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LETTER

Tories move closer to Moscow

BY ROBERT BLACK

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Since then the Warsaw Pact countries have been asking for a conference with NATO powers, aimed eventually at the dissolution of both military pacts and the establishment of mutual alliances.

The Stalinist bureaucracy and the capitalists of western Europe would then be able to concentrate on the main enemy: the European working

Since the invasion of Czechoslovakia and the May-June events in France, the question of how to deal with the working class has been top of the agenda for the bureaucracy and European employers. De Gaulle's visit to Moscow

in 1966 laid the basis for the betrayal of May-June 1968. His policy of rapprochement with the Stalinists paid enor-

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'But we deny these accusa-Jack Crisp, another strike committee member said. 'Many of the strikers have hemselves lost a limb so they know the problems involved. 'But we are not going to be exploited as we have in the

Secret talks denial refuted

BY A WORKERS PRESS CORRESPONDENT

DESPITE heated denials by Israeli and Jordanian officials, there is very little doubt that secret talks have taken place between King Hussein and leaders of the Israeli government.

BBC correspondent Michael Elkins defied the Israeli censor on all news relating to the talks when he telephoned his report to London on Monday: 'Since the story has been published, leading correspondents—I among them—have decided to challenge what seems to us totally unjustifi-

able censorship.
'The meeting between King Hussein and the Israeli Deputy Prime Minister did take place. It is not the first meeting the King has had with Israeli leaders.'

Other reporters have given details of where the talks were held — North of the towns of Elath and Akaba,



the meetings.

which stand on either side of the Israeli-Jordan frontier. There have also been reports of earlier meetings between Israeli and Jordanian officials in Switzerland and in Jordan itself.

NO RECORDS

The talks were, in fact, discussed in the Israeli parliament (Knesset) last week, all reference to the debate being struck from the records and censored out of the Israel

'Haolam, Haze' party, Uri Avneri, has given an account of the debate which throws more light on the He states that in a Knesset session he asked where the

But now a leader of the

government leaders were. When told they were busy holding 'consultations', Avneri replied:

'What consultations are

these without Allon who is in the desert having talks with Hussein? Avneri says that Allon and

Hussein held a two-hour meeting in the Sonegev desert during the first week of November. The persistance and simi-larity of the reports, and the

frantic attempts of the Zionist leaders both to suppress and deny them, only gives more weight to the original claim that the talks did take place. For Mrs Meir, after her public clash with Dayan over the handling of talks with the Arab leaders, has now shifted a more conciliatory position.

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Since then the Warsaw Pact countries have been asking for a conference with NATO powers, aimed eventually at the dissolution of both military pacts and the estab-

lishment of mutual alliances. The Stalinist bureaucracy and the capitalists of western Europe would then be able to concentrate on the main enemy: the European working

Since the invasion of Czechoslovakia and the May-June events in France, the question of how to deal with the working class has been top of the agenda for the bureaucracy and European employers.

De Gaulle's visit to Moscow in 1966 laid the basis for the betrayal of May-June 1968. His policy of rapprochement with the Stalinists paid enor-

PAGE FOUR COL. 7

Secret talks denial refuted

PRICE 6d.

BY A WORKERS PRESS CORRESPONDENT

DESPITE heated denials by Israeli and Jordanian officials, there is very little doubt that secret talks have taken place between King Hussein and leaders of the Israeli government.

BBC correspondent Michael Elkins defied the Israeli censor on all news relating to the talks when he telephoned his report to London on Monday: Since the story has been published, leading correspondents—I among them—have decided to challenge what

seems to us totally unjustifiable censorship.
'The meeting between King Hussein and the Israeli Deputy Prime Minister did take place. It is not the first meeting the King has had with Israeli leaders.'

Other reporters have given details of where the talks were held — North of the towns of Elath and Akaba,



Abby Fig. 20 anded some of the meetings.

which stand on either side of the Israeli-Jordan frontier. There have also been reports of earlier meetings between Israeli and Jordanian officials in Switzerland and in Jordan itself.

NO RECORDS

The talks were, in fact, discussed in the Israeli parliament (Knesset) last week, all reference to the debate being struck from the records and censored out of the Israeli press.

But now a leader of the small 'Haolam, Haze' party, Uri Avneri, has given an account of the debate which throws more light on the question He states that in a Knesset

session he asked where the government leaders When told they were busy holding 'consultations', Avneri replied: 'What consultations are

these without Allon who is in the desert having talks with Hussein? Avneri says that Allon and Hussein held a two-hour meeting in the Sonegev desert

during the first week of November. The persistance and similarity of the reports, and the frantic attempts of the Zionist leaders both to suppress and deny them, only gives more

weight to the original claim that the talks did take place. For Mrs Meir, after her public clash with Dayan over the handling of talks with the Arab leaders, has now shifted a more condiliatory position.

● PAGE FOUR COL. 9

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tion to the dangers of inflation getting out of hand.

He wrote: 'The striking coun-

EVERY report and speech on the economic situation by a politician or a banker refers to the threat of uncontrolled inflation hanging over the capitalist world. International bodies issue dire warnings. Editorial writers

pontificate. In the face of all the Canutes who try to turn back the tide, prices continue to rise, and at an accelerating pace.

The kind of 'suppressed' inflation which has carried prices upwards at a steady rate since the war now threatens to get out of control. The general rise in prices is now faster than at the time of the Korean War and there seems no way of stopping it. No country is immune, although the rise is uneven as between countries. What is staring capitalism in the face is the point at which

millions of people lose confidence in their money as a store of value. Once that happens the road to chaos is open. A flight into goods take place. Money is spent as soon as it is

received and deposits are withdrawn from banks, savings institutions, huilding societies. If today's pound is only going to be worth 15s tomorrow the safe

If enough people believe that, tomorrow it will be worth not 15s but 10s, and so on until all con-

fidence in the money evaporates. The situation may not have reached this point in any of the major capitalist countries, but it is a distinct possibility. A small shock could dislodge the pebbles which bring down the avalanche.

The 20th century is already rich in examples of runaway inflation. In the German inflation of the 1920s the printing presses worked overtime to turn out notes which rapidly became worth no more than the paper they were printed on. Notes for millions of marks were sold in the London streets as curiosities for a few pennies — and at a profit!

Even the steady inflation which has been going on without serious interruption for 30 years causes serious problems. It is these cumulative effects, together with the tendency for prices to rise faster than before, which presents an immediate threat to the stability of the major currencies.

Depreciated

The extent of the inflation in some of the main industrial countries is illustrated by the accompanying table. This shows how money has depreciated in terms of the goods and services which a given unit can buy in the country concerned.

Taking the value of each currency as 100 in 1959 the table shows what it was worth in 1964 and 1969 and the annual rate of depreciation from 1959from 1968-1969 and from 1969-1970.

As will be seen, the rate has tended to rise. It is expected that depreciation will be higher than ever in the present year—at least 5 per cent and in some cases over 10 per cent.

While economists and commen-

tators agree that inflation is

pernicious and, indeed, if it gets

out of hand, can threaten the

whole capitalist order with collapse, there is little agreement

about its sources and even less

It is, however, widely recog-

nized that any application of the

brakes is likely to precipitate a major crisis, that is to say, a

slump with unemployment on the

'Experts' are prone to say that governments will not contemplate

measures which would cause a

widespread depression. Thus a

recent report of the Organization

about how to stop it.

scale of the 1930s.

pound, UK

dollar, US

lira, Italy

franc, France

kroner, Sweden

mark, W. Germany

Depreciation of money: 1959=100

1969

71

79

78

70

69

(Based on data in Monthly Economic Letter. First National City

bank, New York, September 1970)

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Plashet School

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Saturday, November 28

89

The ruling classes' anxiety about inflation conceals fears about the strength of the working class-highlighted by the partial victory of the council workers (Right: a recent demonstration in Bristol), and the determination of the miners



ARTICLE BY TOM KEMP

CAPITALISM

A section of the massive crowd which gathered in Hyde Park on

February 5, 1933, to protest against mounting unemploy

for Economic Co-operation and Development wrote: 'No country today is likely to be prepared deliberately to provoke a severe recession as a means of combating inflation.

