powerless puppet Assembly as a step to representative government, not the imposition of a new form of imperialist rule.

They welcome the conciliation of Cosgrave with Whitelaw and Heath as a step to their 'constitutional conference', towards eventual Irish unity, not towards a firmer and more repressive dictatorship imposed through civil war in which the Dublin government fights alongside British imperialism.

The dangers flowing from the latest imperialist measures and the betrayals of the Stalinists and 'lefts' are necessarily accompanied by new and great opportunities for Marxism, for the section of the International Committee of the Fourth International in Ireland.

Only the ICFI and its sections raised from the very beginning the demand for immediate withdrawal of the British imperialist army. Revisionists like the International Socialists group welcomed the intervention.

Only the ICFI and its sections have held high the banner of the political independence of the working class of Ireland and of its indissoluble unity of its struggle with that of the working class in Britain.

The coalition government in Dublin is a coalition of complete crisis. Its majority can be destroyed by even the slightest change in the political situation. The Irish economy's weakness exposes it to the effects of the rapidly-worsening economic crisis.

The working class, north and south, is driven inexorably into mass struggles by the inflationary basis of this same crisis, which is destroying its already meagre living standards.

These struggles, in contrast to the craven betrayals of the Stalinists and the traditional leaderships, will create a great opening for political discussion on the predominant question of leadership. Many working-class cadres can be won from the masses and from the ranks of the traditional organizations to Marxism and the Fourth International.

In Britain, the central struggle for the defence of basic democratic rights against the preparations of the Tory government demands an unrelenting struggle to force the Tories to resign and elect a Labour government which must be forced to withdraw all troops from Northern Ireland.

Such a struggle would be a great blow against imperialism and would provide the basis for a leap forward by the Irish working class.

● Throw out the White Paper proposals!

● Destroy the Diplock proposals!

● Unity of the Irish working class, Catholic and Protestant, against unionism and imperialism!

● Unity of all Irish and British workers for the overthrow of the Tory government and the Cosgrave coalition in Dublin!

● Fight for a Labour government which must be forced to withdraw troops from Ulster and release all political prisoners!



British troops frisking IRA suspects in Belfast. Above left: William Whitelaw, Ulster Secretary of State with Edward Heath. Above right: Billy Hull, leader of the right-wing Loyalist Association of Workers.

ULSTER: FIGHT THE EMERGENCY PROVISIONS BILL

Statement by the International Committee of the Fourth International.

The International Committee of the Fourth International calls on the British and Irish working class to oppose the Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Bill, which is a major step towards an outright military-police state in Ulster.

The ICFI condemns in particular those Labour MPs who either voted for or abstained on the Bill in its second reading. By doing so they contributed significantly towards abolishing basic democratic rights in Ulster and created a precedent for the extension of the Diplock proposals into Britain as well.

This Bill deprives Ulster workers of the few remaining legal safeguards against the brutal tyranny of a capricious, unrepresentative and reactionary executive.

The abolition of trial by jury, the law of evidence and the transformation of the judiciary into a tool of the executive, as well as the unpre-

cedented powers of detention conferred on the courts, are aimed at legalizing the pervasive use of torture, frame-up, internment and the system of government-sponsored informers in Ulster.

It also encourages the armed forces and particularly the paratroops, to indulge in an orgy of beating, looting and killing of unarmed civilians. It is no accident that the wave of indiscriminate shooting of teenagers and so-called terrorists has been stepped up sharply since the White Paper and the first reading of the Bill.

Although, at present, aimed principally at the Provisional IRA who equivocally opposed the White Paper, but refused to lay down their arms, these repressive laws and regulations will be used just as freely against Ulster workers in the coming industrial and political struggles.

That is why, when Ulster Secretary of State William Whitelaw assured the House of Commons that the regulations were only provisional and would not last a minute longer than necessary, he was guilty of the most despicable Tory deception.

This was made possible be-

cause of the craven acquiescence of the Labourites and the reformist collaboration of the Communist Party-dominated civil-righters, the Official IRA and the Social Democratic and Labour Party in Ulster.

NEO-FASCIST

Meanwhile the Fine Gael-Labour coalition led by Liam Cosgrave, which has replaced Lynch and Fianna Fail in the south, continues and even extends the direct support of the bourgeoisie of the Irish Republic for British imperialism's plans.

The social democrats of the SDLP, together with the Stalinists in the civil rights movement and the Official Sinn Fein and IRA, have gone over openly and completely to the imperialists.

Shielded by this common front of reformism, nationalism and Stalinism, the extreme right-wing forces are given time to regroup the forces of disintegrating Ulster Unionism into the basis for a fascist

movement for intervention in the developing crisis in Ireland and in Britain.

More and more the openly neo-fascist forces in the Tory Party will turn to Ulster as a base for their preparations against the working class.

They are directly linked not only with the right-wing Protestant para-military forces in Ulster, but also with the military establishment in the British state machine.

In Northern Ireland, as Whitelaw boasted to the Conference of British Young Conservatives, arrests and imprisonments were ruthlessly stepped up in the period immediately before and after the publication of the Tory government's White Paper. More people are imprisoned at this time than at any previous date.

As part of the same exercise, 500 raids were made in Britain itself, not only on Irish nationalists but also on members of the International Marxist Group. These raids followed the earlier bomb explosions in London at the time of the rail drivers' strike.

In Belfast, Young Socialists are harassed, intimidated and held long hours for questioning merely for selling their

literature. The powers recommended by the Diplock Commission will be used more and more to suppress all opposition to imperialism.

The Offences Against the State (Amendment) Act legislated by the Lynch government in 1972 in conditions, which aroused open suspicion of a provocation by the forces of state, is being used to the full by the Fine Gael-Labour coalition government.

Cosgrave and his Ministers boast openly of their work with British military intelligence in acting against the purchase of arms by the Provisional IRA. Members of the Irish bourgeoisie are driven to this final and open admission of their abandonment of any vestige of commitment to national independence by the depth of the international economic crisis and their consequent fear of the working class.

This is what compels them to come out openly in alliance with the British imperialists. They will not retreat from this, but must take even more reactionary steps. They have virtually abandoned the weapon of national demagoguery which facilitated their control of the Irish workers.

It is in order to help the Irish bourgeoisie and the British imperialists in this dangerous situation that the Stalinists and their 'left' allies now play a vital role; the role of counter-revolutionary betrayal of the working class.

The Tories' White Paper is welcomed by them as a victory. It is said to reflect the pressure of the masses on imperialism, creating a situation under which the Irish people can advance a step further politically.

