

## June 18

## POLLING DAY

### Why you must

# Vote Labour!

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**£1,000 June Appeal Fund jumps to £378 15s 11d**

A REMARKABLE POST. All told, in cheques and postal orders £83 9s 5d tumbled out on our desk yesterday morning.

Our readers are certainly showing their appreciation of their paper. It now looks good for the halfway target to be exceeded over next weekend. So long as we don't become complacent and keep up the fight then we should be home and dry by June 30.

We still need £621 4s 1d. Post all donations at once to:  
Workers Press  
Appeal Fund  
186A Clapham High Street  
London, SW4.

**ELECTION RESULTS EDITION**

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### Unionist boss still denies Paisley deal

By our special reporter in Ulster JOHN SPENCER

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Only about a dozen Paisleyites attended the far from crowded meeting in Ballymena town hall but they contrived to render the meeting inaudible and both the speakers incoherent for much of the time.

The two official Unionists, supported on the platform by the venerable Lord Rathcavan, who appeared to have considerable difficulty in staying awake, put as brave a face as they could on the situation. Neither was helped by the 150-or so supporters—mainly women—who tried to drown each bout of heckling by beating their palms together, disrupting the meeting even more.

The candidate, Henry Clark, who has been the main target for Paisley's rather coarse abuse since the N Antrim campaign began, did his best to convince the audience that if Paisley were elected he would be a lone voice in the Commons.

Chichester-Clark tried hard to rebut Paisley's charges that the Ulster Unionists entered into electoral pacts with the Protestant Unionists. 'The fundamental issue in this whole business is not

This was a double blow aimed not only against the traitorous Labour leaders, but also against the employers and the Tories who supported Wilson without cavil.

Today, although the line up of forces has been rearranged, the issue remains the same. It is the independence of the working class as a class and the defence of the most important conquest of the British working class—its trade unions—from the suffocating embrace of capitalist dictatorship.

White Wilson tried to open the door to state control and failed, the Tories are trying to batter the door down altogether.

We declare unequivocally that June 18 is the direct continuation of the historic struggle begun by the trade-union movement last year. We further state that the only way to defend the tactical gains of 1969 is to keep the Tories out in 1970 and complete the struggle which has been going on, particularly since the enactment of the Prices and Incomes Act, against the misleadership and treachery of the Fabian reformists.

### Our task

We will never concede the task of defeating Wilson to the bankers and businessmen of the Tory Party.

Wilson is a traitor to the working class, not to the employers.

If the Tories want to get rid of Wilson today, it is only because they want to get at the working class more effectively and also because they realize that Wilson's credibility in the working class is very low.

The existence of a Labour government paralysed by the massive resistance of the trade unions, which in turn is fed and strengthened by the victories and advances of the international working class from Cambodia to California, is an unbearable provocation to the Tories. It is not Wilson the Tories are after but us—the workers.

Wilson's betrayals are too well known to need repetition: the seamen's strike, the July 1966 measures, the attack on the dockers, de Gaulle in 1967, deflation in 1968, the wage freeze and clause 4, unemployment, Vietnam, Mid-East, Rhodesia and now Ulster.

### Nauseating

It's a nauseating record and we make no apologies for it nor will we cease our struggle against Wilson.

Nevertheless as we have pointed out already, the political struggle against the Tories transcends (but does not negate) the struggle against the perfidy of the Wilsonite Fabians.

If Marxism is the science of contradictions, then the task of Marxists in this election is to determine which is the principal and which is the secondary contradiction in the struggle and not to lump the bureaucracy promiscuously with the employers.

Only sectarian idealists and middle-class muddleheads in the revisionist movement ask voters to abstain.

Serious revolutionaries, however, who know where the real enemy lies and who have grasped the method of Marxism, will not be con-

fused or distracted by sectarian diversions, but will vote Labour today.

The General Election is more than a national event. It takes place in the context of the greatest economic crisis in the capitalist world since 1929 and at a time when both world Stalinism and imperialism are faced with the biggest and stormiest upsurge of the working class since 1917.

### Integral

In a distorted way the election represents an integral part of this world-wide struggle of the working class.

A defeat for the Tories today will have as much significance for the European workers as the defeat of de Gaulle in the 1969 referendum. But whereas de Gaulle's defeat came in the aftermath of May-June 1968, the defeat of the Tories would signify the prelude to much bigger events in Britain.

Not to vote Labour is to betray not only the British workers but the European workers and the entire struggle against the Common Market and for the Socialist United States of Europe.

It would also seriously affect the prospects of the trade-union movement in the USA, which for the first time is beginning to participate in the anti-war, anti-Nixon movement and is taking the first tentative steps towards independent political action.

## Expose Wilson's reformist policies

To vote Labour is not a surrender to Wilson.

In this struggle the Marxist opponents of Wilson will march separately but strike together with trade unionists and Labour Party members and co-operativists at the common enemy—the Tories.

In this way we will not only participate in the real experience of the workers, but, more important, we shall have the opportunity through the Workers Press and the work of the Socialist Labour League and Young Socialists of introducing our programme to new layers of the class and of

helping to raise its consciousness in the course of the experience during and after the General Election.

In this way we shall broaden the bases of the Socialist Labour League and raise the level of consciousness generally in the class.

Unlike the revisionists we do not think that because we are a minority in the working class we cannot therefore play an important role.

On the contrary, it is not the numerical weakness of the League, but the strength of our cadre and the content of our policy and pro-

gramme which is decisive and which must have a substantial effect on the more advanced as well as some of the more backward sectors of the class.

### Consciousness

'The proletariat,' as Trotsky once pointed out, 'moves toward revolutionary consciousness not by passing grades in school, but by passing through the class struggle, which abhors interruptions...' the words in the Communist Manifesto which state that the Communists are not to be opposed to the proletariat, that they have no interests separate and apart from those of the proletariat as a whole, carry within them the meaning that the struggle of the party to win over the majority of the class must in no instance come into opposition with the needs of the workers to keep unity within their fighting ranks...

The party consists in learning from the experience derived from the struggle, how to demonstrate to the proletariat its right to leadership. ('Germany? What Next?', L. Trotsky.)

The sense of the question is totally opposed to the sectarians of revisionism as much as to the opportunists of Stalinism.

The latter play an extremely pernicious and reactionary role in this election by posing fraudulently, as the party with the 'only socialist policy'.



