# What we think Heath throws victor feather One year of the **Workers Press**

IN A statement issued by the Central Committee of the Socialist Labour League which appeared in the first number of Workers Press on September 27, 1969,

we said: '1970 will be an historic year for the Trotskyist movement. At last, after all the betrayals of social demo-cracy and Stalinism, the working class of central and W Europe has within its grasp the political and theoretical resources for the construction of genuine mass revolutionary parties based on Marxism.

The significance of a revolutionary daily paper is not only that it enables us to carry out more activity in the workers' movement, but that it insists upon a day to day analysis of what is taking place in the class struggle. We have passed through one year of such experience with impressive

By posing the need for a erious understanding of Marxist theory, we have created the largest group of steadfast supporters in our history. Since the elec-tion of a Tory government last June, the numbers are growing almost daily simply because the working class now feels that a showdown is coming and the more advanced layers want to be

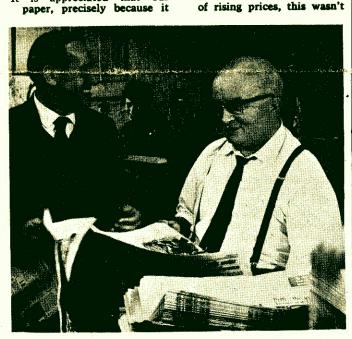
It is appreciated that our

news agency services through four teleprinters. This will be in addition to specialist monitoring ser-

vices of overseas news. We have almost completed news-team work.

drawn together the beginnings of what promises to be a very effective provincial news team. This has been a slow job over the past 12 months because most of our efforts have gone into the central work which is nearing completion. The most we could do in the provinces was to lay the groundwork for regular news stories. But that will be rapidly improved upon in the next few weeks.

Workers Press we devoted a great deal of attention towards an accurate estimate of our basic costs. Because of rising prices, this wasn't



FLASH-BACK TO SEPTEMBER 1969: Imperial Father of the Plough Press National Graphical Association Chapel, Mr A Roa (left)—who recently moved a motion against Rudi Dutschke's deportation at the London Trades Council—seen with SLL national secretary G. Healy, looking at the very first issue of Workers Press as it rolled off the presses.

is a Marxist newspaper, cannot and will not pander to the backwardness of militancy which is separate from the historical tasks posed in the struggle for socialism. We are out to stimulate an interest in theory whilst at the same time demonstrating its significance in the way we approach all the struggles engaged in by the working

To do this Workers Press engages in a dialogue and at times a debate with its readers. This is its strength which explains at the same time why our readership is

growing. Our two great sources of support are undoubtedly the factories and the youth. It is from these sectors that we receive the regular contributions to the Fighting Fund, together with an ever-expanding readership.

From October 12 we shall be producing Workers Press six days a week and our plans for further expansion are by no means over. We are convinced that we shall be able to build up a circulation forward to the inclusion of additional pages in the not too distant future.

Together with a continuous effort to improve the political effectiveness of the paper, we are about to embark on the most ambitious project of news

We are pleased to say that we have now built up a team of reporters who have become very experienced in their work. In addition, thanks to the training some of them have received on the capitalist press, we are able to employ really talented efforts towards the gathering of news.

From October 1 we will have a full complement of Press Association and Reuters easy. But the groundwork we put in has paid off.

The publication of the six-day Workers Press will mean a substantial increase in costs. This we estimate to be in the region of £300 a week. We have proposed therefore to increase our campaign fund from £1,000 to £1,250 a month. Since already we receive over £1,000 each month, this should not be difficult.

We are appealing for 1,000 six-day subscribers which will be, in addition, to an increase of over 2,000 copies a day in circulation.

We are confident now, just as we were confident last year we started the Workers Press, that we can achieve these results.

We say this because we know that the working class is on the move against the Tories and the employers which in turn contributes powerfully to the building up of the revolutionary forces. We are confident that our readers will respond as enthusiastically as they have done over the past year.

# down the gauntlet

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Minister of Transport John Peyton has immediately made clear that the Tories have no intention of bolstering loss-making industry in order to save jobs.

And a press campaign is already under way to try and pin at least part of the blame for the port's escalating losses on the dockers and their unions.

statement on Palmer's Tyne ship-repair yard, which closed yesterday, Peyton stressed that while loans for the new Seaforth container complex would continue under existing agreements this 'does not imply accept-ance of responsibility for

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#### Charges up All port charges were in-creased yesterday by an

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# Stage-hands still picket theatre

SACKED STAGEHANDS will make a call at a Brighton conference this weekend for other workers in London's theatreland to back their fight against Sadler's Wells Opera Company.

#### Council workers' action

#### Hot speech for lukewarm policy

ALAN FISHER, leader of the National Union of Public Employees, replied to Edward Heath's television attack on the union's pay struggle.

He accused Heath of trying to provoke strikes by lowerpaid workers and using them as an excuse for new laws to curb the unions.

'Nothing,' he added, 'could be more calculated to unite the whole of the trade union movement against Mr Heath and his government.'

Very high-sounding, but it hardly accords with NUPE's luke-warm policy of selective strikes of carefully-chosen key operatives, which seem likely to leave the bulk of the 750,000 public authority workers in work.

said yesterday:
'What would be the use of pulling out the parks and garden workers, to take an example. There is absolutely no need for all local authority workers to strike.' However, London council

workers-pledged to take action by the end of September -have already decided to go ahead in a number of areas. Waltham Forest, Islington, Hackney and Lewisham, according to Terry Wilson, secretary of the rank-and-file strike co-ordinating committee, are activating plans for strike action on that date. Others are expected to follow suit in line with co-

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#### EXTRA TIME FOR RUDI

THE HOME Secretary has offered to consider extending the stay in Britain of Rudi Dutschke, the former German student leader, if he is not ready to leave by September 30.

In a letter to Dutschke and his wife the Home Secretary makes it clear he thinks September 30 is adequate time, but will allow extra time for them to make 'alternative arrange-

#### The 34 men employed by the company at their Coliseum Theatre have been sacked and locked-out for refusing to work a productivity which would reduce their weekly earnings by at least

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#### ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE

#### CONFERENCE

The Pilkington struggle and the right to strike

Defeat the proposed Tory anti-union laws

St George's Hall, Lime St LIVERPOOL

#### Saturday October 3

2.30 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Credentials and visitors' cards 5s each from Conference Secretary, W. Hunter, 58 Leighton View, Liverpool 8.

- Wages
- Anti-union laws
- Productivity and unemployment
- Victimization at Pilkington's glassworks

#### Talks toWorkers Press

Stalinist and Nasserite betrayal means

# Guerrillas face serious set-back

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BY ROBERT BLACK

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The imperialists hoped from

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WITHDREW

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leaving the guerrillas exposed to the full fury of Hussein's

So the Royalists, embold-

ened by the knowledge that

the Kremlin was strenuously opposing any Syrian backing

for the guerrillas in the North,

did their bloody, murderous

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The incredible courage of the Palestinians, and the Royalist massacres in the

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ning to take their toll even in the ranks of Hussein's gov-

Prime Minister Mohammed

Daoud's resignation and call

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**ALIENATED** 

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The branch felt that this action was necessary to the fight against the Tory government's proposed anti-trade-union laws.

Jack Grasby, secretary of South Shields Trades Coun-cil, told Workers Press:

'It's quite obvious from yesterday's unemployment figures the struggle of workers on Tyneside is the same as those in St Helens and the Merseyside for the basic right to work, the right to organize and the right to strike. The October 3 conference

deserves every support.'

#### tinians, but millions of Arabs throughout the Middle East. They sense that whatever the tactical military gains

Hussein may secure next days or weeks, the Palestinian uprising has inspired millions of Arabs in the Middle East to renew their struggle against imperialism.

The guerrillas have proved that it can be done, while Hussein has equally clearly demonstrated that the Arab ruling class are in the pockets

of imperialism. Nixon and the Zionists, as well as Hussein, badly mis-calculated the profoundly popular roots of the guerrilla

movement. Fearing a deal between Hussein and the more moderate guerrilla leaders, Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Yigal Allon warned Hussein against permitting any compromise with the guerrillas: 'I warn the King that he will be in even more trouble

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United States or Israel

Palestinians.

