

'Morning Star' silent as

SCANLON AND STOKES GET TOGETHER

BY DAVID MAUDE

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The position is a joint one. Scanlon's opposite number is to be none other than... British-Leyland's Lord 'piratical pay claims' Stokes!

Wednesday night's announcement, which went unreported in yesterday's 'Morning Star', marks a further step by the union leaders into the all-too-enthusiastic embrace of the big employers.

The real purpose of Mrs Barbara Castle's 13-month-old brainchild—conceived in discussions with the most rapacious of the industry's employers last year—is barely concealed behind the claim that it will 'promote good industrial relations'.

Its main aim will be to stop strikes! Whatever the reservations of union leaders, the employers are quite clear about their programme.

'Sensible'

This is what Stokes, Lord Rootes, Vauxhall's David Hegland and Ford's William Batty wrote before last October's meeting with Mrs Castle:

... several major firms have been endeavouring to introduce more sensible wage structures and methods of payment. We believe that these will result in higher productivity and a recognition of the necessity of working to properly engineered work standards.

'This is essential in today's competitive international conditions. However, this progress will be nullified if the resultant agreements are not observed by both sides. Regrettably the trade unions have shown themselves unable to secure observance by their members of agreements entered into on their behalf.'

'It must be the wish of any enlightened industrialist to help responsible trade union officials to overcome this situation and work with them to overcome this situation and develop a system that will eradicate the sporadic, irresponsible and unpredictable unofficial strikes which in an industry like ours have such wide repercussions.'

'We believe that some changes in the legal framework within which industry works will be necessary before the ultimate solution can be found.' (The Times, September 24, 1968. Our emphasis.)

Policy

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If anything, they have strengthened their resolve to press for tougher action against the working class.

There are other straws in this particular wind.

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The council is backed by the 'Big Four' motor firms, their two main components

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Containers threat

Dockers still call bosses bluff

By our industrial reporter

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To prove it, the container companies placed a 10 per cent surcharge on rates for transporting goods by the UK-Australia route.

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They have one big problem. Dockers are standing firm against working the highly-mechanized berths and against the key proposals for implementing the second stage of Lord Devlin's docks 'modernization'.

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If they are unable to put the needs of the working class before those of the employers they should resign and clear the way for those who will.

SOCIALIST LABOUR LEAGUE PUBLIC MEETING

Czechoslovakia, persecution of Soviet intellectuals and the Communist Party Congress

Monday Dec. 15, 8p.m.

HOLBORN ASSEMBLY HALL

John's Mews off Northington Street (nearest tube Chancery Lane)

Speaker: G. Healy (national secretary, Socialist Labour League)

Chairman: M. Banda (Editor, Workers Press)

'Learn military art properly...'

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Mr Meadlo (senior) on the 'Pinkville' massacre, March 1968.

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The women of an oppressed and really revolutionary class will never accept that shameful role. They will say to their sons: 'You will soon be given a gun. Take it and learn the military art properly. The proletarians need this knowledge not to shoot your brothers, the workers of other countries, as is being done in the present war, as the traitors to socialism are telling you to do. They need it to fight the bourgeoisie of their own country, to put an end to exploitation, poverty and war, and not by pious wishes, but by defeating and disarming the bourgeoisie'.
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White House lies on Vietnam Stop Wilson's visit to Washington!

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This massacre, far from allaying the growing unrest manifested not only in the public demonstrations, but also in the confrontation between vice-president Spiro Agnew and the press and TV, will only serve to incense if not outrage the nationwide movement for the total withdrawal of US troops from Vietnam.

Nixon's fraudulent promise to withdraw troops and his spurious draft reductions, not to mention his latest gimmick to ban the use of chemical warfare, has impressed nobody but his own die-hard supporters (his so-called 'silent majority'), and the Labour leaders in Britain.

Abandoned by the mass media and scorned by the vast majority of the American people, Nixon's grotesque attempts to fool all the

BATTLE DEATHS UP

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Hardly had his statement been made public when the Defence Department ordered an investigation into another massacre, this time in the Mekong Delta which occurred in June, 1969—seven months after Nixon's inauguration!

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The source of the information was not the army, but the Democratic Congressman Lionel Van Deerlin, who, after interviewing an army doctor, said:

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STOP WILSON'S WASHINGTON VISIT!

FOR THE DEFEAT OF US IMPERIALISM IN VIETNAM!

DEMONSTRATION SUNDAY JAN. 11

ASSEMBLE: Speakers' Corner (Marble Arch), 2 P.M.

MARCH: via Oxford Street, Regent Street, Trafalgar Square past Downing Street.

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The report also questions whether it is in the public interest to give 50-year leases for the motorway service areas as this allows the contractor a monopoly for that period.

Periodic reviews of the ban on liquor sales in the service areas are called for because of the contractors' complaints that the terms of their leases force them to run at a loss.

CHEMICAL WEAPONS: In the first official Soviet comment on Nixon's decision to seek Senate ratification of the 1925 Geneva Convention banning the use of chemical weapons, 'Pravda' of Thursday said:

'Better late than never, the people's wisdom says. Everybody who is interested in the consolidation of international security will receive this decision of the US government as a positive step.'

Meanwhile, the slaughter in Vietnam continues.

VISIT CLIMAX: The visit of the Rumanian Prime Minister to Britain reached its climax yesterday when George Muresa, minister of Foreign Affairs, called on the Queen at Buckingham Palace.

A.T.U.A. meetings

READING

'Workers Press and the trade unions'

Tuesday, December 2
7.30 p.m.

Palmer Hall
West Street

OLLERTON

(Notts.)

'Workers Press'

Saturday, November 29,
12 noon
Plough Inn

THIS WEEKEND

Young Socialists
GRAND CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
All the fun of the fair!

Father Christmas

Punch 'N' Judy



CANNING TOWN PUBLIC HALL

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29

DOORS OPEN AT 12 NOON

Grangemouth boilermakers stay out

By a Workers Press correspondent

BOILERMAKERS from Grangemouth's BP refinery site were still on strike yesterday, despite their union executive's recommendation that they accept a 'peace formula' arrived at by the Trades Union Congress.

After speaking to the men for over three hours on Tuesday, union president Mr Dan McGarvey persuaded them to accept the formula and promised attempts to win an improvement in the terms being offered by contractors for a return to work.

But no union official attended yesterday's lunchtime meeting at the site. There were two ballots at Tuesday's meeting.

Carried

The first, on a motion that the dispute over the sacking of the boilermakers should be taken to a meeting of the executive at York, was carried 270 votes to 32.

McGarvey reported that the employers had offered to take back 30 welders in one phase and another 50, with nine platers, in the second.

Most of the sacked men would thus have been left outside.

On a motion from the floor, it was agreed that there be no return to work until all 500 boilermakers are taken back. This was carried by 307 votes to three.

Blind workers pay protest

MORE than 600 blind workers are to stage a protest in London today to press claims for higher wages. They want an increase of £1 5s. a week on the £14 5s. basic pay of 3,500 blind workers.

WEATHER

Outlook for Saturday and Sunday: Cold with wintry showers particularly in north and east but also sunny intervals. Becoming mainly dry and less cold on Sunday.

London area, SE England, Channel Islands: Cloudy early then sunny periods. Wind NW moderate. Rather cold. Maximum 5C (41F). Central Southern England, E. Midlands: Sunny periods. Wind NW moderate. Rather cold. Maximum 5C (41F).

SW England: Some sleet or snow showers near W coasts. Sunny periods. Wind NW moderate. Cold. Maximum 6C (43F).

W Midlands, NW and Central Northern England, N. Ireland: Scattered sleet or snow showers. Sunny spells. Wind NW fresh or strong. Cold. Maximum 4C (39F).

Edinburgh and Glasgow area: Sunny periods. Wind NW light. Cold. Maximum 3C (37F).

Builders lobby over deal

BUILDING workers' delegates from London sites (seen above) yesterday afternoon lobbied National Federation of Building Trades Operatives (NFBTO) leaders who were meeting to discuss the employers' pay and productivity offer.