The trouble is, that when the whole monetary set-up is as pre-cariously balanced as it is today, severe shock may literally destroy confidence in the money and bring on a depression withbeing 'prepared deliberately'.
Since that report was written,

the press has released details of another OECD report which speaks still more urgently of the dangers of inflation, pointing, in particular, to the situation in Britain.

As reported in the 'Financial Times' (November 9), it says 'countries should be prepared to accept a larger margin of unemployment or unused capacity than they have in the past to prevent inflation from acceler-

Recession

The paper adds, 'OECD experts clearly feel that the inflationary problem is now so severe that no ossible weapon can be neglected'. It points to temporary wage and price controls as a possible check.

In other words, the experts who a few months ago said no government would be prepared

annual rate of depreciation

5.7

2.5

to provoke recession to combat

inflation now say any weapon must be used — including and

especially the creation of a pool

5.7

5.4

3.6

3.7

1959-69 1968-69

2.2

3.7

2.4

3.6

3.7



costs and, unless prices can be

put up, a fall in profit margins.

much customers will turn to

cheaper suppliers and orders will

be lost. If this happens on any

incomes will make imported

goods appear cheaper in Britain

so that imports will rise. The consequence of an inflation

which gets out of line with that

in other countries is a balance of

Devaluation

another devaluation, a severe

shock to the international monetary system, speculation against the dollar and the

avalanche feared by the Belgian

All sorts of fears are in the

minds of those who write in the

capitalist press about inflation although they may not always

bridge in 'The Observer', Novem-

ber 8, is typical in calling atten-

them. Anthony Bam-

L. TROTSKY: GERMANY 1931/32 paperback

economist quoted earlier.

This means a run on sterling,

At the same time raising money

scale exports will fall.

payments crisis.

But if prices are put up too

GERMAN

unemployed. What they mean is: make the working class pay for the capitalists' inability to manage their own monetary system. The alternative is hinted at in gloomy tones, but seldom spelled

out.
The Belgian economist, F.

could begin with an avalanche of dollars, sold by Europeans, who

had lost confidence in the

Baudhuin, expressed his fears as 'We believe that the crisis

immediate future of the United States. It would result in an undollar, bringing with it that of other currencies. The European markets are not capable of supporting a speculative fall in American (stock market) prices.'

Of course, this is not the only way in which the blow up could come. In the meantime continued inflation builds up tremendous

The OECD report quoted above, published a few months ago, continued by saying:

'The danger of a resumption of inflation on the present scale as, or soon after, normal growth rates are resumed is an equally unacceptable prospect. Apart from the social iniquities it creates, there is an endemic risk that, in practice, renewed inflation would turn out to be accelerating inflation, which would be a serious threat to economic and political stability.'

Day by day

The symptoms of inflation are clear enough. Everybody knows that the value of money is declining and that the price tags in the shops are being altered upwards week by week or even day by day.

The number of price increases in the past few months must run

Since the election of the Tories who claimed they were going to do something about inflation the prices of some products have gone up not once but several times. Wage increases gained in 1969 this year are already being swallowed up.

But it is not the wage increases which are the cause of inflation. The causes are to be found in the system's crisis during and

after the Second World War. A high level of government spending became indispensable to prevent a relapse into the 1930s situation. Under the influence of Keynesian thinking, budget deficits were accepted as normal

and inescapable. It was widely assumed that the social risks of relapse into depression were too high. What was really meant was that fear of the working class-of revolution-had become a determining factor in economic policy.

To overcome one set of contradictions, capitalism embarked upon an inflationary expansion created another set equally insoluble.

In present-day capitalism the government controls the money supply. Budget deficits, sometimes cunningly concealed, became normal and general. They were financed by borrowing through the central banks by methods which discreetly veiled the fact that a steady stream of

newly-printed money was being pumped into circulation. There is cover the source of the inflation.

Inflation meant, therefore, a rising volume of government borrowing. The debt economy became rampant. Business borrowed on an increasing scale. Consumer credit was expanded enormously to make it possible to find a market for the growing volume of commodities being produced.

A whole pyramiding of credit came into existence on the basis of continuously rising prices.

As prices went up so did profits, often only paper profits which were a result of specula-tion and the discounting of future returns which might never materialize.

To overcome one contradiction — overproduction and slump world capitalism plunged into another — inflationary price rises permanent international monetary instability.

The only way to correct inflation was to hold prices down. That meant cutting back the money supply, raising interest rates and curtailing credit.

But, although mild efforts have been made in most countries along these lines, the cure has turned out to be worse than the disease.

On the one side it tips the economy into a recession and opens up the fear of a return to the 1930s. On the other it brings the state into conflict with the working class which has to bear the brunt of deflation in the shape of wage freeze, unemployment and cuts in social services.

Confrontation

Working-class strength has therefore made continued high government expenditure and inflation seem the lesser evil. To deal with inflation requires a serious confrontation with the working class.

But, at the same time, both inflation and its opposite aggra-vate conflict between the ruling class and the working class and have serious repercussions the different sections of the middle class.

If inflation represents one form in which the contradictions of capitalism express themselves, the attempts to suppress it only bring

There is no way of escape for capitalism which makes it possible to combine stable prices with expansion. There is no way of harmonizing the divergent national interests of

express themselves in conflicts between their currencies as well as in trade wars. Continuous rising prices, or depreciation of the money, have different effects on different classes and sections of classes.

the rival capitalist classes which

On the whole the big monopolies stand to gain. They are able to pass on increases in costs to the long-term loans in a depreciated

Worst hit

Worst hit are those on fixed incomes, or incomes which rise only sluggishly in the face of rising prices. Pensioners are the main sufferers. But all those members of the middle class who have bank deposits or fixed interest savings see part of their savings amputated as prices go up and the spending power of money falls.

Inflation tends to shift income to the big monopolies and those who benefit from them. Big fortunes are to be made in speculation in land and share prices. A general concentration of property

Inflation is favourable for those who are buying and selling on a large scale. Inflation subsidizes the rich

and hits the poor. As long as it can be kept

under control, therefore, capitalist governments have come to accept inflation as necessary. What they fear is that it should get out of hand and swallow them up. All the signs are that the

present inflation is reaching danger point. In any case, for some years now, as experience in Britain shows most clearly, it is possible to have inflation together with stagnation in production and unemployment.

The US recession has not stopped inflation. The prospect of slump plus inflation now becomes a possibility; measures to tackle inflation may not only fail, they may also precipitate a crisis of

INFLATION

Such measures, carried out within a certain relationship of forces, cannot be relied on. Wages policy of the old type has broken down in most countries and especially in Britain.
Workers are no longer so ready to accept productivity deals now that they can see the strings attached.

Moreover, in the face of inflation it is difficult to find arguments against wage increases, as the Scamp award to the council men showed

The strength of the working class remains unbroken and stands in the way of a return to 'controlled inflation'.

Capitalist propaganda continues to blame wage demands for rising prices when it is patently clear that the inflationary process originates in government spending.

Workers are attacked for trying to defend their standard of living. But behind this attack is a determined attempt to shift the relationship of forces in favour of the capitalists. This means dealing with the working class as a class by destroying the organizations which enable it to resist inflationary cuts in its

Hypocritical

The capitalist struggle against inflation, which is hypocritical in the extreme, is directed against the working class.

The argument about wage increases creases causing inflation is hollow. Wages have historically followed, not led, the inflationary

If firms which are obliged to grant wage increases put up prices, this is to maintain their profit rate. If a percentage mark up is used the employers' gain is greater than that of the workers. But this can only apply where there is an element of monopoly.

