

CIVIL WAR predicts Heath

By a political correspondent

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PRIME MINISTER Heath is spelling out what he meant at the Tory Party conference on October 10, when he spoke of 'total revolution' by the Tories.

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That is why Heath said: 'We were returned to office to change the course of history of this nation, nothing less.'

All this means a concerted offensive against the working people, an offensive which Heath knows will be resisted in bitter conflicts; that is why he predicts 'civil war', and paints a lurid picture of 'anarchy' and violence.

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They plan to 'save' £50 million by completely abolishing free milk in primary schools.

Hospital beds will be charged for, and patients will have to pay to see their doctor.

Agricultural subsidies are being reduced, which means immediate increases in the price of basic foods.

Bernadette learns 'patience'

ONE OF the things Mid-Ulster MP Bernadette Devlin learnt in prison was patience, 'something I don't have much of', she told a press conference in Omagh, Ireland, yesterday.

Following up her 'stop rioting' message to over 1,000 of her constituents at Carrickmore, Co. Tyrone, on Saturday night—a message reinforced by collections for a socialist information and research centre in a Mid-Ulster—she told reporters she would try to stop riots if they broke out again in Londonderry.

'Nobody riots because I went to jail' or because I came out of jail, said Miss Devlin, who was released last Wednesday after serving four months in Armagh prison.

Denying that the all-Ireland republican socialist movement she advocates was a communist movement—and referring to last year's fighting in Derry—she said: 'It was either keep the police at bay with stones and petrol bombs, or suffer under the more sophisticated weapons they had—the baton, the gun and the gas.'

'If I could throw two petrol bombs at once I would do so if I considered it more effective. If I could wipe them all out at once I would do so, if it would be more effective.'

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MEMBERSHIP of the independent inquiry into the council workers' claim—welcomed rapturously by the union's chief negotiator yesterday—re-emphasizes the danger of a retreat.

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This is a new type of Tory government. Driven by the desperate and mounting crisis of the world capitalist system, they have decided to summon all the strength of the state, the forces of 'law and order', to crush the working class.

They rely on the delays and confusions caused by the hesitation and selling-out of the trade union and Labour leaders.

The urgent and pressing need is a policy to rouse the mass movement of the working class to defeat the Tory government and its plans.

Mere protest actions are utterly inadequate. The wages struggle will continue, drawing in many millions in very militant actions. But it will not be enough.

Every ounce of energy must be summoned to force the trade unions into united action of the whole movement to defeat the Tories, to disrupt their plans for 'civil war'.

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Strike to escalate after successful march in city

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Drawn into the dispute by the school shutdown, housewives carried the slogan 'Pay up, Open up, Walker' and were amongst the most vociferous on the march.

The demonstration paused beneath the windows of the Council House where an emergency debate was taking place on a motion—later rejected by the Tory majority—proposing local negotiations for a settlement.

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Allende was the candidate of the United Popular Front—a coalition of Socialists and Social-Democrats—and has announced his intention to nationalize the copper, iron and nitrate industries.

His election takes place under a state of emergency declared after right-wing gunmen shot and wounded

army commander General Rene Schneider, one of the allegedly 'Marxist' president's personal friends.

Schneider died in hospital yesterday. Police and troops are out rounding up suspects and Santiago has been placed under a form of martial law.

The Chilean Communist Party, which has backed Allende for the presidency, hopes he will usher in socialism with his nationalization programme.

But to judge from his cordial relations with Frei

and the Catholic church, not to mention his personal friendship with Schneider, the new president's Marxism is not taken too seriously by the Chilean capitalist class.

After his election on Saturday, Allende said it was his duty to 'create a new society, a new morality and a new economy.'

'To make these changes possible and to receive the rewards of them we need the unanimous aid and sacrifices of all Chileans.'

'We will make Chile an independent country with regard to its economy and political sovereignty,' he added.

What we think

Hypocrisy unmasked

MR WILSON'S speech at Camden Town Hall on Saturday, for all its vitriolic language, only shows up the Labour leaders as an unprincipled bunch of reformist hypocrites.

Wilson correctly accused Heath of wanting 'to put the clock back', of leading a 'counter-revolution' against the working class of returning to the Powellite 'regime of dehumanized market forces' and of leaving concern for human welfare 'to the irresponsible decisions of faceless men, industrialists or financiers'.

What was even more relevant was his observation on Heath that 'electoral historians will accord to him that unique distinction: that he is the only party leader who became a Goldwater after the election. The mask is now off.'

If Heath has turned out to be a wolf in sheep's clothing since the election then Mr Wilson's metamorphosis is no less curious.

For it was the same Wilson who now cries 'Goldwater' that, in July, assured Heath of his readiness to accept the Tory government as a fait accompli and to loyally oppose it!

If Heath intends to carry out a 'counter-revolution'—and there is little doubt even in right-wing circles that he intends it—then what does Wilson propose to do about it, and why did he keep silent about it in the crucial June days?

Workers must beware of Wilson's demagoguery, which is designed only to disarm those who want to put up an uncompromising struggle to stop the Tory 'counter-revolution'.

When he says that he will 'fight them every inch of the way' he is grossly distorting the real attitude of the right wing, which is to restrain the mass movement in the interests of a parliamentary debate.

As he put it: 'While they offer conflict and division, we shall put forward the concept of a united community.'

We say that this is dangerous reformist rubbish. There can be—and will be—no unity with those who want to carry out a 'counter-revolution' against the working class, who want to destroy its organizations and totally enslave it.

Only the maximum mobilization of the working class against the Tories—and a relentless struggle inside and outside parliament against the anti-union laws (which Wilson never mentioned)—can save the working class from a new barbarism.

Such a struggle, however, cannot be reconciled with the reactionary leadership of Wilson and Callaghan.

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What was even more relevant was his observation on Heath that 'electoral historians will accord to him [Heath] this unique distinction; that he is the only party leader who became a Goldwater after the election. The mask is now off.'

The mask is indeed off.

If Heath has turned out to be a wolf in sheep's clothing since the election then Mr Wilson's metamorphosis is no less curious.

For it was the same Wilson who now cries 'Goldwater' that, in July, assured Heath of his readiness to accept the Tory government as a fait accompli and to loyally oppose it!

If Heath intends to carry out a 'counter-revolution'—and there is little doubt even in right-wing circles that he intends it—then what does Wilson propose to do about it, and why did he keep silent about it in the crucial June days?

Workers must beware of Wilson's demagoguery, which is designed only to disarm those who want to put up an uncompromising struggle to stop the Tory 'counter-revolution'.

When he says that he will 'fight them every inch of the way' he is grossly distorting the real attitude of the right wing, which is to restrain the mass movement in the interests of a parliamentary debate.

As he put it: 'While they offer conflict and division, we shall put forward the concept of a united community.'

We say that this is dangerous reformist rubbish. There can be—and will be—no unity with those who want to carry out a 'counter-revolution' against the working class, who want to destroy its organizations and totally enslave it.

Only the maximum mobilization of the working class against the Tories—and a relentless struggle inside and outside parliament against the anti-union laws (which Wilson never mentioned)—can save the working class from a new barbarism.

Such a struggle, however, cannot be reconciled with the reactionary leadership of Wilson and Callaghan.