The Young Socialist-All Trades Unions Alliance demonstration on June 5, 1969—the day of the special TUC conference to discuss anti-union laws. During this period the working class gave an unforgettable demonstration of its strength by pushing back government plans.

## Only Trotskyism can prepare for a socialist victory and defend the working class

OUR CALL for the return of a Labour government in today's election is in no way a vote of confidence in Wilson's reformist leadership.

The working class has many bitter memories of reformist betrayals.

In 1914, the reformist leaders of the Second International drove millions of workers into the first imperialist war to defend the frontiers of the capitalist state. This was reformism in action.

It was only where the break from reformism and nationalism was total—in Russia under the leadership of Lenin's Bolshevik Party—that the working class seized power from the employers and the bankers, and began to lay the foundations of socialism.

The First World War and the Russian Revolution of 1917 were and remain the parting of the ways between revolutionary and reformist socialism.

In 1926, the reformist trade union leaders capitulated without a fight to the employers and the Tories when they had behind them the largest strike movement in the history of the British working class.

Faced with the alternatives of a struggle for power or a return to work on the terms of the employers, they unhesitatingly chose the latter.

Reformism is the theory

of class-collaboration, which attempts to convince the working class that it shares a common interest with its exploiters.

Labourism argues that capitalism can be changed bit by bit, through a combination of pressure from the trade unions and parliamentary legislation.

Five years later, the parliamentary allies of the TUC General Council—the MacDonalds and the Snowdens—completed the betrayal begun in May 1926.

### SPEARHEAD

They joined with the Tories to spearhead the most savage attacks launched on the British working class in this century.

That is the treacherous record of British reformism between the wars.

And when the bureaucratic group led by Stalin began to develop the nationalist theory that socialism could be built in Russia without spreading the revolution to the industrialized countries of the capitalist world, a new form of reformist thinking arose within the international workers' movement.

The dominance of this

theory in the Communist International became an obstacle to the development of revolutionary struggles in the capitalist countries.

It subordinated the working class to the nationalist conception that without further revolutions in the capitalist world, socialism could be built in the Soviet Union.

This was a complete break from the programme of Marx and Lenin, who both insisted that socialism could only triumph on the foundations of planned economy on a world scale.

It led directly to tragic defeat in Germany, where the Stalinists combined with the Social Democrats to split the working class and hand it over to Hitler's executioners.

The Second and Third Internationals had proved themselves bankrupt and capable of organizing only defeats for the working class.

Trotsky, who after Lenin's death had led the fight against the Stalinist bureaucracy in the Soviet Union, issued his call for the Fourth International.

Its programme was based not only on the victories of the working class, but a Marxist understanding of all its defeats, suffered under the leadership of the reformists and Stalinists.

Since L. Trotsky's murder in 1940, Stalinism and reformism have drawn even more close. Not only in Britain, but in every major capitalist country, the Communist Parties join with the social democrats in advocating the peaceful, parliamentary road to socialism.

### EXPOSE

The more powerful the movement of the working class—witness the strike battles now erupting in every European capitalist country from Italy and Scandinavia to Britain and France—the further the Stalinists move to the right, even to the extent of strike-breaking on behalf of the fascist regime in Spain.

Their role is the preservation of 'peaceful co-existence' between imperialism and the working class, in the interests of the parasitic Soviet bureaucracy.

The Labourites on the other hand serve directly the interests of the ruling class in Britain.

We appeal to Communist Party members and potential CP voters to reject the spurious socialism of the CP and vote Labour.

We say so because the CP programme is a reformist and reactionary programme which consciously deludes workers about the nature of imperialism and tries to reconcile the interests of the working class with those of its oppressors.

### Foreign policy

This is particularly revealed in its foreign policy or, as the CP statement says, its 'proposals for peace'.

'Britain to support the demand for a conference of all European governments to establish a system of collective security in Europe, based on the recognition of the post-1945 frontiers and the existence of the two German states.'

We could not find a greater travesty and a more monstrous betrayal of socialism than this.

A Party that states unequivocally that it is prepared to collaborate with the reactionary regimes of Greece, Spain, Portugal, Italy, France and Austria to keep Germany permanently divided is not a Communist Party, but a collection of reactionaries who have no right to speak for communism.

'Collective Security' in Europe is 'security' for the capitalist class to oppress and exploit the working class and smash all democratic and socialist opposition.

It is the condoning of mili-

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## OUR PROGRAMME TO MEET THE CRISIS

THE FOLLOWING programme is the basic points of the Manifesto 'Keep the Tories out! Vote Labour June 18' adopted by the 12th National Conference of the Socialist Labour League.

## Fight for socialist policies

### NATIONALIZE:

TO START with, the banks, building societies, finance and insurance companies and the land, together with the big industrial monopolies and large enterprises of all kinds, should be nationalized without compensation under workers' control.

### WORKERS' CONTROL:

EXISTING nationalized industries must be placed under workers' control and all compensation and interest payments to ex-owners suspended immediately. The mergers and rationalizations of banks and industrial firms going on at a rapid rate in recent years, supported and often assisted financially by the Wilson government, make such a task easier.

They have, in fact, become ripe for taking over so that they can become the basis for the organization of a planned economy in which the needs of the people, and not the profits of a handful of rich men, would guide production.

### TRADE:

AT THE same time a state monopoly of import and export trade would be imposed. The inflow of luxury imports for the rich would come to an end. Trade agreements with the workers' states (USSR, E. Europe, China) and other countries in the course of economic development would be made.

### INVESTMENTS:

THE immense investment held overseas by British banks, insurance houses, big corporations and wealthy individuals would be brought immediately under the supervision and control of the state.

### DEBTS:

ALL international short-term debts contracted for the defence of capitalism would be repudiated. All military expenditure incurred to protect the world position of British imperialism would be stopped and all troops withdrawn from foreign and colonial countries.

It is only by making deep inroads into capitalist wealth and property that the source of the crisis can be removed. The idea that there is a solution of the crisis which leaves the capitalists' interests untouched is an illusion.

### COMPENSATION:

FOREIGN capitalist investments in Britain would also come under the control of the state. Any question of compensation payments would be considered only after the domestic programme to meet the crisis was paid for.

Such measures would necessarily bring to an end the activities of the Stock Exchange and all speculators and profiteers. The power of the capitalist would be broken.

### REPEALS:

THE Prices and Incomes Act must be repealed, as will all laws against the trade unions.

The Immigration Act would be repealed.

All charges in connection with the Health Service would be abolished.

All the cuts made in social services, housing and education would be restored.