The monopolies are always quick to pass on any increase in costs. The big problem arises when goods have to be sold on the world market in competition with foreign producers. Here inflation at home is a

big disadvantage, it means rising

cil workers would be well advised to put in their next claim immediately. He recalls the German hyper-inflation of the 1920s and says bluntly:

'It may need one million or more out of work before it is

possible to kill the disease.' A few days later 'The Times' called for 'an intelligible and firm account of what the government propose to bring inflation under control'.

The OECD is now being used to make the point that drastic measures are needed in Britain to curb inflation because of the international dangers involved in a failure of confidence in sterling.

The general refrain in statements of this and other bodies and spokesmen for international capital is that the Tory government must get tough with the working class and quickly. The anxiety about inflation conceals fears about the strength

of the working class which the partial victory of the council men and the determination of the miners have highlighted. The ruling class in Britain, with the backing of international capital, needs to change the relationship of forces to its advantage. In fact it does not want to stop inflation, but to stop wage

increases. Spokesmen for the ruling class are always careful to speak about the control of inflation. Some inflation is as necessary to capitalism as a fix is to a drug addict: too much could be a killing dose.

For a generation the capitalist ruling class have accepted that some measure of inflation is needed to maintain profitability, avert slump and promote class harmony.

It is when inflation gets out of

hand and threatens to undermine confidence in money and provoke a social crisis that the capitalists get seriously worried.

Bourgeois economists are not only confused about the cause of the long-term inflationary process, but they have come up with no sure-fire remedy to bring it under

Empirically

Governments faced with such a problem have operated empirically in the light of class forces. So the workers' strength has reinforced the tendency to accept inflation. But the point has been reached where such a policy cannot be relied on.

The policy of the past few years has been based upon wage restraint, wage freeze, 'guide-Coupled with this, employers

have sought to make binding contracts for a period of years based on productivity deals. These bargains enable more

surplus value to be sweated out of a smaller labour force for a given wage bill and make it possible to purchase labour power at a lower price in real terms at the end of the contract period because of inflation in the mean-

Bringing inflation under control is a present-day euphemism for opposing wage claims and having a show-down with the working class. It cannot be done by technical means, by adjusting taxation or influencing banking

For the working class the constant depreciation of money means rising living costs which can only be met by wage increases. The Tories want to block wage increases while allowing prices to rise, increasing rents and putting up social security charges.

At the same time they promise reductions in direct taxes which benefit the rich and are as inflationary as you like.

What they mean by combating inflation is war on the workers' rights and living standards on behalf of the big monopolies and landlords who have made fortunes out of inflation for the past 30 years.

The workers' answer to capitalist inflation is the struggle for the Charter of Rights, issued by the All Trades Unions Alliance and to be discussed at their December 19 congress, the bringing down of the Tory government and the taking over of the banks and basic industries without compensation.

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NO ONE should be fooled by televised impressions of stuffed-shirt protocol at the Lord Mayor's banquet at London's Guildhall on Monday night.

BY A WORKERS PRESS

REPORTER

Put more bluntly, this means:

attacks on the social services.

plus a challenge to all other basic

working-class right; and massive

speed-up, policed by the threat

of unemployment (particularly in

the former development areas)-

with the threat of statutory wage freeze hanging in the back-

'This is the course from which Her Majesty's Ministers will not

'It is also the course to which our historic traditions call us.'

KING HUSSEIN of Jordan

wanted Israeli military inter-

between the Jordanian army and the Palestinian guerrillas.

This was revealed during

Monday's edition of BBC

gramme 'PM' by Peter Snow,

diplomatic correspondent for Independent Television News.

Hijack War' with 'News at Ten' producer David Phillips,

have been 'in a desperate state', had let his feelings

West through diplomatic chan-

nels, following the movement

of 200 Syrian tanks into N

Said Snow: 'He [Hussein]

Jordan on September 20.

Snow, co-author of 'Leila's

that Hussein, who must

Israel be known to the

during the fighting

news-magazine pro-

Hussein wanted

Israeli intervention

against guerrillas

be deflected', said Heath.

Tory leader Edward Heath's speech to that almost incredibly formal gathering revealed it as no less a theatre of class war than the other gastronomic pow-wows at which government spokesmen have found it necessary of late to encourage the employing-class

'British policies are determined by British interests', he told the wing-collared and gorgeous diners.

And he was not just speaking about foreign policy: the Com-mon Market, the Middle East, continued British presence in the Indian Ocean and collaboration with S Africa-about all of which he had something to say.

The lesser, but more significant portion of his speech comprised a fully-fledged statement of the anti-working class strategy the Heath wing of British capitalism would like to pursue.

Pressing ahead

Heath made clear to the Lord Mayor and his guests that the government was pressing ahead with laws against the unions, tax incentives to the rich and financial aid to those firms which prove best able to push up exploitation.

The strategy upon which Her Majesty's Ministers have embarked is a strategy which thinks not just in months but

'Already we have been able to announce cuts in government expenditure,' he went on. 'We are introducing legislation which will provide the framework for the conduct of industrial relations.

'We are changing the system of taxation and of aid to industry so as to provide incentives to efficiency and new opportunities for the exercise of responsi-

bility....
'This is not less an incomes
it is different policy because it is different from . . . the policies which have been so described up to now.

Many ballot forms spoiled in Brazil poll

RESULTS so far in the Brazilian elections indicate that the call of the left-wing guerrilla groups to cast blank ballot papers in protest against the police rule of the Medici regime has had a sizeable impact.

First results from the major urban areas show a victory for the opposition Brazilian Democratic Movement (MDB) in Rio de Janeiro and a lead for the Alliance for National Renewal (ARENA) in Sao Paulo — the country's most populated area.

Both results were expected, but the 387,000 blank votes and the 339,000 null votes which were cast indicate the impact of the guerrillas' campaign.

Guerrillas took over a suburban radio station on Saturday night, a few hours before polling began,

must have virtually been saying: "My God, who will rid me

of this turbulent priest, the

Syrians, these Palestinians?" The whole house looked as if it

'He had to do something fast and obviously the Israelis,

if they had intervened, would

have completely changed the

Following Monday's revela-

tion of the secret negotiations

between Hussein and Israeli

premier Golda Meir to deal

latest exposure emphasizes the

dangers that increasingly face

the guerrilla movement and

throws further light on the treacherous action of Al Fatah leader Yassir Arafat in

signing the 'truce' with Hus-

the guerrillas, this

were falling about him.

entire situation for him.

First reports from polling centres indicated the expected large turn-out of voters.

Voting is compulsory and those abstaining without justification are liable to fines and in the case of government employees may lose their jobs.

26 million citizens entitled entitled to vote can choose between only two parties — ARENA and MDB. All the candidates on both lists

have bound themselves to accept and climaxed their election camin advance the policies of Presi-paign with a 20-minute broadcast dent Garrastazu Medici of the ruling ARENA party. This bitter electroal farce has

brought protests, particularly in the NE provinces, stricken by drought and famine, where police have killed five demonstrators. It will do nothing to remove power from the President, who has ruled by decree since the 'Constitutional Act' of 1968.

It is with his full approvalthinly disguised by a fraududent 'inquiry' into police terror—that the political police under Sergio Fleury link hands with the extreme right wing to carry out murders of left-wing opponents of the regime and submit political prisoners, including women and children, to barbarous forms

MONTH'S SIEGE

In Guatemala the military regime of Colonel Arana Osorio has declared a 30-day 'state of siege'.

By suspending all civil rights

and giving virtually unlimited powers to the 'forces of order'

they hope to cripple guerrilla opposition in the country.

In the past week the Rebel Armed Forces (FAR)—the main guerrilla organization — has carried out numerous actions against the police and has kidnapped a businessman, Zaror, notorious for his links with extreme right-wing organizations.

Passchendaele and **Petrograd**

ANOTHER Poppy Day has passed. Once again, the annual 'remembrance' ritual has mocked the massacre of millions in two imperialist world wars.