It is said to mark the definitive end of Stormont, the traditional mechanism of imperialist-Unionist rule. The masses are told that the proposals in the White Paper represent a 'step forward', a 'victory' in the struggle!

In reality the White Paper represents the plan of the imperialists to carry out even more brutally the 'pacification' of Direct Rule. Just as the Stalinists and reformists welcomed Direct Rule, so they now try to condition the masses for the implementation of the White Paper proposals. They will even accept government office and try to ensure the collaboration of the trade unions in the new administration.

THE HISTORY OF SHOPS AND TODAY'S RETAIL GROUPS

A series by Bernard Franks
Part four

One in ten of all shops doing business in 1961 has since closed down. During this period the multiple retailing groups intensified their domination of sales at the expense of other sectors of the industry.

In Britain the multiples have increased their grip on all retail trade, from 20-per-cent domination in 1950 to 40 per cent today. This has been at the expense of the Co-op and the independents.

If we subtract the trade of the department stores from that of the independents, then the small shops are left with 43 per cent of all turnover compared with 60 per cent in 1950. The 138 largest multiples with 100 or more branches—Tesco, Woolworth, and so on—now take about one-sixth of all trade.

In some sectors the number of shops has increased—antique dealers, wallpaper and paint, do-it-yourself, radio and television, greeting-card shops, pet foods and garden centres.

Elsewhere the fall in numbers has been very dramatic. The number of shoe repairers has fallen by 50 per cent to 5,801.

In medieval times goods were sold at fairs and markets or by travelling pedlars, packmen and street traders.

In Piers Plowman, the poem written sometime between 1360 and 1380, William Langland writes of the methods of cheating customers at the fairs. He tells of people who harm the poor:

'And secretly and oft they poison them;
They grow rich on their retail with what the poor should eat,
They buy houses, they become landlords,
If they sold honestly they would not build so high
Nor buy their tenures.'

Selling food from a house or permanent dwelling was banned by local laws up to the 14th century for fear of secret hoarding and cornering of the market in some product.

These laws fell before the rise of mercantilism, when the huge growth of trade required a middle-man between makers or importers and customers. But the producer-retailer did not disappear. He was classed as a craftsman and took on apprentices and journeymen, who worked with a view to owning their own shop as in any other trade.

However, with the growth of factory methods, the division between production and distribution became wider.

The great fairs disappeared, but the markets were able to adapt to capitalism and continue in being a focal point for traders of all kinds and their customers.

In the 18th century there

were no brands. All sales, even of new books, were settled by haggling. The first attempt to charge fixed prices was in the 1770s by Flint and Palmers, a haberdashers and drapers on London Bridge.

The socialist, Robert Owen, for many years a shop worker, was an assistant there in 1774 at the age of 13. He had started work as a shop boy at the age of nine. Owen left Flint and Palmers after one year because 'the slavery every day of the week seemed more than my constitution could support'.



Owen, once a shopworker—"the slavery every day . . . seemed more than my constitution could support."

In the 19th century there was a great increase in the number of shops catering for the growing numbers of better-paid skilled workers, composers, engineers, etc., and a middle class rapidly growing in wealth.

The poor continued to buy at street markets or from street sellers—pedlars, costers and tallymen.

These, however, were a declining force with the improvement in production techniques and transport. The neighbourhood shops were able to take over the sales of food, hardware, candles, crockery, blacking and so on.

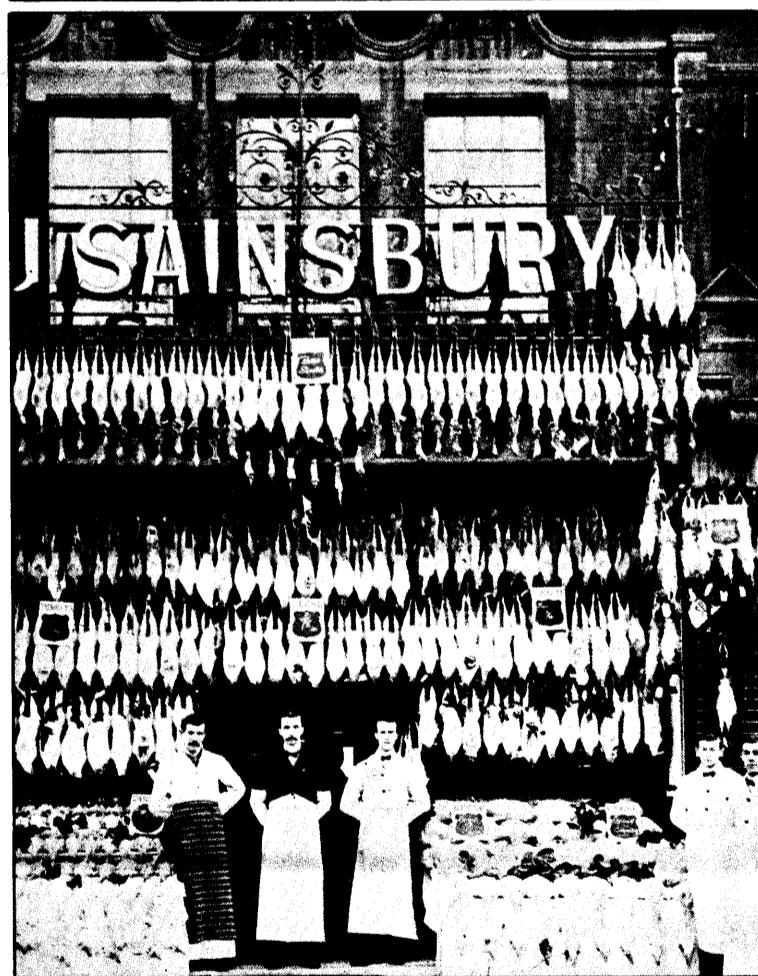
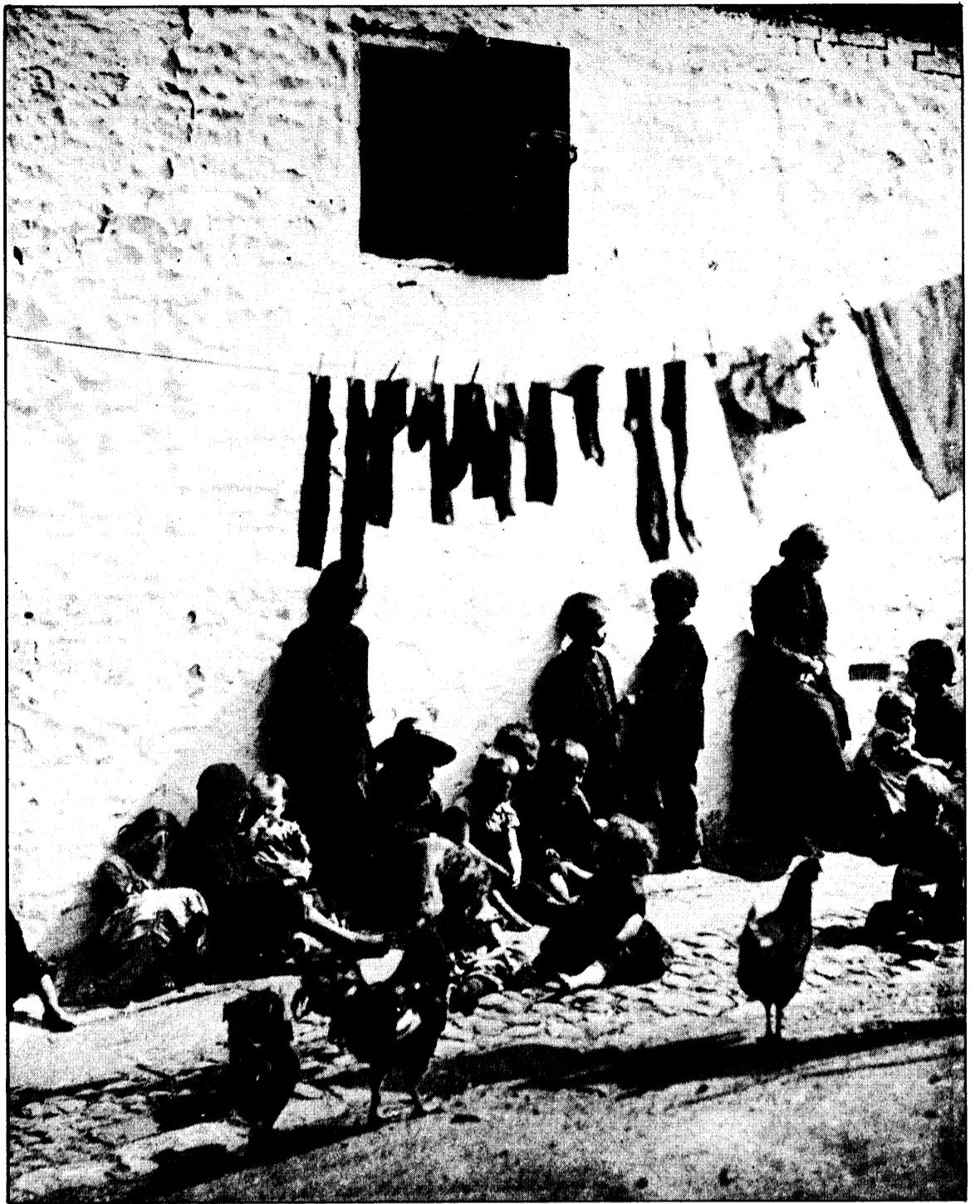
Adulterating food