The employers' deal contains demands for sweeping productivity concessions, including interavailability of labour, and the handing over of bonus negotiations to national officials.

But the undoubted militancy on the sites is not sufficient to win the claim for the £20 basic wage now and without strings.

Only big strikes forced the rejection recently of the leadership's plan to sell tea breaks for 6d. an hour.

MOST WIDESPREAD TEACHERS' ACTION TO DATE

By our education correspondent

But they deserved 'an awful lot more'. This cynical statement, made in the face of overwhelming support for the teachers, must strengthen demands that the union leaderships call all-out national action to force acceptance of their demands.

TEACHERS in nearly 80 areas struck yesterday in the most widespread action in their campaign for a £135-a-year pay increase to date.

Members of the National Union of Teachers were on strike in Gateshead, Felling and South Northumberland.

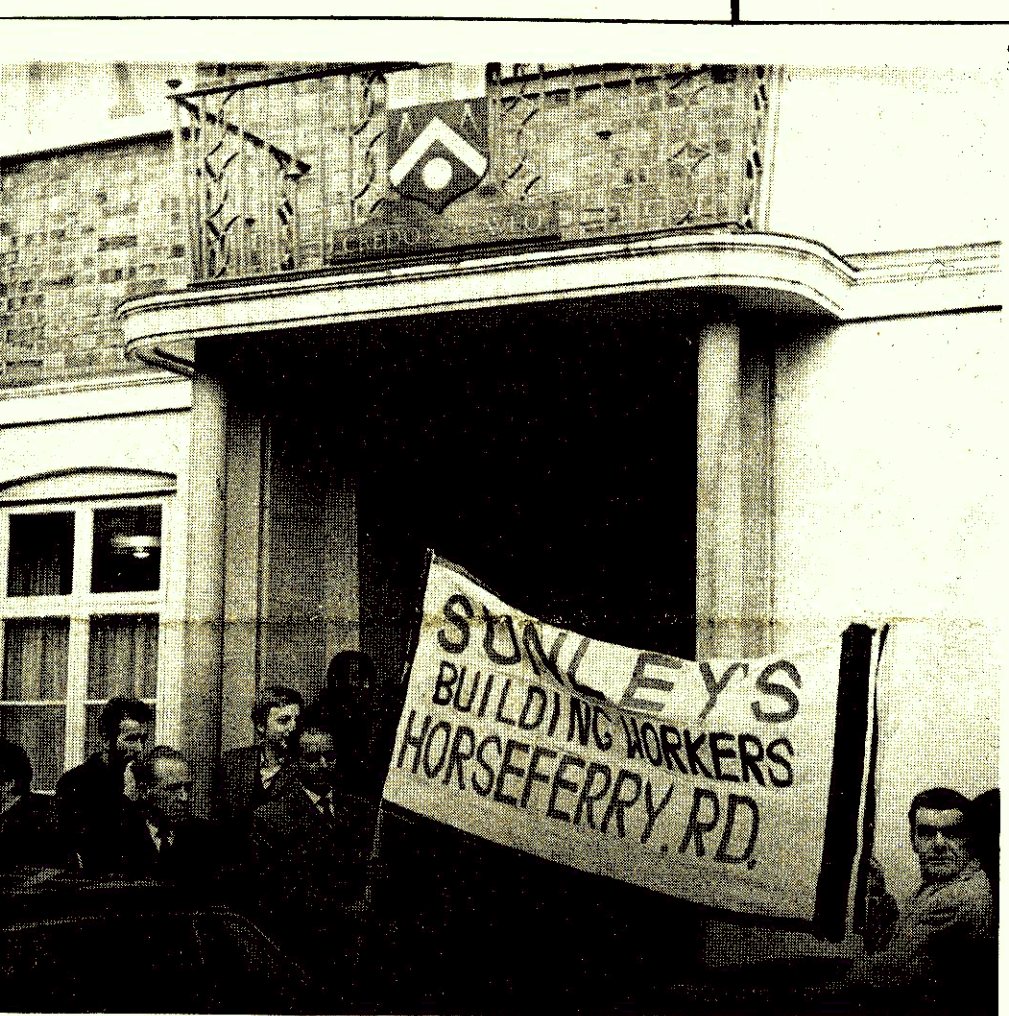
In Northumberland and Durham, members of the National Association of Schoolmasters backed their own action with a strike rally.

Some of those involved in yesterday's strike will be out on strike again on Monday at the start of the two-week-long 'selected schools' strike called by the two unions.

Support for this action also came yesterday from the 4,500-strong Union of Women Teachers.

Members of the union would strike at ten schools, it was announced by organizing secretary Geraldine Jones.

Miss Jones said that about 1,000 women teachers had joined the union in the past fortnight as a result of the pay campaign. Speaking in Plymouth on Wednesday night, Education Minister Mr Edward Short repeated his assertion that the country could not afford to pay teachers their full claim.



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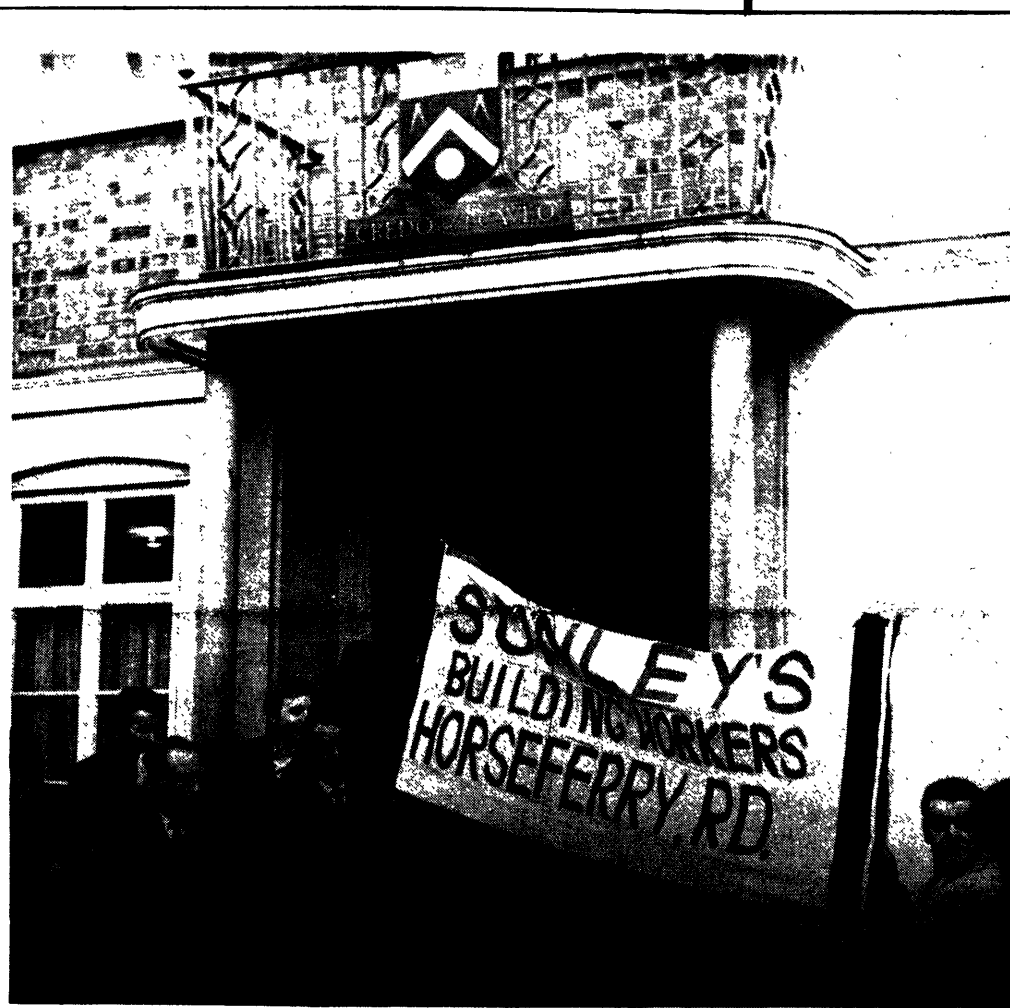
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JAPANESE ECONOMY

THE FIRST OF TWO ARTICLES BY YON KEMP

JAPANESE CAPITALISM'S HIGH-PITCHED GROWTH



The colossal rate of exploitation which is at the base of the current boom has stirred sections of the Japanese working class into retaliation. Above: November 1968. A demonstration in Yoyogi Park, Tokyo, against rising prices.