So the Royalists, emboldened by the knowledge that the Kremlin was strenuously opposing any Syrian backing for the guerrillas in the North, did their bloody, murderous best to carry out Nixon's

strategy. The incredible courage of the Palestinians, and the Royalist massacres in the refugee camps, are now beginning to take their toll even in the ranks of Hussein's gov-

ernment. Prime Minister Mohammed Daoud's resignation and call for a new 'civilian national government that would work for Jordan's national unity is only the visible tip of the

#### **ALIENATED**

A Palestinian by birth, Daoud reflects the fear of many government supporters that the Royalists have permanently alienated and embittered not only the Pales-tinians, but millions of Arabs throughout the Middle East.

They sense that whatever the tactical military gains Hussein may secure next days or weeks, the Palestinian uprising has inspired millions of Arabs in the Middle East to renew their

struggle against imperialism. The guerrillas have proved that it can be done, while Hussein has equally clearly demonstrated that the Arab ruling class are in the pockets

of imperialism.

Nixon and the Zionists, as well as Hussein, badly miscalculated the profoundly popular roots of the guerrilla

Fearing a deal between Hussein and the more moderate guerrilla leaders, Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Yigal Allon warned Hussein

against permitting any compromise with the guerrillas: 'I warn the King that he will be in even more trouble than he was before if he does

● PAGE FOUR COL. 4

SJ: Mr Robert Carr, Minister of Technology for Employment and Productivity, has made it clear that the government intends to resist all the way wage increases like those of the miners' and the local government manual workers'.

is the TUC General Councii going to actively support these claims and how will it resist any intervention by the Tory government?

VF: We have heard this kind of talk before from a Tory government.

Mr Carr has two hats, you see; he has a politician's hat and a Minister's hat. I think on Saturday [September 19], when he was speaking to a Conservative association, he was prodded by his right-wing. I think he feels that many Conservatives believe him to be too liberal, that they want him to be more forthright and aggressive.

You see the Conservative Party is not as united as it would like to be. They have the wild men on the back benches who are out to do the moderates and hit the unions. But you have the other kind of Conservative who realizes that you have to live in this world and exist on a practical basis.

#### SJ: But should they intervene on these pay claims, what would the TUC do?

VF: Well that's a hypothetical question. At the moment we have been assured by the government that they do not intend to intervene in the public sector or the private sec-

Last night [Tuesday, September 22], we had talks with industries and they assured us that the government had given no directives on the wages

We have found this too in the public sector. I know the secretary of the employers' side of the Joint Industrial Council [non-manual workers in local government] has had no directives and I know the people responsible for the fire brigades have none.

So it seems to me there is no directive from the govern-

#### SJ: But suppose they did

VF: I would prefer not to deal with that particular question, you know that. My approach is that I deal with a situation as it arises. I might have ideas about what I will do, but I do not necessarily publicise them.

#### SJ: There was this talk at Brighton about an offensive wages strategy.

VF: Yes this was the phrase that was used.

I don't know if I would use exactly the same phrase. I suppose an 'offensive wages strategy' means, to a degree, a defensive wages strategy.

I hope we are using the word offensive in the sense that we should concentrate rather more on improving the pay of the lower-wage workers.

But I wouldn't describe this as an offensive strategy; these are emotive words. I would call it an intelligent wages strategy, one with a bit of. humanity about it, one that will bring about increases for the lower-paid workers, without necessarily causing expectation of the same increases among the higher paid.

I would, in fact, like to see more talk about flat-rate increases rather than percentage increases. Because with percentage increases you get much bigger rises for people

Because of the importance of this interview part two of Peter Jeffries' series PHILO-SOPHY AND POLITICAL ECONOMY is postponed until next week.

## I would like information about THE SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE

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

Stephen Johns in an exclusive Workers Press interview with TUC general secretary Victor Feather

# Unemployment

# and the Pikington dispute



on high wages than you do with the lower paid. I would rather talk about flat-rate money increases thereforethis brings about more equalitarian attitudes on the question of wages.

SJ: Are the TUC discussing tegy is to be put into prac-

VF: Not at the moment. I think these are early days. The TUC does not normally intervene in wage negotiations. As a policy body we will be talking about wages and prices.

There is at the moment all this concentration on wages. We would like to talk about wages in relation to prices, to profits, to dividends and to investment. We have to think of real wages rather than money wages.

#### Anti-union laws

SJ: Would it be correct to say that you are opposed to strike action taken by unions and unionists to defeat the government's Conservative anti-union legislation and, also, would you be opposed to any political campaign that involved industrial action to make the government resign on this issue?

VF: I believe that the democratic process is the best safeguard there is for the protection of workers. It has its shortcomings — I recognise these-but I don't think industrial action for political purposes is the best way of securing necessary reforms.

I use the word reform in the proper sense here, that is the accumulation of reforms to

revolution.

bring about a peaceful social

Therefore I don't believe

in industrial action for political ends. I think that the democratic processes and the lawful means that exist for exercising pressures on governments are the ones we should use.

There will be demonstrations and they will be organized by the TUC and the affiliated unions to convince the public that this legislation is harmful to industrial relations.

SJ: One of the things you said at Brighton was 'the TUC does not sing one song when Labour are in power and another song when the Conservatives are in power', and that 'the unions are not looking for a showdown with the government'.

VF: That's right. What we think is that twice two equals four whether it's Labour arithmetic, Conservative arithmetic or Communist arithmetic.

We say, in other words, that the problem is as much economic as political. Governments come and governments go. They make an impact, but rarely on economic problems. It's a solution to the economic problems we are looking for and you don't solve these by swopping governments.

#### Unemployment

SJ: The TUC and the whole of the Congress is on record as saying that there must be a reduction in the number of unemployed. The policy seems so far to have been one of discussions and pressure on the Tory government.

I am talking particularly of discussions recently with Mr John Davies, Ministry of Technology, over the closure of Palmer's shipyard in the North East. After these Davies made a quite blunt press statement that he was not going to do anything about redundancies at

Just how are you going to fight unemployment?

VF: The only way you can fight unemployment is to compel government to change its attitudes. We are having some success. Our advice — to increase demand — has been taken up in such influential quarters as the National Institute for Economic and Social

And this week we made some impact when the Confederation of British Industry told the Chancellor that there ought to be some modest reflation to facilitate an increase in demand.

If there is this increase in demand, workpeople will be assured that they will not work themselves out of a job. It also gives encouragement the knowledge that they will be able to sell the goods that they produce. It will also bring employment for the unem-

SJ: Do you think that you will be able to persuade a Tory government to reflate?

VF: It will not just be the leadership of the unions that will do this, but public opinion as a whole. I don't think that any government likes to be unpopular and I think democracy works. I think democracy is free speech, free discussion, argument.

I think governments can change their minds; if I didn't think this I would be doing something else.

SJ: On the question of unemployment, you may have seen in the Workers Press that South Shields and Kirkby trades councils have called a one-day strike against unemployment in their areas. Would you support this?

VF: No I would not. I don't think this is the way to do it. I don't think by a lot of people staving away from work that they are increasing the opportunities for other to work. I think this is people cutting off one's nose to spite one's face.

#### SJ: But mere pressure has not worked at Palmer's has it?

VF: That's perfectly true, perfectly true. But I think this is the only way. It's not so dramatic as striking-but then there is nothing dramatic in being unemployed.

I think the way to do it is by a lot of pushing, shoving, arguing and stressing the case all the time.

#### **Productivity**

SJ: The other thing that is of increasing interest now is the issue of productivity deals. We

#### IMPORTANT READING

### MARXISM and the TRADE UNIONS



Trade unions in the epoch of imperialist decay- Communism and syndicalism •

New Park publications

believe, and many workers believe, that wage increases are only being won today because workers are paying for them by speed-up and labour cuts; in the guise of productivity deals, Measured-Day Work and job evaluation. Such deals create redun-

VF: There is this fear of redundancy. But I believe with productivity deals you get greater use of mechanical operation, you get greater use of capital investment on the basis of being able to sell a greater amount of products.

dancy....

For this, of course, you must get increased demand or people will be working themselves out of a job. This is why I want increased demand. So that people will know they are using machinery for better effect and not working themselves out of a job.

SJ: But to go back to productivity. You praised the fact that 3,000 productivity deals have been signed this year. . . .

VF: That's right.

SJ: But are you not, by supporting this policy, increasing the pool of unemployed through redundancy a thing that you on the one hand deplore?

VF: No . . . sorry. You see I'm not just taking productivity on its own. It's part of a programme which includes increased demand.