Bernadette learns 'patience'

ONE OF the things Mid-Ulster Bernadette Devlin learnt in prison was patience, 'something I don't have much of', she told a press conference in Omagh, Ireland, yesterday.

Following up her 'stop rioting' message to over 1,000 of her constituents at Carrickmore, Co. Tyrone, on Saturday night—a message reinforced by collections for 'a socialist information and research centre in Mid-Ulster'—she told reporters she would try to stop riots if they broke out again in Londonderry.

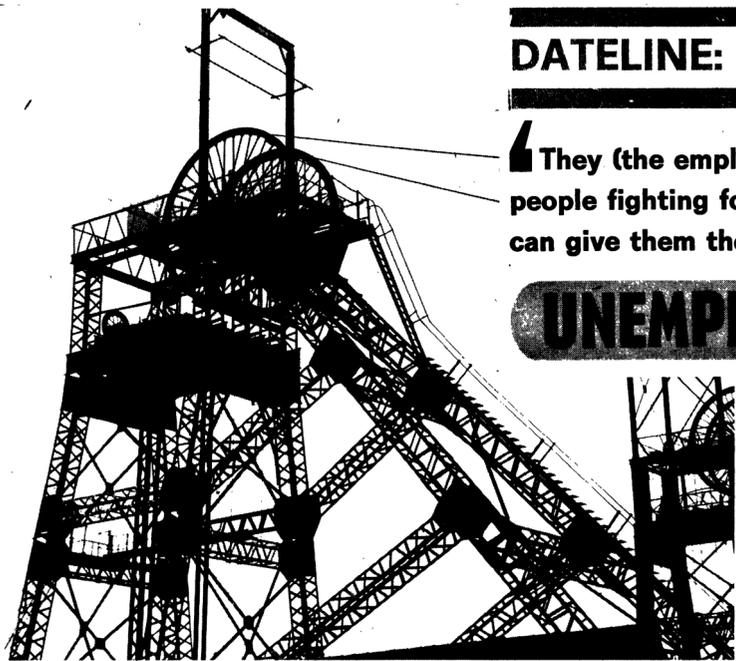
'Nobody riots because I went to jail or because I came out of jail,' said Miss Devlin, who was released last Wednesday after serving four months in Armagh prison.

Denying that the all-Ireland republican socialist movement she advocates was a communist movement—and referring to last year's fighting in Derry—she said: 'It was either keep the police at bay with stones and petrol bombs, or suffer under the more sophisticated weapons they had—the baton, the gun and the gas.'

'If I could throw two petrol bombs at once I would do so if I considered it more effective. If I could wipe them all out at once I would do so, if it would be more effective.'

'But I do not consider it effective at the present time.'

● PAGE FOUR COL. 4



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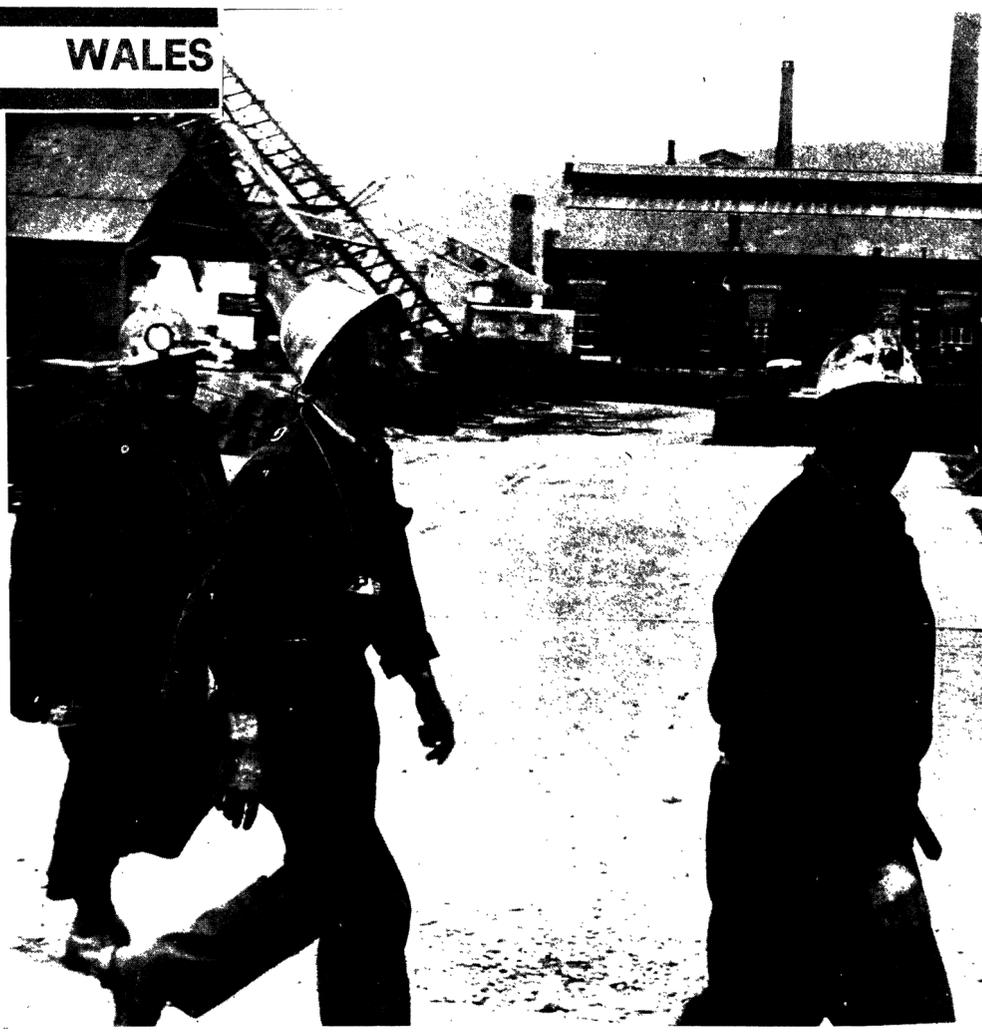
WALES

They (the employers) want people fighting for a job, so they can give them the lowest pay

UNEMPLOYMENT

Part three of a regular Monday series on unemployment in Britain.

MERTHYR TYDFIL miners



IAN YEATS REPORTING

IN WALES, there are workers who have been out of a job for seven years. Their suits are threadbare, their homes are decaying for want of repair. They have been ground down by almost a decade of grim hopelessness.

Old men with hollows in their cheeks, stubble on their chins and nowhere particular to go tell you with a desperate calm that they will never work again.

Young men in cheap jeans and shapeless sweaters spin out the days of boredom in the only way they can—drinking in a bar, playing darts, hanging around the street.

The number of inquiries from industrialists considering setting up in Wales has fallen and last year the amount of factory space approved by the Ministry of Technology fell by 531,000 square feet.

The crisis of capitalism is biting hard in the principality and last week pleas from the Welsh Council to the Secretary of State for Wales, Mr Peter Thomas, not to slash aid to the regions fell on deaf ears.

State bribes

In the teeth of the deepening world recession and the hotting up of the trade war, which continues to undermine British capitalist profits, lavish state bribes have enticed a few firms into Wales.