THE SURGE forward of Japanese capitalism in the past decade has caused surprise and some alarm in other countries.

Despite repeated predictions that a slow-down was bound to come, each minor recession has been followed by a boom more powerful than the last.

In terms of aggregate production Japan has moved into third place, and if growth continues at the present rate for another decade it could exceed that of all the Common Market countries combined.

Many explanations have been offered for Japan's economic successes, but clearly no single factor is responsible.

The background to the post-war expansion needs to be briefly sketched in.

Japan emerged as an industrializing country after the Meiji Restoration of 1868 which, besides restoring the Mikado, brought to power a new ruling group which saw that independence could only be maintained by rapidly assimilating western techniques.

The state helped to build up industries which were later handed over to private firms.

Japan resisted subordination to foreign powers and established a firm position in the Pacific area by the defeat of China in 1895 and of Russia in 1905.

Japan may be said to be the last country to develop as an independent national segment of the capitalist world market.

It avoided the underdevelopment, which would have resulted from falling under the control of one of the Western powers as a colony or semi-colony. By 1913 the basis had been laid for a modern economy, but Japan was still far behind Britain, Germany and the United States.

After the First World War the relative weight of Japan in the Pacific increased. Cheap Japanese manufactures penetrated the traditional markets of the other exporting countries. Under the pressure of depression after 1929, Japanese imperialism went on the march into the Chinese mainland of Asia.

Seemed reality
With the attack on Pearl Harbour a desperate bid was made to drive the United States out of the Pacific.

For a few years the Japanese forces swept all before them and the great co-

prosperity sphere in Asia seemed to have become a reality.

Once American industrial and military mobilization got under way, the disparity of forces between Japan and her enemies was overwhelming. The Japanese empire fell to pieces and in 1945 the homeland was prostrate and ruined with its main cities pounded into rubble by mass bomber attacks which culminated in the destruction by atomic bombs of Nagasaki and Hiroshima after capitulation was a foregone conclusion.

Japan was thus defeated, humiliated and occupied by the American forces. The Americans carried through a number of political and social reforms which, amongst other things, brought agrarian landlordism to an end, broke up the Zaibatsu, or giant financial trusts which had dominated the economy, and made possible the formation of independent trade unions and political parties.

Immediately after the war it seemed to be the intention of the Americans to prevent Japan ever again becoming a serious economic competitor.

The onset of the Cold War, the failure of US policy of support for the Chinese Nationalists, the Chinese Revolution of 1949 and the outbreak of the Korean War in the following year changed the situation fundamentally.

Policy went into reverse.

War demand encouraged industry and recovery was aided by a massive flow of dollars to enable Japan to purchase vital food and raw material imports and re-equip her industries.

Politically Japan remained subordinate to the USA and the present military forces have been kept down to the size presumed required for defence.

Economically, however, the Korean War was the turning point; since then the Japanese economy has experienced an almost continuous expansion unparalleled in other parts of the world.

Export lead

Japan now builds three times as many ships and exports three times as much steel as Britain. She sells more cameras abroad than Germany and produces more cars.

In many fields Japan is the world's leading exporter. From the consumer goods and textiles which constituted her main exports in the past she has moved on to a leading position in heavy industrial equipment, machines and machine tools, vehicles and chemicals.

This was obviously vital to get the economy moving. The forces which have kept it go-

The growth rate in 1969 will probably exceed that of last year; overall it will certainly top the 10 per cent mark, and industrial production may rise by as much as 20 per cent.

Balance of payments difficulties, which have temporarily slowed expansion two or three times in the past decade, are unlikely to arise.

Currency reserves are now at a high level and exports are still growing. In fact Japan is now in the third year of the Inanagi Boom, named after a traditional god, the most powerful in her history.

If this gives the bare bones of Japan's economic explosion, how can this success story be explained, what strains has it been accompanied by and can it all last?

As has been pointed out, the resurgence of Japan resulted in the first instance from an alteration in American political policy and the injection of some thousands of millions of dollars into the economy in the early 1950s.

This was obviously vital to get the economy moving. The forces which have kept it go-

ing are more difficult to unravel and explain.

In the first place Japanese economic growth has certainly depended upon the existence of abundant, almost unlimited supplies of labour power.

The expanding new modern sectors have been able to draw workers from the large traditional artisan industries and more especially from agriculture. The agricultural population made up 45 per cent of the employed population in 1950 but is now less than 20 per cent—which is still high for an advanced country.

Innovations

There has thus been a rapid growth in the size of the working class from whom surplus value could be extracted. The working class has been tied to the plant by traditional paternalism which has dulled class consciousness; even the trade unions are organized on a plant basis.

At the same time, in the last 20 years Japanese industry has been able to take over a succession of technical innovations and even improve upon them.

In particular it has been able to apply mass-production methods in new fields and move towards higher-quality products.

Japanese labour productivity was formerly low by European and still more by American standards. Intensive mechanization has resulted in a considerable lessening of the gap.

While productivity was about one third that of Britain in 1950 it must now be approaching the same level.

By increasing its labour force as rapidly as required to increase output and by raising labour productivity by a succession of technological improvements, Japanese capitalism has been able to impose a high rate of exploitation on the working class.

Although wage levels have risen, the gains to capital have been proportionately much larger.

As a consequence Japanese investment rates have been the highest in the world and have made possible the closing of the technological and productivity gap with the other advanced countries within a record time and at an unexampled rate.

The labour force, until recently, has expanded in line with the needs of capital.

At the same time wage levels have risen so that, although the major economic effort has gone into capital-building on a huge scale, the internal market for consumer goods has grown too.

Demand for housing and similar facilities has been kept in check by government policy which has aimed all the time to facilitate a high level of accumulation and investment by private firms.



In 1945, American imperialism's atomic bomb reduced Japan's main cities to rubble before US big business could get to work exploiting the Japanese working class. Above: Nagasaki.

able to take maximum advantage of a number of favourable factors since 1950 which have not existed on the same scale or in the same combination anywhere else.

In Marxist terms this has been a process of expanded reproduction.

A constantly growing volume of surplus value has been extracted from the working class which has been growing in size and has become more productive.

This surplus value has been realised through the growth of the foreign market, in a rapid rate of investment at home and, to a lesser degree, in a rise in home consumption, especially of modern mass-produced goods embodying a high level of technology (e.g. TV, motorcycles, cars, domestic appliances).

Impressive

The constant build-up of capital equipment is one of the most impressive aspects of the expansion.

Armaments have had a negligible role, amounting only to about 1 per cent of national income, but there is a strong drive on the part of the industrial trusts to push this up in order to open a further market for their products.

Why has the expansion gone on for so long?

Because Japan started from a lower level of productivity and total production than other industrial countries, the capitalist class could keep labour costs down and aggregate profits high while investing more and more in advanced industrial equipment.

Japan has thus been able to retain a keen competitive edge in foreign markets.

The successes of Japanese cars in the US market, at the expense in particular of German and British firms, is a sign of the times. A dozen years ago Japan was a minor car producer; now it stands second only to the USA.

The close tie-up between government and business aids continuous adjustment of production to changing demand on the world market.

So does the fact that industrial firms are linked together into giant financial groups, like the pre-war Zaibatsu, which have interests in all sections of the economy.

Production can be readily switched from one line to another.

As a result some Japanese industries have declined or stagnated (such as textiles and food processing) while others have shot up from practically nothing in a few years.

Even the market for such items as cameras, scooters and motor cycles is about saturated and the drive is now towards engineering products, chemicals, advanced industrial equipment (electronics, automation) and vehicles.