An Aberdeen reader writes to recall that donations for poppies go to the Haig Fund, and reminds us that Haig 'was the man they gave £100,000 and an Earldom of or organizing the Earldom . . . for organizing the deaths of hundreds of thousands of men . . . His name is firmly linked with his own pet "big push" at Passchendaele, a bloody

Haig, the youngest son of the whisky family, became Com-mander-in-Chief of the British Army in France in 1915. Guided by a belief that his Presbyterian God had entrusted him with a mission to win the war for Britain, he sent men into the slaughter by the million. 'The unreturning army that

The legions who have suffered and are dust,' wrote Siegfried

was youth;

After careful planning, Haig launched the attack from the Ypres salient on July 31, 1917. He aimed to break through to the coast of Belgium.

Soon, the weather broke and, as a War Office report had warned, the British troops were fighting in a sea of Flanders mud. Wave after wave of men were sent into withering machine-gun fire and mustard gas. Many writers and poets des-

cribed the agony and despair of Flanders. Sassoon says: 'And hope, with furtive eyes and grappling fists,
'Flounder in mud. O Jesus,

make it stop!
... I died in hell (They called it Passchendaele) . . .

Passchendaele was a village whose shattered remains were finally taken on November 6. casualties had by then amounted to 240,000.

Just two weeks later, Haig launched his 'surprise attack' at Cambrai. By December 4, another 43,000 casualties had been recorded — for a net territorial gain of exactly nothing.

did not organize this butchery merely through incompetence and the search for prestige in the struggle within the General Staff. He was also driven on by the knowledge that the allies of British imperialism were

In March, the Tsar had been overthrown. Desperate fear of revolution began to grip the hearts of the ruling class and its military

Mutinies had begun to disintegrate the French army, decimated by losses even heavier than the British. Already in 1917, a million Frenchmen had been killed. In May, an infantry brigade of 30,000 men had raided a supply train and begun a march Petain had restored discipline

only through brutal action, including dozens of executions. Haig felt that, if the war dragged on, the British Army would begin to catch the revolutionary infection. From home he heard reports of widespread strikes and the formation of workers' councils.

In his diary, Haig describes a conversation in August with Morgenthau, friend of US President Wilson.

'He stated that Wilson was determined to go all the way and remove the Hohenzollerns. I urged that it would be a mistake to leave Germany at the mercy of revolutionaries, and that if disorder started in Germany, it would spread to France and England.

'My chief fear was that in October or November Germany might offer terms of peace which the Allied Governments might accept, though not giving all that we ought to receive.

On the morning after the Canadians took Passchendaele, the Military Revolutionary Committee of the Petrograd Soviet announced that the city was in the hands of the Soviets.

With the victory of the Russian working class, the end of Haig's war had begun, and the revoluwas on the historical agenda

Workers Press notebook



A FLANDERS ROAD NEAR YPRES, 1917.

Stalinist remembrance

ARMISTICE DAY was also commemorated in France. One French daily paper carried the following report on November 12:

'The celebration of the 52nd anniversary of the armistice unat half-mast, the death of General de Gaulle having given a special tone to this traditional day of remembrance.

But at Colombey, as in all other districts of France, November 11 demonstrations were held with the usual ceremony, and, with the dead of the 1914-1918 war, the victims of the Second World War and the resistance were particularly honoured.

'In Paris at 11 a.m. a wreath was laid on the tomb of the un-

Belgian government took refuge during the last war, wreaths were placed at the foot of the statue

'Only at Mulhouse was the military parade cancelled.

By the way, the source of this account of the commemoration of imperialist wars was 'L'Humanité', paper of the French Communist Partyl

It gives me great

be well aware of the relation be-tween the attacks of the Tories on workers' living standards and their plans to join the Common Market.

However, 'Morning Star' readers, on the other hand might not receive the same picture.

Last Thursday's 'Star' carried a report of the news conference called by the 'Keep Britain Out

Campaign'.

to Britain joining the Common Market had now reached a stage where Conservative MPs were delighted to appear on the same platform as members of the Communist Party in the Campaign'. The delight of the Tories,

however, is probably nothing to that of their Stalinist fellowcampaigners.

It quotes the chairman of the

Campaign, Mr Christopher Frere-Smith, as saying that 'opposition

Everywhere kings were being expelled and republics estab-

was limited. He was appalled, for example, that Napoleon had himself been crowned Emperor in Paris in 1804—by the Pope.

The programme tried to use Beethoven's utter disillusionment with Napoleon as a means of discrediting the ideas with which the composer had endowed his

bleak disillusionment—the developments in France and in the retreat of revolutionary ideas taking him by surprise.

He was not a revolutionary; was open to and deeply

affected by revolutionary ideas He was a revolutionary musician. Beethoven precisely straddled

apparent restoration after Napoleon's defeat.

Many intellectuals were disillusioned by this counter-revolution but restorations and That the opening chords of

one of his great symphonies were used as a rallying cry by the bourgeoisie during the Second World War is just one more bitter abuse for destruction of all that is most beautiful and most full of human possibilities.

people, including many workers, turned out in Vienna to mourn him. We treasure his music still and work so that all men may share it.

BEETHOVEN

Frank Cartwright

BBC 1

9.15 a.m. Schools. 12.25-12.50 p.m. Nai zindagi—naya jeevan. 1.00-1.25 Disc a dawn. 1.30 Watch with mother. 1.45-1.53 News and weather. 2.05-2.50 Schools. 3.45-4.15 Representing the union. 'A Fair Differential'. 4.20 Play school. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Snow queen. 5.15 Screen test. 5.44 Magic foundabout. 5.50 News and weather.

6.45 THE DOCTORS.

7.10 TOM AND JERRY.

7.20 STAR TREK. 'The Gamesters of Triskellon'. 8.10 SOFTLY, SOFTLY—TASK FORCE. 'Who Wants Pride . . .?'

9.20 SPORTSNIGHT WITH COLEMAN. International lawn tennis

Embassy Championships at Wembley. 10.15 24 HOURS.

10.50 THE 1970 PROFESSIONAL LATIN DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

OF EUROPE. 11.20 SKY AT NIGHT. 'Infra-red Astronomy'.

REGIONAL BBC

BBC 2

11.00-11.20 a.m. PLAY SCHOOL.

7.05 p.m. SQUARE TWO.

7.30 NEWSROOM and weather. 8.00 TIMES REMEMBERED.

9.00 PETS AND VETS. 'Out of Breath'. 9.20 BIOGRAPHY. 'Alexander Fleming. The discovery of penicillin.

10.45 NEWS ON 2 and weather. 10.50 LATE NIGHT LINE UP.

11.00 a.m.-2.59 p.m. Schools. 4.17 Adventures of Rupert Bear. 4.30

6.02 TODAY.

6.30 NANNY AND THE PROFESSOR.

7.00 THIS IS YOUR LIFE.

7.30 CORONATION STREET. 8.00 THE VAL DOONICAN SHOW. With Arthur Askey, Roger Whittaker, Patricia Cahill, Andre Tahon.

10.00 NEWS AT TEN.

10.30 FOOTBALL. Highlights from one of tonight's League Cup 5th Round games. 11.25 PROFESSIONAL WRESTLING. From Lime Grove Baths, London.

11.55 WHAT THE PAPERS SAY. 12.10 a.m. ONLY CONNECT. Leonard Parkin talks to the Very Reverend Martin Sullivan, Dean of St Paul's.

REGIONAL ITY

TURY Europe is often spoken of as a high point in cultural and intellectual development; to some it is even hankered after as a period of unparalleled grace and social charm.

It is the period of Mozart, Haydn, Kant, Rousseau, Voltaire, the Encyclopedists; it is often referred to as the

Age of Enlightenment.

SOUTHERN: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.00 Houseparty. 4.15 Wind in the willows. 4.30 London. 6.00 Day by day. Crime desk. 6.30 My three sons. 7.00 London. 11.55 News. 12.05 Weather. Action 70.