### HEALTH SERVICE:

MEASURES would immediately be put in hand to reorganize and expand the Health Service and all the social services.

### ASSISTANCE:

AN ATTACK would be launched against poverty by raising benefits, abolishing the system of National Assistance with its prying and probing and enabling all elderly people to spend the rest of their lives free from material anxiety.

### HOUSING:

THE WHOLE building trade and the massive technological means now available would be mobilized to deal with the housing crisis and make possible the organization of housing as a social service.

Free from landlordism and the interest racket, a plan to end the slums, re-build the cities and provide a reasonable standard of housing for all would be put in hand as a matter of priority.

Immediate re-housing of the homeless in the mansions and luxury homes of the rich.

### SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS:

A SPECIAL attack would be made on sub-standard school buildings. A plan would be drawn up for re-building and expanding hospitals and providing special facilities now non-existent or deficient.

Funds would be made available for medical research and to end the present shameful dependence on appeals for charity.

### INSURANCE AND PENSIONS:

ALL INCREASES in insurance and pension charges will be cancelled. The funds will be re-couped out of levies on the wealthy and afterwards maintained by direct charges on production each year.

Considerable savings will thus be possible in administration costs.

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### EXPOSE

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Their role is the preservation of 'peaceful co-existence' between imperialism and the working class, in the interests of the parasitic Soviet bureaucracy.

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The main task therefore is to expose the role of reformism in the workers' movement, whatever form it takes.

Reformism still serves as the main support of capitalist rule within the British workers' movement.

The struggle for revolutionary policies and leadership, and in defence of trade union rights and living standards, can only go forward by encouraging the working class to test out the reactionary role of reformism, all the time building the revolutionary alternative leadership in the trade unions and the youth.

This has been our policy as Trotskyists both before and after Wilson came to power in 1964.

That is why we have placed at the centre of the election campaign the preparation of the revolutionary alternative to reformism, which is the Socialist Labour League, together with the Young Socialists and the All Trades Unions Alliance.

A Labour vote today, on this policy and with this perspective, is a necessary part of the struggle to defeat reformism and build the revolutionary party.

## OUR PROGRAMME TO MEET THE CRISIS

THE FOLLOWING programme is the basic points of the Manifesto 'Keep the Tories out! Vote Labour June 18' adopted by the 12th National Conference of the Socialist Labour League.

## Fight for socialist policies

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AN ATTACK would be launched against poverty by raising benefits, abolishing the system of National Assistance with its prying and probing and enabling all elderly people to spend the rest of their lives free from material anxiety.

### HOUSING:

THE WHOLE building trade and the massive technological means now available would be mobilized to deal with the housing crisis and make possible the organization of housing as a social service.

Free from landlordism and the interest racket, a plan to end the slums, re-build the cities and provide a reasonable standard of housing for all would be put in hand as a matter of priority.

Immediate re-housing of the homeless in the mansions and luxury homes of the rich.

### SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS:

A SPECIAL attack would be made on sub-standard school buildings. A plan would be drawn up for re-building and expanding hospitals and providing special facilities now non-existent or deficient.

Funds would be made available for medical research and to end the present shameful dependence on appeals for charity.

### INSURANCE AND PENSIONS:

ALL INCREASES in insurance and pension charges will be cancelled. The funds will be re-couped out of levies on the wealthy and afterwards maintained by direct charges on production each year.

Considerable savings will thus be possible in administration costs.

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**BERNADETTE DEVLIN INTERVIEWED BY JOHN SPENCER**

**15 months MP for MID-ULSTER June 18**

**ELECTION SPECIAL**

**DATELINE: ULSTER**

**BERNADETTE DEVLIN says end system with...**

Royal Ulster constabulary use batons against workers in Londonderry in November 1968.

**'A loose Socialist organization'**

**AFTER your 15 months in parliament, what have you actually achieved there?**

British troops at the ready in Dungiven Co. Derry in preparation for an Orange parade initiated by Paisley supporters last Sunday.

IN TERMS of what I would consider real reforms I haven't achieved anything. Because I haven't changed the system in the Six Counties and I don't believe that we can change anything effective until we destroy the system. I have, more than any other Member of Parliament, discredited, embarrassed and generally mucked up the Unionist government. This is, you know, to a certain extent, progressive in itself.

as much as the army is here, the civil service is here in the government offices and therefore the convention begins to be broken down and you have more latitude inside parliament of using the various parliamentary systems.

To bring the questions of N Ireland to light and to give the governments, whichever they may be, in Westminster, the opportunity of refusing to do anything.

They can slide out of it at the moment by saying it is not our responsibility. Pretty soon it is going to be their responsibility. And I think that that stage is important—that there be somebody there to put forward the socialist case for the people of Ireland, the only case for the people of Ireland.

But it's not actually solved any problems. It's not created any more houses for the people, it's not created a society in which the people can live in. It's only a beginning; I don't think parliament is ever going to do it. The function of parliament is as a platform to educate the people into the total futility of parliament.

**HOW DO you propose in fact to go about achieving this then?**

**THEN you regard it in fact as the responsibility of the British parliament to solve the question of Ulster?**

AT THE moment the Westminster parliament has in fact changed its attitude to N Ireland to a certain extent in

IT IS not the responsibility of the British parliament to solve the entire problem of Ulster, just like that.



They took on the problem of Ulster. The British parliament cannot do it, but it takes on itself the responsibility of government of the whole United Kingdom. It cannot do that either. But since it takes on that responsibility, either it rescinds the responsibility, accepts it cannot do it or is forced to carry it through, and in forcing it to carry it through you break it since it cannot carry it through.

simply say take the troops out of Ulster. Because the people will say you cannot take the troops out because if you do the people will die.

This is a quite simple and actual truth.

At the same time what we must say is: take the troops out of Ulster and remove the system which necessitated the sending of troops—then you can remove the troops and leave the people in peace.

**BUT WHO'S going to remove the system?**

THE PEOPLE must inevitably remove the system, and in the process of doing so will undoubtedly remove the troops.

**YOU'VE SPOKEN of the need to set up an organization to fight for a 32-county Ireland, I believe with Gerry Fitt. What would be the basis of such an organization?**

YOU SEE you don't start an organization by saying I'll

join an organization with you, you and you because you're all Members of Parliament.

You start an organization as any basic, fundamental human group is formed. You say I believe so-and-so who also believes it and then those people who believe it go out and try to convince other people of it. And the more people you gather, you organize, on two bases.