All this requires a high level of investment—roughly a third of national income—and thus of savings and credit.

The current boom is primarily an investment boom, linked as always with the unexpectedly rapid expansion of the world market in the past two years.

It does include an expansion of home market demand, especially the spectacular growth in car ownership and heavy outlays on highways and city reconstruction.

It is these signs of change, of 'modernization', with the hectic pace of living and the transformation of the urban scene going on at the same time, which most impresses foreign visitors.

Reading reports from government sources or from knowledgeable experts it is clear that underneath the surface there are major problems and anxieties.

These will be reviewed in the next article tomorrow.

Japanese firms hold patent rights and manufacturing capacity to permit a rapid build-up of armaments should that be required.

Could suffer

The current boom, for example, is based upon the rapid expansion of the world market in the past year or so and would be bound to suffer from any check to its expansion.

Japan's dependence upon foreign trade causes anxiety about the balance of payments which has shown a tendency to swing rapidly from a surplus to a deficit.

The government has tightly controlled imports and has pushed exports.

It has, however, come under increasing American pressure to open up the Japanese market both to commodity trade and to foreign (i.e. American) capital.

The advantages of Japanese industry in the world market have been won by a combination of technological proficiency with low labour costs.

To hold the first of these advantages industry has taken big risks, notably by expanding capacity ahead of demand and resorting to financial and accounting practices which in Europe or America would be regarded as a prelude to disaster.

Continued expansion has enabled a succession of gambles to pay off and has swallowed up the mistakes and misjudgements so that only the triumphs have been seen.

Moreover, Japan has been able to take advantage of the difficulties of other capitalist countries to push into the world market.

Japanese capitalists, backed by the government, have been

The tie up between Chrysler and Mitsubishi last June may foreshadow a new trend.



The clear consciousness of the Japanese working class has been dulled by paternalistic management. Above: One of Japan's electrical firms parade the annual gains of the firm's production before the entire labour force.

B.B.C.-1

- 9.38-11.55 a.m. Schools. 1.05 p.m. Addola Dduw. 1.30 Watch With Mother. 1.45-1.53 News and Weather. 2.05-2.25 Schools. 4.20 Play School. 4.40 Jackanory. 4.55 Crackerjack. 5.40 Junior Points of View. 5.50 National News and Weather.
- 6.00 Entertaining with Kerr. 6.25 Television Brain of Britain.
- 6.45 The Virginian.
- 7.55 Not In Front Of The Children.
- 8.25 Golden Silents.
- 8.50 The Main News and Weather.
- 9.10 The Survivors.
- 10.00 Come Dancing.
- 10.30 24 Hours.
- 11.05 Free For All.
- 11.45 Westerman.

Regional programmes as BBC-1 except at the following times:
Midlands and East Anglia: 6.00-6.25 p.m. Midlands Today. Look East. Weather. 11.47 News Summary. Weekend Prospects for Anglers. Road Works Report for the Midlands and East Anglia.
North of England: 6.00-6.25 p.m. Look North. Weather. 11.47 Northern News Headlines. Weather.
Scotland: 11.35-11.53 Modern Studies. 6.00-6.25 p.m. Reporting Scotland. 9.10-9.35 Current Account. 9.35-10.00 He And She. 11.05-11.35 Monty

TODAYS TV

- Python's Flying Circus. 11.35 Epilogue. Scottish News Headlines. Weather.
- Northern Ireland: 6.00-6.25 p.m. Scene Around Six. Weather. 11.47 Northern Ireland News Headlines. Weather.
- Wales: 10-11.45 p.m. Ar Lin Mam. 6.00-6.25 Wales Today. Weather. 6.45-7.05 Heddiw. 7.05-7.30 Bob Yn Dri. 7.30-7.55 Week In Week Out. 11.05-11.30 Llygad Y Geiniog. 11.30 Free For All.
- South and West: 6.00-6.25 p.m. Points West. South Today. Spotlight South-West. Weather. 11.47 South and West News Headlines. Weather. Weekend Road Works Report.

11.00-11.20 a.m. Play School. 7.00 p.m. What Are The Facts About Cannabin. 7.30 Newsroom and Weather. 8.00 Wheelbase. 8.25 The First Churchills. 9.10 The French Cinema: 'Summer Manoeuvres' with Gerard Phillips and Brigitte Bardot. 10.50 Westminster At Work.

I.T.V.

- 11.00-11.55 a.m. Schools. 1.40-3.00 p.m. Schools. 4.10 How About You? 4.40 Hatty Town. 4.55 Lost In Space. 5.30 News. 6.03 Today. 7.00 London Weekend Television starts. 7.00 Wheel Of Fortune. 7.30 Strange Report. 8.00 Curry and Chips. 9.00 Hawaii Five-O. 10.00 News At Ten. 10.10 Frost On Friday. 11.15 Hadleigh. 11.30 a.m. Father D'Arcy Remembers.

All independent channels as London ITV except at the following times:
CHANNEL 4: 4.50 p.m. Puffin's Birthday Greetings. 4.55 Thunderbirds. 6.00 Channel News and Weather. 6.10 Channel Report. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 A Date With Danton. 7.05 Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased). 8.00 The Untouchables. 9.00 Curry and Chips. 9.30 Parkin's Patch. 11.10 N.Y.P.D. News and Weather in French. Weather.

B.B.C.-2

- 11.00-11.20 a.m. Play School. 7.00 p.m. What Are The Facts About Cannabin. 7.30 Newsroom and Weather. 8.00 Wheelbase. 8.25 The First Churchills. 9.10 The French Cinema: 'Summer Manoeuvres' with Gerard Phillips and Brigitte Bardot. 10.50 Westminster At Work.

11.00-11.20 a.m. Play School. 7.00 p.m. What Are The Facts About Cannabin. 7.30 Newsroom and Weather. 8.00 Wheelbase. 8.25 The First Churchills. 9.10 The French Cinema: 'Summer Manoeuvres' with Gerard Phillips and Brigitte Bardot. 10.50 Westminster At Work.

11.00-11.20 a.m. Play School. 7.00 p.m. What Are The Facts About Cannabin. 7.30 Newsroom and Weather. 8.00 Wheelbase. 8.25 The First Churchills. 9.10 The French Cinema: 'Summer Manoeuvres' with Gerard Phillips and Brigitte Bardot. 10.50 Westminster At Work.

BOOK REVIEWS

by Robert Black and Jim Duffy

THIS BOOK is of special interest and political importance to the members and supporters of the Fourth International.

It records the life and death of Ludwik Poretsky (better known by his pseudonym 'Ignace Reiss') the Polish Communist who broke from Stalin's secret police and was murdered by NKVD agents in Switzerland on November 4, 1937.

But it is more than a biography. Reiss's widow throws a revealing light on the activities and methods of the Soviet bureaucracy's agencies in the capitalist countries.

The main section of the book describes the gradual crystallization of communist opposition to Stalinism within the foreign department of the NKVD.

Many communists, Reiss and his comrades included, joined the Soviet espionage service because they saw, correctly, that the Soviet Union had to use all weapons, including spying, to defend itself against imperialism until the next round of workers' revolutions freed the USSR from the danger of intervention.

But instead of spying on the ruling class of the capitalist powers, Reiss found that he was being used for counter-revolutionary ends.

Secret apparatus

A large part of the foreign NKVD staff were being trained to work inside the Communist Parties of western Europe as informers for the Soviet bureaucracy, thus establishing a secret apparatus totally independent of the Communist International, which in theory was the highest body of the world movement.

Another group, whose activities were even more closely guarded, underwent highly specialist training to prepare them for work inside tendencies opposed to Stalinism from a Marxist standpoint.

Foremost amongst these groups was of course the international Left Opposition, which in 1933 became the nucleus for the Trotskyist Fourth International.

Stalin's witch-hunt against revolutionaries in western Europe proceeded hand in hand with the murder of the Bolshevik Party in the Soviet Union.

It was an essential part of the counter-revolutionary strategy of the Soviet bureaucracy.

