



## Are you serious about industrial action against Indo-Chinese war?

### LAMBETH SPARKS CALL FOR ONE-DAY ACTION

LAMBETH Electrical Trades Union has called on its EC to organize a one-day stoppage 'in opposition to the genocidal war of American imperialism in Indo-China and against the shooting of four American students'. The resolution passed overwhelmingly by the branch believes 'this is the only way to oppose the war and only effective expression of our solidarity with the victory of the National Liberation Front'.

# We challenge 'Morning Star' editor

BY MICHAEL BANDA

IN YOUR statement to the Communist Party last weekend you referred to the ASTMS proposal for a TUC-organized day of action on the Indo-China war and explained the attitude of your Party.

This is what you said: 'It would be a tremendous thing if Britain's labour movement decided to demonstrate its opposition to Nixon's war on one particular day with meetings, factory actions, stoppages and other forms of protest.'

Last year, though there was no lead from the TUC, hundreds of thousands of workers on February 27 and May 1 took action against the anti-strike laws. It was decisive in defeating them, and such action today could be decisive in ending American aggression.'

The Workers Press supported this call wholeheartedly while warning our readers that attempts to substitute 'left' noises for militant working-class action and to hide behind the TUC's failure to act, would be exposed by the struggle. Since you made this statement, however, neither the 'Morning Star' nor leading members of the Party in the trade unions have tried to implement such a policy. Tuesday's edition of the 'Morning Star' (May 12, 1970) illustrates our warning about 'left' noises only too clearly.

### NUM statement

Your paper gives uncritical prominence to the thoroughly opportunist statement of the Scottish Area Executive Committee on Monday May 11.

Nowhere in this resolution is there any call for working-class action against the war. In fact, the resolution does the opposite. It calls on the working class to place its confidence in world imperialism by defining the war as a violation of the imperialist-inspired United Nations Charter and by calling for a 'peaceful settlement of the Vietnam war on the basis of the 1954 Geneva agreement'.

There were 213 price increases in the week ending on Thursday, says the trade magazine 'The Grocer'. These affected pickles, dog food, sausages, cake, biscuits, preserves, canned vegetables and soups and tea bringing the total for the first 20 weeks of the year to 3,666 increases.



Rolls-Royce body plant workers march through Willesden yesterday morning.

## Rolls body workers fight pay 'strings'

WORKERS at Mulliner Park Ward, Willesden—the craftsmen who make the body work for 'the finest car in the world'—have been locked out from the Rolls-Royce-owned factory for almost three weeks over a claim for increased piece-work rates.

BY JOHN SPENCER

Yesterday they marched 40-strong through Willesden behind their union banners after a mass meeting addressed by officials of some of the ten unions involved.

Rolls-Royce locked the workers out when they refused to end a two-week work-to-rule at the factory against a management demand that pay rises should be linked to productivity strings.

Many of the workers regard this as the opening wedge for the introduction of Measured-

Day Work. Rolls-Royce have already taken steps to bring the speed-up payment system into its Midlands plants.

Piecework rates at the Willesden factory were fixed four years ago and are now, workers say, totally inadequate against steep cost of living increases.

'In the past we've given productivity deals away and raised our earnings by productivity alone. But you reach a point where you have to fight for a straight wage rise,' lock-out committee member H. A. Bradley told Workers Press.

'We are not prepared to accept a productivity deal. Management have fixed production targets before and have never achieved them. How do they expect us to do it if they can't?'

His fellow committee member D. W. Graham said: 'We have no control over the production in the factory, that's the management's job.'

At present the men are fighting to be paid unemployment benefits by the local

## Food prices increase faster

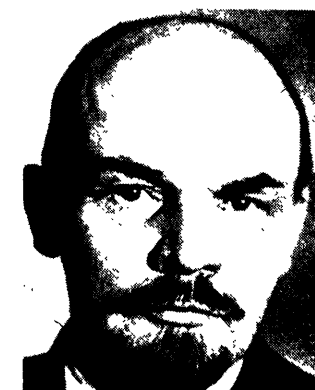
MR STUART GREIG, chairman of David Greig, the grocery chain has warned that faster and larger increases in the prices of foodstuffs is to come.

'It is my opinion that during the period between now and October we shall see a lot of substantial increases', he said. 'Food manufacturers' profits have been falling and are continuing to fall and they are not prepared to see it continue.'

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### Socialist Labour League and Young Socialists



**CENTENARY PUBLIC MEETING Birmingham**  
Sunday, May 17  
7.00 p.m.  
**DIGBETH CIVIC HALL**

Speaker: Gerry Healy, National Secretary, Socialist Labour League

## 'Law and order' brigade howl for blood

knock the middle class into line for the next election. Warning to the fight, no less than three pillars of the establishment leapt out of their holes recently, dusted down their party pieces and joined the fray. Lord Shawcross QC, former Labour Attorney-General, speaking to the Institute of Directors attacked the 'naked power' of the shop floor as a threat both to industry and the political superstructure of Britain. 'This was power, not right, not even reason, still less legality,' he said.

Some anti-union laws, please, to tame the power-mad hordes! Meanwhile, the press must be free to do its job, probing and discussing matters of 'legitimate public concern'—an open condoning of the mounting witch-hunt. Also expressing themselves on matters of 'public concern', the vice chancellors of both Manchester and London universities launched in at student militants. While the London VC, Sir Douglas Logan, called for the outlawing of sit-ins and the expulsion of those

students who participated, William Mansfield Cooper from Manchester implied that subversive 'plants' were now at work in the academic world. The universities have been invaded in increasing numbers by students who were not greatly interested in study, he said. He saw some of the elements of 'force, inhumanity and intolerance' that arose in Nazi Germany. 'They are too often and most unknowingly to themselves the tools of men who would invade and overthrow the

objectivity of universities,' he said. Naturally, to avoid 'personalization', no names were mentioned. Be warned, the faceless men are at it again! A dose of 'discipline' must surely be in order, thinks the middle class. Yes, the Tory election campaign is well under way and within the working class the fight for socialist policies will be decisive in defeating the witch-hunt, given credence by these eminent gentlemen, and keeping the Tories out.

## Glass men must reject phoney ballot

RANK-AND-FILE leaders of the six-week old Pilkington glass strike have called an emergency mass meeting before the start of this morning's secret ballot 'to place the issues before the members'.

'We've always adopted the policy that the mass of workers must decide', one strike committee member told the Workers Press as loudspeaker cars announcing the meeting toured St Helens yesterday lunchtime.

'The ballot must be put to them first.'

Disinterest and even plain hostility to the ballot from many of the strikers picketing the town's six Pilkington plants during the last two days have gone alongside the strike committee's apparent confidence that it will go in favour of continuing.

'It's like winning a cup final 6-0 and coming away

without the cup', commented one member at the committee's headquarters yesterday morning.

'We've had six mass meetings and they've all been solidly in favour of going on.' The issues before today's meeting were explained by committee members and pickets, angered by the company's claim—based on stories in several of yesterday's Fleet Street papers—that a wage clerk's error in calculating 200 men's bonus pay was used as an excuse to start the dispute.

'18 years I've been fighting for a decent pay structure here,' said one committee member. 'They've got away with this kind of thing for a long time.'

### PATTERN

'These aren't "mistakes", said another. 'It's part of the whole pattern. "M.J." were promised £3 on a tank repair job and came away with 12s 6d—anyway, this was reported to the branch committee long before the strike.'

Strike committee secretary Bill Cowley confirmed that the error had been known at least a week before the strike began.

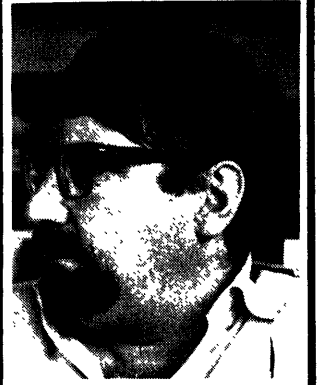
'If anything,' said another strike leader, 'it was the last straw that broke the camel's back.' Less than a mile away, a striker from Pilkington's Ravenhead works gestured towards the fountain set in the middle of lush flower beds and commented: 'The fact is they're prepared to spend more on this—and new offices—than on us. I don't think we should go back till that is changed.'

### Journalists strike

ABOUT 120 journalists employed by the Thomson-owned Newcastle Evening Chronicle and Journal Co. walked out on strike yesterday.