It is not to be expected that these bribes will be continued or will be continued on anything like the same scale with a Tory government in power. Mr Heath has made it clear that in future only profit will decide the pattern and growth of indus-

all such fantasies. Without any argument they show that the overall stagnation of the Welsh economy is deepening.

This is a direct result of the crisis of over-production and the accompanying inflation. They show that at the most the outcome of firms moving to Wales has been only to obtain a short breathing space from the hurricane of economic disaster bearing down on them as world capitalism is torn by the crisis of overproduction.

Nursing desperate hopes of riding out the storm the employers are trying to keep costs, and therefore, wages down.

Workers have been sacked for trying to form union branches to improve pay and conditions. In the factories which have replaced the pits either the hours are long or a three-shift system operates.

Anyone who argues with the bosses can be sure there is an army of unemployed at his back waiting to take over. In one

Among workers unfortunate enough not to have a job the older ones in their 60's have surrendered to the apparent inevitability of their lot.

But among the younger workers a desperate flame is burning needing only a guiding hand to fan it into the fires which can and will destroy the capitalist system of misery and exploitation.

Disillusioned with Labour, Welsh workers know they can expect little or nothing from the Tories. Some have, and are, flirting with Plaid Cymru—the Welsh nationalist party—but the vast majority shrug and say they don't know what the answer is.

Malcolm Niblett is 21. He was born and lives at Bargoed in the Runcney Valley in the south east Wales coalfield.

At Bargoed unemployment has leapt in two months from 6.9 per cent of the 25,000 working population in August to 8 per cent.

Like many Welsh workers nourished on the lie that the country has suffered because of wilful neglect by the colonial government at Westminster, he does not relate the problems in Bargoed to the collapse of world capitalism and he has hopes that things are better elsewhere.

Mr Niblett told me 'There will have to be something done about the unemployment. There should be a Welsh government. If things don't change they (the people around) will all go to England. I'll have to think seriously about emigrating.'

We talked in a pub in the main street. The long, drab bar, rows of 19th century terraced houses stretched away on either side. Decay was in the air. Mr Niblett drank cider because he could not afford beer.

Rundown

In the six years, since he left secondary modern school at 15, he has been out of work, on and off, for nearly two years.

Like almost every other town clinging to the damp hillsides of the south Wales valleys, Bargoed was hit by the rundown of coal which overall has put about 50,000 men out of work since the war and closed over 120 pits.

In economist's jargon Wales is characterized by a predominance of industries—coal, iron and steel) employing largely unskilled labour. The secondary industries (manufacturing) hardly got going and the tertiary sector (distributive and administrative) was virtually a non starter.

So the switch from coal to electricity, oil and gas found the Welsh economy hopelessly unequipped to diversify into other fields—even if the crisis of world capitalism had permitted it.

The blame for the concentration on one or two industries is to be laid squarely at the door of capitalism, as is the blame for what happens when these same industries are no longer profitable and have to be thrown on the scrap heap.

The interests of profit are not necessarily, nor often, the interests of working people.

Although his father was a miner for 28 years Mr Niblett stuck work in the pit for only 18 months.

He went into the merchant navy for eight months then came home and got a job wiring up

houses for a TV company for £7 10s a week, after tax.

To earn more money he went labouring for different construction firms, working on average 70 hours a week including overtime and getting £12 10s after tax and £10 after deducting bus fares.

He said: 'Three of us got the sack from the last labouring job, 13 weeks ago, for arguing with the bosses over pay.'

Now he and his wife and their little boy, aged two, live on £13 a week social security. They pay £4 1s a week for what amounts to a two up, two down, council house which, he said, is cold, poorly designed and not worth £3.

He has a drink and a game of darts, when he can afford it, with other lads in the same boat. He has travelled over 1,000 miles and applied for 70-80 jobs. When he goes home he has to face his wife and tell her he's failed.

Mr Niblett said: 'My wife would like to work now. She's trained as a hairdresser but there's not much (work) around here.'

'We have to juggle things around to make ends meet. The things which are really difficult are the bills for electricity and the television. We pay so much a week. You can't keep the home up to scratch. You can't go out. Being out of work is a bad thing.'

'We need more jobs and more pay here. But there's not much I can do really. Just hope for the best. But I hope my son will 'get on.'

Merthyr

Vincent Coffey is 37. He has been out of work for four years. He talked to me on a Sunday morning before going off to organize a boxing bout upstairs in the Merthyr Tydfil Labour Club.

Merthyr gets a mention in all the economic history books. It is one of the oldest industrial towns in South Wales, marked out by Crawshaw's Cyfartha iron-works and the Dowlais pits.

But nine out of the 10 pits and levels in the area have closed since the war and despite an injection of new factories like Hoover unemployment is running at 4.6 per cent.

Other men in the club had been unemployed for seven years and longer. Mr Coffey began his working life at the Merthyr Vale pit, Treharris, but his last job was as a driver—salesman for a local firm.

Mr Coffey said: 'We were sacked for trying to form a union. They worked us till nine at night on the flat rate with no overtime. We wanted to start a branch of NUPE. We had a strike and they sacked the ring-leaders.'

He told me there had been more unemployed in Merthyr in the last two or three months than ever before and that the labour exchange had been forced to open twice a week to pay the dole money.

Commenting on what could be done he said:

'They [the employers] don't want to solve it [the problem of unemployment]. They want unemployment. They want people fighting for a job so they can give them the lowest pay. When firms come here they lower wages straight away.'

Sacked

Mr Coffey has been out of work about 12 times partly because he tried to better himself, partly because he was made redundant and partly (twice) he was sacked for trying to form a

union branch. He told me it was 'hard going' for him and his wife to live on £15 a week social security.

And he said: 'There's very little chance of getting a job. Once a man's gone 40 he hasn't much chance. Most of us haven't got a trade. We work with our hands and they don't want us.'

Perhaps perceptively he added: 'I think there would still be unemployment even if there was a Welsh government.'

He is right. There will be unemployment for so long as

there is capitalism which is a system of boom and slump—of crisis.

To try to combat inflation and improve Britain's competitiveness in world markets unemployment could double or treble in the next five years.

Degradation

The only way forward, the only way to avoid for all time the degradation, the demoralization and the poverty of unemployment, the only way to defeat the employers, backed by the Tory government, in their drive to keep down costs by attacking wages and the living standards of the working class, is to build the revolutionary party which will end capitalism and bring about workers' control of industry within a planned socialist economy.



A steel mill

They are bewildered, waiting for something to happen, young enough to believe that things can't go on like this for ever.

In fact, something has happened. There has been a record drop in one year of 14,000 fewer people at work according to figures published last week in the Digest of Welsh Statistics.

This precipitous overall fall of 14,000 in 1969 compares with 2,000 the year before when 8,000 extra women brought into employment were a compensating factor. Last year even the number of women workers fell by 1,000.

Leapt

Total unemployment rose by 2,000 in one month this year. In August it was 37,892 or 3.9 per cent, but by September it had leapt to 40,118 or 4.1 per cent.

According to the figures the index of industrial production continues to dive. This year it is expected to exceed the two point drop in 1969. Employment fell in 13 of the 24 main manufacturing categories.

try with weak firms (and regions) going to the wall.

The firms which have set up in Wales have used government subsidies, cheap labour and capital-intensive production techniques to maintain their profits in the face of the rapidly escalating economic crisis.