It could not rest secure until all Leninist opposition had been crushed—not just in the Soviet Union, but in all the key sections of the international workers' movement.

This was the NKVD's task.

The methods used by Stalin's agents were the same everywhere. In its fight against Bolshevism, the Soviet bureau-

cracy summoned up the most reactionary social forces.

The chief Prosecutor at all three Moscow Trials was Vyshinsky.

During and even after the 1917 revolution and the civil war he remained a right-wing Menshevik and a bitter enemy of Bolshevism. It was only after the defeat of the Left Opposition that his career began to prosper.

Genuine opponents of Bolshevism were called as witnesses for the prosecution, giving false evidence that they collaborated with Bukharin and other communist leaders in an attempt to kill Lenin in 1918.

In the west, it was the same story.

Stalin's war against the Fourth International could not be fought out in the working class on the basis of political discussion or debate, as Mrs Poretsky's book shows.

The same methods and social forces were employed in France, Spain and other centres of resistance to Stalin, as in the torture chambers of Moscow and the concentration camps of the north.

When Mrs Poretsky warned a close friend against returning to Moscow (where the purges were already in full swing) he replied:

'They will kill here [Paris] just as easily. They can do it. You may not know this, but I know how powerful they are. There are some White officers here who do the job for them. They know how to do it. They betray their own people and they will enjoy killing a communist.' (Page 214. Our emphasis.)

Murder machine

Stalin's agents had constructed an intricate murder machine in western Europe, recruited largely from the depraved anti-Bolshevik remnants that scattered all over Europe after their defeat at the end of the Russian civil war.

A special centre was set up by the NKVD in Paris to recruit these specialists in fighting Bolshevism.

It was known as 'The Union for Repatriation of Russians Abroad'.

But few Russians made their way home under the auspices of this body. Stalin had more pressing work for them in the West:

'This organization prospered mysteriously, and some of its members, among them venerable bearded Orthodox priests with heavy crosses on their breasts, must have wondered where the money was coming from, since so few Russians were, or wanted to be, repatriated.

'The Soviets needed notable émigrés such as Orthodox priests to give the organization a semblance of respectability . . . it was the younger set the Soviets needed, men who could

How the Stalinists murdered 'Ignace Reiss'



REISS Went over from the NKVD to the Fourth International. Was shot in Switzerland by agents assigned by 'Etienne', the NKVD agent working inside the Fourth International.



SEDOV Trotsky's son was murdered by NKVD agents. After he fell ill 'Etienne' insisted that he enter a hospital staffed almost entirely by émigré Russian doctors.

use women to get into French circles, who could trace Communists suspected of turning against the Soviets, break into apartments where the Soviets suspected there was evidence that might incriminate them, who would kill.' (p. 238.)

This was the human refuse Stalin used to kill many of those like Reiss who rallied to the Fourth International after breaking from the counter-revolutionary policies of Stalinism.

These White Guards took readily to their gangster activities.

Not only was their pay high (far higher than any worker could earn under Stalin) but working for the NKVD enabled them to take revenge for the defeats they had suffered at the hands of Trotsky's Red Army.

Liquidation

Stalin now offered them the opportunity of murdering those Bolsheviks who had escaped the clutches of the Soviet bureaucracy.

As Mrs Poretsky points out, 'all of them approved Stalin's liquidation of the Revolution'. (p. 238.)

Reiss and his wife, realizing that they were serving as gravediggers of the Revolution, broke with Stalin.

In his letter to the Central

'OUR OWN PEOPLE'
A memoir of 'Ignace Reiss' and his friends
By Elisabeth K. Poretsky
Oxford, 42s.

Committee of the Communist Party of the USSR Reiss set out his political reasons for making the break, and declared himself for Trotsky's Fourth International, the only Communist opposition to Stalinism.

Within weeks of his break from Stalin, he had been murdered by White Guards in Switzerland.

The last section of Mrs Poretsky's book describes the activities of one of the Stalinist agents who undoubtedly betrayed him: 'Etienne', alias Marc Zborovsky, who, as a Stalinist spy in the Paris leadership of the Fourth International, maintained links with the NKVD all the time he worked as a supposedly loyal member of the Trotskyist movement in France.

Stalin's agent

Zborovsky was never unmasked during Trotsky's lifetime.

But since the war, new facts came to light which proved conclusively that he was planted as a Stalinist agent in

In the middle of the preparations for the founding conference of the Fourth International, on July 13, 1938, Rudolf Klement, secretary of the Fourth International, vanished.

A few weeks later his mutilated body was washed ashore on the banks of the river Seine.

Once again, the killers were known to be White Russian émigrés, organized, as is now known, by Zborovsky of Stalin's NKVD.

Repression in the Highlands

CAPITALISM exists for profit, even if it means material destruction and human misery.

Prebble's book on the Highland Clearances reminds us of such a chapter in the social history of the capitalist system.

He explains that with the defeat of the clans at Culloden, in 1746, tribal society in Britain was smashed forever, making the way for exploitation of the Highland areas.

The failure of the Jacobite

'THE HIGHLAND CLEARANCES'
by John Prebble
Penguin 8s. 6d.

Rebellion turned the chiefs into mere landlords, anxious for rents instead of the welfare of their people. Or as Prebble puts it:

'Once the chiefs lost their powers most of them lost parental interest in their clansmen.'

But rents did not bring in large returns from impoverished peasantry; certainly

The same man also helped to kill Trotsky's son Leon Sedov. When Sedov fell ill, 'Etienne' insisted that he enter a hospital staffed almost entirely by émigré Russian doctors.

After an apparently straightforward and successful operation, Sedov had a sudden relapse and died.

Once again, it is now known that 'Etienne' was responsible for ensuring that Sedov entered a private hospital swarming with NKVD agents.

All these things became known when Zborovsky came before the Committee of Un-American Activities in 1955 (not, of course, on a charge of being a Stalinist spy in the Fourth International).

Zborovsky, the hearings proved, had also worked closely with other Stalinist spies, among them the Soblen brothers and Ramon Mercader, the man who murdered Trotsky in Mexico by posing as a supporter of the Fourth International to gain access to Trotsky's private study.

Seamen's Union

One of the Soblen brothers, organized through Floyd Miller the penetration of the US seamen's union.

The Kremlin was very concerned that Trotskyists working on the transport ships taking supplies to Murmansk would make contact with Soviet workers.

Robert Soblen's job was to report on all Trotskyist activity in the International Seafarers' Union and keep the NKVD informed of the possibility of such contacts being established.

As Mrs Poretsky points out, the work of the NKVD was greatly facilitated by non-Bolshevik methods of work inside the Trotskyist group in Paris.

The writer Victor Serge, soon to defect from the Fourth International, was perhaps the most guilty in this respect. He never completely broke

from the anarchism of his youth:

'I did not know Serge well either, but I knew enough about him to be cautious.

'Serge's natural curiosity had made him keep seeing all kinds of people, Party members, ex-Party members, former anarchists, every kind of oppositionist, until the very day he was arrested, in Leningrad in 1933 . . . carrying on as he did exposed others as well as himself to danger.' (p. 245.)

It was Serge who informed Zborovsky of the defection of the Reisses, and, after Ignace's murder, introduced the NKVD agent to his widow.

The Trotskyist movement has come a long way since the terrible period described in this book.

Expose agents

But its very growth, together with the profound crisis of world Stalinism, must inevitably sharpen the conflict between ourselves and the Soviet bureaucracy and its international supporters.

Much still remains to be told about Marc Zborovsky, who today lectures in anthropology at Berkeley University, San Francisco.

And there are many still living and active in the labour movement that could help to tell it.

All Marxists have a duty to expose the activities of Stalinist agents in the revolutionary and working-class movement, before they strike any new blows.

Next year we commemorate the 30th anniversary of Trotsky's assassination.

Let us at the same time resolve that we will prevent such blows being struck against the Fourth International in the future.

Mrs Poretsky's book warns us that in this period of Stalinist crisis, we must be prepared for everything.

turned clan cattle lands into large sheep farms, from common to private property.