They want pay parity with their counterparts in Edinburgh.

### Exclusive interview with DAVID MERCER



### NEXT TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY

Playwright David Mercer talks to Brian Moore in an exclusive interview for Workers Press about his recent TV trilogy 'On the Eve of Publication', 'The Cellar and the Almond Tree' and 'Emma's Time' (screened last Wednesday), and his two stage plays 'After Haggerly' and 'Flint'. This is one of the fullest interviews ever given by David Mercer and the wide range of subjects he deals with—art, politics, Stalinism, Leninism, psychiatry, the role of the writer in society, his understanding of the present crisis of capitalism and Stalinism—should be of great interest to Workers Press readers.

Order your copy in advance so as not to miss it. Contact: Circulation Department, 186a, Clapham High Street, London, S.W.4. or Telephone 01-720-2000.

## Israel presses for U.S. jets

WHILE ARAB guerrillas regroup their forces on the Israel-Lebanon border, air and artillery battles continue in the Suez Canal area.

Engagements between Israeli jets and Egyptian MiG fighters took place on Wednesday and again yesterday. The Israelis were bombing the Sam missile bases being built near the Canal.

Israeli diplomats have been pressing the US government for more shipments of Phantom jets to be sent. They use the presence of Russian pilots in the Suez area as a lever.

As an argument in Washington, the Israelis use the warning that the Egyptians might reopen the Suez Canal for Soviet arms to go to Vietnam. The Canal would allow ships to travel from the Black Sea to the Indian Ocean.

Israel's Foreign Minister Eban will be putting this case to Nixon when he visits Washington next week.

However, some State Department officials have a different view of the significance of the Soviet aid to Egypt.

As in Vietnam, they argue, Soviet arms are a means of keeping the revolutionary danger under control.

Soviet MiGs piloted by Russians and defending Russian missile bases, while increasing Soviet military influence considerably, are also a lever firmly in the hands of Moscow bureaucrats, not Arab revolutionaries.

The Arab liberation fighters would do well to ponder the 1962 experience of Cuba with a similar kind of Soviet aid.

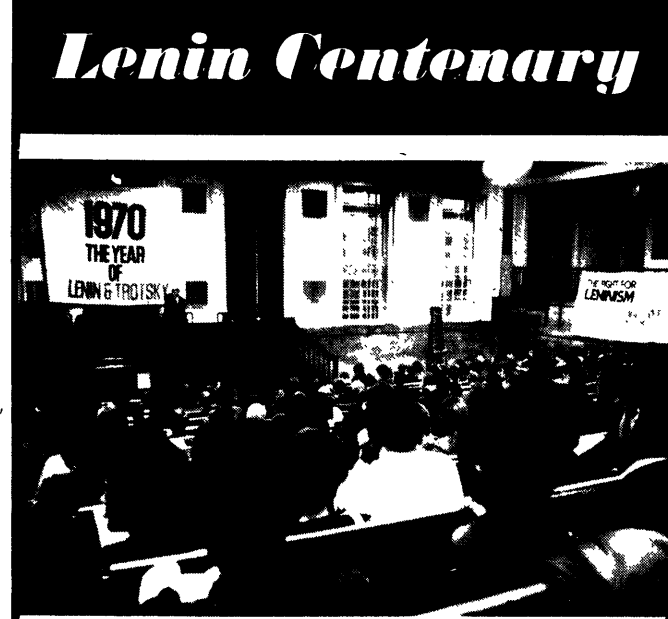
## May £1,000 Appeal Fund rises to £170 13s 2d

THIS IS THE most important weekend of the month for breaking the back of our fund.

Yesterday we received £18 16s 5d which of course is well below the daily average required. We have 15 days to raise £829 6s 10d which amounts to approximately £56 a day.

If we could raise something along these lines over the weekend we would be firmly on course.

Please send us as much as you can so as to arrive first post Monday, May 18. Post it to Workers Press Appeal Fund, 186a Clapham High Street, London, S.W.4.



The second of two London lectures to mark the 100th anniversary of Lenin's birth

Monday, May 18, 7.30 p.m.

### 'Lenin and the coming English Revolution'

Lecture given by G. HEALY, national secretary of the Socialist Labour League

BEAVER HALL

Garlick Hill, London, E.C.4

(Near Mansion House tube station)

Admission two shillings

### What we think

THE TORY leaders find the Labour Party's proposed election campaign a little too 'personalized', it seems. But while they proclaim their aloofness from 'gutter politics', the Tory press and establishment feel free to indulge in the methods of the smear, witch-hunt and character assassination as part of the campaign for 'law and order' and to

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## The concluding part of Tom Kemp's 14 part series on the French C.P., which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.

WHILE defining the Gaullist regime as 'personal power in the service of monopolies' the Communist Party held fast to its parliamentary road policy and in practice played the role of a loyal opposition.

Its politics were still centred on electoral manoeuvres. It strongly opposed any coalition of opposition groups which excluded it, as Deferre sought to do in 1965.

Its main aim was an electoral understanding with the Socialist Party and the left bourgeois groups (such as that of Mitterand) of the sort concluded in December, 1966.

The priority given to these electoral calculations is a constant factor in its activity between 1964 and 1968.

What the Party leadership proposed was an alternative government, within the framework of existing institutions, to bring about what was described as an 'advanced democracy'.

This required cautious manoeuvring to neutralize those elements in the Socialist and other parties which were more strongly anti-Communist than they were anti-Gaullist.

While it was necessary to have a base in the working class in order to bargain, the class had at all costs to be kept in leash. The Party's electoral calculations imposed an opportunist course in industry and a policy of moderation to placate the fears of the middle class.

During the mid-1960s de Gaulle's foreign policy veered away from the Americans when, in order to strengthen France's bargaining position, he began to seek an agreement with the Soviet Union and the countries of E Europe.

The Soviet bureaucracy did all it could to encourage such a turn. Indeed, at times, it expressed its approval more openly than the French Party liked. For example, during the 1966 presidential campaign, when the party backed Mitterand, Tass put out a statement which encouraged electors to vote for de Gaulle!

The Party complained. Not long afterwards, at the 23rd Congress of the CPSU, a reference to the General in Waldeck Rochet's speech produced unanimous (and for him probably embarrassing) applause from the assembled delegates from the world's Communist Parties.

### Hostility

Undoubtedly this was going too far. The Party could not ignore the growing hostility of the working class to Gaullism, which sharpened considerably after the ordinances cutting back on social security in August 1967. Moreover, many militants were uneasy at the Party's manoeuvres and the tacit support it offered to de Gaulle's bid to play an 'independent' role in world affairs.

This attempt proved to be short-lived, connected as it was with the temporary strength of the Franc in relation to the dollar which did not outlive the May-June 1968 events.

But there is no doubt that it had the approval of the Soviet bureaucracy and that the Party adapted its policy to the requirements of the Kremlin.

As a bourgeois commentator put it in 1965:

'In parliament communists and Gaullists sometimes vote together against the rest, or sit silent while others cheer an attack on the General's foreign policy—which the Party frequently praises'.

Party organs pointed to the 'positive aspects' of de Gaulle's diplomacy while continuing their verbal criticisms of the regime itself.

When the General Election took place in March 1967 the Party again showed its electoral vitality. Thanks to its electoral agreement with the Left Federation it was able to increase its representation from 41 to 73 seats. But, although it had won back over a million votes compared with 1962 and had 22.5 per cent of the votes cast it was still half a million votes short of its 1956 peak.

Until 1968, therefore, the Party leaders could take comfort that their aims were being achieved. They appeared to have begun to break out of the political ghetto and become an acceptable partner once again for the SFIO and left bourgeois parties.

De Gaulle seemed to be set on a course which gave plea-

sure in the Kremlin and made him a popular figure in E Europe.

The long run up to a 'renovated democracy' seemed to have begun in which a new version of tripartism would ultimately take over from Gaullism, if only nobody rocked the boat.

Although the Party had been severely shaken by the crisis in the world communist movement after 1956 and had lost some members as a result of the Sino-Soviet split, its apparatus remained intact there was no split in the leadership and it could still count on the support of a substantial majority of the working class.

What did this 'support' amount to? It was demonstrated in local and national elections and in representation on factory committees rather than in the Party's ability to control the class. Membership of the CGT had fallen well below its peaks of 1936-1937 and 1945-1947.