Because if you don't improve demand as well, you are perfectly right, improved productivity will unemployment.

SJ: It all depends, then, on the Conservative government reflating. Do you believe they will do this?

VF: I didn't say that. I said that pressures must be on for them to do this. There must be pressures on every government. This is one of the first things that you are taught on the Workers Press. Governments must be pressurized because governments are naturally conservative.

#### **Pilkingtons**

SJ: To return to a particular issue that is of great concern to the Workers Press, an Issue on which we have faunched a campaign. This is the Plikington's victimization. Now you

signed a document together with Lord Cooper of the General and Municipal Workers' Union and Gerry Caughey of the Pilkington's rank-and-file-

VF: What sort of document was this?

#### SJ: I have it here.

VF: This is an agreement between the parties, I was only the chairman.

SJ: The point is there was this agreement made.

VF: Between the parties, that's right.

SJ: And yourself?

VF: No. it was an agreement made at a meeting at which I was chairman. I'm sorry, you

of signing anyway. If I had signed the it would only have been a matter of countersigning an agreement to which I was not a party, you see.

Anyway we are not playing around with words. This was a row with the rank-and-file committee and the union. I got the two parties together as, I hope, an honest broker. I ing, I was here [TUC headquarters] the rank-and-file committee was here, but I regret to say the union did not come. I'm sorry about this, but I am not criticizing any-

SJ: To go onto the broader issue. After the settlement of the dispute, 250 men were sacked because they struck in support of a man who wanted a representative of his choice

At the meeting held at Congress House today, May 22, between Mr Victor Feather, General Secretary of the TUC, and the Rank and File Strike Committee and the General Secretary and officers and representatives

of the General and Municipal Workers' Union, agreement was reached as follows

(a) all the parties concerned agreed that there

would be no victimisation of any kind of any individual or group of individuals and that

every endeavour would be made to remove present tensions at Pilkington's

(b) the local GMWU representatives at Pontypool would make representations to the management for

the reinstatement or re-employment of the twentyseven workers at Pontypool whose employment had been

#### The May agreement reached at the TUC headquarters

see I don't go to Pilkington's, I don't work at Pilkington's, I don't work at St Helens and I don't work at Pontypool.

The unions were there, the rank-and-file committee were there. I was only seeking to help these two parties to get together. This was an agreement reached between parties that were under my chairmanship, it was the maximum that I could do at the time.

#### SJ: I was under the impression that you did sign.

VF: No, that was a press statement. It's not a question to speak for him in a disagree ment with management.

Also the 127 men at Pontypool remain sacked. The local union representative there has accepted management's claim that there are no more vacancies at Pontypool.

You are in the leadership of the trades union movement. We would like to know what you have done about this situation and what you are going

VF: I am sorry. If people take my advice then I accept responsibility. If they don't take my advice then I can't take responsibility.

don. 5.10 No. That's me over here. 5.40 Sky's the limit. 6.10 London. 6.15 Crowther's in town. 7.00 Love, American style. 8.00 London. 11.15 Name of the game. 12.40 Weather.

HTV (Cymru/Wales) black and white service as above except: 6.15-7.00 Rhyfedd O Fyd.

ANGLIA: 9.30-11.45 London. 12.15 All our yesterdays. 12.45 London. 5.40 Sky's the limit. 6.10 London. 6.15 Crowther's in town. 7.00 No, that's me over here. 7.30 'Stage to Tucson'. With Rod Cameron, Wayne Morris and Sally Eilers. Western. 9.00 London. 11.15 Name of the game. 12.35 Reflection.

Reflection.

ATV MIDLANDS: 9.30-11.45 London.
12.15 Joe 90. 12.45 London. 5.10 No.
that's me over here. 5.40 Jokers wild.
6.10 London. 6.15 Crowther's in
town. 7.00 Your stars tomorrow. 7.03
Film: 'Roustabout'. With Elvis Presley, Barbara Stanwyck, Joan Freeman and Leif Erickson. A tough
young man joins a carnival as a
handyman and becomes a singing
star. 8.50 Popeye. 10.15 Theatre. 11.15
Frost, weather.

ULSTER: 9.30-11.45 London. 12.30 Wind in the willows. 12.45 London. 5.10 Flipper. 5.40 Sportscast. 6.10 London. 6.15 Crowther's in town. 7.00 No. That's me over here. 7.30 Film: 'On the Double'. With Danny Kaye, Margaret Rutherford, Dana Wynter, Diana Dors and Wilfrid Hyde White. A GI is forced to impersonate a Blimpish British general. 9.00 London. 10.15 Theatre. 11.15 Frost.

Frost.

YORKSHIRE: 10.00 London. 11.45
Better driving. 12.10 Training the family dog. 12.30 Cartoon. 12.45
London. 5.15 Gunsmoke. 6.10 London. 6.15 Crowther's in town. 7.00
No, that's me over here. 7.30 'Flying Leathernecks'. With John Wayne and Robert Ryan. Conflict between two pilots at Guadalcanal continues when they are re-united at a California training school. 9.00 London. 10.10
This is . . . Tom Jones. 11.10 Human jungle. 12.05 Weather.

CRANADA: 10.15 London. 11.45 Cast-

Jungle. 12.05 Weather.

GRANADA: 10.15 London. 11.45 Casting around. 12.10 Climbing. 12.35 Cartoon. 12.45 London. 5.10 Greatest show on earth. 6.10 London. 6.15 Crowther's in town. 7.00 No, that's me over here. 7.30 Tough guys: "The Over the Hill gang'. With Walter Brennan, Pat O'Brien, Chill Wills and Edgar Buchanan. Four Texas Rangers try to clean up a mob-ruled town. 8.50 Cartoon. 9.00 London. 10.10 Film: "The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner'. With Michael Redgrave and from Courtenay.

grave and ITom Courtenay.

TYNE TEES: 9.30 London. 12.15 Joe 90. 12.45 London. 5.15 Bonanza. 6.10 London. 6.15 Crowther's in town. 7.00 No, That's me over here. 7.30 Film: "Law of the lawless". Starring Dale Robertson and Yvonne de Carlo. A man is on trial for his life in a small western town. 9.00 London. 10.10 Big Brother. 11.10 Frost. 12.10 Psalm.

western town. 9.00 London. 10.10 Big Brother. 11.10 Frost. 12.10 Psalm.

BORDER: 9.30-11.45 Liberal Assembly. 11.50 All our yesterdays. 12.20 Phoenix Five. 12.45 London. 5.10 Big Valley. 6.05 Sports results. 6.10 News, weather. 6.15 Crowther's in town. 7.00 No, That's me over here. 7.30 "Carter's Army". With Stephen Boyd. Susan Oliver and Robert Hooks. 9.00 London. 10.15 This is. Tom Jones. 11.10 On the house. 11.40 Love, American style.

SCOTTISH: 9.30-11.45 London. 12.25 Peter. 12.30 Wind in the willows. 12.45 London. 5.15 Richard the lionheart. 5.40 Sky's the limit. 6.10 No, that's me over here. 7.30 Movie: "At Sword's Point'. With Cornel Wilde and Maureen O'Hara. 9.00 London. 10.10 This is ... Tom Jones. 11.10 Match report. 11.25 Late call. 11.30 Film: "Bride of Frankenstein". With Boris Karloff, Valerie Hobson and Colin Clive.

GRAMPIAN: 10.30-11.45 London.

If people insist in doing things a different way to what I advise, that's their decision, not mine. I believe that if my advice had been accepted, then these further difficulties would not have arisen.

#### SJ: What was your advice?

VF: Well I don't want to go into detail here. But my advice was for the men to get back inside the union and to use the machinery there.

If they had done and had met impediments, then I would accept some degree of responsibility. You see I knew there was a committee of inquiry . . .

#### SJ: The sacking occurred after the inquiry.

VF: That's right, but I gave my advice before then. But I am sorry. I will act and be held responsible for my own advice but I can't be held responsible if people don't accept it.

SJ: I am not suggesting you should be held entirely responsible for what has happened. After all it was the Pilkington's management who sacked the men. What I want to draw your attention to is that there are 250 men being victimized on Merseyside, they can't get jobs . . .

VF: I regret that very much.

. . . don't you feel you ought to do something about this?

VF: No.

SJ: They are, after all, in many ways defending the right to strike?

VF: That's what you think.