Marx, in 1853, denounced the Clearances and commented thus:

'There could be no question, under this (tribal) system, of private property . . . the clan is nothing but a family organized in a military manner, quite as little defined by laws, just as closely hemmed in by traditions, as any family. But the land is the property of the family.' (Marx's emphasis.)

Because of the drive for profit, from the latter half of the 18th century and most of the 19th, sheep were introduced in their thousands to the glens and mountains, requiring just a few shepherds to tend them.

And to make way for sheep, clansmen were cruelly evicted from their crofts—evictions that resulted in the burning of cottages and the beating or sometimes killing of defenceless men, women and children.

LARGE-SCALE EMIGRATION

Thousands were forced to live on barren coasts, many dying of hunger, while others emigrated in droves to North America or simply joined the ranks of the industrial proletariat in the Lowlands.

The landlords showed no mercy, and in this were zealously supported by the police, legal profession and, of course, clergy, who told the Highlanders that evictions were 'God's will' and must be obeyed.

While this is a useful book for Marxists, Prebble's shortcoming is that he believes history of this epoch could have been changed had the Highlanders produced a leader to rally them against evictions and capitalist domination of their land.

IMPOSSIBLE NOTION

But this idealist notion was impossible; the old clans were an anachronism within capitalist society, unable to exist in the same old ways.

And yet Prebble is right when he says:

'We have not become so civilized in our behaviour, or more concerned for profit that this story holds no lesson for us.'

For that lesson must be nationalization of the land, without compensation, under workers' control.

Part two by TOM KEMP

The world role of American imperialism

128 x 84

8-21

AS THE main citadel of the world imperialist system the United States concentrates within itself all the contradictions of the capitalist mode of production in its imperialist stage.

It is drawn inevitably into every social crisis and conflict, into every economic problem and contradiction of more than a purely local character, whether in Europe or in any other part of the capitalist world.

It is inextricably involved with the world market and both communicates to and receives from this interconnection the impulses which determine both internal American development and the ups and downs of the world economy.

In the nature of this world role American imperialism becomes a mighty military power, with bases strung round the world, a huge peacetime standing army, power to destroy human life on this globe many times over and consequently military expenditure which represents 56 per cent of the budget and 8 per cent of the gross national product.

To begin with this military establishment and then to proceed to analyse its economic effects would be to ignore the real character of imperialism, armaments and militarism were to assume that it had turned into something else and that in some way an option for America and not a necessary attribute of its imperialist world role.

Undoubtedly the giant corporations do well out of war contracts and levels of produc-

tion and employment are forced up beyond the level which a hypothetical free market economy would attain.

Anyone is at liberty to claim that without arms spending US unemployment would be back to its pre-war 9 or 10 million, but this establishes nothing.

In fact, the heavy arms expenditure is a mark of imperialist parasitism and decay. It perverts science and technology, wastes the time and the lives of millions of young men, burdens the economy with unproductive outlays and strengthens reaction all along the line.

Imperialism has always done these things, it now does them on a more gigantic scale. Its little wars, like Korea and Vietnam, open the way for the third world war and for a lapse into barbarism.

INTERCONNECTION

In the meantime, for good measure, armaments do contribute to profits and employment, thus to continued expansion of the economy and the dulling of the political consciousness of the American working class.

But that is not all that they do.

They are also a principal cause of the growing interconnection between business and the state, to the point where it becomes increasingly difficult to say where the sphere of one ends and that of the other begins, so that, in the land of 'free enterprise' itself, the objective conditions for socialism are being prepared.

Heavy expenditure on armaments produces, irresistibly, inflation at home and the sapping of the dollar as a world currency, the maintenance of whose value is a necessary part of maintaining America's role in the world market.

Arms spending thus aggravates the underlying problems of American capitalism.

The wars to which it leads and which it is intended to support add still further to these strains, witness the growing opposition to the Vietnam war, the scale of which is unprecedented in the history of colonial-type wars.

The growth of criticism and dissent sparked off particularly by Vietnam, although still largely confined to students, youth and, perhaps most significantly, sections of the liberal intelligentsia, forced for the first time to make an assessment of the ruling imperialist ideology which has corrupted most of their fellows, indicates the beginning of a new internal challenge to American imperialism.

For many years the American working class, while fighting tenaciously for its class interests in the economic sphere, has not been able to express itself politically in an independent way.

Its eruption on to the scene in the manner of the 1930s has been many times predicted or even regarded as imminent.

If this analysis of imperialism is correct it does mean that to maintain its world position American capitalism will have to impose additional burdens on its own working class.

The needs of capital come all the time into conflict with those of the working class.

The United States has been no exception: intensive exploitation of even the high-paid, the use of masses of low-paid and especially black and immigrant workers, the eating away of old skills and established positions by automation and other changes in technology, the prevailing insecurity which arises from the fear that no job is really safe,

the pressure on real wages from continuous inflation—these are problems which the American workers have to contend with as much or more than workers in other countries.

The deepening crisis of American imperialism cannot be read off merely from the indices of production or national income.

It manifests itself in complex ways: breaking out here in the universities, there in the Negro ghettos or in the opposition to the Vietnam war.

Moreover, world involvement drags the United States, despite the will of its rulers, into all the great revolutionary issues of our time.

If these issues are not posed first of all in the United States itself, they will almost certainly be posed most sharply and fought out most decisively there.

By all appearances the American ruling class is now passing into a new period: one characterized by a crisis of confidence and a paralysis of decision.

This new period, which subjects the leadership of the imperialist colossus to immense pressures and poses insuperable problems, was delayed for a term and now coincides with the Nixon presidency.

It is not primarily a question of personality, though the indications are that Nixon is not the kind of individual to act decisively in a crisis.

The chances are, therefore, that the next few years will bring the strains in the United States to breaking point, force more and more American workers to take stock of the situation and thus offer opportunities at last for a political breakthrough by those who, in the Workers' League, have steadfastly upheld the banner of the Fourth International.

KREMLIN IN FRIENDLY TALKS WITH GREEK REGIME

THE SOVIET Ambassador to Greece had a long meeting in Athens on Wednesday with Mr Pipinelis, the Foreign Minister of the anti-communist Greek military regime.

Lucas-CAV workers want traffic control

A THOUSAND Lucas-CAV workers at Fazakerly, Liverpool, held up traffic for an hour on Wednesday when they occupied the road outside their factories.

Last week, workers in these factories held a similar demonstration demanding traffic control at the beginning and end of shifts.

An operator at the Lucas factory was killed in an accident while crossing the road a fortnight ago. A woman worker from CAV was knocked down last Friday.

'If we go on strike we quickly get policemen along to watch the pickets but they won't put a policeman to control the traffic', Lucas convenor Ray Reynolds told a meeting held by the workers before they marched into the road.

The meeting unanimously agreed to carry out a similar demonstration every Wednesday until the authorities took satisfactory measures.

Rover draught strike over

WORKERS at the Rover car company's Solihull plant yesterday ended their strike against draughty working conditions caused by holes in the factory wall.

Production of 2000 and 3500 cars had been at a standstill for the second day. More than 50 workers walked out because of the cold, refusing a management offer of duffle coats and heaters.

The official Athens news agency said that both mutual and international questions were discussed at some length. The same report stated that both officials had agreed on steps to strengthen bilateral economic and cultural relations.

Other matters discussed included the Warsaw Pact proposals for an all-inclusive conference on 'European Security', which has as its aim the merging of Nato and the Warsaw Pact into a single 'collective security' organization.

While relations between the Greek regime and many capitalist countries have cooled over the last few months, the reverse has taken place in its dealings with the Kremlin. Diplomatic observers are pointing out that the Soviet government has been by far the most 'correct' in its observance of the customary diplomatic protocol.

Big pay claim for psychiatric nurses

CLAIMS for big pay rises for psychiatric nurses were submitted yesterday to the management side of the nurses' and midwives' Whitley Council.