Paradoxically as the number of people in work has dropped, production, particularly in the new firms, has gone up.

The latest statistics show that production in mechanical and instrument engineering more than doubled between 1968-1969, in chemical and allied industries it went up by 60 per cent, in electrical engineering by 42 per cent, in vehicles and aircraft by 41 per cent and in coal and petroleum products by 48 per cent.

Because new, so-called technology-based firms, have been seen to enter the Principality during the last decade there were some who thought it was only a question of time—before Wales' dependence on coal and steel was ended and a brave new future opened up to everyone.

But the latest statistics damn

valley town the labour exchange (Social Security building) has had to open twice a week instead of the usual once to cope with the unemployed.

Ironically the employers' last-ditch attempts to keep their heads above water only serves to heighten the tide of disaster poised to sweep over them.

To survive they must cut costs or raise sales.

But the more output is increased the worse the crisis of overproduction becomes.

More and more has to be charged per unit of output to maintain profits and this triggers wage demands from workers unable to keep up with the escalating cost of living.

Inflation

Eventually galloping inflation would cause prices to crash. The alternative is to drive down costs.

Under normal circumstances there are limits to which costs can be cut. The Tories know this. They also know that these are abnormal circumstances and they are preparing for them with the Industrial Relations Bill which will be used to make sure that if workers protest about their deteriorating pay and conditions they can be compelled, by force, to accept them.

Welsh workers fortunate enough to have a job are being driven to militancy but they still see their struggle as a fight to build the unions and to get a union leadership determined to push up wage rates and improve conditions.

They don't realize the growing impossibility of improving pay and conditions or that the union bureaucrats will collaborate to the last with the bosses in a vain bid to make the capitalist's economy work, even when it has become clear that the body they are struggling to revive has long since become a corpse.



Leon Trotsky

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TV

BBC 1

9.30 a.m.-12.25 p.m. Schools. 1.30 Watch with mother. 1.45-1.53 News and weather. 2.05-3.40 Schools. 4.10-4.35 Using broadcasts in schools. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Blue Peter. 5.20 Barrier reef. 5.44 Magic roundabout. 5.50 News and weather.

6.00 LONDON THIS WEEK. Weather.

6.20 ENTERTAINING WITH KERR.

6.45 ASK THE FAMILY.

7.05 Z CARS. 'Of With The Motley', part one.

7.30 NOT IN FRONT OF THE CHILDREN. 'Unemployment Problem'.

8.00 PANORAMA.

9.00 THE NINE O'CLOCK NEWS and weather.

9.20 UP POMPEII With Frankie Howard.

9.50 RYAN INTERNATIONAL. 'Dragons' Teeth'.

10.40 24 HOURS.

11.15 THE PARKERS AT SALTRAM. 'The New Master'.

11.45 Weather.

REGIONAL BBC

All regions as above except:

Midlands, E Anglia: 6.00-6.20 Midlands today. Look East, weather. 11.47 News, weather.

North, NW, NE, Cumberland and Westmorland: 6.00-6.20 Look North, weather. 11.47 News, weather.

Wales: 1.30-1.45 Ar lin mam. 6.00 Wales today, weather. 6.20-6.45 Plaid Cymru conference. 7.30-8.00 Cerdd plant a bryn. 11.15 Entertaining with Kerr. 11.40-12.10 Parkers at Saltram. 12.10 Weather.

Scotland: 12.55-1.30 Sunday set. 6.00-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 11.15-11.45 Caring for people. 11.47 News, weather.

N Ireland: 6.00-6.20 Scene around six, weather. 11.47 News, weather.

SW, South, West: 6.00-6.20 Points West. South, today. Spotlight SW, weather. 11.47 News, weather.

BBC 2

11.00-11.20 a.m. PLAY SCHOOL.

7.05 p.m. THE STATE OF EUROPE. The European Economic Community today. 'IBM and the Seven Dwarfs'.

7.30 NEWS and weather.

8.00 LANCER. 'Cut the Wolf Loose'.

8.50 CALL MY BLUFF.

9.20 'THE COUNTRY WE ARE MAKING'. Introduced by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh to mark European Conservation Year.

10.20 ONE MORE TIME!

10.40 THE HUNGRY LIFE OF LESTER PIGGOTT. The unnerving personality of the world's most famous jockey.

11.10 NEWS ON 2 and weather.

11.15 LATE NIGHT LINE-UP.

ITV

11.00 a.m.-2.58 p.m. London. 3.50 Robin Hood. 4.15 Anita in Jumbleland. 4.25 Crossroads. 4.50 Lost in space. 5.50 London.

6.02 TODAY.

6.45 OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS.

7.30 CORONATION STREET.

8.00 WORLD IN ACTION.

8.30 THE MAIN CHANCE. 'The Best Legal System in the World'.

9.30 FOR THE LOVE OF ADA.

10.00 NEWS AT TEN.

10.30 LATE NIGHT THRILLER. 'The Rise and Fall of Legs Diamond'. With Ray Danton and Karen Steele. Crime in the roaring twenties.

12.20 a.m. THE CORRIDORS OF POWER. Ivor Mills talks to Timothy Raizon, Conservative MP for Aylesbury.

REGIONAL ITV

CHANNEL: 11.00-2.58 London. 4.00 Puffin's birthday greetings. 4.10 Anita in Jumbleland. 4.25 Short story. 4.55 Forest rangers. 5.20 Timeslip. 5.30 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 What's on where. 6.15 International detective. 6.45 London. 10.30 University challenge. 11.00 Conceptions of murder. 11.25 News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except 3.58 News. 4.50 Gus Honeybun. 6.00 Diary. 6.20 Sports desk. 11.30 Faith for life. 11.35 Weather.

SOUTHERN: 11.00-2.58 London. 4.05 Houseparty. 4.20 Felix the cat. 4.30 Bugs Bunny. 4.55 Land of the giants. 5.50 London. 6.00 Day by Day. Com-

plants box. 6.45 London. 10.30 University challenge. 11.00 News. 11.10 This is Tom Jones. 12.10 Weather. Acton 70.

HARLECH: 11.00-2.58 London. 4.18 Women only. 4.40 Enchanted house. 4.55 Captain Scarlett. 5.20 Timeslip. 5.30 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.23 Report Wales. 6.45 London. 10.30 Probe. 11.00 News. American style. Robert Montgomery, Audrey Totter and Lloyd Nolan. A private detective is hired to solve a missing persons case. 12.20 Weather.

HTV (West) colour channel 61 as above except 4.16-4.18 Report West. 6.25-6.45 This is the West this week.

HTV (Wales) colour channel 41 as above except 6.01-6.23 Y dydd.

HTV (Cymru/Wales) black and white service as above except 6.01-6.23 Y dydd. 8.00-8.30 Yr wythnos.

ANGLIA: 10.58-2.58 London. 4.25 News. 4.35 Romper room. 4.55 Bugs Bunny. 5.15 Timeslip. 5.20 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.40 London. 10.30 Probe. 11.00 News. American style. 11.15 Farning diary. 12.20 Reflection.

ATV MIDLANDS: 11.00-2.58 London. 3.49 Horoscope. 3.52 Women today. 4.10 Anita in Jumbleland. 4.40 Anita in Jumbleland. 4.55 London. 5.15 Timeslip. 5.30 London. 6.00 ATV today. 6.40 London. 10.30 University challenge. 11.02 Object on view, weather.