### Betrays

Hostility to the Party's past betrayals and to Stalinism was an important factor. 'Anti-communism'—a different thing—motivated the leadership of the rival unions and found an echo in backward sections of the working class as a result of the Cold War propaganda.

Essentially, the split in the working class and the relative weakness of the trade union movement as a whole was the responsibility of Stalinism and its policy since the 1930s. It was the CP's record of deception and betrayal, its defence of every aspect of Stalinist policy, the tactics and methods of its apparatus which perpetuated divisions in the working class and scoured the reformists of Force Ouvrière and prolonged the life of anarcho-syndicalist traits in the class.

At the same time the Party had established itself as a traditional representative of the working class. It still carried with it the prestige of the October Revolution and the Red Army; it was thus able to attract many workers and youth looking for a revolutionary party.



The February 1 AJS rally attended by 10,000 youth signifies the beginning of a new mass revolutionary leadership which can break the hold of Stalinism and prepare the French working class for the taking of power.

By its apparent militancy, and by the hostility which it drew from the bourgeoisie and the reformists, it was able to maintain its support. But the turnover of membership was high and it was ageing perceptibly.

It was and is the main Party, but not the only Party. It still had to face competition from the SFIO, which retained the allegiance of sections of workers, especially in the northern coalfields and some of the industrial areas and big cities.

However, the CP was much more highly disciplined and organized, much more of a power backed by devoted militants. The Socialist Party had for long been in decline and crisis. It had shifted far to the right and its leadership practised complete opportunism and a sterile anti-communism.

### Support

Thus, despite the fact that the SFIO retained some working-class support and that many workers remained outside the CP, or had left it, for sound political reasons, the party's hold on the working class remained a major block to building the revolutionary party in France.

The struggle against Stalin-

ism and to break its best militants as well as the working-class supporters away from the CP remained a basic task.

This was to be demonstrated with great force during the May-June events of 1968. During the early stages of the student struggle against the government's attack on university education the party stood aside. It was a diversion from its political game of winning allies and building a broad coalition which had shown some fruits in the presidential elections of 1965 when, on the second ballot, Mitterand had secured 45 per cent of the votes.

Its attitude towards the student revolt remained for a long time extremely hostile. The students were described as 'sons of bourgeois' and

which emanated from the demonstrations, coupled with the government's obvious impotence and confusion (both de Gaulle and the prime minister were out of the country, the former being feted in Rumania), now brought the working class on to the scene.

### Occupied

In the following week factories were occupied in many places, despite and against the will of the CP and the CGT, until something like ten million workers were on strike in the largest movement of its kind ever seen in the history of capitalism.

If the spontaneous combativity of the working class had

strength for fear of precipitating civil war, is proof enough.

The demands of the working class did challenge the system. It was the CGT and the CP, because of their key role, which kept the strike within limits which the workers themselves tended to overstep. The response of Renault workers, who rejected the first agreement with the management brought back by Seguy of the CGT, was highly significant.

Not only did it show that economic demands had become a revolutionary factor, but the cry of 'a popular government', taken up from the CP's own slogans, represented, in a still inadequate way, an understanding that the question of power was involved.

swept the party of reaction back into power.

What the Communist Party did in May-June, in short, was to hold the working class in check, prevent a struggle for power and permit the regime to restore the situation at the price of concessions which fell short of what the workers had demanded.

The revolutionary nature of the crisis forced it to appear as an open defender of the bourgeois social order. Not only did this appear obvious to many observers who had hitherto seen it as some kind of revolutionary force, but, what was of much greater importance, this was understood by many in its own ranks. Much effort had to be deployed to explain away its policy on tactical grounds.

During the elections it draped itself in the tricolour, declared itself a Party of order and did its best to disassociate itself from the barricades and street-fighting which for many voters constituted the core of the 'events'.

This was the counterpart of their demobilization of the strikers to which the bureaucrats now bent their efforts.

Instead of acting in a revolutionary way to unify the class, raise its consciousness and lead it in a struggle for power the CP, in fact, split up and destroyed the strike from within.

### Survived

It was thus directly instrumental in seeing that the factories were handed back to their owners and that the regime survived.

It used its extensive and disciplined apparatus for this purpose, with the help of the divisions in the class, the bait of wages and other concessions made and the widespread illusions in parliament which the working class still conserved.

The problem for the Communist Party was to pursue a counter-revolutionary course without losing its grip on the working class. This required concocting and diffusing its own version of the events which insisted on the absence of a revolutionary situation. It was then able to transform what had been a struggle for power into the peaceful, legal channel of a traditional election campaign, though one in which it lost almost 600,000 votes.

Hardly had it gone through one of the most serious trials in its history than the Party was obliged to take a position on the Soviet military intervention in Czechoslovakia in August 1968. Here, surprisingly, it came out in criticism of the Soviet action and found itself—temporarily—in disaccord with Moscow.

The dependence of the French CP upon the Soviet bureaucracy for its political line and for direct material as well as moral support has always been a fact of its life since the rise of Stalinism. At the same time, the roots which the Party has put down in a bourgeois society, the role it played in its institutions of government and its relationship with the working class gives it also a 'national' base.

The CP comes to resemble, but still differs in fundamental respects from, the old Social-Democratic parties. Complete coincidence of interests and views with the Soviet bureaucracy—which is itself in

crisis and pulled this way and that by the factions within it—while ostensibly maintained, can no longer be guaranteed.

The strain of the Czech crisis revealed a definite divergence. The French CP responded to pressures in its own ranks, and more broadly in circles in which it hoped to win allies. It was probably also influenced by a desire to have a voice of its own and to show its independence as much or more than by sympathy for Dubeck.

The mildness of the original criticism and the failure to follow it up made possible a reconciliation. If the French Party needs the support of the Soviet bureaucracy, the latter also needs a party in France which can hold the working class back from revolution. The coincidence of interest is strictly in maintaining the status quo, the necessary conditions for 'peaceful co-existence' which the events of May-June threatened to destroy.

Nothing in France has been the same since the stormy May and June of 1968.

The defeat and departure of de Gaulle in the following April showed the strength of the working class. The flight of capital in the previous months, the decline and devaluation of the franc and the inability of the employers and the government to grapple with the economic crisis destroyed all de Gaulle's hopes for a new independent role for France.

The great issues between the classes remain unresolved, with de Gaulle's successors reluctant to take the necessary measures to deal with the working class because of fear of a new May-June which they would not survive.

The Communist Party meanwhile continues to play its old role. It conserves its base in the working class, but it is more exposed, more vulnerable than before. Despite the selection of Duclos, an unconvincing presidential challenger, the Party was able to win 21.5 per cent of the vote on the first ballot against 5 per cent for Deferre of the Socialist Party.

### Role

The CP's role has not yet been exposed and understood by the French working class. Only by being forced to take on a political struggle and being confronted by its responsibilities can this be done and the crisis in its own ranks be brought to a head.

Its 19th Congress in February 1970 was preceded by a discussion which, while controlled by the apparatus, could not prevent the expression of sharply critical views. Although the leadership was able to isolate its most vocal critic, already dropped from the Political Bureau, Roger Garaudy, it could not prevent him expressing himself at the Congress. Such a situation would not have been permitted in the Thorez era!

The Party's position is now determined by the continued impact of the May-June events, the openness of the confrontation of class forces in France—and thus the danger of being out-flanked—and the rising tide of opposition and political revolution in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. Its authority is now in question,

its ability to control the working class in doubt.

The successes of the French Trotskyists in building up the Alliance des Jeunes pour le Socialisme and in establishing a base in the trade unions point the way. The CP has to contend with an alternative pole of attraction which, despite its still small size, has shown its strength.

The situation demands a united front of the working class against the repressive measures being prepared by the government and the drive to solve the problems of French capitalism at the expense of the workers' rights and standards of living. The basis for such a united front is the strength, confidence and combativity of the working class itself.

The resolution of the crisis of leadership in the working-class movement makes it necessary to settle accounts with the traditional leaderships which have betrayed.

There is no way of bypassing the Communist Party. Large sections of the class recognize it as their Party.

Over one in four of the electorate vote for it. It is still a mass Party with roots in the class and a grip on it which still has to be broken.

This is true, notwithstanding the fact that there are many militants outside it who work mainly or exclusively in the unions, that the Socialist Party has retained the support of certain sections of the class and that a certain number of workers are drawn towards the centrist PSU or the leftist groups. The specific weight of the CP in the class remains decisive at all times, and especially when it comes into action.