You organize for further education, of yourself, further education for people and for action.

In order to explain this situation existing, in order to weaken the existing situation. And at the same time strengthen the situation you would like to create. And it is a long process.

You can't simply do it by ringing up your Westminster fellow MP and saying Gerry how about forming an organization.

**WHAT sort of an organization would it be?**

IT WOULD be a loose, socialist organization to start off

with which would allow the people in Mid-Ulster who belong to organizations already, allow people existing in Sinn Fein, people existing, say, in the N Ireland Labour Party who believe in socialism and are frustrated on two counts because the Labour Party is social-democrat and because it believes in the British link.

But they cannot move out of that organization and move into oblivion. There's no organization for them to work with. It's necessary that we start looking in terms, as it were, of an alliance of people who have the same ends, and discuss how we achieve them.

**ON WHAT sort of principles, on what basis would you found such an organization?**

IT WOULD have to be on clearly defined socialist principles. I don't think that I should define them and then say right, who stands with me. I think I should say this is what I want to achieve in the terms that I do and as for the

people who stand with me, then we work out the basic, you know, long-term solution, the long-term demands, the interim demands.

There must be a line of division before there is a line of unity. The line of division must be socialists with us, Conservatives with them.

And the people to be convinced, the people to join us, as the people will, inevitably will. I don't think you can just say, here is my blueprint, for the socialist republic. It's got to be worked out.

**YOU SPOKE of the need to set up this organization. You've spoken on your platforms on the basis of the anti-communist theory of state capitalism. What's your attitude towards Marxism as the basis for the formation of such an organization?**

THERE'S nothing wrong with Marxism. My attitude towards Marxism, in as much as I, to my intellectual shame, under-

stand a limited amount of Marxism, I find nothing wrong with the Marxist thesis, but there are various interpretations of the Marxist thesis and people like yourself, SLL, and ICO, and myself disagree.

I don't think that Marxism necessarily leads to the Russian situation, which is in fact a situation whereby you change, you shift the basis of emphasis from economic control to political control.

The, as it were, economic masters, are rejected, but you still have the masters, you've only changed their basis of power which is what you've done in Russia and you've made it political.

**BUT IF you don't defend the conquests of the October Revolution, how do you advance the working class in Ireland or anywhere else?**

I'M NOT complaining about the October Revolution. I'm complaining about the situation in Russia as and from today.

**The class nature of the 'International Socialism' group**

By Cliff Slaughter  
PRICE ONE SHILLING

Available from New Park Publications, 186A Clapham High St, London, SW4.

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**CLASS STRUGGLES IN AFRICA** By N. Makanda

THOSE who are followers of African nationalism, pan-Africanism and 'Negritude' would have been startled to see a photograph in the world press, late in May, of the S African apartheid Prime Minister, Vorster together with the Malawi Premier Hastings Banda.

Their meeting took place secretly in Malawi shortly before Vorster went to have a similar meeting with Smith, of UDI Rhodesia.

At the same time there were reports of trade deals between S Africa and certain 'independent' African states, such as Kenya.

None of this makes any sense in terms of overt and inverted racial theories. But they do make sense in terms of the way in which British imperialism oper-

**S Africa: Britain's go-between with 'independent' states**

ates in its semi-colonies, whether this be S Africa or Malawi.

The S African government of Verwoerd, and later of Vorster, has for some time been a useful intermediary between Britain and Rhodesia and has played an important part in the 'negotiations' between the Wilson and Smith regimes.

This role has now been extended to Malawi.

Previously, it had applied to the now 'independent' protectorates of Lesotho, Botswana and Swaziland—held in British imperialism's iron grip mainly through the S African government and the close connection between this government and British mining monopolies.

**Botswana 'neutrality'**

Recently the Botswana government, under Seretse Khama, has moved towards making diplomatic and trade contacts with Soviet and China-bloc countries. The Vorster regime expressed alarm, but, in reality, understood very well that this was merely Seretse's manoeuvre to raise his bargaining power vis the Vorster regime and Britain.

This is the basic strategic meaning of the 'neutrality' of African nationalism, whether it be in Egypt or in Botswana or Malawi.

The Botswana government wants, like all 'independent' semi-colonial governments in Africa, to get better terms for its own weak, utterly dependent and servile small capitalist class within the framework of 'independence'.

There is not the slightest intention of any political orientation towards the Soviet-bloc countries and against the real masters of these semi-colonial governments—the imperialist West.

This connection is supervised by Britain, which has a vested interest in Malawi cheap labour for British gold mines inside S Africa and for British companies in Malawi itself.

**Manager and foreman**

In all but name Malawi is another Bantustan, a cheap-labour 'self-governing' reserve subserving British capital and 'white' S Africa.

When Vorster, accompanied by his wife, paid a political and also a personal visit to Banda, it was simply an inspection visit by a Boer manager of the British estate in Southern Africa—his duty being to inspect the affairs of an African foreman.

For British imperialism in Southern Africa there has never been any question of equality between its 'white' and African agents.

The Vorsters and Smiths belong to the 'inner circle', the Khamas and Bandas to a remote outer circle.

This relationship applies in the economic, political and also the military field (NATO relations with S Africa, Simonstown etc.).

**Apartheid bastion**

The May visits of Vorster to Malawi and Rhodesia are important for British imperialism, which steadfastly regards apartheid S Africa as its sole reliable bastion 'against communism' in all of Africa.

The more this bastion extends its own influence over the neigh-

# YS recruitment team in



Y.S.

## SHEFFIELD

**Best response we have ever had**

FOR the last two weeks the Young Socialists recruitment team, headed by national secretary John Simmance, has been campaigning in Merseyside and Sheffield. The response, they say, has been 'great'. In factories, schools and colleges young people have come forward to join the local YS branches. Demonstrations demanding 'Vote Labour to keep the Tories out!' were held in both Sheffield (see above) and Liverpool.

Our picture below shows some of the Merseyside YS enjoying the sun whilst out recruiting.

## and MERSEYSIDE



## TV

### BBC 1

8.00-9.00 a.m. Good morning, Mexico. 10.45-11.00 Watch with mother. 12 noon-1.30 p.m. World Cup grandstand. 1.45-1.53 News and weather. 2.05-2.25 Schools. 4.20 Play school. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Blue Peter. 5.20 Hector's house. 5.25 Abbott and Costello. 5.30 Laurel and Hardy. 5.50 News and weather.

6.00 **WORLD CUP GRANDSTAND.** Highlights of last night's semi-finals.