The price-controlling, especially by millers, and sale of shoddy clothing and adulterated food to workers contributed to the establishment of the workers' Co-operative Movement and eventually of the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

Some methods used by the unscrupulous manufacturers to adulterate food were the watering of milk, colouring of butter and cheese with dangerous chemicals, mixing chalk with flour used for bread and whitening it with alum, and peppering-up mustard, vinegar and pepper with brick-dust, starch and sulphuric acid.

In the mid-19th century the costers were strong supporters of Chartism. Henry Mayhew wrote in his articles 'London Labour and London Poor': 'The politics of these people are detailed in a few words—they are nearly all Chartists.'

"You might say, Sir," remarked one of my informants



Sainsbury's—a family-owned group that tries to foster the image of 'fatherly concern'. Above: Slum dwellers of London, 1889.

"That they ALL were Chartists, but as it is better that you should rather be under than over the mark, say NEARLY all."

Mayhew continues:

"Their ignorance and their being impulsive makes them a dangerous class. I am assured that in every district where the costermongers are congregated, one or two of the body, more intelligent than the others, have great influence over them; and these leading men are all Chartists. . . ."

"One of these men said to me: "The costers think the working-men know best and so they have confidence in us. I like to make men discontented, and I will make them dis-

contented while the present system continues because it's all for the middle and monied classes and nothing in the way of rights for the poor."

Chain stores appear

In the mid-19th century the departmental store developed and a number of chain stores opened, though rarely with more than one or two branches. In 1851, the largest firm was Shoobred & Co., a drapers of Tottenham Court Road, London, which had 500 staff living-in. It was late in the century, with the mass production of many more consumer

goods, that the larger chains began to appear. By 1900 there were firms with 100 or more shops.

Many owners of retailing companies today, particularly the family-owned groups, try to project a paternalistic image of fatherly concern for their employees and customers by themselves and by their forefathers.

Special biographies are commissioned to show the 'rags-to-riches' progressions of the firms' founders based wholly on honesty and hard work.

The terrible exploitation, iron discipline, poverty and bad working conditions of the shopworkers, the sale of shoddy, ill-fitting clothing, of cheap adulterated foods, and of quack medicines to the working class, on which the great fortunes were built, are conveniently forgotten.

So are the battles which the labour movement had to fight in order to bring about legislation against short-weight, short-measure, over-charging, lying advertising, long working hours, payment in kind, lack of safety in shops, living-in and secrecy concerning the ingredients of food and medicines.

The situation of production workers who made the goods is avoided. For example, one-fifth of the early retail chains specialized in the sale of boots and shoes.

Mayhew described the appalling living and working conditions of the boot and shoe operatives.

He told of 12 workers living and working in one room; of adults near starvation; of child labour and unskilled labour being introduced to weaken the position of craftsmen and force down wages.

He described, too, the methods of the distributors of the shoes made up by sweated labour in the East End of London of which: 'The material and wages cost under 2s per pair, and they are sold for goods imported from France at 4s 6d and 5s 6d.'

CONTINUED TOMORROW

LAST TANGO IN PARIS

By a guest reviewer

'Last Tango in Paris' by Bertolucci examines the complicated workings of the minds of a middle-aged American and a young French girl who have an affair in Paris.

The man, Paul, brilliantly played by Marlon Brando, admits that he has never understood what motivates women.

We learn this from flashbacks to Paul's marriage which ended in his wife's bloody death, either by suicide or his murdering her; it is not clear.

In his version of it, the marriage broke down because of his wife's hypocrisy and dishonesty. She was deceiving him with a lodger in the hotel they owned and ran. He could never believe she was telling him the truth about anything.