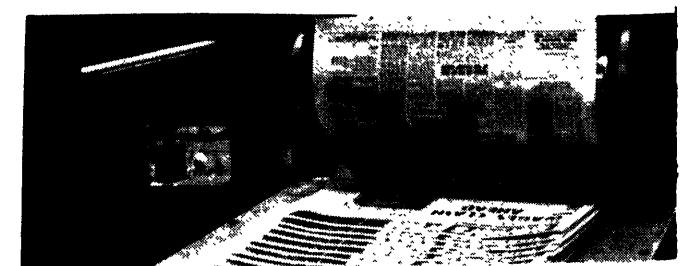
A spokesman for the Royal College of Nursing, the biggest staff organization represented on the council, said:

'Nurses must get economic justice now. Because they are extremely loyal people they have been exploited for far too long and have been expected to make the best of very poor conditions and paltry pay.' The present salaries of mental nurses show this statement to be absolutely correct.

Rise
A student mental nurse over 21 receives during each year of training £665, £692 and £719; the claim would raise this to £800, £850 and £900.

An enrolled nurse's salary would go up from £780-£925 to £950-£1,120. The psychiatric nurses' claim follows the demand last week for increases for nurses in general hospitals, who have been conducting a 'raise the roof' campaign for more pay.

GREET WORKERS PRESS



at public meetings
See the film of the first issue being prepared and printed and the film 'Young Socialists, 1969'

NEWCASTLE
Sunday, November 30, 7.30 p.m.
County Hotel, Neville Street

LEEDS
Wednesday, December 3, 8 p.m.
The 'Old Bar'
Students' Union, Leeds University

CLIFF SLAUGHTER (Central Committee member, Socialist Labour League)
JOHN NOLAN (Young Socialists)

CANTERBURY
Monday, December 8, 8 p.m.
The Cornwalls Building
University of Canterbury

LIVERPOOL
Sunday, December 14, 7.30 p.m.
Shaftesbury Hotel, Mount Pleasant

Speakers at Newcastle, Liverpool and Canterbury will be:
MIKE BANDA (Editor of Workers' Press)
SHEILA TORRANCE (National Secretary of the Young Socialists)

Timely

The Greek regime no doubt finds this backing from its Stalinist friends most timely, in view of the fact that the junta faces a concerted attack at the next Council of Europe meeting on December 12, when attempts will be made to 'pressurize' the military regime into adopting at least a few of the trappings of a constitutional government.

Kremlin diplomats wind, dine and negotiate with the military dictators of Greece, while in the cells and camps of its secret police, thousands of resistance fighters, including many members of the banned and hounded Greek Communist Party, are savagely beaten up, tortured and jailed for life.

And this is by no means the limit of Stalinist treachery and cynicism. On the same day that Ambassador Levitchkin began his long and confidential chat with the military regime, Pravda featured a report on the events leading up to the Athens coup of April 1967. This is the real face of counter-revolutionary Stalinism.

First of all, by relentlessly pursuing the peace, parliamentary road to socialism in Greece, it led the working class right into the trap set by the military.

Bolster

This first stage of the betrayal completed, the final touches are undertaken by the Soviet bureaucracy, the architect of the whole strategy of 'peaceful co-existence' between the working class and imperialism.

Stalinist secret diplomacy now steps in to bolster up the anti-communist regime and lends it the support that even Moscow's capitalist governments would dare not give. As always, the leaders of the British Communist Party are silent on these disgusting manoeuvres.

They accept Kremlin support for the regime as they accepted Soviet participation in the European games held in Greece recently, even though the 'Morning Star' featured reports of protests against British participation in the Athens games.

This is Stalinism. Unless it is completely smashed in the international workers' movement, it will prepare even worse betrayals in the future.

D.A.T.A. men fear isolation

DRAUGHTSMEN at David Brown's Sunderland reduction gears factory, now in the ninth week of their lock-out, fear isolation from other workers due to the policies being carried out by officials of the unions represented in the factory.

The real problem at David Brown's is the agreement signed in Durham earlier this year between the AEF, the G&MWU and the management.

Under this agreement various productivity strings were conceded and a clause included debarring unofficial action in the factory.

Now when, as one AEF member put it 'The lads were ready to have a go', the local officials have stepped in to block solidarity action by refusing to give official support. This type of splitting tactic, which has already been used at Grangemouth against the Boiler-makers, hides the real object of the struggle in inter-union disputes.

GET TOGETHER

● FROM PAGE ONE

suppliers and the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions.

Firms involved are British-Leyland, Rootes, Vauxhall, Ford, Joseph Lucas and GKN.

Claims have been made that it will support and not replace the industry's established negotiating machinery. The council's sponsors, however, include concerns inside and outside the Engineering Employers' Federation.

Ford and Vauxhall are already out, Rootes come out at the end of this year and there are increasing pressures on British-Leyland to pull out as well.

One of the biggest of these pressures is the British combine's agreement with the Transport and General Workers' Union guaranteeing mutual agreement before termination of payment-by-

results systems, including piece-work.

If British-Leyland, faced with a further big drop in its return on capital this year, is to give its competitiveness a desperately-needed 'shot in the arm', it must attempt to break from this agreement.

Leaving the EEF a move which will certainly be strengthened by the new council, would enable it to do this. Carworkers warn that this may now be on the cards.

None of these issues are considered important enough by the Communist Party to merit coverage in the 'Morning Star'. Or perhaps they are too important.

Is the Communist Party, in its craven desire to cover up at all costs for the trade union 'lefts', prepared to let Scanlon chair a body which can only be directed against carworkers without comment?

Stop Wilson

● FROM PAGE ONE

a company commander of the 9th Infantry Division who ordered his men to use village huts for target practice. When the occupants came streaming out, they were shot down, many of them in the same manner as we've been told occurred at My Lai.

Two US journalists in a letter to the 'New York Times' have pointed out that Quang Ngai province—where My Lai is situated—is a 'province utterly destroyed'.

When army commanders were ordered not to 'generate' more refugees because refugee camps were full, they—the commanders—devised a fiendish solution to the problem. Instead of creating refugees they 'generated' corpses by attacking villages without prior warning.

'Airstrikes on civilians became a matter of routine. It was under these circumstances of official acquiescence to the destruction of the countryside and its people that the massacre of Song My (My Lai) occurred.' (Our emphasis.)

GUILTY ONES

The really guilty ones in this macabre business are not the deranged soldiers and the NCOs, however ghastly their actions, but the ruling class of the USA and its representatives in the White House, State Department and Pentagon.

It is they who, as Mrs Meadlo said, turned her son into a murderer, and now make a scapegoat of him. No amount of court martials or investigations by Senate Committees will expiate the crimes of US imperialism.

The Senate and the Congress authorized this war, endorsed the actions of their President and voted massive credits for the prosecution of this genocidal war.

Who's right have any of these institutions to judge the guilt of anybody? It is a complete fraud.

The lesson for American workers must surely be to break the alliance of organized labour with the Democratic Party and build their own party in opposition to the two capitalist parties who are dragging the USA into the hell of militarism, fascism and war.

The silence of Wilson and the equivocation of the 'lefts' who don't want to rock the parliamentary boat because of the coming general election is a double betrayal.

They betray British labour and they assist the Democrats in the US to dominate the trade unions and prevent the independent political expression of the working class.

In this they are helped by the government and the TUC leaders on the retention of statutory powers over wages.

The TUC has been ominously quiet about the government's plans. It is continuing to 'vet' wage claims under its own scheme of wage-freezing worked out at the Croydon conference of trade union executives in June. Despite the Stalinist 'Morning Star', which claims the TUC will oppose the government's proposals, there seems little doubt that any opposition will be strictly platonic and that no obstacle will be placed in the way of the retention of this infamous law.

the Stalinists on both sides of the Atlantic who separate Vietnam from the social and political issues facing the working class.

SILENT

It is not surprising therefore that the 'Morning Star' remains silent on Wilson's trip to the US.

As we pointed out after the 31st Congress, Gollan's coddling up to social democracy effectively prevents the CP from opposing Wilson in any meaningful way.