7.20 **TOP OF THE POPS.**

8.00 **THE EXPERT.** A Question of Gullit. 8.50 NEWS and weather.

9.10 **MOVING ALONG WITH ANDY WILLIAMS.** Television special with Burt Bacharach, Diahann Carroll, Jose Feliciano, Liza Minnelli, Lorne Greene, former Righteous Brother Bill Medley and Roy Clark.

10.00 **BBC ELECTION 70.** 10.05 **THE CAMPAIGNS OVER!** Eric Sykes, Warren Mitchell and Spike Milligan take an irreverent look at the General Election.

10.25 **BBC ELECTION 70.** The results nationwide as they are declared.

### REGIONAL BBC

All regions as BBC 1 except:

Midlands and E Anglia: 5.30-5.50 Midlands today. Look East, weather.

North of England: 5.00-5.50 Look North, weather.

Wales: 2.30-2.50 Gwlad a thref. 5.30-5.50 Wales today.

Scotland: 5.30-5.50 Reporting Scotland. N Ireland: 5.30-5.50 Scene around six, weather.

South and West: 5.30-5.50 Points West. South today. Spotlight South-West, weather.

There will be local election reports and comment at 10.40, 11.25, 1.53, 2.05, 2.55 and 3.55 a.m. from Glasgow, Cardiff, Belfast, SE, Southampton, Plymouth, Bristol, Birmingham, Norwich, Leeds, Manchester and Newcastle. Politicians, industrialists and trade unionists will be invited to the studios.

### BBC 2

11.00-11.20 a.m. **PLAY SCHOOL.**

7.05 p.m. **MAN IN SOCIETY.** 'A Woman's Place'. 7.30 **NEWS** and weather.

8.00 **NOT A WORD.** Word game.

8.30 **JAZZ SCENE AT THE RONNIE SCOTT CLUB.** With Buddy Rich and his Orchestra, the Bill Coleman-Buddy Tate Quintet and the Gary Burton Quartet.

9.10 **W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM.** 'Virtue'.

10.00 **IT'S A GREAT FEELING!** With Doris Day, Dennis Morgan, and Jack Carson. A would-be film director wants to make a star out of a waitress.

11.20 **NEWS** summary and weather.

### ITV

3.55 p.m. Origami. 4.10 Crossroads. 4.35 Flipper. 5.00 Magpie. 5.30 Mad movies. 5.45 News.

5.55 **WORLD CUP 1970.**

7.30 **NEAREST AND DEAREST.**

8.00 **THURSDAY FILM.** 'The Bramble Bush'. With Richard Burton, Barbara Rush and Jack Carson. A young doctor struggles with the problem of euthanasia when a friend with a terminal disease asks him to end his life. 9.45 **NEWS.**

10.00 **ELECTION 70.** With David Frost and Alastair Burnet. Reports on election results as they are announced and analysis.

### REGIONAL ITV

**CHANNEL 1:** 3.42 p.m. Puffin's birthday greetings. 3.52 London. 4.05 Wendy and me. 4.35 King Kong. 5.00 London. 5.30 Houseparty. 5.45 London. 5.55 Police file. 6.00 Sports roundup. 6.20 News and weather. 6.35 World Cup 70. 7.30 London. 8.00 Film. 'None But The Brave'. With Frank Sinatra and Clint Walker. 9.40 London. 10.00 Film. 'Dangerous Moonlight'. 11.35 News, weather.

**SOUTHERN:** 3.55 London. 4.35 Forest rangers. 5.00 London. 8.00 Film. 'Anne Get Your Gun' with Betty Hutton. Annie Oakley beats Frank Butler in a shooting contest and they decide to go into partnership. 9.40 London. 12.10 Weather. Action 70.

**WESTWARD:** 3.40 News. 3.42 Gus Honeybun. 3.52 London. 4.05 Wendy

# SCIENTIFIC WORLD



## The origins

# 1. of life

The nebula in Andromeda, a stellar cluster similar to our own galaxy.

ONE OF THE main points at which the theologians, the vitalists, attack those who seek to develop a materialist approach to biological science, is on the question of the origin of life.

Arguing from the distinctiveness of the living system and the obvious qualitative differences between living and non-living chemical systems, they proclaim, often in a concealed way, that life could only have arisen through divine intervention.

The mechanical materialists steer clear of this problem of the origin of life and simply state tritely that life is a chemical system and therefore life must have developed through complex chemical reactions.

Ideas on the origin of life have developed as man has increasingly probed the real relationships between living beings and nature and the separate parts of living beings and the whole.

In the ancient societies, Babylonia, Egypt and China, direct uncritical observation led to the idea that various forms of life, insects, worms and even fish, birds and mice, arose directly by spontaneous generation from slime, manure, soil and other non-living materials.

### Early views

All these early views of the origin of life were essentially mystical, though early Greek philosophers such as Democritus, attempted a materialist explanation.

However, both Plato and Aristotle were openly idealist in their approach to the problem.

It was their views, fostered by the church which held sway throughout the Middle Ages, and even men such as Van Helmont (c. 1600) who sought to explain plant nutrition, clung to the theory of spontaneous (religious) generation of living things.

Francesco Redi (c. 1650) struck the first blow against the ideas of spontaneous generation in experiments where he showed that maggots on meat came from flies' eggs and were not spontaneously generated from the meat.

Both Hegel and Kant in the 18th and early 19th centuries subscribed to the ideas of spontaneous generation.

In a brilliant series of experiments, Louis Pasteur in 1862 proved that the formation of micro-organisms from various broths and solutions of organic substances were impossible.

Both this work and the discovery that fungi, bacteria and viruses are themselves quite complex living organisms finally buried the ideas of spontaneous generation in their most open form.

As work along these lines developed, however, a serious crisis in natural science concerning this problem developed.

### No answers

The mechanists had no answers. This state of affairs continued until the 1950s. Mechanism as a philosophy never has recognized any important qualitative difference between the inorganic world and the world of living things.

Therefore, primary spontaneous generation of organisms is logically required as a consequence of their view of life.

In desperation they have even suggested that life has come from some place external to the earth, but this only postpones the problem.

Simply to criticize the mechanical materialists is not, however, enough; one has to oppose to this a real scientific theory of the origins of life.

### From a special correspondent

Only by combining a dialectical understanding with a materialist approach can this be done.

One can only consider the origin of life historically as part of the development of the universe, this solar system and the earth.