#### SJ: Well they were sacked for going on strike.

VF: That may well be. But this is not the way I would have done it at Pilkington's. I am sorry, this is something you and I will not agree on.

I want to put on record here that my advice was given. I think it was helpful advice, that if it had been carried out these difficulties would not have arisen.

I would still give them advice.

But I'm not too sure the men would accept it or that the union would afford them facilities for carrying out the advice. This is the trouble.

SJ: There is still the clear Issue of the Pontypeol men. These workers are in the union. They were sacked in the course of the main strike, but they remain to this day outside the plant. The union are not doing anything about this yet this was a specific undertaking of the agreement.

Well the union about that.

SJ: But as chairman of the original meeting, don't you feel that you have a responsibility to point this out to the union? That is what I am trying to say.

VF: No, what was done was carried out. I was only involved at the start.

SJ: So you don't feel you can do anything about these two issues?

VF: No, not at this stage. I wish I could, quite frankly.

But then I know what the limitations are.

I know that any advice I gave now would probably be rejected by these lads. It would be unpalatable to them, yet it would be the proper advice.

I'm sorry I can't give the advice they would like to accept.

#### Workers Press

SJ: Finally Mr Feather, you may know that the Workers Press is coming up to its first anniversary quite soon. We have had expanding sales and improved production throughout the year. We are also going six-days a week on October 12. What do you think about these achievements?

VF: I think it is good that there should be expression of every point of view. That there should be argument and discussion; acceptance of some views rejection of others.

Anything that adds to the dialogue is a contribution to democracy. I am very glad that there can be expression of views like those in the Workers Press and expression of views like my own. . . .

#### SJ: Do you read it?

VF: Obviously. That's why I am commenting, and I hope you will support me in my free expression as I will support you in yours.

SJ: Of course, that's why we wanted to do the interview. Thankyou Mr Feather.

#### **SATURDAY**

#### BBC 1

11.40 a.m. Time machines. 12.40 p.m. Weather. 12.45 Grandstand. 12.50 Football preview. 1.10 Fight of the week: Featherweight Championship of Scotland. 1.35 Speedway. 1.50, 2.20, 3.25, 4.30 Racing from Ascot. 2.05, 2.35, 4.45 International athletics: Great Britain v W Germany. 3.00, 3.45 Rugby league: Hull v Wigan. 4.55 Results service. 5.20 Pink Panther show. 5.40 News and weather. 5.50 Here's Lucy.

6.15 SHOW OF THE NORTH. Artists from America, Brazil, Ireland, England and Scotland.

6.45 HIGH ADVENTURE, 'Gunman's Walk', With Van Heflin, Tab Hunter, Kathryn Grant and James Darren, A tough oldtimer who tries to bring his sons up in his own image finds he has raised a gunfighter.

8.15 THE HARRY SECOMBE SHOW. 9.00 BEN TRAVERS FARCES. 'A Cuckoo in the Nest'. With Arthur Lowe and Richard Briers.

9.50 NEWS and weather. 10.05 MATCH OF THE DAY.

11.05 SOMEWHERE UP THERE. Entertainment from the North. 11.40 CONFERENCE REPORT 70. Liberal Party Assembly.

11.50 WEATHER.

#### REGIONAL BBC

All regions as BBC I except: Midlands, E Anglia, North, NW, NE, Cumberland and Westmorland; SW, South, West: 11.52 Weather. cotland: 3.00-3.25 Swimming. 5.00-5.20 and 10.05-10.35 Sportsreel. 10.35-11.05 Monty Python's flying circus. 11.52 News, weather. N Ireland: 5.05-5.20 Sports results and news summary. 11.05-11.40 Sports final. Wales: 11.20-11.40 Cadi ha. 5.50-6.15 Iris. 10.45-11.05 Match of the day.

#### **BBC 2**

10.30 a.m. Liberal Party Assembly 1970. Rt. Hon. Jeremy Thorpe addresses the final session. 3.00-4.25 p.m. Saturday cinema: 'Dragoon Wells Massacre'. With Barry Sullivan and Denis O'Keefe.

7.30 NEWS, SPORT and weather. 7.45 DISCO 2

8.15 GREAT ZOOS OF THE WORLD. 'Frankfurt'.

8.45 GARDENERS' WORLD. With Percy Thrower. 9.00 CHRONICLE. 'Cadbury, Silbury and the Barbarians'. Excava-

9.50 THE TENANT OF WILDFELL HALL. 'Revolt'.

10.35 ROWAN AND MARTIN'S LAUGH-IN. 11.25 NEWS ON 2 and weather.

11.30 MIDNIGHT MOVIE: 'Portrait in Black'. With Lana Turner and Anthony Quinn. Murder mystery.

9.30 a.m. Liberal Party Assembly. 11.45 Cartoon. 'A Rainy Day'. 11.50 RAC road report. 11.55 Climbing. 12.20 p.m. Climbing. 12.45 News from ITN. 12.50 World of sport. 12.55 On the ball. 1.20 They're off! 1.30, 2.00, 2.30, 3.00 Racing from Market Rasen. 1.45, 2.15, 2.45 Racing from Catterick. 3.10 International sports special. 'Skol Sixday Cycle Race' from the Empire Pool, Wembley. 3.55 Results, scores, news. 4.00 Wrestling from Bolton. 4.55 Results service. 5.10 Stewpot. 5.40 Foreset rangers.

6.10 NEWS FROM ITN.

6.15 THE BEVERLY HILLBILLIES. 'The Clampetts in London'. 6.45 NO. THAT'S ME OVER HERE. Ronnie Corbett with Rosemary

Leach and Gillian Lind.

7.15 CROWTHER'S IN TOWN. With Leslie Crowther, Libby Morris, Kathy Kirby and Clive Dunn.

pelieving. 1.25-1.50 p.m. Farming. 1.55 The education programme. 2.20

8.15 IN TIME OF WAR. 'Yangtse Incident'. With Richard Todd,

11.05 THE MAN WHO SHOT AT THE MOON. Dr Thomas O. Paine

the HMS Amethyst's run down down the Yangtse river in

Made in Britain. 2.29 News headlines. 2.30 In a class of their own.

6.15 MALCOLMN MUGGERIDGE asks the question why.

7.25 DR FINLAY'S CASEBOOK. 'Comin' Thro' The Rye'.

10.20 OMNIBUS. 'Shapes in a Wilderness'. Art therapy.

on migration between Asia, Africa and Europe.

8.15 THE CAROL BURNETT SHOW. With quests.

8.50 CHILDREN TALKING. Some view of France.

10.05 OH IN COLOUR. New series with Spike Milligan.

6.35 INCLUDE MEN(OUT. 'The Breaking of a Priest'.

economic problems of new African states.

7.25 PLEASE SIR! 'Stitches and Hitches'.

and its successive owners.

12.10 a.m. FROM ONE POINT OF VIEW.

REGIONAL ITV

CHANNEL: 11.00 London, 12.10-12.35 On reflection . . . 2.13 Weather. 2.15 Big match. 3.10 Voyage to the bottom of the sea. 4.05 Cartoon. 4.35 A date with Danton. 4.45 London, 7.55 Film: 'Undercurrent'. With Katherine Hepburn, Robert Taylor and Robert Mitchum, 10.00 London, 10.15 This is . . . Tom Jones, 11.15 Avengers, 12.05 Epilogue followed by Weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 12.10-1.00 London. 1.45 Farm and

11.00 a.m. Church service. 12.10 p.m. On reflection. 12.35 Music room.

1.00 Toolbox. 1.30 Wind in the willows. 1.45 All our yesterdays.

2.15 Survival. 2.45 The big match. 3.45 Randall and Hopkirk

(deceased). 'All Work No Pay'. 4.45 The golden shot. 5.35 The

7.55 'THE YELLOW ROLLS ROYCE'. With Ingrid Bergman, Rex

10.15 BIG BROTHER. 'A Little Bit Like God'. With Alfred Burke,

Harrison, Omar Sharif and Shirley Maclaine. The story of a car

Andre Morell, Richard Easton and Rudolph Walker. A man

must be found to run a giant corporation set up to solve the

country news. 1.55 Acres for profit. 12.05 Faith for life. 12.10 Weather.