ULSTER: 11.00-2.58 London. 4.30 Romper room. 4.50 News. 4.55 Phoenix five. 5.20 Timeslip. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. American style. 6.40 London. 10.30 Monday night. 10.35 Movie: 'Paranoid'. With Janette Scott and Oliver Reed. Thriller.

YORKSHIRE: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.15 London. 4.30 Matinee. 4.55 Rovers. 5.20 Timeslip. 5.50 London. 6.00 Calendar. weather. 6.15 University challenge. 6.45 London. 10.30 Name of the game. 11.55 Weather.

GRANADA: 11.00-2.58 London. 4.10 News. Peyton Place. 4.40 Anita in Jumbleland. 4.55 Skippy. 5.15 Timeslip. 5.50 London. 6.05 Six-o-one. 6.15 All our yesterday. 6.40 London. 10.30 University challenge. 11.00 Homicide.

BORDER: 1.38-2.48 London. 4.10 News. 4.12 High living. 4.40 Anita in Jumbleland. 4.55 Joe 90. 5.15 Timeslip. 5.50 London. 6.00 News. 6.15 University challenge. 6.40 London. 10.30 Tales of unseas. 'Ride Ride'. 11.00 Avengers. 11.55 News, weather.

SCOTTISH: 10.30 No easy answer. 11.00-2.58 London. 3.40 Dateline. 3.50 Horoscope. 3.52 Women today. 4.15 London. 4.25 Castlehaven. 4.55 Captain Scarlett. 5.15 Timeslip. 5.30 London. 6.00 Dateline. 6.45 London. 10.30 Debate. 11.15 Late call.

GRAMPIAN: 10.58-2.58 London. 3.52 Women today. 4.15 London. 4.25 High living. 4.55 Skippy. 5.15 Timeslip. 5.50 London. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 Cartoon. 6.15 Out of town. 6.40 London. 10.30 University challenge. 11.00 Seaway.

Some pages from miners' history

How the miners' 1920 strike was betrayed



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(National Secretary of the Socialist Labour League)

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Monday November 2	Thursday November 5

Kay's Restaurant 271 Ilford Lane Ilford. 8 p.m.	Northgate Hall Oxford 8 p.m.
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Three lectures by
M. BANDA

(Editor of Workers Press)

ACTON	BLACKFRIARS
Thursday October 29	Monday October 26
Thursday November 5	Monday November 2
Thursday November 12	Monday November 9

'Kings Head' High Street Acton. 8 p.m.	Friars Hall Blackfriars Road SE1. 8 p.m.
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Three lectures by
C. SLAUGHTER

(Central Committee of Socialist Labour League)

BIRMINGHAM	SHEFFIELD
Monday November 2	Sunday November 1
Monday November 9	Sunday November 15
Monday November 16	Sunday November 22

Digbeth Hall
Birmingham. 7.30 p.m.

Crooksmoor Vestry Hall
Crooksmoor Rd, Sheffield 6.
7.30 p.m.

LIVERPOOL
Wednesday November 4
Wednesday November 11
Wednesday November 25

Lecture by
G. HEALY
in Glasgow

Sunday November 1
Partick Burgh Hall
(nr Merkland St tube)
7.30

DURING the Cambrian Combine Strike of 1910-1911 (see Workers Press, October 12) the strike committee clashed with the leaders of the S Wales Miners' Federation.

As a result of dissatisfaction with the Federation Officials an Unofficial Reform Committee was formed and published the famous pamphlet 'The Miners' Next Step'.

This pamphlet demanded a minimum wage of 8s a day and a seven-hour day.

It called for 'complete independence of and hostility to all capitalist parties' and urged a policy of 'open hostility' to the employers 'until we have extracted the whole of the employers' profits'.

More dissatisfaction developed over the low awards from the Joint District Boards, set up by the Coal Mines (Minimum Wage) Act of 1912, and particularly over the bias towards the owners shown by the government's 'impartial' board chairmen.

In nearly every case these men fixed the minimum rate for day-workmen at less than 5s.

Reactions to these low awards combined with political demands for nationalization of the mines and for the reversal of the Osborne Judgement (which illegalized the use of trade union funds for political purposes).

The Miners' Federation, which had affiliated to the Labour Party in 1909, was by far the largest affiliated union, with the largest number of MPs.

The miners had been demanding nationalization of the mines since 1892 and had linked this with calls for the nationalization of the land and railways—all without compensation. They also called for a five-day week.

It was around the five-day week issue that the two-thirds majority rule was introduced in 1913.

The Miners' Federation held a ballot on the question of adopting a campaign for a five-day working week. A majority of 44,000 were in favour, but the executive decided to take no action.

Instead, under executive advice, a special conference carried the following resolution:

'That before a national strike is entered upon as the result of any finding of a conference, a ballot vote of the members shall be taken, and a strike shall not be declared unless two-thirds of those voting vote in favour of such a strike. If a ballot vote be taken during the time a strike is in progress a vote of two-thirds of those taking part in the ballot shall be necessary to continue the strike.'

In 1914 the First World War broke out. At first short time and unemployment in the mines continued and the coal owners, especially in Northumberland and Durham, used this to force through wage reductions.

So bad were conditions in the mining industry that enlistment into the armed forces was larger than in any other industry. In Scotland, over 21 per cent of the mining labour force volunteered to join up.

The owners then used this as a pretext to declare a labour shortage. They called for a suspension of the Eight Hours Act. They demanded curtailment of holidays, employment of women on the surface and a lowering of the age limit for boys.

GREEDY

But the mine owners were not the only ones greedy for profits. In the first ten months of the war, food prices rose more than they had done in the previous 20 years. As a result, in March 1915, the miners demanded a 20 per cent rise in earnings. The employers offered 10 per cent which was rejected.

Following the intervention of the Prime Minister Asquith—actual increases were decided locally, so that some areas did worse than others.

Northumberland and Durham, for example, got less than half of what was demanded.

The miners' fight now became one to end the system of local Council Boards and to replace it

1914 President of Miners' Federation **ROBERT SMILLIE** addresses a wartime meeting against war profiteers.



with a new standard rate of wages.

Central to this was the demand for a minimum wage of 5s a day for all adult surface workers.

At this time (March 1915) all the main trade unions, with the exception of the miners and engineers, agreed to suspend union rules and regulations in munitions industries for the duration of the war.

The Munitions of War Act was also passed introducing industrial conscription and prohibiting strikes. An area could be 'proclaimed' under the Act and workers going on strike there could be fined.

When the S Wales miners, against the will of their executive, gave notice of strike for the 5s minimum and for the payment of afternoon and night shifts at a turn and one-fifth for each turn worked, S Wales was 'proclaimed'. However 200,000 S Wales miners struck work.

After five days the government conceded the miners' most important points. The miners had won, despite their leaders' hesitation.

Building on this, the S Wales miners met every demand for a wage cut by the employers with a demand for wage increases. In 1916 two main wage claims (for 20 per cent increases) were met in full.



Triple Alliance leader **J. H. THOMAS**.

It was this that led to the government taking control of the mines during the war, not to run the pits in the interests of the people in wartime, but to make it easier for the government to handle the militant miners.