The development of life is both, a continuation of these processes and a change in these processes.

In other words, the origin of life can only be seen as a stage in a long drawn-out process of continual change and development.

At the beginning of this century, Wöhler and Berthelot synthesized organic chemical compounds from inorganic chemicals.

Organic chemicals, that is chemicals which are involved in living organisms, contain the elements carbon (C),

It is estimated that the earth began to form a separate identity from the dust and gas of the break-up of a supernova about five billion years ago.

Since our sun was formed later than older stars from this supernova, the earth has a high proportion of heavy elements and is a terrestrial planet.

According to the hypothesis now accepted, our planet was formed by the accumulation of solid bodies, mixed in composition with different iron and silicate content, but in general lacking such force such as free gases and volatile compounds as hydrogen, inert gases or methane (containing carbon and hydrogen).

Any atmosphere there was, was lost in space since there was very little gravitational attraction. The compact mass of the earth continued to

(H<sub>2</sub>S) and gaseous hydrocarbons (compounds which contain hydrogen and carbon).

Oxygen which we breathe today was almost completely absent from the atmosphere. It is claimed that oxygen in the atmosphere increased between one and two billion years ago and this is taken as an indication that life developed in this period.

(Plants take in carbon monoxide and give out oxygen during daylight.)

The question that has to be answered is, how did the evolution of carbon compounds occur since long chains of carbon atoms exist in all living organisms?

### Compounds

Carbon is found in spectra of all classes of stars, particularly the oldest populations and, at lower temperatures, carbon hydrogen compounds are common.

For example, the atmosphere of the sun of this solar system is only 6,000 degrees C and contains methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) and other hydrocarbons plus cyanogen (CN).

Jupiter, Saturn and Neptune contain methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) in large quantities. Carbonaceous meteorites have a high carbon and water content and also contain methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), carbon monoxide (CO) hydrogen (H) and traces of pyrimidine bases (the building blocks of DNA) and amino acids (the building blocks of protein).

The methane contained in the secondary atmosphere was probably formed from metal carbides, graphite, amorphous carbon and any organic compounds trapped beneath the earth's crust at an earlier period.

The secondary atmosphere contained methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen (N<sub>2</sub>), ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>), water (H<sub>2</sub>O) and hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>), the latter escaping into space because it was so light.

The action of water on metal carbides, graphite and amorphous carbon would give rise to gaseous hydrocarbons (containing hydrogen and carbon).

Geological evidence supports these conclusions, methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), ethane (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>) propane (C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub>) and higher hydrocarbons have been found widely in igneous rocks.

Since the atmosphere was so different at the time of the development of life, high energy ultra-violet radiation and other forms of radiation from the sun was able to penetrate the atmosphere to the earth's surface.

There was no radiation belt or zone belt to block these high-energy radiations.

### Energy

The elements of the earth's surface were much more radioactive and released much more energy. Electrical discharges and high-temperature volcanic eruptions could have provided energy also.

This energy could play the

role of fusing the lower hydrocarbons such as methane into long chains of carbon atoms.

Miller in 1953 sparked methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) and hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>) and was able to form eight different amino acids (protein-building units) and a short length of protein.

Similar effects have been observed with ultra-violet, X-ray and X-ray radiation.

A mixture of cyanogen (C<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>) ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) water (H<sub>2</sub>O) warmed between 30 degrees C and 100 degrees C gave rise to adenine and components of guanine (the building blocks of genetic materials desoxyribonucleic acid (DNA)).

Carbohydrates (sugars and starches) have been produced from simple carbon compounds formaldehyde and acetaldehyde (which can be formed by electrical sparking of methane [CH<sub>4</sub>] and water [H<sub>2</sub>O] in the presence of a kind of clay).

Polymers (chains) of amino and nucleotides (the components of DNA) have been made from formaldehyde, ammonia and hydrogen cyanide (HCN).

### Protein

In fact Fox produced quite large protein units from amino acids at 150-180 degrees C. High-energy phosphate compounds which are also found in living systems have also been made in the laboratory at 55-60 degrees C by Schramm. These phosphate compounds are important in living systems in making polymers.

In the conditions which existed two billion years ago, there were no forms of life to take up any organic compounds formed in the ways described above and they would not be easily broken down by the reaction conditions that actually created them, they would be removed from the reaction zone.

It has been estimated that the oceans contained 1 per cent of organic compounds at this time.

Some oceans then could be considered as a soup of organic compounds and inorganic compounds.

### Organic

The order of organic chemical reactions taking place in it, the formation and breakdown of its organic chemicals differed, however, fundamentally from the order which is characteristic for all living systems.

In living organisms, due to a certain pre-existing organization the succession of individual reactions are directed towards a particular 'end', whereas the transformations within the 'soup' took place in accordance only with the laws of chemistry and physics.

The problem remaining is how a definite sequence of metabolic reactions could have been formed from the random and opposing reactions.

How, through the good offices of chance the necessary transition from non-living to living systems occurred.



Louis Pasteur

# Derisory pay offer - say Sovex strikers

BY A WORKERS PRESS CORRESPONDENT  
ENGINEERS from the Sovex Elevator and conveyor plant at Erith, Kent, yesterday angrily rejected the firm's offer to increase its interim cash offer from 15s to £1 in return for sweeping productivity concessions.

The management's latest proposal came after Tuesday's talks at the London headquarters of the Association of Engineering Employers with the Sovex strike committee and officials of the three unions involved—the AEF, T&GWU and the Boiler-makers.

The management's latest offer, described by the men as insulting and derisory after five weeks of strike action, has made the strike more determined than ever.

At yesterday's mass meeting there was such unity that there was no need for any vote to be taken to continue the stoppage.

The plants are being picketed every day and support is reported to be coming in from wider and wider areas.

## WEATHER

London area, Midlands, central northern England: Dull at first, sunny periods later. Moderate East winds. Normal. Max. 20C (68F).  
SW, SE and central southern England, Channel Islands: Dull at first, becoming bright or sunny. Isolated thundery outbreaks later. Light or moderate East winds. Warm. Max. 20C (68F).  
Edinburgh: Dull. Sunny intervals. Fresh East winds. Normal. Max. 16C (61F).  
NW England, Glasgow area, N Ireland: Variable cloud. Sunny periods. Moderate SE winds. Warm. Max. 20C (68F).  
Friday and Saturday: Little change.