SOUTHERN: 11.00 London. 12.07
Weather. 12.10 London. 1.30 Sara
and Hoppity. 1.45 London. 2.15 Farm
progress. 2.45 London. 3.45 Seaway.
4.35 News. 4.45 London. 7.55 Picture.
Hell Is For Heroes'. With Steve
McQueen, Fess Parker, Bobby Darin
and James Coburn. McQueen is a selfdestructive war veteran with platoon
under Nazi attack. 9.30 Max. 10.00
London. 12.10 Weather. Action 70.

10.35 THE TENANT OF WILDFELL HALL. 'Pursuit'.

8.00 HAWAII FIVE-O. 'The One With The Gun'. 9.00 FRAUD SQUAD. 'The White Abyss'.

10.00 NEWS FROM ITN.

10.15 THE FROST PROGRAMME, David Frost. 11.15 THINK TWICE. With Russell Davies and Clive James.

11.30 REFLECTION. William Rushton Reflects on Lord Northcliffe.

11.55 FROM ONE POINT OF VIEW.

#### REGIONAL ITV

CHANNEL: 12.45 London. 5.10 Road West. 6.10 London. 6.15 Crowther's in town. 7.00 No, that's me over here. 7.30 Film: "Adventures of Sherlock Holmes". With Basil Rathbone and Ida Lupino. 9.00 London. 10.00 London. 10.15 Theatre. 11.15 Frost. 12.10 Weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 9.50-11.45 a.m. London, 12.10 a.m. Faith for life, 12.15 Weather.

Going for a song. 5.40 The Black Tulip.

6.50 HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE.

6.05 NEWS and weather.

10.05 NEWS and weather.

11.45 Weather.

**BBC 2** 

answers questions.

REGIONAL BBC

7.00 p.m. NEWS REVIEW and weather.

Alfred Brendel.

11.25 FILM NIGHT.

Flaxton boys.

6.55 APPEAL.

6.05 NEWS FROM ITN.

6.15 BEYOND BELIEF.

10.00 NEWS AT TEN.

7.00 STARS ON SUNDAY.

11.15 THIS IS . . . TOM JONES.

11.20 NEWS ON 2 and weather.

BBC 1

SOUTHERN: 10.45-11.45 London. 12.17 Weather. 12.20 Mr Piper. 12.45 London. 5.15 Cowboy in Africa. 6.10 London. 6.15 Crowther's in town. 7.00 Film: 'Hilda Crane'. With Jean Simmons. 8.30 No, that's me over here. 9.00 London. 11.15 News. 11.20 Name of the game. 12.45 Weather. Action 70

HARLECH: 10.00-11.45 Liberal Assembly. 12.15 Skippy. 12.45 Lon-UNDA

9.00-9.30 a.m. Nai zindagi-nayan jeevan. 11.00-11.30 Seeing and HARLECH: 11.00-1.30 London. 2.15

Hobson and Colin Clive.

GRAMPIAN: 10.30-11.45 London.
12.30 Wind in the willows. 12.45 London.
5.15 Laredo. 6.10 London. 6.15
Crowther's in town. 7.00 No, That's
me over here. 7.30 Movie: "Interpol".
With Victor Mature, Trevor Howard
and Anita Ekberg. A US nercotics
agent is sent to Europe to smash an
international dope ring. 9.00 London. 10.15 This is . . . Tom Jones.
11.10 Match report. 11.28 Untouchables.

big match. 3.15 Sunday matthe. 4.45 London. 7.55 Screen: 'Major Dundee'. With Charlton Heston and Richard Harris. Western. 10.00 London. 12 midnight Weather. 'What a daft question—find out!' 3.00 Film for the family: 'Missouri HTV (Wales) colour channel 41 and HTV (Cymru/Wales) black and white service as above except: 12.10-1.00 Dan sylw. 1.00-1.30 Sel a'i sylwedd. Traveller'. With Lee Marvin, 4.40 Asterix the Gaul, Cartoon film from France. 4.50 Golden silents. 'The Great Stone Face'. 5.15

ANGLIA: 11.00-1.25 London. 1.55 Weather. 2.00 Farming diary. 2.30 Joker's wild. 3.00 Randall and Hopkirk (deceased). 3.55 Match of the week. 4.45 London. 7.55 Film: 'Seven Days In May'. With Burt Lancaster, Kirk Douglas and Ava Gardner. The Pentagon plans a mock alert. 10.00 London. 12.10 Reflection. William Hartnell, Akim Tamiroff and Donald Houston. Story of

ATV MIDLANDS: 11.00 London. 1.30 Mr Piper. 1.45 London. 2.15 Soccer. 3.15 'It Came From Outer Space'. With Richard Carlson, Barbara Rush and Charles Drake. A strange object lands in the Arizona desert. 4.43 Your stars tomorrow. 4.45 London. 5.35 Forest rangers. 6.05 London. 7.55 Film: 'Major Dundee'. With Charlton Heston, Richard Harris, Jim Hutton and James Coburn. American Civil War story. 10.00 London. 10.15 This is . . . Tom Jones. 11.15 Saint, weather. Midlands, E Anglia, North, NW, NE, Cumberland and Westmorland. SW, South, West: 11.47 Weather.
Wales: 10.00-11.00 Oedfa'r bore. 2.30-3.15 Doctors. 3.15-3.55 Rugby union.

BRC

ULSTER: 12.10-1.30 London, 2.15 London, 7.55 Movie: 'An American in Paris'. With Gene Kelly and Leslie Caron. An ex-GI stays in Paris hoping to become an artist. 10.00 London, 10.15 This is . . . Tom Jones, 11.15 Prisoner.

Prisoner.

YORKSHIRE: 11.00-1.30 London. 1.35
Calendar Sunday. 1.55 Farming diary.
2.25 Soccer. 3.20 'Cat and Mouse'.
An army deserter holds a woman hostage. 4.45 London. 7.55 'Men In War'. With Robert Ryan and Aldo Ray. An American patrol fights its way to safety in the hills of Korea.
10.00 London. 11.15 Frost. 12.15 Weather. 7.25 THE WORLD ABOUT US. 'Where Two Worlds Meet'. Birds 9.00 MUSIC ON 2. 'Music Now'. Profile of Neville Marriner and the Academy of St Martin's, a new work by John Tavener and

Weather.

GRANADA: 11.00 London. 12.35
Music room. 1.00 Toolbox. 1.20 All
our yesterdays. 1.55 Flipper. 2.20
Football. 3.20 Quentin Durgens. 4.15
Survival. 4.40 London. 7.55 Hollywood:
'Thirty-Six Hours'. With James
Garner, Eva Marie Saint and Rod
Taylor. An American intelligence
officer is drugged by German agents
and flown to Berlin. 10.00 London.

11.15 Frost.

11.15 Frost.

TYNE TEES: 11.00-12.10 London. 12.10 Sunday Session. 12.35 Music room. 1.00 Toolbox. 1.25 All our Yesterdays. 1.55 Farming outlook. 2.25 Shoot. 3.20 Champions. 4.15 Stewpot. 4.45 London. 6.55 Give at Seven. 7.00 London. 7.55 'Four for Texas' starring Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin. A stage coach attack is prevented but then \$100,000 is found in the coach . . . 10.00 London. 10.15 This is . . . Tom Jones. 11.15 Japanese. 12.10 Quakers Abroad.

BORDER: 11.00-12.10 London. 12.10 On Reflection. 12.35 Music Room. 1.00-1.25 Toolbox. 1.50 Diary. 1.55 Farming Outlook. 2.20 Soccer. 3.20 Saint. 4.15 Making whoopee. 4.40 London. 6.55 Give at seven. 7.00 Stars on Sunday. 7.25 London. 7.55 'Sergeant's Three' starring Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr. and Peter Lawford. Comedywestern. 10.00 London. 10.15 London. 11.15 Frost. 12.15 Epilogue.

SCOTTISH:/ 12.10-1.25 London. 1.45 London. 2.15-2.45 Farm progress. 3.45 Gazette. 4.45 London. 7.55 'Man of the West'. With Gary Cooper Julie London, Lee J. Cobb and Arthur O'Connel. 10.00 London. 11.15 Frost. 12.05 Late call. 11.15 Frost. 12.05 Late call.