But the relationship he has with the girl reveals things in his own make-up which could have contributed to the breakdown of the marriage.

Paul starts out aggressively. But although his onslaught captivates the girl at first, slowly the earthy bluntness begins to alienate her because his independence excludes her and makes her feel unnecessary.

'No names,' he tells her. 'We don't need to know each other's name.' It is an attempt to insulate himself from ever being hurt again as he was hurt by his wife's deception and death.

The film's famous sexual scenes tell an essential part of this story.

His rugged assaults on her are an extreme expression of his wish that the relationship between them should remain on the level of a male and a female who meet in a deserted Paris apartment for sex, have no other contact, and, above all, do not get involved in each other's thoughts, feelings or personal developments.

Her responding to this is less well explained, but the background to it is the very antiseptic relationship she has with her fiancé, a rather juiceless film production fanatic. Her masturbatory solo is an expression of how, despite all the drama of her relationship with Paul, she still feels excluded by it all.

The 'no names, no involvement' strategy cannot work.

They each bring into the relationship all that they are; their whole life's history is carried within them. Inevitably, they begin to talk of their lives. They begin to get to know one another.

Slowly, all of the hostility and hatred that he has built up against any tender relation-



Marlon Brando with Bernardo Bertolucci during the filming of 'Last Tango in Paris.'

ships with women in general begins to melt in the face of the even greater need he has to be loved. His tough individualism is nothing but a cover for his vulnerability.

The strong man who in the early scenes dominates the girl, and in the flashbacks rages at his wife, mother-in-law and friends, has become once more the fragile person who broke down and cried at his wife's deathbed and now wants desperately to 'belong' somewhere again.

But the aggressive destructiveness is part of him too. His previous desire to dominate the girl cannot be undone. His

need to achieve mastery in any situation is as much part of his character as the need for love. And his earlier attempts to undermine her have already decided her to steer clear.

Having made up her mind to reject him, he suddenly becomes a far less attractive man in her eyes. The transformation of Paul from the hardened but appealing foul-mouthed humourist to the slightly ridiculous middle-aged suitor is a masterpiece of film-making.

It climaxes in the tea-dance scene where he desperately tries to reassert the fascination he holds for her with an exaggerated display of his tough-

ness, his humour and his independence.

It doesn't work. The relationship between them has irrevocably changed. He even has to get drunk to keep up his bold act.

She laughs a bit at his clowning, but through it all she sees his despairing plea to her to take him on full-time. She doesn't want to.

The final chilling development is acted out sexually too. As he drunkenly sits at their dark corner-of-the dance-hall table imploring her to begin a new relationship with her, she coldly masturbates him and

then, literally and figuratively, wipes her hands of him and leaves.

'Last Tango' deals with these people's lives mainly at one level, the psychological interaction between them as affected by their personalities.

There is no attempt to examine what social pressures might tend to make their behaviour what it is. Bertolucci takes them as they are, each with a personal history, and each seeking to solve their life's problems in purely personal terms.

Within that framework, the film is a powerful study, absorbing, and superbly made.

WORKERS NOTEBOOK

THEY DIE

'And these signs shall follow them that believe . . . they shall take up serpents, and if they drink any deadly thing it shall not hurt them.'

Mark 16: 16-18

There are a number of religious sects who claim to take the bible literally—but few quite so literally as the Holiness Church of God in Jesus' Name.

The members of this outfit—centred in Carson Spring, Tennessee—regularly test their faith by handling poisonous snakes.

And do the serpents bite them? Yes.

Do they live through it? No, they die.

But doesn't this cast doubt on the sacred verse? Not at all—it just proves that though they had enough faith to let the snakes bite them, they didn't have enough faith to keep alive.

All the same, the leaders of the faithful recently felt the need for some even more striking evidence of the truth of their church (possibly because its numbers were dwindling?).

So at the culmination of a service, assistant pastor Jimmy Ray Williams (34) and layman Buford Pack (30) prepared a potent mixture of strychnine and water.

'Praise God! Praise God!' chanted the congregation. 'A perfect love casteth out fear', declared the preacher, who wasn't actually drinking the stuff himself.

And Williams and Pack gulped the concoction down.

The faithful were exalted—until they got out of church. Then both Williams and Pack doubled up in agony—and died.

You just can't trust anybody.

HOUSING

At a meeting on housing in the Kingsgate Schools, West Hampstead, the principal speaker, Mr J. W. Graham Price, of the Commonwealth Society, said that housing problems will never be solved until people grapple with them in the right way.

'No scheme for state aid to private enterprise will help,' he added. 'The people should demand back the land taken from them in the beginning and it should be restored to them without compensation.'

Date? 1923. Story from the 'Hampstead and Highgate Express'.

BOOKS BY TROTSKY

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TODAY'S TV

BBC 1

10.00-11.20 Schools. 12.25 Holi hynt. 12.55 News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at one. 1.30 Chigley. 1.45 Look, stranger. 2.05 Portrait of a musician. 2.35 Living with icons. 3.05 If a child cries. 3.35 Tomorrow's world. 4.00 Slip and slap. 4.10 Play school. 4.35 Jackanory. 4.50 Coal hole club. 5.45 You are there. 5.40 Hector's house. 5.45 News. Weather.

6.00 NATIONWIDE.
6.45 TOM AND JERRY.
6.50 TOP OF THE POPS.
7.25 STAR TREK. All Our Yesterdays.
8.15 GOOD OLD DAYS. Des O'Connor, Arthur Askey.
9.00 NEWS. Weather.
9.25 THE REGIMENT. North West Frontier.
10.15 AMATEUR BOXING'S NIGHT OF THE YEAR. Amateur Boxing Association Championship Finals of 1973.
11.30 NEWS. Weather.
11.35 THE WORLD OF JIMMY SAVILE, OBE.
12.25 Weather.

ITV

9.30 Schools. 12.00 Cartoon. 12.05 Rainbow. 12.25 Happy house. 12.40 First report. 1.00 Cuckoo in the nest. 1.30 Crown court. 2.00 General hospital. 2.30 Good afternoon. 2.50 Racing from Newmarket. 4.15 Cartoon. 4.20 Lassie. 4.50 Lift off with Ayshea. 3.20 I dream of Jeannie. 5.50 News.