### Party

How to smash the Stalinized CP and re-establish in France a mass revolutionary party which carries on the traditions of the early days of the Communist International is the task of the Fourth International.

The leadership of the Communist Party has to be exposed before the working class. Demands have to be made upon it which oblige it to fight to form a workers' government with the other working-class formations or explain why it does not. It will not be defeated by argument but only in the course of a struggle.

The situation in the Party is now more favourable than ever for such a struggle. Its relationship to the working class is no longer what it was before May-June 1968. Great opportunities now exist to sharpen up the internal crisis and win big forces away from its influence.

Before workers who accept Communist Party leadership, and they form a large and strategically decisive section of the class, can be broken from it they will have to go through further experiences in which its counter-revolutionary role becomes manifest.

It must be called upon to break all forms of compromise with the bourgeoisie.

It should be confronted with the demand for a Communist-Socialist government based on the working class and

by Tom Kemp

STALINIST  
DEGENERATION  
CONTINUES

etudiants, enseignants, travailleurs, solidaires

HISTORY OF THE FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY

part fourteen

the trade unions as an alternative to the present regime.

As the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the Party at Tours in December 1920 draws near we can expect the usual flood of distortion about the Party's past.

It is clear from preceding articles that the early attempts by the Communist International, and especially by Trotsky, to establish a party of a Bolshevik type in France after Tours, while making some progress, were soon overcome by the degeneration of the International itself.

What emerged from the process wrongly called 'Bolshevization' was a docile instrument of Moscow which was later endowed with a hand-picked leadership headed by Maurice Thorez.

Thorez accepted Stalin as his mentor and built the Party into a powerful political force in France, but one noted for its unwavering fidelity to the needs of Moscow.

If the writings published at the time of the 40th anniversary are any guide we cannot expect that Party historians will deal at all faithfully with its past.

Education

The special number of 'Cahiers de Communisme' put out for the education of militants on that occasion was able to deal with the Party's history without a reference to Stalin—or to the Communist International. The reader gathers that the Party had always been right, thanks principally to Maurice Thorez.

The Party militants have to be confronted with the real part of their own Party and the counter-revolutionary role which it has played since the 1930s.

The leadership has to be asked now where it stands on Stalinism and whether it still justifies the Moscow Trials and purges; how it explains the repression in E Europe; and whether it still accepts the characterization of Trotskyism which it employed in the past.

Not least there has to be some explanation of the treatment meted out to Marty, Tillon and other militants who served the Party well for many years and were then denounced and slandered.

What were the real facts about the Party regime in the days of Thorez?

Opening up these questions is not of merely historical interest. It can provide an important weapon in dealing with Stalinism and its sequels and cutting them out of the French working-class movement.

The carrying out of this task is part of the struggle to bring the working class to power.



Hugo Blanco, an avowed supporter of Trotskyism.

IN THE May 12 'Morning Star', Jorge Del Prado, General Secretary of the Peru Communist Party, explained to its readers 'Why Communists Support Peru's Military Government'.

This regime has already been roundly condemned by the leaders of several left-wing groups in Peru. Even the Castroites oppose it, despite the fact that the Cuban government has several times stated that General Velasco's regime is capable of carrying through a consistent fight for socialism against internal reaction and US imperialism.

It holds in prison many well known militants—including Hugo Blanco—and has repressed both students and peasants fighting for their democratic rights. In no sense of the term can the regime be described either as socialist or even bourgeois democratic.

Prado carefully skirts round these unsavoury facts. At all costs, the regime must be built up as 'progressive' and 'anti-imperialist'.

The military government . . . contrary to the views abroad that it had carried out a preventative coup d'etat against the left, has, in fact, introduced a number of important radical measures . . .

The real basis of Prado's support is not the class nature of the regime, but the role it can play in the intricate manoeuvrings between the Soviet bureaucracy and US imperialism.

In the face of the opposition of internal reaction and the threats of economic sanctions from the US that these measures evoked, the government established relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries . . .

For a Stalinist, this is the beginning and end of all political wisdom. In fact the Stalinists have now become one of the main props of the regime—something which helps to explain Castro's statements in support of General Velasco.

Prado himself describes how his Party has helped to mobilize the Peruvian working class behind a regime that could at any moment turn on them in the most brutal fashion:

'Morning Star' supports the Peruvian jailers of Hugo Blanco

BY ROBERT BLACK

'The General Confederation of Labour of Peru, in which Communists play an important role, had by now become a very powerful force. . . . The confederation called a big march and meeting to support the government's policy, but also to demand an end to the anti-labour policy of the Ministry of Labour. . . . As the march was due to end in a meeting in the square of the Presidential Palace, the President indicated that in this case he would have to make an appearance, which he wasn't prepared to do, though he respected the demonstration that had been called.

'A compromise solution resulted in the march being transferred to another square. Thus on March 9, this year, the first organized mass demonstration of the government took place with over 60,000 taking part.' (Emphasis added.)

Mobilizing

So the Stalinists—working through the trade unions—are the main political force mobilizing the working class behind the military regime. As Prado makes very clear, the rally of March 9 could not have taken place without the intervention of his Party.

Prado, at the instigation of the Soviet bureaucracy, follows in the blood-drenched footsteps of the Chinese Communist Party. It too, in the interests of 'anti-imperialist unity', mobilized the workers and peasants behind a 'left' military figure—Chiang Kai-shek—who also had good relations with the Soviet bureaucracy.

With Stalin's assistance Chiang led the Chinese workers into massacre after massacre.

It took 20 years or more for the Chinese working class to recover from the blood-lettings of Shanghai, Canton and Wuhan.

Now Prado plans a repeat performance in Peru.

Latin American Stalinism has always taken as its starting point the interests and diplomacy of the Kremlin, and never the revolutionary interests of the workers and peasants of central and South America.

The Cuban Communist Party has one of the worst records in this respect.

The name Batista evokes hatred and disgust in the memory of every Cuban worker



Blas Roca, leader of Cuban Stalinism, with Castro.

and peasant. His regime, overthrown by the 1959 Castro-led revolution, was responsible for the torture, murder, persecution and poverty of countless thousands of workers and poor peasants.

Yet how many know that Batista was once supported by the Stalinists?

Again, the determining factor was Stalinist diplomacy—only on this occasion, the Batista regime was given the stamp of approval because it was pro-US imperialism!

The date is important—early 1939, when the Soviet bureaucracy was still pursuing its 'Popular Front' line against Germany. The Roosevelt Administration was also anti-German, so all pro-US regimes in Latin America, whatever their internal policy, won Stalinist support.

In the 'Communist International' for January 1939 we can read (in an article entitled 'The Struggle for Democracy in Cuba') the following apology for the regime overthrown by Castro 20 years later:

'Great changes have recently taken place in the political life of Cuba. At the beginning of 1938, the government, whose real head is Colonel Batista, was a military dictatorship. Now it has taken genuine steps towards recognizing the democratic rights of the people . . .

On September 30, Batista told the American agency, the Associated Press, "Cuba is for democracy and

against the totalitarian states". He added that the Cuban army, 25,000 strong, would support the democratic United States [sic] in the event of their fighting a war against fascism . . . Comrade Blas Roca [the current leader of the Cuban Stalinists] . . . [was] received by Colonel Batista, who assured [him] of his determination to call the Constituent Assembly during 1939. When Blas Roca refuted the charges of the reactionary press that Batista had manoeuvred against the Communists, Batista sent him a friendly telegram, reaffirming his aims.'

This was the degree of intimacy between the butcher of the Cuban people and the leader of Cuban Stalinism, Blas Roca, now one of the Castro regime's main allies.

And true to form, those who stood out for an independent class line against the pro-US Batista regime were denounced by the Cuban Stalinists as fascists. This abuse was particularly vicious when directed against the Trotskyists. This same article states:

'The Communist Party has worked hard to overcome the sectarian mistakes of the past [sic]. It has fought vigorously and successfully against putchist tendencies which existed amongst the petty bourgeoisie, and which were being cleverly exploited by fascist agents, especially by the Trotskyists. . . . The Cuban reactionaries have begun to attack Colonel

Batista . . . Senator Casanova, a leading reactionary, has joined a Nazi Party, which has been modelled on the German Nazi Party. Together with the Trotskyist agents, whose acts of provocation include attacking a priest and throwing bombs in a cinema, the reactionaries are trying in every way to sabotage Batista's preparations for the Constituent Assembly. . . . Cuba's Communists and democrats are on their guard. They have discovered the sinister-sanguinary designs of the fascists and reactionaries, and the deeds of their agents, the Trotskyists.'