GRAMPIAN: 12.10-1.25 London. 1.45
London. 2.15 Farm progress. 2.45
Movie: 'Girl in the Headlines'. With
Ian Hendry, Ronald Fraser, Margaret Johnston and Natasha Parry.
Thriller about the murder of a top
model. 4.15 Stewpot. 4.45 London.
7.55 Cinema: 'The Singer, Nor the
Song'. With Dirk Bogarde, John
Mills and Mylen Demongeot. A
church-hating bandit terrorizes a
Mexican town. 10.30 London. 11.15
Frost. 12.10 Epilogue. tials of the Bauland affair were

# EAST & WEST European REVIEW

# OVOCATIONS

ONE OF the main problems faced by the financial 'experts' of the world at this week's joint conference of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank (Presidentex-US Defence Secretary McNamara) in Copenhagen is the inflation raging in all the main capitalist countries.

The combined wizardry of the delegates was agreed that rocketing prices were acceptable only in so far as they could be used to cut back the real wages of the working class.

This means that the workers' struggle for increased wages clashes head-on, on an inter-national scale, with the absolute need of employers to call a halt to pay increases and extract greater profits through speed-up and sackings.

In the past fortnight Italian and French employers have met workers in a number of sharp struggles in which they have tried to cripple the drive, at factory and shop level, for better wages to keep up with the soaring cost of living.
In Milan last week over 10,000

metalworkers held a one day

strike and a mass demonstration through the city. Though the action was given the blessing of the official union leaderships, it sprang from management attempts to cripple the unofficial organizations in some

of Italy's most important plants. The SIT-Siemens workers faced a blatant provocation when the firm decided, without warning, to withhold money due from the state medical insurance for

time lost through sickness.

Previously this money was included in wage-packets and deducted only after workers had actually received the insurance payments. The result was that some workers received less than

£1 for the week. Alfa-Romeo in Milan was also shut down for the day in protest against the sacking of a shop steward on the pretext that he had hit a scab during an unofficial stoppage.

And at the plant at nearby Arese, workers joined the action following the lay-off of 1,200 using stoppages in some shops as

Workers from Borletti and Ponteggi Dalmine factories joined the demonstration after similar provocations in their plants.

French workers at the Grenoble plant of Caterpillar faced a similar situation. Following a strike at Grenoble at Echirolles, which

developed at Grenoble into a four-day occupation of the plant, the employers sacked 23 men, mostly stewards and militants, and started legal proceedings against 29.

Last Monday the whole of the Grenoble plant struck and 4,000 workers marched through the town in solid opposition to the

These are the clearest examples of many similar struggles on the shop-floor of European capi-

With the Stalinists in the union bureaucracy pleading with gov-ernments to 'restrain prices', workers are driven to unofficial action to halt the inexorable erosion of wages.

The provocations they face are the cutting edge of the conscious attempts of the employing class to probe, weaken and sabotage this movement of the class on an international scale.

WE NOTED in this column last week how the Soviet and E European mass media reacted to the hi-jackings carried out by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

That story would not be complete without following through the Stalinist coverage of the Jordanian civil war.

With splendid impartiality, Moscow Home Service relayed without comment both the Royalist claim that the commandos had fired on the army headquarters—and the guerrilla counter-charge that Hussein's troops began the fighting.

Just like the press and radio

coverage of the hi-jackings over the previous ten days or so, once the Kremlin line became clear that Hussein and the guerrillas were fighting each other by mistake—the rest of the E European Stalinist propaganda machine chimed in.

For example, Prague Radio complained 'the people shooting each other in the streets of Amman are those who have every reason for being the closest of allies', while Polish Radio observed rather gloomily, and with more than a suspicion of understatement, that 'the restoration of unity appears to be rather difficult'.

By last weekend, when it became clear that a full-scale revolution had broken out in Jordan, Polish pessimism turned rapidly

'... the uncontrolled irresponsible extremism of Dr Habash and his comrades, the resorting to methods of terrorism, have dealt a deadly blow to...[What, the reader might ask? Imperialism? Zionism? Arab reaction?]...to all that Palestinians had achieved.'

It is particularly ironic to find the Gomulka government, so fond of hunting down 'Zionist agents' in the universities of Poland as part of a thinly disguised anti-Semitic campaign against the regime's opponents, now denouncing all those who hit back against the real Zionists in the Middle East.

Throughout the Jordan crisis, the Stalinists have chorused their apologies for Hussein, who, according to Budapest Radio last Saturday, had been 'misinformed

by certain elements in Jordanian army to take ill-advised steps'.

In fact, the whole crisis has

been one long series of mistakes and misunderstandings. Well might Moscow Radio chide the Palestinians with that age-old Christian homily Violence breeds violence'.

Never noted for their suscep-tibility to the blandishments of the Christian faith, Palestinians have also learned from the bitter experiences of recent years that it simply doesn't pay to turn the

Imperialist violence and repression, whatever the Stalinists might claim, can and must be answered by the organized, just and revolutionary violence of the

That is the only way to end all

# Scandal-snutting



#### MULLER

IN THE tangled undergrowth of European political life many strange creatures are to

be found. Some are engaged on feather-ing their nests while others devote themselves to gathering

But when a forest fire threatens, they prove capable of remarkable flights of inventiveness, as the following (much simplified) account of events in the W German city of Bremen will illustrate:

Local government in Bremen, an industrial centre in the North of the Federal Republic, has been controlled by Federal Chancellor Brandt's Social Democratic Party (SDP) since the end of the war. The Christian Democrats

(CDU) have thus had a quarter

of a century to acclimatize themselves to the role of loyal opposition. Over two years ago a major scandal—the 'Bauland affair'—broke in Bremen province. It involved massive speculation

in building land and alleged 'tips' to local politicians running into millions of marks. Propelled by their collective instinct for survival, members of the provincial parliament united to form an inter-party com-

mission of inquiry, headed by two legally-qualified deputies, the Social-Democrat Wolfgang Grantz and Christian-Democrat Gunter It was assumed by all concerned that this pair would have the job of actually going through the small mountain of documents in which it was hoped the essen-

hidden. Naturally, they were not expected to carry out such a task without recompense.

This matter was in the hands

#### GRANTZ AND KLEIN

of Wolfgang Muller, head of Bremen Citizens' Council.

Muller is the husband of Gizella Muller-Wolff, another SPD deputy.

Muller explained to Grantz and

Klein that they could, of course, claim for expenses and fees for meetings held without the Commission's other 11 members. He apparently assumed, though, that they could not claim

for time spent except when they

were working together. As he later put it:
'You can't have a meeting with only one person.'
In July of this year Grantz went on holiday and Klein stayed home to draft the final report, to

parliament this month. Unaware of Muller's assumption, Klein claimed 900 Deutschemarks (about £100) for work by him and his secretary. A note of the payment was on Muller's desk before he went on

be debated in the provincial

returned on the 24th. As he explained, his in-tray was 'very full'. Only on September 8 did he mention to parliamentary president Dieter Klink that he had 'accidentally discovered' these im-

holiday on August 3 and stayed on it for a fortnight after he

proper payments to Klein, and similar ones to Grantz. On September 14 the light shone a little brighter when the SPD - controlled parliamentary executive, having interviewed the luckless Klein and Grantz, moved that they should be barred from speaking in the debate on the Bauland affair.

Since they are the only ones familiar with welter of obscure detail in which the scandal is cloaked, it is expected that the debate will succeed in drawing a veil of decency across the scene.

What is called in chess 'a sacrifice of pawns'.

JUST OUT

**NEW PARK PUBLICATIONS** 

STALINISM BRITAIN

A TROTSKYIST ANALYSIS BY ROBERT BLACK

Clapham High St., SW4

exploration.

As Anthony Tucker

commented in the 'Tele-

graph' yesterday: 'She

[the US] is now trailing behind Russia, not in

achievement, but in potential future achieve-

'Automated spacecraft of

Little information is known

about the circumstances

under which Luna-15 crashed

on to the lunar surface, but, as Tucker remarks, it was

**ISOLATION** 

DANGER IN

DATA STRIKE

DRAUGHTSMEN at Rolls-

Royce Coventry plants ex-

pressed disappointment yester-day after 2,500 men at Derby had voted — against their

union executive's advice — to

accept the company's 7 per

cent pay offer.

The DATA national executive wanted a solid front of

all the 7,500 workers employed

in the combine.

Pickets at the strike-bound

Coventry plant said yesterday

that naturally they were dis-

But, as strike committee man Dick Jones said:

'Coventry members will continue the fight to get more

than the company offer. We

extend our greetings to those

COVENTRY gas workers return to work on Monday,

following a vote to end their

three-week strike.
The decision was taken

after the men heard a report

of the strike meeting of 3,000 Birmingham gas workers

which narrowly decided to

end their strike—for a £20 minimum wage — to allow

Coventry men shouted 'Let down by the union again'.