Diary. 11.55 Faith for life. 12 midnight Weather.

HARLECH: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.25 And gladly teach. 4.55 London. 6.01 Report West. 6.18 Report Wales. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 11.55 Weather. HTV (West) colour channel 61 as above except: 4.23-4.25 and 6.01-6.35 Report West.

HTV (Wales) colour channel 41 and HTV (Cymru/Wales) black and white service as above except: 6.01-6.18 Y dydd.

ANGLIA: 10.58-3.00 London. 4.25 Anglia news. 4.35 Romper room. 4.55 London. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 11.55 Your music at night.

ATV MIDLANDS: 11.00-3.00 London.
3.49 Horoscope. 3.52 Women today.
4.10 Peyton Place. 4.40 Rupert Bear.
4.55 London. 6.00 ATV today. Police
five. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London.

ULSTER: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.30 Romper room. 4.50 Ulster news. 4.55 London. 6.00 UTV reports. 6.35 Cross-roads. 7.00 London.

YORKSHIRE: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.15 London. 4.30 Matinee. 4.55 London. 6.00 Calendar, weather. 6.30 Hogan's heroes. 7.00 London. 11.55 Weather.

GRANADA: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.10 News. Peyton Place. 4.40 Paulus. 4.55 London. 6.01 Six-o-one. 6.25 Police file. 6.35 Get Smart. 7.00 London.

TYNE TEES: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.10 News. 4.15 Wally Whyton style. 4.40 Rupert Bear. 4.55 London. 6.00 Today at six. 6.30 Wheel of fortune. 7.00 London. 11.55 Late news. 12.05 Why

BORDER: 1.38-3.00 London. 4.10 News. 4.12 Ghost and Mrs Muir. 4.40 Rupert Bear. 4.55 London. 6.00 News. Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 11.55 News, weather.

SCOTTISH: 11.00-3.00 London. 3.40 Dateline: Wednesday — early. 3.50 Horoscope. 3.52 Women today 4.15 London. 6.00 Dateline. 6.30 Father, dear father. 7.00 London. 10.30 Hogan's heroes. 11.00 Scotsport. 11.25 Wrestling. 11.55 Late call.

GRAMPIAN: 1.58-3.00 London. 3.49 News. 3.52 Women today. 4.10 Car-toon. 4.25 Freud on food. 4.55 Lon-don. 6.00 News, weather. 6.10 Grampian week. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 London. 10.30 F troop. 11.00 Scot-sport. 11.25 London. 11.55 Police news.

It was the period of 'reason' and 'progress'. Intellectuals and artists looked for the 'new men', they were critical and sceptical of religion, of the divine right to rule, doubtful of given institutions and customs.

Science flourished and philosophy took huge leaps forward.
But social and political conditions in Europe, for the mass of men, in no way squared with all this. The intellectual and artistic ferment was on the top of a vast exploitation and it was the early warning of the huge explosions

of France, Spain, Portugal, Denmark, Sweden; in the principalities (areas ruled by princes) in Germany and Italy. The word of the 'sovereign' was law.

adjuncts of political govern-ment—whether it was the Anglican Church of England, the Lutheran of Sweden or the Catholic of France and Spain. They monopolized public edu-

cation and were supported by compulsory taxation. The nobility formed the third

Preferment was his everywhere, in the church or the army, and his inherited possessions in property and the rights to tax or trade ensured his comfort and the maintenance of his



Haydn: played by Charles Leno

In France, out of a population of roughly 25 millions, there were approximately 150,000 nobles, 130,000 clergymen and fewer still of royal standing. Actual serfdom prevailed in most European countries except France and even there nominal freedom lifted the peasant but

Techniques then extant meant a day's work to scratch the surface of an acre strip; cattle were killed off in the autumn for want of good hay; fertilizers were hardly used and only crudely if at all; an ox slaughtered at 400 pounds was regarded

amounts of poultry and grain to the lord. A 'freeman' paid a quit-rent instead, double on his death and one-fifth of value in the event of a sale. Annual sums for non existent military protestation were not uncommonly payable too. A tithe (or tenth) was also

paid yearly to the church and

paid to the king; the land tax,

the poll tax, the income tax, the tax, etc. Roadmaking was also the peasant's duty and might take up a several weeks in a Four-fifths of his product might be absorbed in this way. But this order was rotting. It had already undergone profound

change in Britain, but less explosively because the lessons of 1640 and the Restoration had been well learned. It collapsed first in America in 1776. In 1789 it happened in France. In one month the ancient and decayed system of the aristo-cratic order had been over-

thrown by the exploited masses. The monarchy was made constitutional. The new National Assembly struggled for two years to modernize government, to reform the penal code, to abolish torture, arbitrary imprisonment and persecution for heresy.

The ancient provinces of the

French nobility (Normandy, Burgundy and the like), wer replaced with 80 departments. Judges were elected, the army was opened to all classes and the vast property of the church was seized by the state.

In 1791 the attempted counterrevolution by the king and queen in concert with the European aristocracy and monarchies was defeated. A passionate pro-clamation of Republic was made in France and open war was started with Austria and Prussia. The new order was to be spread around Europe, around

world. By the end of 1792 the French armies were in Brussels, in Savoy, in Holland. They were to go much farther. In that year too Ludwig van Beethoven, aged 22 and a great admirer of the new ideas, left his home in Bonn and set off to the heart of the Holy Roman Empire, to the aristo-cratic and musical capital of

Last week in the 'Biography series on BBC-2 (November 11, 9.20, 'Beethoven') there was an attempt to give some flavour of his experience of the years that followed, the years 1792-1805, the years in which Thermidor and Napoleon overtook the French Revolution and in which he was crippled by deafness.

central Europe: Vienna.

towards the middle, but the subject was powerful enough to carry through the early inadequacies of performance and style. Beethoven was excellently and properly presented by Michael Jayston not as a romantically moody, tempestuous, glowering 'creative genius'.

As a programme it got better

deeply gifted young musician whose great ability as a performer brought him to Vienna and the company of teachers like Havdn. but whose attempts to write original scores were both accelerated and retarded by his advancing deafness. Beethoven knew he was going

Rather he was portrayed as a

though saw crucial developments and magnificent compositions. Most of his piano concertos were written then for example, the first of his symphonies and the violin concerto at its end (1806).

Beethoven: played by Michael Jayston

The music remains; millions draw delight and comfort, warmth and joy, passion and understanding from it. The range everything the emotions

If often speaks from the dark-

est and deepest point, but always with courage and fortitude. In its day it was utterly innovative in form; like all major artists Beethoven had to develop his form, his techniques, to carry the load of anguish and joy, light and dark he had to bear and was trying to understand and express, express and understand.

In developing techniques, which at first were met with scorn by those still attuned to the old order and forms, he also deepened the content of his music. He was always conscious of writing a new kind of music, 'for a new world'.

His struggle with the normal difficulties of artistic work were multiplied unimaginably by his race against the growing deaf-ness and then by his hourly. battle with it once it was a fact. His practice as a performer was utterly taken from him by this disaster of nature; his practice as a composer had either to cease altogether or be immeasurably

DISILLUSIONMENT

By a struggle of immense proportions he was able to force at the contradictions which made him and bring human sound of unprecedented beauty out of silence. He was even able to conduct his own music when stone deaf.

As a younger man, in his late 20s and early 30s the programme showed him to be already lonely in many ways, despite being sought after in aristocratic society as a performer and teacher. He was also capable of great humour and tenderness and his relations with Josephine Deym (played by Judy Parfitt) and her children were well done.

He also took up a quite untypical position with the aristocracy who supported him.
Unlike Haydn, he rejected their values and parasitism. He looked instead to the values of

known soldier who has lain there for 50 years beneath the Arc de Triomphe. It was on November 10, 1920, that in the Citadel of Verdun a soldier of the 132nd Regiment named Thain picked out a coffin from eight others containing the remains of unknown soldiers and it was this which was later moved to Etoile. 'At Saint-Adresse, where the

of King Albert I. In the harbour, ships' sirens were silenced.

pleasure ...