6.00 TODAY. **6.35 CROSSROADS.**
7.00 THE SKY'S THE LIMIT.
7.30 THE FBI. Caesar's Wife.
8.30 WHO DO YOU DO?
9.00 JUSTICE. Trespass to the Person.
10.00 NEWS AT TEN.
10.30 WHO WILL WIN THE CUP? FA Cup preview.
11.00 POLICE FIVE.
11.10 FILM: 'The Long Haul.' Victor Mature, Diana Dors, Patrick Allen. Thriller.
12.40 EPILOGUE
12.45 SHIRLEY'S WORLD. Thou Shalt Not Be Found Out.

BBC 2

11.00-11.25 Play school. 5.25 Open University.

7.05 MISTRESS OF HARDWICK. My Jewel Arbelles.
7.30 NEWS. Weather.
7.35 GARDENERS' WORLD.
8.00 MONEY AT WORK. The South African Connection, part 2. British investment in South Africa.
9.00 FILM: 'Private Road.' Barney Platts-Mills' film about two young middle-class lovers. With Susan Penhaligon and Bruce Robinson.
10.25 FILM NIGHT.
11.00 NEWS. Weather.



Above: 'The Regiment' series on BBC 1 has the evocative title 'North West Frontier' with Christopher Cazenove and Penelope Lee. Left: Bruce Robinson as Peter Morrissey in Barney Platts-Mills' 'Private Road'—a look at a middle-class youth.



9.00 London. 11.00 Weekend. 11.05 Film: 'Dracula's Daughter.' 12.25 News. 12.35 Weather. Epilogue.

HARLECH: 9.30 London. 2.00 Women only. 2.50 London. 4.25 Rainbow country. 4.50 London. 5.20 Chuckleheads. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.18 Report Wales. 6.35 Doctor in charge. 7.05 Film: 'The Tin Star.' 9.00 London. 11.00 Profile. 11.30 Our kid. 12.00 Dr Simon Locke. 12.30 Weather.

HTV Cymru/Wales as above except: 4.25-4.50 Stesion cantamil. 6.01-6.18 Y dydd. 11.00-11.30 Outlook.

HTV West as above except: 6.18-6.35 Report West.

ANGLIA: 9.30 London. 12.04 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 About women. 2.50 London. 4.15 Cartoons. 4.25 Romper room. 4.50 London. 5.20 Partridge family. 5.50 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 London. 7.30 Hawaii five-o. 8.30 Comedians. 9.00 London. 10.30 Probe. 11.00 FA cup. 11.30 Riptide. 12.25 Epilogue.

ATV MIDLANDS: 9.30 London. 12.00 Guide. 12.05 London. 4.25 Forest rangers. 4.50 London. 5.20 Flintstones. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London. 7.30 Comedians. 8.00 Hawaii five-o. 9.00 London. 11.00 Film: 'The Curse of the Mummy's Tomb.' Weather.

ULSTER: 11.00 London. 1.33 News. 1.40 Schools. 2.40 Romper room. 2.50 London. 4.23 News. 4.25 Rainbow country. 4.50 London. 5.20

General hospital. 5.50 London. 6.00 Reports. 6.35 London. 7.30 Pathfinders. 8.30 Comedians. 9.00 London. 11.00 O'Hara US Treasury. 11.35 Look up.

YORKSHIRE: 9.30 London. 4.25 Flintstones. 4.50 London. 5.20 Me and the chimp. 5.50 London. 6.00 Calendar. Weather. 6.35 London. 7.30 Who do you do? 8.00 Hawaii five-o. 9.00 London. 11.00 Film: 'So Evil, So Young.' 12.25 Weather.

GRANADA: 9.30 London. 12.00 Songs. 12.05 London. 4.15 Pete Smith. 4.25 Joe 90. 4.50 London. 5.15 Dick Van Dyke. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.20 Sky's the limit. 6.50 Film: 'Rhino.' 8.30 Comedians. 9.00 London. 11.05 Film: 'The Caretaker.' 12.55 Spyforce.

TYNE TEES: 9.20 I met them in Ghana. 9.30 London. 2.30 News. 2.13 Yoga. 2.50 London. 4.25 Woodbina. 4.55 London. 5.20 Pebbles and bamm bamm. 5.45 Cartoon. 5.50 London. 6.00 Today. 6.35 London. 7.30 Who do you do? 8.00 Hawaii five-o. 9.00 London. 11.00 Film: 'Maniac.' 12.35 News. 12.40 Lectern.

GRAMPIAN: 10.58 London. 1.38 Schools. 2.52 News. 3.00 London. 4.20 Merrie melodies. 4.50 London. 5.20 General hospital. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Protectors. 6.35 London. 7.00 Deep sea endeavour. 7.30 What price oil? 8.30 Comedians. 9.00 London. 10.30 Job look. 10.35 Film: 'Desire Under the Elms.' 12.35 Meditation.

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CHANNEL: 9.30-12.00 London. 1.15 News. 1.30 London. 4.25 Flintstones. 4.50 London. 5.20 Junkin. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.10 Report. 6.35 London. 8.30 Comedians. 9.00 London. 11.03 Film: 'Scandal Sheet.' 12.30 News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 12.05 London. 12.37 Gus Honeybun. 12.40 London. 12.57 News. 1.00 London. 6.00 Diary. 6.25 Sport. 11.00 News. 12.30 Epilogue.

SOUTHERN: 9.30 London. 12.00 News. 12.05 London. 2.30 Women only. 2.50 London. 4.20 Weekend. 4.25 Pebbles and bamm bamm. 4.50 London. 5.20 Cartoon. 5.25 Crossroads. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by day. Scene SE. 6.35 Love thy neighbour. 7.05 Sky's the limit. 7.35 McCloud.

Dust disease miners may lose compensation

MINERS suffering disability of between 10 per cent and 50 per cent from the dreaded dust disease, pneumoconiosis, are in danger of losing compensation.

Mr Dai Davies, head of the National Union of Mineworkers' compensation department, said in Porthcawl that the forthcoming Industrial Injuries Advisory Committee report was expected to recommend that no one be paid for less than 50 per cent disability.

Mr Davies told the NUM's South Wales area conference that he understood the Advisory Committee had come to the conclusion that the disease was 'not as disabling as previously believed.'

'If that is the case, they should ask and examine the victims,' he said. 'One a day is the official figure of men dying from pneumoconiosis, but the figure is four or five unofficially.'

It is well known among miners

that men who die from chest or heart ailments have often had pneumoconiosis as an accelerating factor.

The conference passed a resolution asking the national executive to ensure that widows received industrial benefits in cases where their husbands died from the disease.

Official figures show that 40,000 suffer from pneumoconiosis in the UK, up to 8,000 of them in South Wales. The majority are certified at 10 per cent.

Jobs and pay fight in glass containers industry

GLASS CONTAINER workers in the General and Municipal Workers' Union are being called to a national industrial conference in Leeds next month.