The coal-owners, in fact, were guaranteed their profits by the government.

As the war progressed, weariness grew. In 1916 there was strong support throughout the British working class for the Irish Easter Rising and a revolution of feeling against its brutal repression by British imperialism.

Even more shattering than this, however, was the effect of the Russian Revolution of 1917. Opposition to the war grew, there was talk of British soviets, and the workers became even more determined not to allow the employers to use the 'war effort' as a way of getting quick profits.

In 1918 the MFGB demanded a 1s 6d rise per day. The government offered 6d a day, but hastily climbed down when a strike was threatened, and granted the claim in full.

By JACK GALE

The most important result of this industrial militancy, which was not confined to the mines, was the growth of the most powerful trade union force yet seen in Britain—the Triple Alliance of miners, transport workers and railwaymen.

The membership alone was formidable: the miners had 800,000 members, the railwaymen 270,000 and the Transport Workers 250,000.

The purpose of the Alliance was that each section should take sympathetic action, should any one of them be under attack.

But, right from the beginning, long before 'Black Friday', the Triple Alliance leaders were intimidated by its strength and strove to turn it into a means of restraining the workers rather than of advancing their cause.

UNITED ACTION

Robert Smillie, the miners' leader, declared:

'Sympathetic action is no longer to be left to the uncontrolled emotions of a strike period, but is to be the calculated result of mature consideration and careful planning.'

And rule six of the Triple Alliance read:

'Simultaneously with these arrangements for united action between the three organizations in question every effort shall proceed among the three sections to create effective and complete control of their respective bodies.'

At the beginning of 1919, the Miners' Federation put forward a demand for a wage increase of 30 per cent on total earnings, reduction of the working day from eight to six hours, and nationalization of the mining industry.

The government's reply was an offer of 1s an hour and a Commission of Inquiry. A special conference of the miners rejected this and decided to take a ballot on strike action, strongly urging their members to vote in favour of a stoppage.

During the ballot, the government placed advertisements in the main papers urging miners to defy their conference decision.

Despite this, the result of the ballot was massively in favour of strike by 615,164 votes to 105,082. The miners' executive, however, ignored this vote, postponed the strike notices and decided to participate in the government Commission of Inquiry.

This was the famous Sankey Commission. Thus began one of the biggest acts of deceit and treachery ever perpetrated against the miners.

During the Commission's proceedings, evidence came to light of the massive profits wrung from the miners' low wages during the war (a total of £160 million over four years) and also of the high rate of inefficiency in the industry.

As a result, the majority report came out in favour of the miners' 30 per cent claim, in

favour of the six-hour day and in favour of nationalization.

The report signed by the chairman and three other members (the Sankey Report) recommended a six-hour day by 1921, a wage increase of 2s per shift, and the continuation of State control of the mines.

Even the report signed by the coal-owners' representatives conceded the seven-hour day and a rise of 1s 6d per day.

The government announced that it accepted the Sankey Report 'in spirit and in letter'.

The miners held yet another ballot which accepted the leadership's recommendation to accept the government's statement. They clearly believed that the government was pledged to end private ownership in the mines, and it was on this basis that the strike did not take place.

The miners' leaders, however, launched no agitation for nationalization, simply placing their faith in the government's word.

This contrasted sharply with the actions of the employers who mobilized their parliamentary and businessmen's lobbies against the Sankey proposals.

Needless to say, the government went back on its word and rejected nationalization.

What, then, had the role of the leadership been? They had called off the strike notices and persuaded the miners to accept the Royal Commission.

They had then persuaded the miners to accept the Commission chairman's report even though it was not the majority report and it fell short of the miners' demands.

They had stood by and done nothing while the mine-owners launched a vigorous anti-Sankey campaign and finally when the government blatantly broke its word, the leaders again avoided strike action and referred the matter to the TUC.



Prime Minister **LOYD GEORGE**.

A vote at the Miners' Federation Conference in March 1920 was in favour of strike action for nationalization but at a special conference of the TUC, called to discuss the question, strike action was rejected.

The miners, however, were in an angry mood and their leaders were forced to submit a double demand for a lowering of coal prices and a rise in wages, both to come out of the coal-owners' profits.

REPRESSION

The government rejected the demand and again the miners went to ballot. Once again they voted with a large majority for strike action.

It was this strike which led the government to introduce the 1920 Emergency Powers Act for strike repression.

Delegate conferences of the NUR and the Transport Workers' Federation held in September declared the miners' claim

to be just and resolved to abide by the decision of the Triple Alliance meeting.

The Triple Alliance leaders, however, were hesitant and decided to send a deputation to the government to urge acceptance of the miners' claim.

The miners agreed to join this deputation, but the government could not be moved.

Robert Smillie's plea to the miners to accept arbitration and withdraw the strike notices was rejected.

Smillie attempted to disrupt this action by threatening to resign, withdrawing his threat only after repeated appeals by the lefts on the executive.

So the miners went into battle under a leader who opposed their action publicly!

On October 20 the NUR delegate conference voted for strike action unless the miners' claims were granted.

This so shook the government that Lloyd George invited the miners' leaders to further discussion. Then the miners' executive threw away their own weapon. They hastened to accept Lloyd George's invitation and urged the NUR to postpone their strike action till further notice!

Lloyd George offered a temporary settlement, which granted the miners their 2s, but tied it to output (what was called the Datum line).

With the strike two weeks old, yet a further ballot was held. This rejected Lloyd George's solution by a majority of over 8,000.

But the executive instructed the men to return to work. Despite the fact that united action with the railwaymen would clearly have won complete victory, the strike was over.

So the weakness and capitulation of the leaders of both the Miners' Federation and the Triple Alliance prepared the way for the employers' counter-offensive. The seeds of Black Friday had been sown.

NEW SUBSCRIPTION RATES FOR 6-DAY WORKERS PRESS

The Workers Press is now being published on six days a week. The production of the extra Monday issue will be decisive at this time when the Tories are planning an all-out onslaught against the working class with their anti-union laws and attacks on wages and living conditions. Only Workers Press has fought for revolutionary leadership inside the working class in order to force the Tories to resign.

We thank all our present subscribers for their support, which has helped us make this big step forward, and urge all new readers to become regular subscribers.

Money outstanding on present subscriptions will be credited to the new rates. When these subscriptions expire, readers will be notified and the new rate will then apply.

The new rate for six days will be:

£13 for 12 months (312 issues)
£6 10s for six months (156 issues)
£3 5s for three months (78 issues)

If you want to take Workers Press twice a week the rates will be:

£1 for three months (24 issues)
£4 for 12 months (96 issues)

PLEASE DON'T DELAY. TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY NOW TO TAKE OUT A SUBSCRIPTION OR EXTEND YOUR EXISTING ARRANGEMENT.

Fill in the form below NOW and send to:

Circulation Dept., Workers Press, 186a Clapham High St., London, SW4.

I would like to take out a subscription/extend/change my present subscription/to Workers Press.

Days required MONDAY THURSDAY
(Please tick) TUESDAY FRIDAY
WEDNESDAY SATURDAY

Or Full subscription (six days) for months.

Name

Address

Amount enclosed £ s d

ADVANCE NOTICE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1971. 11 a.m.