READERS of Workers Press will

the French Revolution and to Napoleon who he believed would carry them round all Europe

lished. But Beethoven's understandig

hero. In fact, he did go through a

But he never was a politicallydeveloped thinker and it is absurd to force more from his deeply held humanism than it will yield. He always believed that it was in man to create a better world, but this was always co-existent with a deism of sorts.

the period that was the collapse of the old order and then its

But the Congress of Vienna that parcelled out Europe in 1815, as Yalta did in 1945, did not put things back as they were.

papering over the cracks only delayed the conflagrations

The bourgeoisie was emergent:

it could not be delayed for long.

Beethoven lived in this great

period of transition and was a

product of it.

For much of his life, for example, he depended less on patronage and more on cash payments. His art was bought and

His ideas were also mixture of old and new.

STRUGGLE

A contemporary of Hegel (they were both born in 1770 and died only four years apart), he always clung to his faith in man and the future.

His music continued to express

this right to the end, to the great Choral Symphony of 1825 and its Ode to Joy. Even in the last quartets his passion and determination to form and mould and express his

grief and loneliness never waned.

The music is a continuous record of his struggle to make tangible and to share with all men what he experienced so intensely of suffering and joy. His fortitude and faith in the possibility of man's future never

On his death in 1827, 20,000

by

6.00 NATIONWIDE. London.

9.00 THE NINE O'CLOCK NEWS and weather.

Ask the family, 7.40-8.10 A beth am y dodo? 11.20 Late call. 11.45-12 Sky at night. 12 Weather. Scotland: 6.00-6.45 Reporting Scotland. Nationwide. 11.37 News, weather. Nationwide. 11.37 News, weather. Nationwide. 11.37 News, weather. All regions as above except: Midlands, E Anglia: 6.00-6.45 Nation-wide. Midlands today. Look East, weather. 11.37 News, weather. Westmorland: 6.00-6.45 Nationwide.
Look North, weather. 11.37 News, weather.

Wales: 6.00 Wales today, weather. Nationwide. 6.45-7.10 Heddiw. 7.20

weather. Nationwide. 11.37 News, weather.

SW, South, West: 6.00-6.45 Nationwide. Points West. South today. Spotlight SW, weather. 11.37 News, weather.

8.10 MAN ALIVE. 'Where Can They Go?'. The gipsies.

Crosroads. 4.55 Lift-off. 5.20 Wreckers at Deadeye. 5.50 News.

9.00 A FAMILY AT WAR. 'I Can Be Happy, Can't !?'.

CHANNEL: 11.00-3.00 London. 4.00
Puffin's birthday greetings. 4.10 Wind in the willows. 4.25 London. 6.00
News, weather. 6.10 African patrol. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Treasure hunt.

7.30 London. 11.50 Epilogue. News, weather.

WESTWARD. As Channel except: 3.58
News. 4.00 Gus Honeybun show. 6.00

EIGHTEENTH CEN-

Absolute and divinely sanctioned monarchs ruled the continent in the empires of Austria, Turkey, Russia; in the kingdoms

CHURCHES State churches too were clear

pillar of this old order. Noble or 'gentle' birth opened all privilege, all wealth, all culture.



proudly. And yet this serf might owe three days labour a week plus

deaf for at least seven years before he finally lost all hearing sensation. He lived 22 years afterwards and continued to write some of his greatest work. This so-called 'early period'

In her foreign policy speech to the Knesset on Monday, for the first time she made no

reference to the need for an

Egyptian withdrawal of missiles from the cease-fire zone:

'More than anybody else in the world it is we who are interested in the peace talks

and in their progress, and we

hope that such talks may

develop into direct contacts

with the Arab states and that

those talks might bring about

It would be completely in

line with her policy for Mrs Meir to prepare the way for

such an agreement by secret

talks with Hussein, the most

openly pro-imperialist and anti-guerrilla of the Arab

It is reported that during the desert meetings King Hussein and Allon disguised

themselves in sunglasses and

PAPER REPORTS

Both Israel's evening news-

papers, 'Maariv' and 'Yediot Ahronot', said yesterday that

the last series of meetings be-

tween the two men took place

in October on the Israeli-

Jordan border in the desert South of the Dead Sea.

'Yediot Ahronot', quoting

Jerusalem sources, said pre-

vious meetings were held at sea, in London and in Switzer-

land when King Hussein went

abroad for medical treatment. Foreign Minister Abba Eban

attended some of the meetings

and Defence Minister General Moshe Davan had been in-

vited, but always declined, the

paper said.
General Allon spoke Arabic

and English while Mr Eban,

who is an oriental scholar, tried out his classical Arabic

on the King, the report said.

specific about the topics dis-

cussed.

Neither newspaper was

The attorney-general's office

is now considering whether to

take action against three

foreign correspondents who

wrote the story without sub-

mitting it to censorship when

they learned it had appeared

in 'Time' magazine.
The censor is still investi-

gating how the story got to

'Time' and whether the maga-

involved in sending it out in

zine's correspondents were

violation of censorship.

slouch hats.

the signing of peace treaties.'

Talks

• FROM PAGE ONE

As workers battle against Franco

Czech diplomatic relations with Franco sealed

BY A FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

FORMAL ESTABLISHMENT of diplomatic relations between fascist Spain and Czechoslovakia was announced in Madrid yesterday following exchange of notes between ambassadors in Paris.

Left cover

FROM PAGE ONE

and 'popular frontism' which enabled Hitler to come to power and to plan his attack against the USSR, so too today the British Stalinists' policies regarding the Tories are but a continuation of French Stalinism's policy adapted to British conditions.

They facilitate the pre-parations of British im-perialism not only to destroy the working-class movement at home, but also attack the conquests of the October Revolution abroad.

The continuity of this counter-revolutionary tradition is personified not only by CP leaders like Gollan and Matthews, but, more significantly, by its lesser lights like McGahey, Hiles and Lew Lewis, who have never led a single successful struggle

OFFENSIVE

As the crisis worsens and the Tory offensive intensifies, these people seek to adapt themselves to the employing class through the fraud of protest politics in the same way as the French Stalinists adapted themselves to de Gaulle through the fraud of a general election.

The French Stalinists substituted wage demands for the slogan of workers' government and the overthrow of de

British Stalinists consciously and consistently oppose the demand for a general strike to force the Tories to resign-

and substitute protest strikes In this. of course, they have the wholehearted support of the Moscow and E European

bureaucracy who, from the start, welcomed the return of the Tory government. The other—and even more sinister — measure of their conciliation with Toryism is their campaign to cover up for

the right-wing leaders in the This has led the CP and the 'Morning Star' flot only to assist in and apologize for the retreats in the docks and GKN, but now to lead the retreat in the miners'

shameful and despicable manner. revolutionary act in the counter-revolutionary history of British Stalinism and it proves most demonstrably that the CP leaders cannot and will

not fight the right wing or the Tory government.

The miners' strike was political not only because it took place in a nationalized industry but because the winning of the miners' wage claim presupposed an enormous blow against the policies of the Tory government, which coming after the dustmen's victory, would have been tantamount to its defeat.

The Stalinists in the National Union of Mineworkers know this. From the start they set out to restrict the struggle by

accepting the ballot and opposing the unofficial actions of the Yorkshire, S Wales and Scottish miners.

In Scotland and S Wales, the Stalinist-led area executives tried to get the men back to work. When this failed, they did what the French Stalinists did: jump on the bandwagon in order

of the miners and made some muted criticism of the NUM executive, but made no attempt to spread the strike, to co-ordinate the unofficial leadership and picketing or to give it any political perspec-

diverted to demand a post-ponement of the ballot and the holding of a national dele-

This was the proposal submitted to the executive on November 11. The most promising miners' movement since 1926 was consciously sabotaged and turned into an ineffectual protest.