The conference, which will take place two weeks before the union submits a new pay claim to the industry's employers, will take place on June 14 and 15.

Workers in the glass container industry face a fight on two fronts—not only on pay, but on jobs as well.

The G&MWU says closure of the Rockware factory at Greenford is just one symptom of what is a serious situation in the industry.

Large-scale redundancies were recently threatened at United Glass in Harlow. These were resisted.

Now 500 G&MWU members at Canning Town Glass face the sack.

The union's productivity services department is currently discussing with Canning Town Glass 'ways and means of saving jobs and avoiding closure of the works'.

● A £5.64 claim was recently submitted by the G&MWU to Pilkington Bros, the biggest employer in the industry. But union leaders are most unlikely to press it to the point of all-out confrontation with the Tory pay laws.

Banks pay plan rejected

LEADING BANKS have turned down a suggestion that retired bank staff should receive cash payments out of the '£5 saved' because of the state pay laws, says the National Union of Bank Employees.

The union wrote to each of

the English Clearing Banks suggesting that money which had been due to bank staffs following a 7 per cent pay increase awarded at the beginning of the year, but deferred for three months because of the freeze, should be distributed to bank pensioners.

Dispensation for Press call

HIGH WYCOMBE Trades Council has unanimously passed a resolution calling for special dispensation to be granted to Workers Press and the 'Morning Star' in any future strike of printers.

I would like information about THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

Fill in the form below and send to **NATIONAL SECRETARY, SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE, 186a CLAPHAM HIGH ST, LONDON SW4 7UG.**

Name.....

Address.....

We were there — musicians

Dear Editor,
With reference to your report of the memorable May Day demonstration in London on Tuesday, may I just take this opportunity of pointing out that along with the other trade union general secretaries, whose presence you were able to note, all of the national and London district officials of this union were present—in addition of course to many of our rank-and-file members, both marching and playing.
Yours fraternally,
Brian Blain, Secretary
Music Promotion and
Public Relations Committee
● Thanks for telling us.—Ed.

LETTER

A letter from Long Kesh camp

Acara,
Over the last few months your paper has been finding its way into this camp and from hand to hand it has finally reached me. I have enjoyed reading it and must send you my congratulations on your stand for the working class, and your straight-to-the-point attacks on the capitalist class and their lackeys.

But the main reason why I thought I should write to you came after reading your article by Jack Gale on Brazil.

First, I would not like you to think that I am setting out to criticize the article; in fact it was very informative.

It was just that Jack Gale did not have to travel far afield to find a country with such suppressive laws—there was one on his doorstep, namely Ireland.

I believe that it would be doing the working class in England, Scotland and Wales a lot of good if you were to inform them of the laws that their masters have set up in Ireland, namely the Special Powers.

I don't think that our comrades in England know what these evil laws entail.

Today in this land of ours the working class are being

shot down in the streets, homes are being ransacked, men, women and boys are being imprisoned without trial and I don't have to elaborate on the famous torture centres of Hollywood and Girdwood.

All these evils are being perpetrated by men using the Special Powers. I could fill a book with what these powers cover, but the main point is that every suppressive law in Brazil is well covered in the Acts.

I can only hope that the English, Scots and Welsh workers are not too naïve to think that their Tory masters

won't use these tactics to suppress them in the near future.

In fact, it is well known here that the generals of the British army have stated that it is good practice for their troops in case the workers in England, Scotland and Wales get out of hand.

I can only hope that the working class of England, Scotland and Wales will unite and take a stand for democracy before it is their blood running down the streets.

Yours in the fight,
(Name, hut number and cage number attached.)
We will reply to this letter tomorrow, Ed.

Zionists greet 'Black May' attacks on guerrillas

THE LEBANESE army continued its attacks on Palestinian refugee camps and commando formations yesterday amid fervent applause from the Zionist Press across the border in Israel.

The fighting was particularly fierce in the camps around Beirut, though the refugee camp near the international airport, scene of the heaviest fighting on Wednesday, was reported quiet yesterday.

The official toll on the army side stood at 12 dead and 40 wounded at lunchtime yesterday, but many more casualties were not accounted for. The commandos are said to have lost 24

killed and 99 wounded.

Between ten and 13 civilians caught in crossfire between the two sides were also killed. There were scattered outbreaks of fighting throughout the Lebanon, particularly in the region of Arqoub, close to the border with Israel.

Israeli newspapers were openly exultant about the prospect of a 'Black May' for the Palestinian resistance fighters, drawing the comparison between the cowardly Lebanese attack on the camps and the massacre organized by King Hussein in Jordan in September 1970.

The Zionist daily 'Haaretz' said the Lebanese army—like its country's nationalist leaders—was demanding an end to the presence of the guerrillas who were 'undermining Lebanon's

sovereignty'. Coming from the Israelis, this is rich in irony.

They have quite blatantly and on numerous occasions violated Lebanese sovereignty—the last time when they sent a murder squad to Beirut in the confidence that the Lebanese army would stand by and watch them murder Palestinian leaders.

This cowardly massacre was hailed by 'Haaretz' among other papers which now feign concern for Lebanon's sovereignty.

The Lebanese capitalist government wants to smash the Palestinian movement because it hopes in this way to ensure peaceful co-existence with Israel.

The shameful price of such a very doubtful 'peace' is permanent subservience to Zionism and a mountain of Palestinian dead.

MAY FUND NOW STANDS AT £96.96 KEEP IT UP!

YESTERDAY'S post brought £76.46 making our total now £96.96. Let's keep it up and try and raise a record amount this month.

It is going to be a tough struggle. On top of our Monthly Appeal Fund we are asking you all, dear readers, to help us also raise, by the end of May, the first stage of our £100,000 Party Development Fund.

We are sure we can do it. Never before has there been such a need for an alternative revolutionary leadership throughout the labour and trade union movement. And only Workers Press gives this lead.

So help us in every way you can. Show the enormous fighting spirit needed for this exceptional effort this month. Raise all you can and post immediately to:

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SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE MEETINGS

After May Day — What Next?

Liverpool

SUNDAY MAY 6

7.30 p.m.

Mona Hotel
James Street

(Near tube station)

Central London All Trades Unions Alliance

TRADE UNIONS AND THE TORY GOVERNMENT

Sunday May 6

7.30 p.m.

Shaftesbury Hotel
Monmouth Street

Speakers: Gerry Healy
National Secretary
Socialist Labour League

Stuart Hood

(ACTT in a personal capacity)

Argentine's president-elect in tough

bargaining session

ARGENTINA is still under martial law imposed by the military junta after the killing of a retired rear-admiral on Monday.