# Shareholders' meeting a battle? Markets halt IOS dealings

WITH LESS than two weeks to go to its shareholders' meeting in Toronto, the crisis-ridden Investors Overseas Services suffered yet another blow yesterday when the Montreal and Toronto Stock Exchanges halted dealings in IOS shares.

The \$2,000 million international mutual funds complex is registered in Canada, and the Toronto Exchange authorities declared that 'inadequate information' was available to investors.

Deals in IOS shares were later suspended by the Stock Exchange Council in London.

IOS headquarters in Geneva have so far declined to comment on the suspensions.

However, figures released in Geneva yesterday indicate that IOS made a loss of \$2.9 million in the first quarter of this year, compared with a \$3 million profit in the same period of 1969.

The crunch must be very close for this financial colossus.

Accounts for 1969, published last weekend, fail to give details of loans to IOS directors and associates, thought to amount to \$40 million.

## Committee

These were referred to by Robert M. Morgenthau in his evidence to the US Senate Committee on Banking and Currency last week.

Morgenthau alleged that the loans were made through IOS W German banking subsidiaries just after the issue of \$56-million-worth of IOS stock, at \$10 a share.

IOS shares now stand at around \$2. Morgenthau declared that the prospectus offering the stock had not mentioned the loans, and so investors did not know the real assets of the company.

The reversal in the IOS fortunes occurred just after the share issue, underwritten by some of the leading financial institutions on both sides of the Atlantic, which was one of the few successful operations raising capital in 1969.

The shareholders meeting gives the appearance of being a battle between the forces of Sir Eric Wyndham

By John Crawford

# Heath 'rattled' - Wilson claims

MOUTHS were again being worn firmly buttoned at Conservative headquarters yesterday about the party's official candidate for Wolverhampton South-West.

BY A WORKERS PRESS CORRESPONDENT

rattled Mr Heath was going to become in the last stages of this campaign,' he said.

And pushing the same line, an ebullient Callaghan told reporters in London that 'Mr Heath's stand on devaluation is just about on a par with Powell's attack—he described it as an 'election smear'—on 'traitors' in the civil service'.

While claiming that there would be no compulsory wage freeze—in a free society you can't handle things this way—he went on to spell out that the Labour leaders would, if elected, direct much of their energies towards pushing through more and more productivity deals.

The Powell leadership bid, a bid supported by increasing numbers of Tory candidates and backers impatient with what they regard as the 'soft-sell' policies of the Heath wing, has clearly taken its toll.

## Perfunctory

Answers to journalists' questions yesterday were perfunctory in the extreme.

Home Secretary Callaghan's charge, made earlier at the Labour Party press conference, that Heath's devaluation warnings were 'just about the most despicable thing he could do' was, Heath said, 'most extraordinary'.

If the country was to return a Labour government, with the same policies and the same people making the same mistakes,' he claimed, there would be increasing prices, higher taxation, more strikes, a compulsory wage freeze and eventual further devaluation of the pound.

Asked to clarify exactly what the Tories would do to keep prices down, however, he replied truculently that it was 'his late in the day to be discussing that'.

Speaking in Manchester, Labour leader Harold Wilson accused Heath of basing his warnings about the pound on the flimsy evidence of one month's trade figures.

Heath said, 'most extraordinary'.

Mr Wilson has his Jumbos—that's his excuse—but Mr George Matthews told his audience in Islington, London, that the Communist Party would tackle the difficulty 'at its roots'.

'We say that this problem is so important that it ought to be investigated in a professional way without optimism and without pessimism,' said Matthews speaking at an election rally in support of Marie Betheridge, Communist candidate for SW Islington.

Stop-go  
'The British economy has been hit by a series of economic crises since the Second World War—stop-go, stop-go. The reason why these have happened is because no one has been prepared to deal with the balance of payments at its roots.'

Two of the big things involved in this are the overseas military expenditure and the export of capital by the giant firms.'

Matthews said that these two items alone accounted for a deficit figure of about £3,800 million.

'If we stop this money going out it would more than account for the £500 million deficit on the balance of payments. We could have got this without the squeeze, without the anti-trade union laws and without the cuts in the social services and education,' he added.

Evasion  
This reformist advice that the CP continually gives the Wilson administration is an evasion of the issues posed by the crisis.

Its roots go far deeper than Matthews would have us believe.

The malaise stems from the fact that world trade under a capitalist system cannot be developed on an even basis and no amount of tampering with separate items in the balance of payments will cure this.

Secondly military expenditure and overseas investment are a necessary part of the capitalist systems.

Fight  
They cannot be abolished without a fight for a revolutionary party and a workers' state.

No amount of the left pressure that Matthews advocated will force Wilson to stop arms spending and attack the profits and investments of the monopolies.



Istanbul police attack workers and students during a union demonstration on Tuesday.

# Martial law in Istanbul

POLICE WERE alerted throughout Turkey yesterday following the imposition of martial law in Istanbul and the surrounding province.

BY A WORKERS PRESS FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

The right-wing Demirel regime stepped in with troops and tanks on Tuesday when tens of thousands of workers supported a demonstration called by the left-wing Confederation of Trade Unions against proposed new labour laws.

The Bill, now going to parliament, is aimed at obstructing the right to collective bargaining and doing away with national agreements altogether.

Two demonstrators and one policeman were killed in clashes. The army encircled Istanbul and stopped the

Left-wing students at Istanbul and Ankara universities have faced assassination attempts and vicious police attacks when they attempted to defend themselves.

The Demirel government, dependent on the Turkish capitalists and American imperialism, is now attempting to use these forces to put the organized labour movement in a strait-jacket.

The fight for the independence of trade unions from the state is a vital question for the working class in every capitalist country from the USA and Britain to Turkey.

This defence cannot be entrusted to either the Stalinists or reformists.

Only revolutionary methods can consolidate the past conquests of the working class and build on them to take the power.

Rice capture  
Liberation forces captured two trains and seized 1,200 tons of rice at Cambodia's last rail connection out of Phnom Penh, a railway official said yesterday.

OUR PROGRAMME TO MEET THE CRISIS

FROM PAGE ONE

RENTS, RATES AND TAXES: RENTS, rates, taxes and interest rates will come under state control. Interest rates, severed from the international finance market by the monopoly of foreign trade and control of exchange transactions, would be lowered.

INDO-CHINA: ALL SUPPORT for the US imperialists' war in Cambodia and Vietnam must cease immediately, and relations must be established with N Vietnam.

TROOPS: ALL BRITISH troops must be removed from N Ireland and all overseas territories.