Once the executive voted the demand for a national delegate conference, the stage was set for a systematic breaking-up of the strike led by the Stalinist area

PERSUADED

shire—miners were persuaded to return to work on the false returning. A similar line was

In Scotland on Monday, Scottish area NUM president back to work on the grounds that the 'strike was breaking

ing up? Because the Stalinists were already doing this in coalfield after coalfield!

the Tory resolve to shackle the unions and attack the rights of workers. isolated

reporting of it in the 'Morning

theoretical and historical understanding of Stalinism—'the syphilis of the labour movement' - and of its revisionist apologists.

ledge of this counter-revolutionary tendency and without promising struggle against any Stalinism in the working class, there can be no revolutionary leadership built anywhere.

This is the only way to prevent a repetition of May-June 1968 and open to road to

LATE NEWS

SOGAT CASE ADJOURNED
High Court judges yesterday
further adjourned Mr John Lawrence's move to stop his explusion
from the Society of Graphical and
Allied Trades.
Mr Lawrence, Father of the Press
Association SOGAT chapel, is
claiming that he was never consulted about SOGAT Division 1
officials' claim that the union
ceased to exist and the Division
had reverted back to the National
Society of Operative Printers and
Assistants.
Last week's High Court order Assistants.

Last week's High Court order restraining Division 1 officials—including general secretary Mr Richard Briginshaw—from expelling Mr Lawrence was renewed.

PAPERS TOO CHEAP

Editor of the 'Sun' newspaper,
Mr Larry Lamb, said yesterday
that newspaper prices are 'ridiculously low' and forecast increases to
a level approaching 'economic
sanity'.

Advertising spending in national
papers, which rose to £87 million
in 1966, had been falling, at least
in real terms, ever since, he said.

DEC 8: 'FREE HAND' DEC 8: 'FREE HAND'
The engineering section of the
Amalgamated Engineering Workers'
Union is allowing its million-strong
membership a 'free hand' over
striking on December 8 against the
Tory anti-union bill.
An executive member said: 'We
are not going to push our members
through the factory gates, but we
are not going to call out the
pickets'.
LUNA-17 LANDS

Soviet moon probe Luna-17 soft landed on the moon yesterday morning.

Luna-17 contains a self-propelled robot exploring vehicle — another space 'first' for Russia—which was moving about on the moon's surface under control from earth and sending back data.

LUNA-17 LANDS

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

with the Stalinist bureaucracies in Poland, Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria. Diplomatic sources in Madrid say that two of these regimes-Poland and

The Franco regime

has already established

similar consular relations

originally planned to begin this week before a Burgos

Death

The prosecutor is de-

The case will not now be

heard before the end of this

Repeated postponements come under the pressure of

continuing struggle against the fascist regime's police

terror, which has already brought over 50,000 workers out on illegal strike on

November 3 for an amnesty

on all political prisoners.

There have been daily

demonstrations on Madrid

University's campus despite

the corridors of faculty

Occupied

(capital of the Basque coun-

try) and the industrial town of Santurce churches have

been occupied by hundreds

of people in protest against

In the midst of these struggles comes the Stalinist

recognition' of Franco, who

butchered his way to power

only with the military backing of Hitler and Mussolini

and the treachery of the

Kremlin bureaucracy and

This is the real role of international Stalinism and

British workers must be

ready to deal with it here.

Sackings

deadline

extended

management's offer to extend

from December 31 to February 26 the deadline for 325

redundancies at the Luton, Dunstable and Ellesmere Port

There will be further talks

by February 26 if management

is not satisfied with the num-

yesterday that there would be

no return to normal work until the Ellesmere Port

draughtsmen had accepted the

The 2,000 workers involved

have been conducting a 'cam-paign of disruption' for nearly

fortnight in protest at the

union spokesman said

ber of 'voluntary' redundan-

factories.

cies by then.

redundancies.

its Spanish agents.

the trial.

And in Madrid, Bilbao

armed police patrols alon

manding the death penalty

for six of the accused.

NOT MOUND

Tenants say:

'Rehouse us'

this an excuse to avoid the

responsibility for housing

After the march a GLC

spokesman told tenants that

after January 14 this year-

the date that demolition

was announced-would be

rehoused 'in case of difficul-

ties', but they are still not being offered the choice of

accommodation that other

110 or so workers forming the basis of the ADO 28-line

This agreement in no way involves Measured-Day Work

or anything like it, and when

the new line starts, it will en-

title Leyland to precisely two

treachery is a combination which will have to be com-

bated by Leyland workers in

their struggle to defeat com-

pany plans to reduce them to Ford-style wages and Ford-

Press distortion and official

tenants will have.

labour force.

cars a week.

style conditions.

TENANTS from Rectory

Buildings, Deptford, London,

marched (above) on County Hall yesterday to protest at

the Greater London Coun-

cil's refusal to rehouse 22 of

The GLC claims that

these families moved in

after demolition had been

announced and are there-

fore not eligible for rehous-

ing, but tenants consider

ment is by no means out of

the wood yet because assembly

workers have agreed to accept.

a new rate of 18s 6d an hour

for working on the new car on an interim basis while

negotiations continue on the

company's pay proposals.'
What 'The Observer' des-

cribed on Sunday as 'the un-

rivalled British-Leyland public

relations machine' must have

No MDW scheme has been

introduced at Oxford and no

vote to eliminate piecework

Hand in glove

Union chiefs, who have all along worked hand-in-glove

with the company's attempts

to break shop-floor resistance

to MDW, want to start dis-

cussing its proposals at the highest level in the industry's

disputes procedure - York

This would allow the com-

pany to jump over almost the

whole procedure, register a

failure to agree at national

level and then take any action

locally it thought necessaryincluding a lockout—to push the deal through.

And they also propose to

discuss similar proposals for Leyland's Birmingham Austin

plant at local-conference level

are insisting that the com-

pany's proposed deal must be tabled at a works conference,

where it must take its place in

Meanwhile interim agree-

Orchards cut back to

meet EEC demands

ment has been reached for an 18s 6d-an-hour payment to the

THE GOVERNMENT intends

to sacrifice a large section of the horticultural industry in

order to comply with the con-

ditions of entry into the Com-

mon Market, warned the chairman of the Central Horticultural Committee of the

National Farmers' Union last

He said that the Minister of

Agriculture had disclosed that

the area of top fruit-growing would be cut by about 60,000

acres; Kent acreage alone

a queue of other references.

But the Oxford stewards

within the next few weeks.

been working overtime!

has ever been taken.

conference.

FROM PAGE ONE

the families from the block

which is demolished.

Rumania — are likely to establish full ambassadorial They praised the militancy relations next year, while consular relations are due to be concluded in the near future with the Tito regime in Yugoslavia. Also from Spain comes news that the Franco regime has again postponed the trial of 16 Basque socialists,

Instead, the movement was

gate conference.

In many areas — as at Kellingley colliery in N Yorkassurance of Stalinists that S Wales and Scotland were

hewed in Kent. leading Stalinist Mick McGahey ordered his men

up in other areas'.
Why was the strike break-This defeat will strengthen

The betrayal of the miners' strike by Stalinism is not an episode, any more than the bureaucratic rigging of the November 14 con-ference and the distorted

All these things confirm and underline completely the principled struggle of Workers Press for a serious

VAUXHALL draughtsmen were deciding yesterday on Without a theoretical knowtenacious and uncomevery manifestation of

socialism in Britain.

Big queues for Irish bank opening

BIG QUEUES formed outside banks in the Irish Republic yesterday when they opened for the first time since the settlement of the clerks' six-

month strike.

Between £1 million and £3 million-worth of cheques are thought to have 'bounced' during the closure. Opening is restricted to two and a half hours a day until

further notice.

Big drain on US reserves

TREASURY officials Washington are becoming very anxious about the accelerating drain on US gold reserves.