Tough bargaining is now expected between the military

chiefs and President-elect Hector Campora, who has just returned from a visit to ex-President Peron in Madrid.

Campora is understood to favour an amnesty for political prisoners, including guerrillas jailed in the past seven years of

army rule. The military, as shown by its imposition of martial law,

wants a crack-down on urban guerrilla activities.

The urban guerrilla group, 'The People's Revolutionary Army', which claims responsibility for Monday's assassination, has not heeded the junta's order to release all kidnap victims held.

Newly-elected deputies and senators met yesterday for the first time in seven years of military rule. They will not be able to initiate any legislation until after the inauguration of Campora later this month.

West German bank rate up to 6 p.c.

THE WEST GERMAN bank rate was raised yesterday for the second time this year. It went up by a full 1 per cent to 6 per cent. The rate at which commercial banks can borrow from the central bank rose to 8 per cent.

The rise will have repercussions on Britain and other countries by attracting funds to the West German money markets.

This credit curb is a sign that bankers are getting worried about the galloping inflation. Economic activity in West Germany slowed down in the latter

part of 1972.

Revaluation of the Deutsche-mark has already hit exports and an attempt is now being made to arrest further price increases.

Other European countries will no doubt follow suit, bringing economic slowdown and unemployment.

CIRCULATION

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ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

BRIXTON: Monday May 7, 8 p.m. Control Room, Brixton Training Centre. 'Report back from May Day.'

CRAWLEY: Monday May 7, 8 p.m. Social Service Hall, Station Road. 'Stalinism and the struggle to defend democratic rights.'

LEWISHAM: Monday May 7, 8 p.m. Deptford Engineers' Club, opp. New Cross Station. 'The role of the TUC in the fight against the Tories.'

BATTERSEA: Tuesday May 8, 8 p.m. 'Nags Head', cnr. Wandsworth Road and North Street. 'Report back from May Day.'

DAGENHAM: Tuesday May 8, 8 p.m. Barking Co-op Hall, Fanshawe Avenue. 'Marxism and the trade unions.'

TOTTENHAM: Tuesday May 8, 8 p.m. Bricklayers Arms, High Road, near White Hart Lane. 'Force the Tories to resign.'

WYTHENSHAW (Manchester): Tuesday May 8, 8 p.m. 'Cock o'th'North', Portway. 'Report back from May Day.'

KINGSTON: Thursday May 10, 8 p.m. Norbiton Hotel, Clifton

Road. 'Forward from May Day — to remove the Tories.'

WILLESDEN: Thursday May 10, 8 p.m. Brent Labour and Trades Hall, Willesden High Road, NW10. 'Stalinism and the struggle to defend democratic rights.'

EAST LONDON: Monday May 14, 8 p.m. Bromley Public Hall, Bow Road, E3.

WANDSWORTH: Monday May 14, 8 p.m. Kings Arms, High Street, SW18.

WATFORD: Monday May 14, 8 p.m. Watford Trade Union Hall, near Watford Junction Station. 'Stalinism and the struggle to defend democratic rights.'

PADDINGTON: Tuesday May 15, 8 p.m. 'Prince of Wales', Harrow Road, corner Gt Western Road. 'Marxism and the Trade Unions.'

TOOTING: Tuesday May 15, 8 p.m. Tooting Baths, Tooting Broadway, SW17. 'Build the Revolutionary Party.'

SLOUGH: Wednesday May 16, 8 p.m. Community Centre, Farnham Road. 'Forward to the Revolutionary Party.'

SOUTHALL: Wednesday May 16, 8 p.m. Southall Library, Osterley Park Road. 'Stalinism and the struggle to defend democratic rights.'

WALTHAMSTOW: Wednesday May 16, 8 p.m. 'The Crooked Billet', North Circular Road. 'Force the Tories to resign.'

WEMBLEY: Wednesday May 16, 8 p.m. Copland School, High Road. 'Stalinism and the struggle to defend democratic rights.'

WOOLWICH: Wednesday May 16, 8 p.m. The Castle, Powis Street, SE18. 'Stalinism and the struggle to defend democratic rights.'

BASILDON: Thursday May 17, 8 p.m. Barnstaple Community Centre. 'Stalinism and the struggle to defend democratic rights.'

CROYDON: Thursday May 17, 8 p.m. Ruskin House, Coombe Road, Croydon. 'Forward to the Revolutionary Party.'

FELTHAM: Thursday May 17, 8 p.m. 'Three Horse Shoes', Feltham High Street. 'Stalinism and the struggle to defend democratic rights.'

All Trades Unions Alliance Public Meetings

What next after the miners' ballot? The fight against the Tory government

OLLERTON: Monday May 7, 8 p.m. Blue Tit.
Speaker: Mike Banda (SLL Central Committee).

BARNESLEY: Thursday May 10, 8 p.m. Masons Arms.
Speaker: Cliff Slaughter (SLL Central Committee).

CASTLEFORD: Thursday May 17, 8 p.m. Sagar St Rooms.
Speaker: G. Healy (National Secretary SLL).

ELECTRICIANS COMMIT UNION TO FIGHT STATE PAY LAWS

BIG DEFEAT FOR
CHAPPLE

FROM IAN YEATS IN DOUGLAS, Isle of Man

A rebellion against the right-wing leadership of the Electrical and Plumbing Trades Union ended in a shattering defeat for the executive yesterday.

Despite pleas from general secretary Frank Chapple not to commit the union to step up its opposition to the Tory anti-union laws, all but a handful of the 650 delegates voted to do so.

First signs that the biennial conference would refuse to accept the executive's dictates without murmur came on Wednesday, when right and left-wing delegates handed in a petition with 140 signatures demanding a date be fixed for the election of a general secretary.

Chapple has held the offices of both general secretary and president since the death of vehement anti-communist Sir Leslie Cannon in 1970.

Yesterday conference was given no hint that the executive had received the petition. But individual executive members privately doubted the document, with 'so few' signatures, would be raised at all.

Chapple has already said he is considering an announcement before conference ends, and a statement is expected on Friday.

The petition was sponsored by Catholic Action supporter, Jersey delegate Jock McCain, and signed by a number of left-wingers.

Yesterday Chapple launched a predictable but bitter attack on the Communist Party members and their supporters, who practically for the first time in the four-day conference marched to the rostrum one after another to speak in the debate on the Industrial Relations Act.

He said: 'Our history has been one of exposing bad laws and making laws. It is not legislation in itself that is bad, but the type of legislation. We should try to work within legislation and improve it.'