General and Municipal Work-

ers' Union officials responsible

for the Birmingham decision.

The meeting decided that no materials will be issued

in future to outside contrac-

tors working on Gas Board contracts if non-union labour

further negotiations.

who wanted to fight on.'

appointed.

marked contrast to

#### Mersey

● FROM PAGE ONE

possible redundancy — has shrunk the labour force by nearly 2,000 men'. Increasing port charges is plainly only a 'stop-gap' measure as far as Liverpool's port employers are concerned.

What they must really try to do is force through acceptance of Devlin Phase Two-so far firmly resisted by the dockers—and proceed apace with their £39½ million Seaforth container complex to the north of Liverpool's seven miles of docks.

#### Jobs fear

But dockers have had their fears that a combination of Phase Two with a fully-operational Seaforth could wipe out thousands of jobs in the rest of the port confirmed by the crisis

Announcing this year's possible £3 million deficit, MD&HB director - general Robert Edwards said there is little doubt the docks at the port's relatively-antiquated south end 'will have to go'—including the recently-modernized King's

These docks are in the main concerned with the lucrative W African exportimport trade.

#### Backward

But cargo-handling companies have been unwilling to introduce containerization and other new methods there because their host ports remain tremendously backward and labourintensive as a result of the long history of colonial exploitation and cheap exploitation and labour in W Africa.

Everything now hinges on the development of a leadership amongst the port's dockers able to continue the fight to defend jobs and improve wages and conditions under the barrage which will now inevitably be directed against it.

The port stewards' present demand for £60 for 20 hours is totally inade-

No struggle against the Tory government-sponsored offensive that has now been opened up is possible without a fight for the nationalization of the ports under workers' control means a campaign to force the Tories to resign — is placed right at its centre.

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END BAN CALL

Leaders of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades

have called for a return to

normal working in the London

wholesale dispute which has disrupted distribution of

national newspapers.

It remains to be seen whether the men will decide

to accept the recommendation

when they meet in the early hours of this morning. 1,700

delivery drivers have been

working to rule for a week demanding pay rises of 40-45

£10 a year

# A fight 'to the bitter end'

# Jobs future linked with pit pay fight

ANGRY LOCAL miners' leaders are accusing the National Coal Board of 'treating their men like cattle' following the announcement that 450 are to lose their jobs at Sunderland's Silksworth colliery in December.

#### **ALL TRADES** UNIONS ALLIANCE **MEETINGS**

SWINDON: Sunday, September 27, 7,30 p.m. Oxford Hotel, Drove Rd. 'Unemployment and the Tories'. Speaker: Alan Thornett, leading Oxford carworkers' steward.

WELLINGTON: Monday, September 28, 7.39 p.m. YMCA, Wrekin Buildings, Walker St. 'Speed-up and unemployment — The GKN-Sankey and Pilkington disputes'. ACTON, London: Monday, September 28, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, Acton High Street, W.3. 'Pilkington's: The Tory attack on jobs, wages and the unions.'

SW LONDON: Tuesday, September 29, 8 p.m. Prince's Head, Falcon Rd, SW11. 'Build a new leadership

#### WEATHER

London area, SE England, central southern England, E. Midlands, Channel Islands, SW England: Rather cloudy. Perhaps some rain. Wind southerly, moderate. Near normal. Max. 19C (66F). W Midlands, E England: Cloudy with rain. Becoming brighter with showers. Wind southerly, fresh or strong. Normal. Max. 16C (61F). Glasgow area, N Ireland: Rather cloudy. Showers. Winds southerly, strong or gale. Rather warm. Max. 16C (61F). Outlook for Sunday and Monday: Unsettled with rain at times. Near normal temperatures.

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At a mass meeting on Sunday the men are expected to pledge themselves to a fight 'to the bitter end' to ensure that no one takes a cut in wages.

The thousand miners in this pit fear that re-deployment will mean moving into jobs at other N Durham pits spread over a large area—with in-evitable loss of earnings.

The vast majority of the men will be moved into other jobs, according to the NCB.

There are already 500 miners on the dole in Sunder-

More than 80 delegates from miners' lodges all over the S Wales coalfield met in Porthcawl earlier this week to discuss the Coal Board's rejection of their pay claim.

The delegate conference voted unanimously to support the executive decision to call a miners' strike after a national ballot. One delegate said: 'Even

the right wingers of the delegation voted for and seemed to want strike action. This is the first time for

Pit-head meetings will be taking place throughout the October 12—draws near.

The response throughout the coalfield is magnificent. S Wales executive member G. Rees, of Ferndale Colliery, told Workers Press: 'We realize we are fighting

both the NCB and the government in this. If the NCB is not paying, then the government has to give the money. And they have made their plans very clear in attacking wages of public sector

'This is not what I would call nationalization. We are holding meetings at all the pits to urge the miners to vote for strike action. 'In fact, it was our delegation at the national con-

ference which proposed the Miners see this action as their last chance of improving their wages before the Tory

government brings forward its repressive laws. The big question in the coalfields in the light of the 1969 strike is: will the leadership fight, or will they retreat? The miners are approaching the strike proposal with some

caution for this reason. Mr Rees (Ferndale) and Mr R. Saint of Coedely both told Workers Press they would wait to see the wording of the ballot paper before they com-mit themselves to further

action. Mr Saint said: 'We don't know if the executive will fight. We know they didn't last time, and we will know better this time

when we see the ballot. 'We don't know whether they'll ask for a straight vote for or against the strike or whether they'll word it to

mean something else and avoid the struggle. Under the union constitution, a strike proposal must get a two-thirds majority in a ballot before the strike can

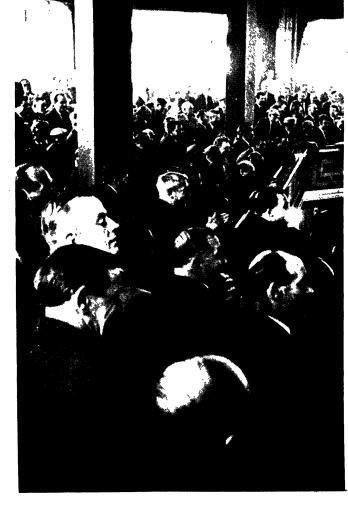
Attempts to change this rule in the past have not succeeded But Mr Rees told Workers Press that if the ballot gave 60 per cent in favour of strike action the miners will strike.

In the eyes of militants in the coalfields, the present procedure for calling a national strike can only give the Tories encouragement in the anti-

'We can be used as a test case,' one miner said. 'They can turn round to other workers and say: "see what you get when you go through proper procedure". 'But we know that a strike ballot is one of the hardest things to achieve, and is also

undemocratic.
'Even with 60 per cent in favour of a strike, the union officials can still turn round and say they have to abide by

the decision.' But the miners' delegates do not favour scattered unstrikes before the



S Wales miners seen at a previous Porthcawl conference.

# Guerrillas

General Moshe Dayan, commenting on the situation in Jordan on Thursday, declared his support for Hussein and hoped he would defeat the guerrillas. There would be no need for a direct Israeli intervention, he added, unless his government felt directly

#### **PAYMASTER**

This was not just Dayan's policy, but that of Nixonhis paymaster.

The Palestinians are but-

chered by Hussein's Royalist fanatics while the imperialists sanctimoniously bemoan the tragic' plight of the Jordanians. Hussein was trained

Sandhurst!) and armed by British imperialism—'Labour' as well as Tory — to do just this job. The 'warrior king' hero of

Fleet St is stained with the blood of thousands of murdered Palestinians; slain to defend the profit-hungry interests of the giant oil monopolies. We are both deeply moved and politically inspired by the

selfless dedication of

Palestinian guerrillas to the revolutionary cause. In the face of the most ferocious bombardments and savage killings, mutilations and tortures by Hussein's Bedouins, they have des troved for all time the canard that the Arab people cannot

The struggle of the Palestinians, which, despite the cocksure claims of Hussein and his Fleet St admirers, is far from crushed, has confirmed the absolutely counterrevolutionary nature and role of world Stalinism, and the abject impotence of the Arab bourgeois and middle-class

leaders. Once the most radical guerrilla leaders made a stand, broke from 'their own' ruling class and turned their backs on the Stalinist preachers of 'peaceful co-existence', mighty mass movement un-leashed itself in Jordan—the like of which the Middle East has never before seen.