Official foreign claims against US gold stocks rose by around £770 million in the three months ending Septem-

The total amount claimable against the US gold reserves in Fort Knox now amounts to \$18,500 million.

This sum represents the dollars held by foreign central banks which the US Treasury is pledged to exchange for gold at the rate of \$35 an

Total US reserve assets stand at only \$15,500 million —a graphic illustration of the US economic crisis.

French Stalinists slander 'leftists'

'L'HUMANITE', the French Communist Party daily paper, yesterday set the tone for the sort of slanders and insinuations which must be expected by those who fight for a revolutionary leadership in the working-class movement.

The first in a series by

'police agents' all those

who fight Stalinism with

class policies.

WEATHER

Alain Guerin on 'Some particular aspects of Left-WALES and the S half of England will have bright periods at first, but rain will spread from the W across much of the area during the ism', its sole purpose is to smear as 'criminal' and

day.
N England, N Ireland and S and
E Scotland will have showers and
bright periods, but there may be
more prolonged periods of rain

more prolonged periods of rain later.

N and W Scotland will have showers, heavy and prolonged at times, with some snow falling on high ground.

Temperatures will be near or rather below normal.

Guerin's method. As he himself puts it:
'There will be no political analysis of the leftists' attitudes, nor of the evolution of their different tendencies, nor a list of their organizations, usually tiny, nor their publica-tions, nor portraits of their leaders, nor an anthology of forms of speech lyrical slogans anatomy of what is called "the environment", autopsies on their abandoned projects, nor a list of their successful provocations.'

INSINUATION

What, then, can Guerin offer? Evidently nothing but allegation and insinuation, or, to use his own phrase: . . some flashes of light in shadowy areas. Some facts. Some men. Some mysteries.' And there are indeed mysteries.

Guerin goes on with a list of individuals who have been associated with (usually un-

FROM PAGE ONE counter - revolutionary dividends for the French employers during the great strike

W German Social-Demo-cratic premier Willy Brandt has been pursuing a similar policy for similar reasons.

Polish strike-breaking in Spain and Ireland, the moves towards diplomatic relations with Franco and the cordial relations between the Stalinist regimes and the Greek junta are a clear index of what the Stalinists mean by 'European security'.

dispute. They refused to meet us directly for eight weeks and it wasn't until last Friday that talks started because of 'We have been a quiet group of workers in the past but the independent foreign policy'.

mini-Budget and the increases other workers have been winning are a big factor in our revolt, he added.

The London limb-makers
will meet in Roehampton to-

British workers, too.

The Communist Party's refusal to do more than protest about the anti-union laws their position during the miners' strike and their refusal to combat the trade union bureaucracy, are intimately tied up with the counterrevolutionary plans of the

Unless these plans are halted, the European working class will pay a terrible price for the establishment of 'European security', because it means security for capitalism

specified) left-wing groups, and who came, he says, from either a criminal background or the extreme right wing.

named, but identified only by the first letter of their (alleged) surnames. This is the mark of fabrica-

Discussion of political differences does not enter into

FALSEHOODS

In their haste to bolster the frequent allegations by leading members of the French Party that Trotskyists, Maoists and anarchists are all 'fascists of the left' controlled by the Minister of the Interior, the Stalinists and their press are scraping the bottom of their barrel of slanderous false-

ful co-existence' in Stalinist movement itself.

growing international strength of the Trotskvist movement. and the publication of the first-ever Trotskyist daily paper in Britain, the lie-mongers will find no easy

subject of a full reply at a later date.

The process has been accelerated by the Bonn-Moscow

The very day after the election of the Tory government, Moscow Radio hailed Heath's win as 'a victory for a more

Heath has not been slow to

Plain

The message is plain for

against the rising tide of revo-lutionary struggle.

Of the ten he writes of in the first article, seven are not

tion and slander at its worst. It is fully in line with Guerin's failure to identify a single left-wing organization

warning for the international labour movement that the methods with which Stalinism hunted down and vilified the Communist Opposition in the 1930s are not dead, but being refurbished to answer the growing revolt against 'peace-In 1970, however, with the

treaty, signed in August this

Germany has just signed a similar treaty with Poland.

BY DAVID BARNES

Guerin's articles provide a

The complete series of Guerin's article will be the

Elements of Marxism

PUBLIC LECTURES

The importance of Marxist philosophy in the building of the revolutionary party.

> Lectures by M. BANDA (Editor of Workers Press)

BARKING Monday November 23 Co-op Hall, Whitney Chambers Monday November 30

Fanshawe Ave. 8 p.m. Lectures by G. Healy and M. Banda

Lectures by

C. SLAUGHTER (Central Committee of Socialist Labour League)

SHEFFIELD Sunday November 22

LIVERPOOL Wednesday November 25 Royal Institution, Colquitt St

(near Bold St). 7.45 p.m.

NEWCASTLE

Sunday, November 29

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

Hotspur Hotel .

Haymarket 7.30 p.m.

OXFORD

Thursday November 19 Thursday November 26 Northgate Hall. 8 p.m.

Just off the press

VITAL READING FOR ALL TRADE

How to fight productivity deals is one of the leading political questions facing trade unionists. With collaboration from product-

ivity-dealing union leaders, the Tories are organizing the employers to push up profits by intensifying exploitation . . . or go to the

'The Measured-Day Work and productivity deal swindle' details the background, techniques and history of this process. And it exposes the bogus nature of the opposition put up to it by the British Communist Party and revisionist groups such as 'International Socialism'. Bernard Franks' analysis, first serialized in Workers Press between May 20 and October 21 this year, is more than just vital reading -it is a weapon.

by BERNARD FRANKS **Productivity Deal Swindle** How it works and how to fight it

Packed with information on all types of deals 160 pages Illus. 3s 6d

Available from Workers Press, 186a, Clapham High St, London, SW4.

Italian coalition in crisis again

LIMB

our approaches.

morrow where two

largest limb factories, Hangers

Latest offer

be put to them by the two

main unions involved, the

National Union of Furniture

Sheet Metal Workers' Union,

both of which have urged the

men to accept the 12 per cent

Trade Operatives and

There, the latest offer will

and Steeples, are situated.

MAKERS

• FROM PAGE ONE

past and work for low pay for what is a very skilful job.

'We think it is the manage-

ment who are heartless. They

have been dragging out this

THE fate of the Italian centre-left coalition of Christian Democrats, Socialist Party, Social Democrats and Republicans hangs on the debate of the amended economic 'decree' now under way in parliament.

The real issue is not the numerous amendments from the Socialist Party (PSIUP) on petrol prices and social security contributions, but whether the Socialist Party majority and a section of the Christian Democrat 'left wing' will continue to support Prime Minister Colombo's cabinet.

Despite severe warnings from Colombo and Social-Democratic leader Preti (a professional anti-communist of the worst hue) a majority of the socialist deputies are looking towards a

would be cut by 25,000, which

would have a disastrous im-

pact on the county's economy.

and pears have occurred throughout Europe this year

resulting in tons of the fruit being bulldozed into huge pits

Unable to raise enough credit to change to other

more profitable crops, thou-

medium-sized farms have been

and left to rot.

Massive surpluses of apples

sections of the Christian Democrats, particularly as recent revelations of Mafia influence in the party have tarnished a number of reputations on its right wing.

Deputies' proceedings present a spectacle of bored apathy, while the real discussion conmeetings and negotiations of

few days. Appeals for 'new openings in political life' on almost any terms have been replaced by statements from party leader

collaboration.

Apathy The Rome Chamber of

hardening of the Stalinist leaders' position in the last

fighting and constructive'.

Longo that 'the CP is an opposition force that is both

BY A WORKERS PRESS FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT alliance with the Communist Party. The same goes for some

tinues in the clandestine party organizers, faction chiefs and professional wheelerdealers behind the scenes. A symptom of the growing crisis in the coalition is the

Without in any way closing the door, the Stalinists now

want to lay down more stringent terms for parliamentary