ALEXANDRA PALACE
Wood Green
London, N22

Young Socialists and
All Trades Unions Alliance
GREAT NATIONAL RALLY AGAINST TORYISM

BOOK THIS DATE NOW!

Dangerous 'opposition' to Tory law

THE SO-CALLED 'International Socialism' group, which publishes the paper 'Socialist Worker' sent a delegation on Saturday to the Institute for Workers' Control conference called to discuss the anti-union laws.

They submitted a resolution, supposed to be a policy to fight the anti-union laws.

By Cliff Slaughter

In fact this resolution is an opportunist surrender to all those bureaucratic forces in the trade unions who are holding back the working class and collaborating with the Tories.

The resolution says that these laws are the Tories' reply to a rising tide of militancy among many sections of British workers that has begun to win for those involved just a little more of the fruits of their labours.

If this was the cause of the anti-union laws, then of course they could be answered just by pressure and protest, which arrives at a new compromise with the employing class.

This is known as reformism. It is the traditional outlook of the traitors who have always led the British working class away from socialism.

The anti-union laws arise from much more fundamental factors.

DEEPEST CRISIS Capitalism is going through its deepest crisis, because it is historically doomed.

The ruling class can survive only by destroying trade unions as we know them, and imposing new forms of rule akin to the fascism of Mussolini and Hitler.

Either the ruling class defeats the working class on the road to dictatorship, or the working class will defeat them in a struggle for power.

The fight against the anti-union laws must be taken up in the context of this historical change.

The question is not a protest, but the mobilization of the whole workers' movement to defeat the Tories.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE CONFERENCES Support Pilkington glassworkers and their right to strike!

DEFEAT THE PROPOSED TORY ANTI-UNION LAWS SUNDAY NOVEMBER 8

COVENTRY: Keith's Club, Cox Street, 3.30 p.m. NEWCASTLE: Royal Turk's Head Hotel, Grey Street, 3 p.m.

SHEFFIELD: Crookmoor Vestry Hall, Crookmoor Road, 7.30 p.m.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 15 GLASGOW: Patrick Burgh Lesser Hall, near Merklund Street underground, 7.30 p.m.

LONDON: Woodlands Hall, Crown Street, Acton, 7.00 p.m. Speakers will be from the Pilkington Rank and File Committee

LATE NEWS CHANCELLOR'S CUTS -BY POWELL Tory far-righter Enoch Powell said yesterday that he would not complain if the Chancellor did not say anything tomorrow which appeared to be very far-reaching or proposed a series of minor economic cuts having no great or obvious connection.

The policies which are bound to influence the relationship of public expenditure as a whole to national income, are those which get government out of certain areas altogether or limit its participation in certain areas, he said.

In the course of the fight to do this revolutionary leadership will have to challenge and defeat the opportunist and Stalinist leaders of the trade unions.

The 'International Socialism' resolution called for 'the executive of all unions to announce that they will refuse to register with the new Registrar or assist in the work of the proposed industrial court and that they will refuse to pay any fines imposed under this legislation or conduct or accept any government-imposed strike ballots'.

And further: 'In the event of the legislation being passed, unions to instruct their members individually that they will have the full backing of their union in refusing to handle goods that are blacked or delivered across a picket line and in taking other sympathetic action'.

The real meaning of these proposals is to accept that the Bill will go through!

Again, we see that the present Tory policy and anti-union laws are seen as inevitable episodes in the gradual reformist process.

'International Socialism' is simply trailing along behind the trade union leaders.

DAYS OF PROTEST In words the resolution talks about 'defeating the Bill', but for this it advocates:

'A national day of protest strike on the day the Bill is introduced to parliament.'

This sums it up! A protest against a step by the ruling class towards totalitarian dictatorship. This allows the union leaders and the Labour MPs to escape all responsibility.

We need not a protest, sooner the Commonwealth packs itself off, bag and baggage, the better.

ARMS SALE CLASH Fighting broke out in London's Trafalgar Square yesterday when police clashed with a group of about 100 demonstrators from a march against the sale of arms to S Africa.

Banners, placards and policemen's helmets were thrown into the air.

About 30 people were driven away in police buses. At least a third of those taken into custody were girls.

Outside S Africa House, a group of about 200 marchers paraded up and down giving the Nazi salute and chanting 'Sieg Heil'.

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but a campaign to mobilize the whole trade union and labour movement with one-day strikes as part of this—to a General Strike to defeat the government.

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Bristol

FROM PAGE ONE

an adjournment of the debate by heckling from the public gallery—despite the presence of a large squad of police.

At a meeting following the march, messages of support were brought from several unions drawn into the dispute.

But the key question of perspective for winning the fight, was omitted by the speaker. None raised the dangers of the union leaders' acceptance of an inquiry and speakers were content to leave local Tory councillors as the focus of the fight, ignoring the dominating struggle against the Tory government offensive on the entire working class.

CORRECT

The only correct note was struck by a speaker from the floor who shouted 'Let's have some leadership from our unions. We don't mind staying out for another two months, but all the unions should come out'.

All T&GWU regional secretary Mr Ron Nethercott could offer the meeting was demagogic threats of 'scenes in this city not seen since the 1930s if the strike continued and his letter to the Lord Mayor asking for negotiations to be opened. This ended 'A response from your council will be appreciated'.

Cornered after the meeting by strikers demanding a policy for winning the strike, Nethercott sidestepped with the remark 'I'm not the strike committee'.

One of the strikers commented: 'Of course, we should all be out. What we need to do is call on the brothers in the car and aircraft industries—where the profits are—and hit them where it hurts.'

Nixon

FROM PAGE ONE

out at student militants as a first stage in attacking the working class.

Top of the list is Bernardine Rae Dohrn, wanted for the vague catch-all offences of interstate flight, mob action, riot and conspiracy. She has been on the run for ten months as a leading member of the Weathermen—a left-wing student group.

The FBI has warned that 'Dohrn may reportedly resist arrest... may have acquired firearms. Consider dangerous'; a clear incitement to any policeman with an itchy trigger-finger.

Nixon declared outright war on the left when he signed his new Crime Bill giving increased powers to the FBI.

With Hoover standing by, Nixon said: 'Gentlemen, I give you the tools. You do the job.'

Hoover confidently replied: 'We will, Mr President.'

CIVIL WAR

FROM PAGE ONE

We must work for stoppages and demonstrations of as many workers as possible, now, in support of the council workers, to win their strike and inflict a defeat on the government.

Struggle

This mass united working-class action, to defeat the Tories and bring in policies of expropriating big business, requires struggle inside as well as outside parliament.

The Parliamentary Labour Party must be forced to obstruct the anti-union laws line by line.

Labour leaders, Stalinists and reformists of all kinds are making the fatal error of assuming that the Tory attacks will sting the workers into automatically returning another Labour government.

Italian youth clash with fascists

A DEMONSTRATION last week in Vibo Valentia, a town of Calabria, resulted in clashes between young people and groups of fascists.

About a thousand high-school and college students marched through the streets demanding an end to the military occupation of nearby Reggio Calabria, imposed by the Colombo regime ten days ago.

Near the town centre they were attacked by well-organized bands of fascist youths, while police stood by.

When the young people retaliated the fascists fled and took refuge in the local offices of the MSI (Italy's main fascist organization).