In those days of the pro-Roosevelt 'Popular Front', Trotskyists were denounced as enemies of US imperialism. Today the Blas Rocas and the Castros slander Trotskyism as one of its accomplices!

The same is true of the Peruvian Stalinists. Never at any time have they called for the release of Hugo Blanco, who is an avowed supporter of Trotskyism.

Instead they try to isolate Peruvian revolutionaries from the working class and peasantry, slandering them as 'adventurists'.

Death trap

Drawing ever closer to the Peruvian Chiang Kai-sheks, Prado and company lead the country's masses towards a death trap.

Stalinism, despite all the claims made on its behalf by revisionists such as Purdie of the International Marxist Group and Hallas of International Socialism, has not changed one bit.

It hates Trotskyism as much as in the days of the Moscow Trials and seeks to tie the working class to counter-revolutionary policies just as it did in the hey-day of Stalin.

The Peruvian Party pursues openly what the Kremlin seeks by more covert means in Greece, Spain, Indonesia and in many other countries ruled by anti-communist or even fascist regimes.

The Kremlin lets no scruple come between itself and the most cordial relations with any government it hopes will display the smallest independence from US imperialism.

The Kremlin backs such regimes not in order to weaken US imperialism, but to secure advantages that can be used at the bargaining table.

The Peruvian people, just like the workers of Greece and Spain, are so many pawns in the game of big-power diplomacy.

Prado, is the spokesman of this policy within the Peruvian Communist Party.

It is in keeping with the long-established traditions of the British Stalinist press that the columns of the 'Morning Star' should be used for such a reactionary and anti-working-class conspiracy.



The Peruvian military, jailers of Hugo Blanco, who have 'introduced a number of important radical measures . . .', are supported by the Peruvian Stalinists.

SATURDAY TV

BBC 1

9.35 a.m. Square two. 10.00 Repondez s'il vous plait. 10.30-11.00 Wie Bitte? 1.10 p.m. Weather. 1.15 Grandstand. 1.25 Fight of the week: Lightweight Championship of Great Britain, Ken Buchanan v Brian Hudson.

1.50, 2.20, 2.50, 3.25 Racing from Ascot. 2.05, 2.35, 3.05, 3.35 International swimming: The Blackpool Trophy. 3.05, 3.45 Rugby League Championship Final: Leeds v St Helens. 5.05 Results service. 5.15 Dr Who.

5.40 Debbie Reynolds show.

6.05 News and Weather.

6.15 Dad's army.

6.45 High Adventure. 'Many Rivers To Cross' with Robert Taylor, Eleanor Parker and Victor McLaglen. Comedy western.

8.20 Black and white minstrel show.

9.05 A man called Ironside. 'A Drug on the Market'.

9.55 News and weather.

10.10 Football champions of the world. How England won the 1966 World Cup and England v Argentina and West Germany v Russia, highlights.

11.00 Whatever next?

11.30 Weather.

ITV

11.10 a.m. RAC road report. 11.14 Talies in tales: 'Islam' presented by Sir Francis Chichester. 11.35 Casting around. 12 noon. Better driving. 12.35 p.m. Thunderbirds. 1.10 News. 1.20 World of sport. 1.25 International sports special: Royal Windsor Horse Show. 1.40 They're off! 1.45, 2.15, 2.45, 3.15 Racing from Newmarket. 2.00, 2.30, 3.00 Racing from Lingfield. 3.25 International sports special: Royal Windsor Horse Show. 3.35 Boxing from Rome: World Featherweight Championships. 3.55 Wrestling. 5.00 Results service.

5.15 Voyage to the bottom of the sea. 6.10 News. 6.15 H. R. Pufnstuf. 6.45 Dear Mother . . . Love Albert. 7.15 The Des O'Connor show.

8.15 'No My Darling Daughter' with Michael Redgrave, Michael Craig, Roger Livesey, Rad Fulton and Juliet Mills. The light-hearted story of the 16-year-old tomboy daughter of an eminent city tycoon. 10.00 News. 10.10 Saturday night theatre. 'When Johnny Comes Marching Home'. 11.00 Department S. 'Death On Reflection'. 12.05 a.m. 20th century thinkers.

BBC 2

3.00-4.35 p.m. Saturday cinema. 'When My Baby Smiles At Me' with Betty Grable and Dan Dailey. A musical about vaudeville entertainers. 7.30 News, sport and weather. 7.45 Westminster. A review of the political week. 8.05 Gardeners' world. 8.20 Chronicle.

REGIONAL ITV

CHANNEL: 1.10 London. 5.15 Garrison's gorillas. 6.10 London. 7.15 Feature film: 'Five Weeks In A Balloon' with Fabian and Peter Lorre. 9.00 Des O'Connor. 10.00 London. 11.10 Mission impossible. 12 midnight Weather.

WESTWARD: As Channel except: 6.15 Wheel of fortune. 12.05 Faith for life. 12.11 Weather.

SOUTHERN: 12.50 Weather. 12.53 Out of town. 1.12 London. 5.15 F troop. 5.45 News. 5.50 Garrison's gorillas. 6.45 London. 7.15 Film: 'Marines, Let's Go' with Tom Tryon and David Hedison. Korean War epic. 9.00 Des O'Connor. 10.00 London. 11.10 News. 11.20 Court martial. 12.15 Weather. 'Feed the minds'.

HARLECH: 11.25 Cricket. 12.10 Heading for change. 12.35 Pupp. 12.45 Skippy. 1.10 Lon. 5.15 Robin Hood. 5.40 Wheel of fortune. 6.10 London. 6.15 Voyage to the bottom of the sea. 7.15 Dear Mother. . . Love Albert. 7.45 Western: 'The Gun that Won the West' with Dennis Morgan and Richard Widmark. 9.00 Des O'Connor. 10.00 London. 11.10 Cinema: 'Man With A Gun' with Lee Patterson and Rona Anderson. 12.20 Weather.

ANGLIA: 1.10 London. 5.15 Garrison's gorillas. weather. 6.10 London. 6.15 Wheel of fortune. 6.45 London. 7.15 'The Naked Jungle' with Charlton Heston and Eleanor Parker. A bride, married by proxy, goes out to the S American jungle to meet her husband for the first time. 9.00 Des O'Connor. 10.00 London. 11.10 Court martial. 12.05 Reflection.

ATV MIDLANDS: 12.45 Captain Scarlet. 1.10 London. 5.15 Julia. 5.45 News. 5.50 Dear Mother. Love Albert. 6.20 Name of the game. 7.45 Movie: 'Wake Me When The War Is Over' with Ken Barry and Eva Gabor. Comedy about an American officer and a German anti-Nazi baroness who hides him and doesn't tell him when the war is over. 9.00 Des O'Connor. 10.00 London. 11.10 1 Spy, weather.

ULSTER: 1.10 London. 6.15 Take time with Tommy. 6.45 Film: 'Across the Wide Missouri' with Clark Gable and Ricardo Montalban. Western. 8.00 Strange report. 8.55 Sports results. 9.00 Des O'Connor. 10.00 London. 11.10 Simon Dec.

YORKSHIRE: 11.15 County cricket: Yorkshire v Glamorgan. 1.15 p.m. London. 5.15 Flipper. 5.45 5.50 Big valley. 6.45 Black Narcissus with Deborah Kerr. Jean Simmons. Flora Robson and Sabu. Drama about a group of nuns sent to a remote convent in the Himalayas. 8.30 Dear Mother. . . Love Albert. 9.00 Des O'Connor. 10.00 London. 11.10 Homicide. 12.05 Weather.

GRANADA: 11.35 Casting around. 12 noon Better driving. 12.25 Thunderbirds. 1.15 London. 5.15 Garrison's gorillas. 6.10 London. 6.15 Tough guys: 'The Frogmen' with Richard Widmark, Dana Andrews, Gary Merrill, Jeffrey Hunter and Robert Wagner. Frogmen commandos prepare for the invasion of a Japanese-held Pacific island. 8.00 Dear Mother. . . Love Albert. 8.30 Felony squad. 9.00 Des O'Connor. 10.00 London. 11.10 Simon Dec.