#### **CONQUEST**

This, more than any single military victory or defeat, is the great conquest and achievement of the Palestinian guerrillas.

The whole international workers movement owes them an enormous debt, and in this period of growing crisis for the British ruling class, we must ensure this debt is repaid—with interest. • Stop the imperialist

intervention! Down with counter-revolutionary Stalinism!

Down with the Hashemite butchers! • Long live the Arab

## BUSMEN in several provincial

cities staged one-day strikes vesterday as part of the continuing campaign in support of their national claim for a £20 basic wage.
In Leeds big traffic jams built up as extra cars were added to the morning rush

# Heath's gauntlet

• FROM PAGE ONE

When asked about the prospect of a general strike, Mr Feather said:

'We shall wait and see what the legislation is—meanwhile we will be telling the government what we are doing (!); things they ought to know and what they ought to be doing to help both ourselves and the Confederation of British Industry to get these progreater degree than they are.'

It is against this back-ground of indecision, vacillation, compromise and retreat that the Labour Party Conference meets.

Delegates must resist every attempt by the 'lefts' like Heffer and Stan Orme and the 'Tribune'-ites, aided by the revisionist 'Militant' group, to turn the Conference into an histrionic farce adorned with shining platitudes about 'socialism' and 'workers' con-

These would only obscure the vital questions of unemployment, anti-union laws and the struggle to get rid of the Tories.

critics will be the most strenuous defenders of the trade union 'lefts' who are conducting a sham battle with the Tories on wages in order to cover up their retreat on productivity bargaining, employment and rationaliza-

Left-wing delegates who want to know the causes of Labour's defeat in the last election; to fight Wilson; to know the reason why, for instance, Labour's share of the electorate has fallen from 48 per cent despite a seven mil-lion increase in the electorate since 1945, will find no answers from the 'lefts'.

All these people want to do is to continue the so-called debate with the right wing and prevent any effective struggle to change the party leadership.

Like the right wing they subordinate workers' interests to the 'supremacy' of parliament and the capitalist state. Like the right wing they are reconciled to five years of Tory rule in this country and the idea that nothing can be done about it—until another General Election.

This reformist perspective conditions them to accept, albeit critically, Tory attacks: unemployment, anti-union laws and anti-immigrant laws, etc. We urge all left-wing delegates not to be fooled by 'left' demagogy and, for a start. reject the Executive Committee report and with it the reformist leadership of Wilson and company.

The struggle against the right-wing traitors and their left-wing apologists can be effectively waged only to the extent that delegates take up the charter of demands of the Socialist Labour League on the right to strike, the right to work and the right to independent trade unions.

We appeal to all left-wing delegates to fight for this policy in the Labour Party and to join with the Socialist Labour League and the Young Socialists in a combined attack to force the Tories to resign. We repeat, the alternative tatorship and repression.

#### THE SUCCESS of the Soviet Union's Luna-16 mission, despite the relatively moderate publicity given to it in comparison to the Apollo flights, has been justly recognized as a key step in any behind Luna-15 planned programme of space crash on the Moon?

Russia's series of successful soft-landers'.

the Luna-16 type, needing The possibility that the only more sensitive radio flight was deliberately aborted for political reasons equipment and more powerful boosters, can go where is a feasible one.

no cosmonaut will ever tread.' The space programmes in However, Luna-16 unboth the United States and the Soviet Union are closely doubtedly completed the programme that Luna-15 tied up with military re-search and strategy and the Stalinist policy of 'peaceful set out to accomplish over a year ago at the time of the Apollo-11 flight. co-existence' with imperialism is undoubtedly reflected **ABORTED** increasingly in schemes for scientific collaboration'.

> From the beginning of the 1960s particularly, some co-operation in space research has been carried out. although the USSR has declined to place any Soviet equipment in US rockets.

Through the agency of the United Nations, not only was the banning of nuclear tests in the atmosphere agreed, but also, in 1967, an agreement was signed to keep nuclear weapons out of space.

Thus, under the guise of 'keeping space pure', a further step was taken in the direction of the international policing of the working class, which has emerged clearly during the Middle-East crisis.

In these diplomatic manoeuvres, the role of both astronauts and cosmonauts has been essential.

The 'good-will' missions in both directions have been preparation for further collaboration against the revo-

#### REWARDED

The US spacemen, in particular, have been wellrewarded with highly-paid posts either in America's space agency or with space

Despite wrangles on United Nations sub-committees over questions such as payment for damage in the event of space collisions, the General Assembly has noted a 'certain rapprochement of views' during 1969.

This was the year of Apollo-11 and Luna-15.

Only three days before launched from the Baikonur cosmodrome, the Apollo-8 commander Colonel Borman ended his Soviet

Luna-15 completed the first stage of its journey successfully and went into

orbit round the moon soon after Apollo-11 set off. Borman—probably one of the most influential NASA

men in Washington and on first name terms with President Nixon — made a personal telephone call Academician Mstislav Keldysh, president of the Soviet Academy of Sciences.

Said Borman later: 'I'm very pleased with this Russian response. I hope it's indicative of a more fruitful type of co-operation in future.'

#### **DETAILS**

According to the reports, Keldysh gave details of Luna-15's orbit and that was that.

If this was indeed the total content of the conversation-and unconnected with Borman's Moscow discussions—why the surprise?
Luna-15 then crashed into the Sea of Crises. The collaboration con-

tinues at an increasing pace.

This year has seen the approach of an agreement 'demilitarizing' the sea-bed and in June, Neil, Armstrong — first man on the moon and now Director of NASA's Aeronautical Research—was engaged in talks in Moscow.

At the same time ten American reactor specialists spent a fortnight visiting Soviet facilities, including the large fast breeder reactor in the Moscow area. The political and economic

ing hand in hand. Stalinist collaboration with imperialism in the suppreswhere means further eco-

developments are proceed-

nomic and scientific deals • The launching of China's first satellite and the possibility that the first Chinese intercontinental

ballistic missile will be fired into the Indian Ocean to celebrate the 21st anniversary of the revolution on October 1 challenges not only the US-Soviet hegemony in nuclear destruction. but the ability of this unholy alliance to carry out counter - revolutionary work with impunity.



Frank Borman, ex-US spaceman and NASA envoy, seen in surplice preaching a sermon, has spoken of 'co-operation' with Soviet scientists before the Luna-15 launch.

# Moscow censors **British CP's** Mid-East report

IN THEIR anxiety to display complete neutrality in the Jordan civil war, the Soviet bureaucracy has begun to censor the statements issued on the Middle East crisis by the British Communist

**● FROM PAGE ONE** 

cussed at a delegate conference of their union, the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employees, at Brighton today.

So far the union has completely refused to support its members.

The Coliseum men now have average earnings of £40 for a 80-hour week. Though the new deal offers a reduction in hours worked to 60 through the introduction of a shift system, this will mean loss of earnings and speed-up. 'We voted as a body several times against the deal, but the union ignored this and signed,' said Roger Dade, a lighting

technician. 'In protest we withdrew our labour last Friday; the following day we found a notice on the stage door informing us that we were dismissed unless we accepted the new

'We welcome the shorter hours, but can't accept the £35 17s 6d for 60 hours.'

When the Soviet news agency 'Tass' reported on the statement adopted by the Political Committee of the British Stalinists on Wednesday last, it only referred to two of its demands — that there must be no US, British or Israeli intervention, and that the Jordanians must settle their own affairs.

**O**mitted The third demand, which

on the guerrillas, was omitted. It was also left out of a Moscow Home Service report on the same statement. Even the mealy-mouthed criticisms of Hussein now being published in the Stalinist 'Morning Star' — hypocritical as they are belated are too much for the Kremlin. The Soviet bureaucracy is hell-bent on betraying the Palestinians to Zionism and imperialism, and if this means suppressing the comments of their 'comrades' in Britain.

called for an end to the attack

#### Confirm?

then it will be done.

Silence by CP secretary, John Gollan and 'Morning Star' editor George Matthews on this question would only confirm what we know already —that their protests were purely for the record.

# **Trotsky** Meeting

**GLASGOW** Partick Burgh Hall (nr Merkland St underground)

7.30 p.m. Admission 2s. Trotsky and the coming English Revolution Speaker: G. Healy (SLL national secretary)

Sunday October 4