Demonstrators laid siege to the MSI offices. Police intervened in force and escorted the fascists to safety.

WEATHER

A WEST to NW airstream covers the British Isles. S England will be cloudy with some rain at times and a few bright periods.

All other areas will have sunny spells and showers, which will be most frequent in NE Scotland, falling as snow on high ground in Scotland and perhaps at lower levels in the north.

Temperatures will be near normal. Outlook for Tuesday and Wednesday: Sunny spells at first on Tuesday. More general rain may spread to western areas on Wednesday. Rather cold.

KEEP PAY PROMISES WORKERS DEMAND

WORKERS in a number of Milan's major engineering and metal plants struck and demonstrated last week to back their demands for the full rights and improvements promised in the nationwide metalworkers' contract signed at the end of last year.

Large contingents from the Alfa-Romeo plants, Sit-Siemens, Loro and

Parisini and Borletti converged for a mass meeting in Piazza Trinerio, addressed by officials of all three major unions.

Since the agreement was signed, following the massive strike wave of last autumn, employers in all parts of the country have tried to back-track on the details.

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Councils fight—'the front line against the Tories'

OXFORD'S DUSTMEN, sewage workers, road-sweepers and park attendants—some of whom staged a protest demonstration in the town on Saturday—have now been on strike for four weeks.

The Tory-dominated council has ruled out local negotiations, stands four-square behind the authorities' national negotiators and is determined to carry out Edward Heath's policy to resist pay claims to the letter.

Workers Press spoke to a group of Oxford council workers at the weekend about how they see the strike progressing.

Explaining that the main problem locally was that only Transport and General Workers' members are as yet on strike, they said that the Public Employees' failure—with per cent of the council workers in the area—to call its members out was causing a dangerous split.

Dustman JOHN HOUNSLOW told us of the sharp conflict that had taken place on picket lines at the town's tips—now manned 24 hours a day.

Police were constantly standing by at all picket points and made effective picketing impossible, he said. Pickets had been injured and complaints made in vain.

Not felt 'I don't think Oxford has really felt the strike yet', he went on. 'Most of the main firms and colleges are employing "scab" contractors.'

Despite the blacking of these contractors by workers in the car plants and efforts

quick to complain if you miss one. The council always take their word against ours if anything goes wrong.'

On top of this it is a filthy and dangerous job. 'The press says it's a danger to health if refuse isn't collected', he said. 'Let me say it's a danger to our health five days a week for £13 15s'.

Lorrie with four men on them are expected to empty up to 1,300 bins—about 18 tons of refuse—a day.

Each man therefore handles over 20 tons in a week. And if there is extra work they are expected to do it without extra pay.

Dustman MALDWYN LEWIS, who comes from a Welsh mining family, spelt out very clearly the conviction of most Oxford council workers that theirs is a political struggle.

'Now the miners have failed to get a two-thirds majority

for strike action, we are left in the front line against the Tory government', he said.

'They intend to defeat us and nail us to the wall as an example to the rest of the working class and trade union movement.'

'If they break us, it would be a big step towards Heath's anti-union laws.'

All agreed Asked what action should be taken to press their claim in Oxford, all three agreed that the first priority was a total national stoppage.

Second on the list they placed stronger action locally. They also felt that sympathy action in local factories could be absolutely decisive as far as the Oxford city council was concerned.

Council workers in Oxford are determined to fight to a finish for their rights.

They were strongly encouraged to continue negotiating for parliamentary agreement by leading CP deputy Ingrao in his speech last week.

When the new 'decree'—which will incorporate some minor changes in the agreement with the CP—was announced in the Rome Chamber of Deputies on Friday there was a raised-fist confrontation between Communist and fascist MPs, with fascists and Liberals accusing the regime of a sell-out to the left.

Collaboration But behind this shadow-boxing was the continued drive of the Stalinist leadership for closer collaboration with the Christian Democrats, Italy's main capitalist party.

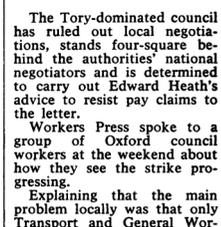
Faced with continuing struggles in the factories, the political crisis in Calabria and Sicily, and with no final settlement yet reached on trade union demands for social and economic reforms, the Colombo government is desperate to achieve a 'gentleman's agreement' on the economy with Stalinism.

They hope to use this to keep the ranks together in the centre-left coalition.

But they are not out of the woods yet. Major points of disagreement in the 'decree' are still the proposed increase in petrol tax and new tax exemptions for manufacturing industry, both opposed by the CP and sections of the Socialist Party.

La Malfa, leader of the Republican Party—smallest element in the coalition—has declared that if the petrol tax proposals are altered, they will vote against the decree.

And in the 60 days of debate on the new 'decree', the best efforts of the CP parliamentarians may not suffice to protect a coalition that is rotten to the core.



Dustmen (l to r) Maldwyn Lewis, John Hounslow and Mal Armson with one of the strikers from their canteen, Miss Pat Watkins.



SAY OXFORD STRIKERS



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Italian govt seeks 'consensus' with Stalinists

THE ITALIAN cabinet is to present a new 'decree' on the economy in parliament today.

This will replace the one under negotiation last week, which has over-run the parliamentary timetable.

The measure has been obstructed by MPs of the left-wing Socialist Party (PSIUP) and the 'Manifesto' group.

The government allowed numerous amendments to be tabled to leave room for their hoped-for agreement with the Communist Party on economic measures.

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They hope to use this to keep the ranks together in the centre-left coalition.

But they are not out of the woods yet. Major points of disagreement in the 'decree' are still the proposed increase in petrol tax and new tax exemptions for manufacturing industry, both opposed by the CP and sections of the Socialist Party.

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LIVELY YS SCHOOL

A WELL-ATTENDED and lively meeting of London Young Socialists listened to playwright John McGrath—author of 'The Bofors Gun' and 'The Reckoning'—talk on 'Politics and the Commercial Cinema' at Margate on Saturday.

Yesterday Cliff Slaughter, Central Committee member of the Socialist Labour League, led a discussion on the fight against the Tories and the preparation for the anti-Tory youth rally at the Alexandra Palace, London, on February 14.

ALL TRADES UNIONS ALLIANCE MEETINGS

'No anti-union laws' 'Force the Tories to resign'

SOUTHALL: Tuesday, October 27, 8 p.m. Southall Community Centre, Bridge Road. N LONDON: Tuesday, October 27, 8 p.m. Prince Albert, Falcon Road, Clapham Junction. LONDON: Tuesday, October 27, 8 p.m. Swiss Cottage Inn, Newland Road.

W LONDON: Wednesday, October 28, 8 p.m. Prince Albert Pub, Balfe Street, Kings Cross. N LONDON: Wednesday, October 28, 8 p.m. Co-op Hall, Seven Dials.

THANE: Wednesday, October 28, 8 p.m. Willson Hall, Willson Road. MANCHESTER: Wednesday, October 28, 8 p.m. Whittaker Hall, High Street. SE LONDON: Thursday, October 29, 8 p.m. Artrichoke Pub, Camberwell Church St. Camberwell, Green. DEAL: Thursday, October 29, 8 p.m. Pier Hotel, Beach Street. W LONDON: Thursday, October 29, 8 p.m. Nag's Head.