He warned: 'We are not here to overthrow a democratically elected government in Britain. There are some who really want to overthrow the democratic system. They will be as opposed to the Labour government, which we have not yet got, as they are to the Tories.'

Chapple said speakers who branded supporters of the democratic process as backers of regimes such as those in Spain and South Africa should remember that trade unions were not free in communist countries like Russia, Czechoslovakia and China.

He said: 'It does not make any difference whether we are put in jail by Brezhnev or Heath.'

Chapple called 'blind opposition, to the anti-union laws 'hysterical', and claimed the Act had its good parts.

He added: 'No one would deny some of its clauses need to be repealed.'

He concluded: 'If the trade union movement wants to remain a power in our society, and ensure a rise in living standards, raised old age pensions and sustained employment, it must work with industry to achieve higher productivity—assuming of course we can have a say.'

Only four of the 30 resolutions on the Act survived composing.

Chapple's attempts to get all the resolutions remitted to the executive for them to deal with as they saw fit was defeated by 291 votes to 205.

A resolution calling for a secret ballot of electricians on the Act, and upon the executive to work to improve its worst aspects, was thrown out by 260 votes to 227.

Another resolution instructing the executive to urge the TUC to mobilize the whole trade union movement in defence of unions threatened under the Act was carried by 268 votes to 235.



Delegates leaving the EPTU conference in Douglas, Isle of Man.

Chapple twice called for tellers, and made it clear that in the interests of union unity either all the resolutions would be remitted or he would urge conference to vote for them all.

Main motion

The major resolution on the Act said: 'This conference reaffirms the 1971 policy conference decision of deregistration, and calls upon the executive committee to join in the fight for a stronger and more united TUC policy to defeat the Act.'

'Conference calls on the Parliamentary Labour Party to repeal

this law when it becomes the government, and to pledge that no Labour government will interfere with any of the hard-won rights of the trade union movement.'

Proposing, ex-CPer Jim Atkinson, from west London, said: 'This union must get together with the TUC to build unity and bring maximum pressure on the Tory government to repeal this Act.'

'We want this Act repealed, and we want a pledge from the next Labour government that they won't interfere with the trade union movement. In a society where all the cards are stacked in favour of the employers we need a free trade union movement which is the

only defence workers have.'

Mr Atkinson, in common with almost every other speaker against the Act, claimed the massive spontaneous opposition of the working class, as in the case of the Pentonville Five, had made it a 'dead letter'.

Repeal move

Now the movement must work to have it repealed.

On Wednesday, delegates backed the executive's call to increase liaison with trade unions in the Common Market—particularly in view of the growth of multinational companies.

Below: EPTU secretary and president-elect Frank Chapple.



STALINISTS SANCTIONED TALKS

FROM PAGE 1

That round of talks was so blatant that even the 'Morning Star' had to call on October 28 for them to be broken off—but the Stalinist paper reassured its readers 'a deal seems unlikely'.

On November 1 the 'Morning Star' declared that talks could not continue unless the unions backed down on resistance to laws holding down pay. That couldn't happen, we were told, because of the opposition led by Hugh Scanlon.

The 'Star' again tried to lull the working class into dangerous complacency on November 4 by stating that Heath had 'failed to trap the TUC leaders'. He had 'suffered another set-back' and his 'attempt to get the TUC to act as pay restraint policeman had come unstuck'.

Only two days before, Workers Press had exclusively blown the lid off secret Buckingham Palace talks with CBI leaders and the Duke of Edinburgh attended by Feather, Jones, Scanlon, George Smith, Alf Allen, Alan Fisher and Frank Chapple!

On November 7 the 'Star' said that the state pay laws (referred to as a 'pay-freeze') were 'a confidence trick and a confession of failure'.

On November 8 the TUC economic committee voted to

break off the talks as long as what they called the 'freeze' continued.

The 'Morning Star' reported this, and the Labourites' contributions in the parliamentary debate on the state control of wages, as a 'Hot blast at the Heath Freeze'.

What the 'Star' did not report—but Workers Press did—was Feather's statement that:

'We shall judge the circumstances in relation to the standstill in the light of any changed atmosphere or new development.'

On November 22 Feather was saying that he 'had not slammed the door' on further talks and that the unions 'had no choice' but to accept the 'freeze'.

On January 16 this year Feather announced that the TUC was 'not seeking a confrontation with the government or the employers' and that 'eventually, and probably quite soon, we shall need to talk again'.

On the morning of February 14, the TUC received a summons from Heath and promptly trooped into Downing Street that same afternoon to be told that there was 'no chance' of the government giving in to pay demands.

At that time the 'Morning Star' was enthusiastic about the decision to hold a special conference of the TUC on March 5.

This was presented as a great step forward—and the fact that the decision was taken at the same meeting which decided to go yet again to Downing Street was completely played down.

Only the Socialist Labour League, the All Trades Unions Alliance and the Young Socialists raised the demand for an indefinite General Strike to force the Tories to resign. The ATUA mounted a 1,000-strong lobby of the March 5 conference to press that demand.

The Stalinists' Liaison Committee for the Defence of Trade Unions was hardly to be seen.

While the Stalinists falsely claimed that the one-day strike was the first stage of a plan to defeat the state pay laws, Workers Press pointed out that no such campaign was being organized by the TUC.

We have been proved right. We supported the one-day strike, but warned that it was inadequate. The Stalinists were determined to hold back the working class within the limits laid down by the official union leaders.

At the National Union of Teachers' conference, where the leadership opposed even the limited May 1 action, the Stalinists voted with them!

Now the 'Morning Star' professes horror and shock at the

report that the TUC is engaging in even more sell-out talks.

But the grounds were prepared by the Stalinists. While Bert Ramelson, John Gollan and George Matthews were assuring their followers that the TUC, especially the 'lefts', were putting up a real fight—this is what was actually being planned behind the scenes.

Without the support of Communist Party members in leading positions in some unions, the union leaders would have been unable to proceed so smoothly on the path of class collaboration.

The Stalinists assist that policy and deliberately keep the truth from their followers because their theory of 'peaceful co-existence' and 'parliamentary roads to socialism' involves capitulation to the boss and collaboration with the right wing.

We say the Stalinists are hand in glove with Feather, Jones, Scanlon and company and are involved in their treachery up to their necks.

This shows how urgent is the task which the Socialist Labour League has set itself—to transform itself into the revolutionary party.

One of the central tasks of that party will be to drive the traitors of all varieties, right-wing, 'lefts' and Stalinists from the leadership of the unions.