TYNE TEES: 11.25 Cricket: Yorkshire v Glamorgan. 1.15 London. 5.15 Flipper. 5.45 News. 5.50 Robin Hood. 5.40 Wheel of fortune. 6.10 London. 6.15 Voyage to the bottom of the sea. 7.15 Dear Mother. . . Love Albert. 7.45 Western: 'The Gun that Won the West' with Dennis Morgan and Richard Widmark. 9.00 Des O'Connor. 10.00 London. 11.10 Cinema: 'Man With A Gun' with Lee Patterson and Rona Anderson. 12.20 Weather.

BORDER: 12.45 All our yesterdays. 1.15 London. 6.15 Joker's wild. 6.45 film: 'Roustabout' with Elvis Presley. 8.30 Hogan's heroes. 9.00 Des O'Connor. 10.00 London.

SCOTTISH: 12.45 Mr Piper. 1.10 London. 5.15 Bonanza. 6.10 London. 6.15 Dr in the house. 6.45 Film: 'Banan' with Robert Taylor. 8.30 Dear Mother. Love Albert. 9.00 Des O'Connor. 10.00 London. 11.10 Party conference. 11.00 Late call. 11.25 Film: 'The Little Hut' with Ava Gardner, Stewart Granger and David Niven.

GRAMPIAN: 12.45 Fantastic four. 1.10 London. 5.15 Bonanza. 6.10 London. 6.15 Doctor in the house. 6.45 Movie: 'Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo'. 9.00 Des O'Connor. 10.00 London. 11.10 SNP conference. 11.20 'Dear Mother' . . . Love Albert. 11.50 Epilogue.

11.10 News summary. 11.15 Disco 2. 11.40 Midnight Movie. 'Affair in Trinidad' with Glenn Ford and Rita Hayworth. An American goes to the West Indies to investigate his brother's death and becomes involved with a gang of international conspirators.

SUNDAY TV

BBC 1

9.00 a.m. Nai zindagi-naya jeevan. 9.30 Repondez s'il vous plait. 10.00 Wie bitte? 10.30-11.30 Service. 11.35 Swim. 12 noon Germany 1870-1970: 'Das Volk'. 12.30-1.00 p.m. Decimal shop. 1.25-1.50 Farming. 2.00 Education programme. 2.29 News headlines. 2.30 'It was very easy in those days to die . . .': Russell Braddon, Australian journalist talks about his experiences as a Japanese prisoner of war. 3.05 A film for the family: 'A Cry From The Streets'. 4.40 Going for a song. 5.05 Hobbyhorse. 5.30 Look. 5.55 Shari Lewis show.

6.05 News and weather. 6.15 Ideas in print. Religious discussion. 6.45 Songs of praise for Whit Sunday. 7.20 Appeal on behalf of the Royal National Institute for the Deaf. 8.15 Play of the month. 'The Rivals' with Andrew Cruickshank and Beryl Reid. Sheridan's comedy, written in 1775, about the trials and misunderstandings of various sets of lovers.

10.10 News and weather. 10.20 Omnibus. 'The Hollywood Image', the post-war years. 11.15 Julie Felix. Guest stars, Peter Sarstedt and Blue Mink. 11.45 Weather.

BBC 2

1.50-6.30 p.m. Cricket. Player's County League—Hampshire v Surrey. 7.00 News review and weather. 7.25 Rowan and Martin's laugh-in. 8.15 Bird's eye view. 'Eastern Approach'. 9.05 Music on 2. Music Now—Watching Music.

ITV

11.00 a.m. Church service. 12.10 p.m. Sunday session: Casting around. 12.40 Better driving. 1.05-1.30 Judo. 1.50 All our yesterdays. 2.15 Sports arena: Profile of Sir Alf Ramsey. 2.45 Big event: Royal Windsor Horse Show. 3.15 Do your own London. 3.45 University challenge: Manchester University v Hughes College, Cambridge. 4.15 Man in the news. 4.45 Golden shot. 5.30 New adventures of Huckleberry Finn: 'The Magic Shillelagh'.

6.00 Cartoons. 6.05 News. 6.15 What's in a game? 6.35 Beyond belief. 7.00 Stars on Sunday. 7.25 Hawaii five-o. 'To Hell With Babe Ruth'. 8.20 'There Was A Crooked Man'. With Norman Wisdom Alfred Marks, Andrew Cruickshank and Susannah York. A former demolition expert and model prisoner pits himself against a crooked financier.

10.10 News. 10.25 Engelbert Humperdinck show. 11.25 Simon Dee Show. 12.10 a.m. What's in a game? Late night discussion on 6.15 programme.

11.00-12.35 London. 2.13 Weather. 2.15 Sports arena: Royal Windsor Horse Show. 3.15 Matinee: 'The Magnet' with Stephen Murray and Kay Walsh. 4.35 Date with Dandy. 4.45 London. 5.30 Tom Grattan's war. 6.00 London. 7.25 Film: 'The Flying Leatherneck' with John Wayne and Paul Kelly. 9.10 Engelbert Humperdinck. 10.10 London. 10.25 Name of the game. 11.00 Service. 11.40 Epilogue, weather.

WESTWARD: As Channel except: 1.30-1.55 All our yesterdays. 2.00 Farm and country news. 11.45 Faith for life. 12.11 Weather.

SOUTHERN: 11.00-12.05 London. 12.09 Weather. 12.12 London. 2.00 Farm programme. 2.30 'The Searchers' with John Wayne, Jeffrey Hunter, Vera Miles, Ward Bond and Natalie Wood. Western directed by John Ford. 4.35 News. 4.45 London. 5.30 Captain Scarlet. 6.00 London. 7.25 Film: 'Life With Father' with William Powell, Irene Dunne, Elizabeth Taylor and Edmund Gwenn. Father rules his Victorian household with an iron hand. 9.40 Julia. 10.10 London. 12.05 Weather. 'Feed the minds'.

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ANGLIA: 11.00 London. 1.30 p.m. Farming diary. 2.00 Weather. 2.05 Cartoon time. 2.15 Royal Windsor Horse Show. 3.15 Department S. 4.15 University challenge. 4.45 London. 5.30 Captain Scarlet. 6.00 London. 7.25 'Dr Strangelove Or, How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb' with Peter Sellers, George C. Scott. 9.10 Engelbert Humperdinck. 10.10 London. 10.25 Bygone with Dick Joyce. 11.10 London. 11.55 Reflection. 12.10 London. 12.15 Reflection.

REGIONAL ITV

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ATV MIDLANDS: 11.00-1.30 London. 1.45 Cannonball. 2.15 Royal Windsor Horse Show. 3.15 'Personal Affair' with Gene Tierney and Leo Genn. A small town school teacher with a jealous wife. 4.45 London. 5.30 Captain Scarlet. 6.00 London. 7.25 Film: 'Night People' with Gregory Peck and Brock Crawford. An espionage drama set in post-war Berlin. 9.10 Hawaii five-o. 10.10 London. 10.25 London. 11.00-1.30 London. 2.15 London. 3.15 Saint. 4.15 University challenge. 4.45 London. 5.30 Captain Scarlet. 6.00 London. 7.25 Peyton Place. 8.15 Movie: 'The Gift of Love' with Lauren Bacal and Robert Stack.

GRAMPIAN: 12.10 London. 1.25-1.58 All our yesterdays. 2.20 Adventure: 'Sindbad the Sailor'. 4.15 Valentine's day. 4.45 London. 5.30 The Flintstones. 6.00 London. 7.25 Cinema: 'The Proud Rebel'. Anthony Hancock. 9.10 Journey to the unknown. 10.10 London. 11.25 Epilogue.

REGIONAL BBC

All regions as BBC 1 except: Midlands and East Anglia, North of England, South and West. 11.47 Weather. Wales: 3.05-3.25, 3.50-4.15 The doctors. 3.25-3.50 Darganidai. 4.15-4.40 Mares a mor. 6.15-6.45 Cymru'n galw. 11.47 Weather.

A young wife discovers she has only a few months to live and adopts a child. Her husband is left alone. 10.10 London. 11.25 Ballet for all.

YORKSHIRE: 11.00 London. 1.30 Farming diary. 2.00 Yorkshire. 2.20 Sunday sport: Australian Rugby League. 3.20 'Rockets Galore' with Jeanne Simon, Donald and Roland Culver. When Whitehall boffins plan a rocket range, their calculations fail to include the possibility of the Outer Hebrides. 5.00 Room 222. 5.30 Survive. 6.00 London. 7.25 Hawaii five-o. 8.20 'The Young Doctors' with Fredric March, Ben Gabbara, Yna Balin and Eddie Albert. When young Dr David Coleman joins the pathology staff of Three Counties Hospital, the departmental head is angry. 10.10 London. 11.25 Barbara Hepworth: sculptress. 11.55 Weather.