NATO AND UNO: A SOCIALIST government would unhesitatingly sever all connections with NATO—counter-revolutionary alliance—and with the UNO—docile tool of imperialism. There must be no more secret diplomacy or participation in summit meetings of the Big Four.

only prepared to struggle on immediate needs now.'

This has been given the lie by the May 1 strike on Merseyside against the Vietnam war.

A massive Labour vote today—an anti-Tory vote and not a pro-Wilson vote—is part of the political development of the working class which it has to go through, but which the Stalinists seek to retard.

# Vote Labour

FROM PAGE ONE  
tary dictatorship and police oppression.  
It is the negation of communism which connotes the abolition of private property and the national state and, therefore, national frontiers.

## Chauvinist

It is indeed a measure of Gollan's chauvinism that the CP should be proposing two Germanies exactly 100 years after the unification of Germany, a historically progressive task which Marx and Engels critically supported.

We ask Gollan: why two Germanies? Why not unwind the spool of history and go back to the principalities of feudal Germany?

This policy of peaceful co-existence and collective security now enables the CP to whitewash the overt breaking of strikes in fascist Spain and Ireland with Polish coal and cement and Stalinist support for the reactionary junta in Greece.

It has nothing in common with the spirit of the Communist Manifesto which states categorically: 'The working men have no country.'

CP policy is a political expression of counter-revolutionary Stalinism and is a reformist diversion in the election.

More and more workers are beginning to see through the pacifist-reformism of the CP in the same way as they are seeing through Wilson and are fighting him.

## Votes fallen

That's why the CP vote has fallen so catastrophically over recent years.

The CP intervention does not help to unite the working class in a struggle against the Tories, nor does it prepare the workers for the struggle against Wilson after the election.

Since its policy is to persuade workers that Wilson can be changed by pressure from within and without the Labour Party, it leaves Wilson's control of the Labour Party intact.

For all these reasons we urge workers not to vote Communist, but to vote Labour today.

The Socialist Labour League is not standing any candidates in the elections for the reasons already advanced.

When the situation demands it we shall stand candidates with the same determination and success as when we launched the YS and the daily paper. This, however, is not the position today.

Our main task is to defeat the Tories today and use this tactical victory to prepare the ground for a major victory against Wilson, Powell and Paisley at a later date.

In the coming struggles as much as in this one socialist policies will play a decisive and preponderant role.

We urge all workers, in voting Labour, to read our policy for the crisis and support our struggle against the dangers of war, unemployment and capitalist dictatorship.

Only Trotskyist policies and leadership can and will guide the working class out of the chaos of capitalism to the successful establishment of socialism in Britain, Europe and the world.

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## LATE NEWS

STEELMEN LAID OFF  
As management and union officials concerned with the engineers' and electricians' strike at British Steel's Corby complex met in London yesterday, the corporation laid off 1,300 workers.  
The electricians and engineers are demanding that their present bonuses—which range between 17s 9d and £4 8s 9d a week—should be brought up to a flat rate of £6 10s.

SOYUZ-9 PROBE  
Soviet specialists disclosed yesterday that the Soyuz-9 cosmonauts were investigating the problem of falling sight in long space flights as their record-breaking marathon mission neared the end of its 16th day.

## MINEFIELD

The Tories do not understand the sensitive human and economic problems that crop up as soon as you step into the field of industrial relations. It's like walking through a minefield,' he said.

'Canada's losses through strikes are four times as bad as ours. But they also have a lot of law. India's three times. Ireland's four-and-half times.'

Feather's argument for the return of a Labour government was support for voluntary wage restraint.

Yes, it was the same Vic Feather who told the Manchester Institute of Directors last October:

'Merseyside is getting an unwelcome reputation for unnecessary stoppages of work... this atmosphere is making an impact on the minds of manufacturers who otherwise would be glad to start and develop in the North-West.'

# Will the real Mr. Feather please stand up?

BY MARTIN ZARROP

IT IS exactly one year to the day since the Trade Union Congress made its 'solemn and binding agreement' with the Labour government to police the trade unions.

This fact was somehow lost amongst the welter of statistics rolled out by TUC secretary Vic Feather during his speech in support of Ditcham's Labour candidate.

'In industry, just as in life generally in Britain, we are very peaceful people,' he said.

'Canada's losses through strikes are four times as bad as ours. But they also have a lot of law. India's three times. Ireland's four-and-half times.'

Feather's argument for the return of a Labour government was support for voluntary wage restraint.

## Unionist-Paisley deal

whether Protestant Unionists have been told of the danger which could arise from their nominating candidates, but whether any sort of concessions have been made by the official Unionist Party to prevent this happening. I have not authorised any such concession and I totally repudiate anyone who may have suggested such a thing.'

Paisley has given names and dates which, he claims, back up his assertion that five Ulster Unionist officials in Derry held meetings with loyal Paisleyites to agree a pact and stand a single candidate.

Chichester-Clark also read a letter passed up from the floor from the Rev Paisley himself, which said:

'I challenge you to ask me tonight in public for the names of officials and agents of your party who entered into negotiations with the Protestant Unionists in South Down and Armagh. I can give you also the time and place of the meetings con-



MAINTENANCE men in the Greater London Council voted yesterday to continue their strike over an extra 1s an hour. The GLC 6d-an-hour offer was rejected by 159 votes to 102.

The strike has received support from wide sections of workers, skilled and unskilled.

One steward supporting the strike committee's recommendation to reject the offer said the meeting must learn from other lower-paid workers: 'Look what happened at Pilkington's. We must stay out till we get the £2.'

Will the real Mr. Feather please stand up?

**Mr Ramelson's unbalanced scales**  
BY PETER READ  
YOU NEVER waste your vote if you vote for what you want even if you're not going to get it—so claimed the Communist Party's industrial organizer Bert Ramelson at a Hackney election meeting.  
This sums up neatly the irrelevance of the Stalinists' electoral intervention to the actual movement and feeling in the working class against the Tories.  
Ramelson followed up this piece of nonsense with the suggestion that every vote for the CP is going to be carefully weighed by Wilson.  
This completely avoids what has been obvious for the past six years — that the loss of hundreds of thousands of workers' votes has counted for little in Wilson's scales when the international bankers are sitting in the other pan.  
In Ramelson's crude demagoguery it becomes very clear that the Stalinists rest on political backwardness.  
The Party's manifesto is—much more than the Labour Party's—a 'genuine reflection of the labour movement's policy,' he said. 'Workers are