GRANADA: 11.00-1.25 noon London. 12.35 London. 1.25 All our yesterdays. 1.55 Interpol calling. 2.25 Australian Rugby League. 3.20 Custer. 4.15 University challenge. 4.45 London. H. R. Pufnstuf. 6.00 London. 7.20 Picture: 'Gabby' with Leslie Caron, John Kerr and Sir Cedric Hardwicke. An orphaned ballerina falls in love with an American paratrooper. 9.00 Marcus Welby. 10.10 London. 11.25 Avengers.

TYNE TEES: 11.00-1.30 London. 1.55 Farming outlook. 2.20 Australian Rugby League. 3.20 Matinee: 'Sugarfoot' with Randolph Scott and Angie Hergen. A former Confederate officer arrives in Arizona expecting to start life anew on land he hopes to buy and cultivate. 4.45 London. 7.25 Strangers with Candy. 8.25 Film: 'The Breaking Point' with John Garfield and Patricia Neal. Heningway story of a failing marriage. 10.10 London. 12.10 Friendship week for sick and handicapped children.

BORDER: 11

# U.S. balance of payments deficit highest yet

**WIDESPREAD FEAR** that a wave of panic selling is about to hit Wall St, with even the largest institutional investors getting rid of stocks to avoid further losses on a rapidly sliding market, has been reinforced by the publication of a series of key economic indicators over the last two days.

Biggest cause of anxiety for the financiers are the Commerce Department's balance of payments figures published on Thursday.

They indicate the biggest three-month deficit in the history of the American capitalism.

During the first quarter of this year the deficit shot up to \$3,000 million, compared with the previous highest figure of \$1,700 million.

Even this increase does not take into account the \$867 million of Special Drawing Rights ('paper gold') which America received in January and have been added to reserves.

## Outflow

This announcement, coinciding with news of falling industrial production and company profits and warnings of rising unemployment have sent stock prices plunging to a seven-year low.

Major sources of the payments crisis was a net out-

By PETER JEFFRIES

flow of liquid funds amounting to \$1,800 million, most of it attracted by higher European interest rates.

After a special meeting of top economic advisors called by Nixon to review the crisis, the Federal Reserve announced a fall of 0.8 per cent in industrial production compared with April of last year.

Production has been in almost continual decline for the past year.

Next blow came on the profits front. Commerce Department statistics here show that they are now falling at an annual rate of \$6,250 million, the worst for ten years.

Labour Secretary George Shulz's attendance at Nixon meetings reinforces speculation that the Administration may now be about to impose some wages control in an effort to produce an about-turn in profits and halt rising prices.

## Jobless rise

Federal Reserve Board chairman Dr Arthur Burns said after the meeting that he anticipated unemployment would continue to rise and promised urgent considerations for an emergency public works programme.

This is aimed at reducing unemployment, which has risen by 1.3 millions in the last year.

But Burns' comments did nothing to arrest Wall St's fall. The Dow Jones industrial average is now at a lower point than it was ten years ago.

Roughly \$175,000 million have been wiped off values of New York stock prices since the wave of selling first started in 1968.

Nixon is now worried that confidence in the dollar and the economy is rapidly vanishing.

The first three months of the year have seen a \$660 million decline of foreign purchases of American securities.

The unresolved crisis facing International Overseas Services must have caused a further serious fall over the past weeks.

## Deficit

Of greatest importance, however, must be the impact of the mounting US deficit, now apparently almost out of control, on the dollar.

A rising deficit means a further piling up of dollars in European central banks, dollars which are unbacked by any American gold. Such a trend could lead to a renewed run against the dollar and an escalation in the price of gold, on a far bigger scale than in 1968.

# D.E.P. to keep confidential files on 100,000 workers

**THIRTY THOUSAND** employers have been ordered to carry out a comprehensive probe into the working lives of their employees.

Their findings are required by the Department of Employment and Productivity's statistical division which is compiling a confidential dossier on more than 100,000 workers.

The information concerns wages, overtime, bonuses, working hours, punctuality, sickness and strikes, and in only a few cases have workers been told of the probe into their work record and confidential file.

The TUC has quickly come to the DEP's defence. A spokesman said: 'There is nothing sinister about it. If we felt the privacy of our members was being intruded upon then we should have certainly opposed this questionnaire.'

## Blacklist

The use of confidential files by employers to operate a 'blacklist' against militant workers is well known.

Now the compiling of a centralized government file, which can be used for this purpose, can only be viewed as a further attack on the working class and another step in the intervention of the state into the trade unions.

When student action was taken on the 'Warwick file' affair—the alleged keeping of political dossiers by university authorities—the Workers Press said: 'The "Warwick file" issue is one which concerns the whole working class.'

## Confirmed

'The "Warwick file" concerns not only students and lecturers—direct reference is made in one of the documents uncovered to the participation of trade unionist members of the All Trades Unions Alliance in a meeting concerned with the fight

BY A WORKERS PRESS CORRESPONDENT

against Measured-Day Work' (March 3, 1970).

The Workers Press line on this issue is now fully confirmed.

The use of such files to witch-hunt militants in both the universities and factories will be high on the list of Tory priorities in their campaign for 'law and order'.

A united campaign on the part of the universities and factories to prevent further intervention into the universities and trade unions must be our main task in the pre-election period.

# Waterloo station strike ends

BY A WORKERS PRESS CORRESPONDENT

**STRIKERS** at Waterloo Station in London went back to work yesterday to await the results of a meeting about their dispute.

The strike was called on Wednesday night after one of the station staff had complained that police had searched his home while he was at work.

They were believed to be looking for stolen property.

Platform staff representatives yesterday met Mr Cliff Rose, SW divisional manager, and a senior transport police officer.

ter-revolutionary imperialist war which can be defeated only by revolutionary working-class action—and not by appeals to the 'good sense', 'magnanimity' and 'humanity' of imperialist diplomats in Geneva.

Every blow struck by the working class, anywhere in the world, against this system is a blow in defence of the Vietnamese Revolution.

A one-day stoppage in industry, with or without sanction of the TUC, would constitute a big blow against the Indo-Chinese war and against all those who are trying to betray the Indo-Chinese peoples.

As our campaign against Wilson's visit to the USA in January showed and the May 1 strikes in Merseyside proved, there is a growing body of opinion within the working class which rejects 'pressure for disassociation' and favours direct industrial action as the only way to beat the war.

The fact that you have, belatedly and formally, adopted a resolution shows that you are not unaware of this feeling which we helped to evoke single-handedly.

To recognize this feeling is one thing—to mobilize it against both the right-wing and the Tories is quite another.

That is why we challenge you to clarify your attitude to this vital question and put an end to the farcical dichotomy between your statements and your subsequent actions. The proof of the pudding, Mr Matthews, is in the eating.

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# LETTER Clothing workers' confidence in their union officials

THROUGH your valued paper, the Workers Press, can you please help me re my query?

When I came out on strike in the big February clothing dispute in Leeds, I put forward, as a member of the newly formed strike liaison committee, a resolution for a vote of no confidence etc., in our Leeds national trade union of Tailor and Garment Workers of Circle House, Lady Lane, Leeds.

You are already aware of these so-called union officials. Well our first big meeting was at the Shaftesbury cinema and my resolution was put forward to a crowded audience of workers. It was carried 100 per cent.

Also, later on at the Leeds Town Hall, another crowded venue, and again my resolution was put forward re the no confidence of these union officials, it was voted and carried etc.

nothing has been done about it. So people vote for resolutions and get them carried and then it is forgotten, which, in my opinion, is out of order.

Everybody at each venue shouted 'Get these union officials out, out, out', and since the return to work nothing more has been done about these two resolutions. Are these union officials in for life?

Mr Lew Taylor

# STUDENT STRUGGLES

# Fifty injunctions served in B'ham

BY A WORKERS PRESS CORRESPONDENT

**FIFTY** High Court injunctions have now been served against members of the Aston (Birmingham) joint Guild of Students to prevent them entering the offices of the Birmingham Corporation.

The injunctions arise out of an occupation of the education offices on Thursday, May 7, carried out by approximately 90 students.

The students have resorted to direct action against the Local Education Authority (LEA) in a last bid to prevent the siting of the new Birmingham Polytechnic at Perry Barr, five miles from the city centre.

## Built elsewhere

They want the Polytechnic built at Gosta Green, where the College of Commerce, part of the College of Art and the University of Aston are situated.

Students of these three institutions are at present organized in the Guild.

The LEA's plan is to incorporate the Polytechnic students into the College of Commerce, the College of Art and the North and South Birmingham Technical College.

If it is built at Perry Barr, students will lose the facilities at Gosta Green and be forced to travel five miles while continuing to study in the Gosta Green buildings.

The students argue that building the Polytechnic at

police smashed down the door with sledgehammers, took names and addresses and arrested seven.

They have been charged with obstructing the highway on the grounds that they halted passers-by from a window to explain their case.

Students also allege that they were treated roughly by police who cleared the building.

Barristers entered the College of Commerce on Wednesday in an attempt to serve the injunctions and a meeting of the Academic Board of the college expressed concern at the action of the principal, Mr R. Bragg, in allowing them to interrupt lectures for this purpose.

No confidence

An informal meeting of students on Thursday passed a motion of no confidence in Mr Bragg and demanded his resignation.

An official meeting is to be held next week to consider the next steps in the campaign.

The immediate issue must be that of working-class support for work for a joint trade union-student demonstration against Toryism and to keep the Tories out at the election.

This is the only preparation to defeat the attacks of the Labour government and the Tories on living standards and educational facilities.

## Despondency

This has now produced despondency and frustration among the students.

The Tories have treated the arguments of the students with contempt, and have become even more determined to prevent any invasion into the elitist education system.

When 90 students occupied the education offices,

Police opened fire on a girls' dormitory after two days of demonstrations in the college against the war in Indo-China.

Fifteen other students were wounded—four seriously—after a police fusillade that shot out every window in the four-storey building.

Eye-witnesses say that students fired themselves at the ground as the police opened up a concentrated seven to ten seconds barrage at the dormitory.

An armoured truck then moved towards the building with patrolmen and policemen gathered around it.

## SAME PRETEXT

Police officials claimed that the shootings were in response to alleged sniper fire—the same pretext used by the Ohio National Guard after their massacre of four students on the University Campus.

26 colleges and universities have been closed down for more than a week by the nationwide student strike against the war and the killings at Kent University.

The demonstrations at Jackson State College, which has a mainly Negro student body, were probably given an added impetus by the shooting of six Negroes in Augusta earlier in the week.

## NO INQUESTS

It has since been revealed that all six were probably shot in the back.

One Negro was shot nine times, another eight times, a third seven, one twice and the remaining two, once.

Under Georgian law, there is no automatic provision for inquests and as yet no witnesses have come forward to disclose how the six Negroes were killed.

Evidence is in fact piling up that some, if not all, of the six shot Negroes were lynched under the protective cover of the 1,800-strong National Guard occupation force sent in by the racist Governor Maddox.

There is no peaceful road to victory over imperialism either in Cambodia or the United States itself.

## CORRECTION

The sole publishers of Lenin's Collected Works in this country are Lawrence & Wishart, London and not, as stated in our review of Vol. 43 on Wednesday, May 6, Progress Publishers, Moscow.

## ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

GLASGOW

'Against shipyard sackings!

Keep the Tories out!

Saturday, May 16 10.30 a.m.

Christian Institute Bothwell Street

## SWINDON

'Productivity Deals and the Tories'

Sunday, May 17, 8 p.m.

Speaker: Bernard Frank The Oxford Hotel Corner of Groundwell Road

## SE LONDON

'Fight the Tories in the unions! Build a socialist alternative!'

Sunday, May 17, 3 p.m.

The Kerfield Tavern Grove Lane Camberwell Green, SE.5

## PETERHEAD

(near Aberdeen)

'The Croses and Blackwell strike—Fight the Tories!'

Monday, May 18, 8 p.m.

Rescue Hall

## NOTTINGHAM

'Tasks of trade unionists today!'

Thursday, May 21 7.30 p.m.

People's Hall Heathcote Street

## SAIGON

FROM PAGE ONE

press on to occupy the remainder of the country.

The Pentagon's decision to support the Saigon invasion and occupation of Cambodia makes Nixon's 'Vietnamization' programme look even more ridiculous.

Some of the best-trained and equipped units of the Saigon regime are now tied down indefinitely in Cambodia, leaving greatly weakened units in the strategic zones of S Vietnam.

## Plug gaps

These gaps now have to be plugged by the very US troops Nixon pledged himself to bring home less than a month ago.

The Cambodian adventure has therefore dragged US imperialism even deeper into the crisis at home and in every major capitalist country.

## Shipyard sackings postponed

PALMERS ship-repair yard on Tyneside has been 'reprieved' pending the publication of a government report on the shipbuilding industry.

Vickers Limited, owners of the yard, announced this yesterday following a visit by Mr Anthony Wedgwood Benn, Minister of Technology.

About 1,000 men threatened with redundancy at the yard will not now be given notice.

## WEATHER

SE England, Channel Islands: Cloudy, occasional light rain, dying out slowly. Wind northerly, light or moderate. Cool. Max. 13C (55F).

London, central southern England, E Midlands: Mainly cloudy. A little rain at first, probably brighter later. Wind northerly, light. Rather cold. Max. 15C (59F).

Edinburgh: Cloudy, hill fog and local slight drizzle. Wind northerly, light or moderate. Cool. Max. 10C (50F).

W Midlands, SW, NW and central northern England: Sunny intervals developing. Also scattered showers. Wind northerly, light. Locally moderate. Warmer. Max. 17C (63F).

Glasgow area, N Ireland: Variable cloud, sunny intervals. Scattered showers, perhaps thunder locally. Wind light, variable or northerly. Warm. Max. 17C (63F).

Outlook for Sunday and Monday: Sunny intervals in most areas and becoming generally rather warm, but showers in many places at first.

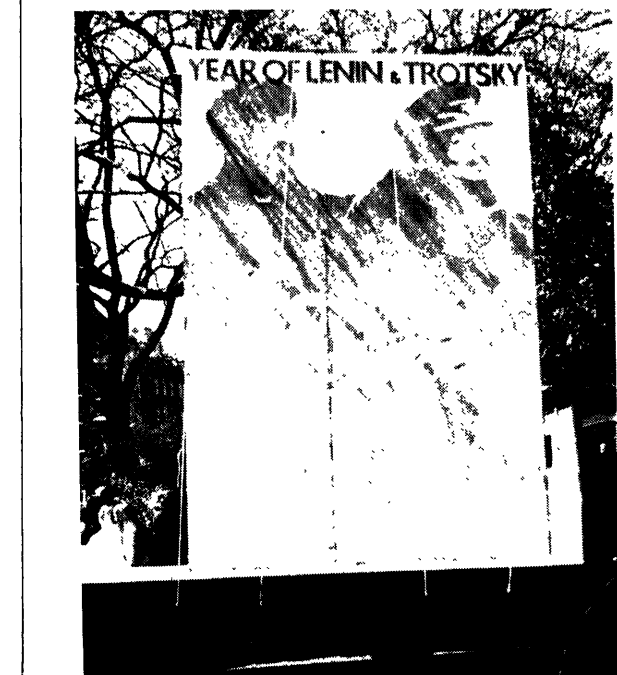
# Rolls

FROM PAGE ONE

social security office. They have so far been refused anything because Rolls-Royce claims the lock-out is a strike.

'We've all made claims and had to make appeals,' said one worker. 'We are waiting for the appeals to be heard.'

Though trade union officials have made themselves available for talks with management, Rolls-Royce has so far made no effort to open discussion on the dispute.



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## LATE NEWS

### PILKINGTON BONUS THREAT

Pilkington's hit out yesterday at its 1,700 hourly paid workers—members of unions other than the General and Municipal Workers'—not involved in the dispute.

Their guarantee of average bonus earnings will be withdrawn as from today if the strike goes on, a Pilkington's spokesman announced.

They will be paid only for hours worked with any bonus actually earned. The company's 6,500 staff workers at St Helens and Aldkirk Ormskirk will have to take three days 'compulsory holiday'—to be docked from their annual holidays—during the next few weeks. (See page 1 story.)

Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office. Published by Workers Press, 186a Clapham High Street, London, S.W.4. Printed by Plough Press Ltd. (TU), 180b Clapham High Street, London, S.W.4.