Only the Socialist Labour League and the Young Socialists can do that today. We call on members of the Communist Party and the Labour Party to break with the reactionary policies of their leaders and support our campaign to stop Wilson's visit.

Warsaw Pact support for Arabs

By our foreign correspondent

GOVERNMENTS of the Soviet Union and five other Warsaw Pact powers (Bulgaria, East Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary) issued a statement in Moscow yesterday pledging support to the Arab people.

The statement comes after renewed Arab nationalist pressure on the Kremlin to take a more militant line against Israeli Zionism.

It called for 'effective support to the Arab peoples in their just struggle for the withdrawal of Israeli troops... for a just settlement in the Middle-East crisis'.

This 'settlement' is, however, advocated not in the name of advocacy for the Arab revolution, but 'in the interests of world peace'.

Missing
One East European government was significantly missing from those who supported the declaration—that of Rumania, whose pro-Western orientation is now so pronounced it openly adopts a hostile attitude to the struggle of the Arab people against imperialism.

This is standard Stalinist diplomacy. Meanwhile in Helsinki the talks, according to official reports, 'proceed in a serious and business-like manner'.

Already it seems the two sides have agreed to hold the substantive top-level negotiations on arms limitation early next year.

YEMEN TROOPS CLASH WITH FEISAL'S ARMY

FIGHTING flared up yesterday on the South Yemen-Saudi Arabian border around the Al Wadeiah frontier post. It was the second outbreak within 24 hours. The Republican government in South Yemen has repeatedly charged King Feisal of Saudi Arabia with lending military assistance to pro-Royalist forces in the republic.

Lessons from the B.S.R. strike

THE 15-WEEK-OLD strike at Better Sound Reproductions, East Kilbride, was ended on a basis of a deal made between the government, the trade union leadership and the company directors.

The main instigator of this deal was the Commission on Industrial Relations, which intervened with its representative Blakeman after 12 weeks of the strike when it became clear that under no conditions would the strikers return without full trade union recognition.

The agreement signed by John Boyd, executive member of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering and Foundryworkers, is full of class compromise.

'The future prosperity of the factory and its employees will depend upon goodwill and commonsense being exercised.' Only a few days before, the BSR management had been waging a vicious war against its striking employees.

What the BSR company has conceded is that it must join forces with the government and the trade union leaders in conflict with its 1,250 employees at the East Kilbride factory.

This is entirely in line with the aims of the Wilson government. When he was lobbied in the Gorbals by BSR strikers Wilson said to them 'leave it to us'.

Through Blakeman the government then intervened to carry the struggle back into the factory, having accepted that it could not break the strike.

The agreement signed for the ending of the strike therefore prepares for further CIR action. 'Both the company and the union agree to review the aforementioned in the light of any recommendations received from the Commission on Industrial Relations in due course.'

Paid jointly
Amongst the measures referred to here is the appointment of an adviser nominated by the trade union to act as a specialist on trade union

FROM BOB SHAW

ing in East Kilbride was based on government loans. The new town itself conveniently provides a dormitory for the 'directed industry'.

It is of particular note that no steward will be allowed under the age of 21, which effectively excludes the large number of youth who played such a militant role during the dispute.

It was the youth who were the most critical of the union leadership during the strike and who received the most brutal treatment from the police.

Throughout the strike the Workers Press and the Young Socialists consistently pointed to the political nature of the conflict.

BSR was no different in its ruthless drive to exploit workers than any other capitalist firm.

But its arrival and functioning in East Kilbride was based on government loans. The new town itself conveniently provides a dormitory for the 'directed industry'.

But the capitalist chickens came home to roost. The 'cheap' labour of women and youth, many of whom worked half shifts, were the wives and daughters of trade unionists.

Amongst the men in the strike were a sprinkling of ex-miners thrown out of the pits through closures.

Together they formed a force which had learned one lesson well, they would at all costs fight as a united force.

It was this unity which disconcerted time and time again the trade union leadership.

On Friday, November 14 a mass meeting decided on a

resumption of work and accepted the agreement signed by Boyd. But it soon became clear that the management had dug itself in to prepare for the return of the strikers and aimed to demoralize and divide them by using the scab labour recruited during the previous weeks.

There was an immediate further walk-out. On Friday, November 21 the strike committee fought for an hour and a half with Boyd in its demand for no victimization and for all to return to their original jobs.

Supported
Their stand was supported by a later mass meeting of over 500 strikers.

This militancy and determination to fight for unity is in contrast to the weakness of the leadership of the strike politically.

Only the youth began to turn towards the political questions which had been sharply revealed during the struggle.

During the strike there were at the mass meetings many speakers from the Communist Party, the student led left by revisionists and there was the ex-'left', Judith Hart, member of Her Majesty's government.

At no time did any of these people clash. There was no disagreement voiced. Nor did the 'Morning Star' seek to draw any political conclusions whatsoever.

Good account
In fact the BSR strike gradually faded from the columns of the 'Morning Star'.

The BSR strikers now face a very determined struggle to turn their victory to good account. The BSR management will not be slow to catch onto any weakness and attacks in the form of productivity deals, victimization of militants and a drive against the youth can be expected.

A fight must now be waged to build a socialist leadership in the factory.



Blakeman: His CIR still to play a role.



A ruling that no steward should be under 21 cuts out many of the militant youth who played such a significant role in the strike.

Grechko attacks un-named U.S. 'reactionaries'

SOVIET newspapers yesterday featured reports of a speech by Defence Minister Marshal Grechko made at a meeting of junior officers on Tuesday.

He called for 'a constant build-up' of Soviet military strength because of the continuing threat from the West.

Without naming them, the Marshal spoke of 'reactionary forces' in the United States and elsewhere who were continuing the arms race.

Neither did he make any reference to the strategic arms limitation talks (SALT) now taking place between US and Soviet delegations in Helsinki.

Made to order
In all probability, Grechko's speech was made to order, as part of the Kremlin's bargaining strategy with US imperialism.

Nixon was not attacked; in fact, he was given the opportunity to demarcate himself from the nameless 'reactionary forces' lurking somewhere in the USA.

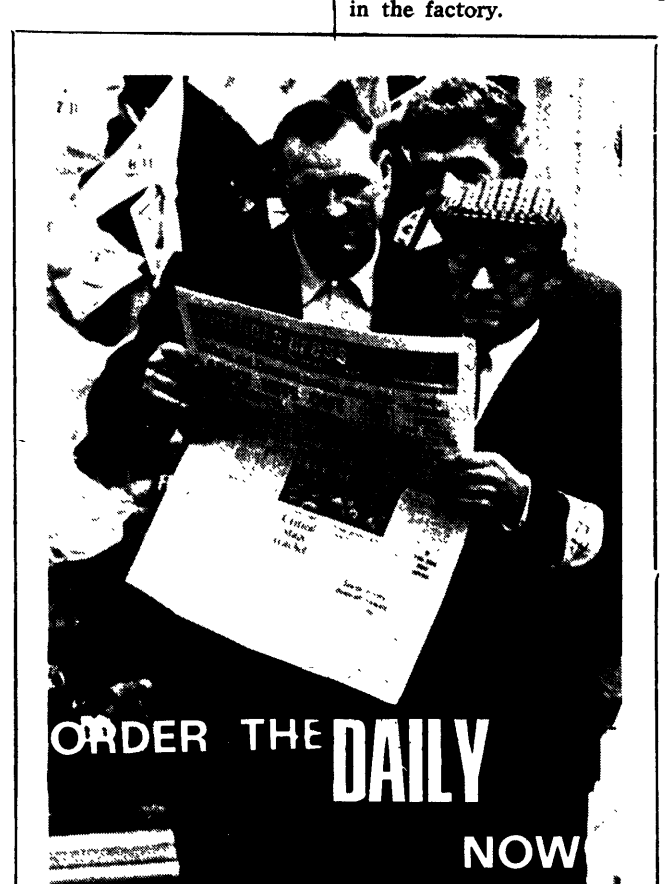
This is standard Stalinist diplomacy. Meanwhile in Helsinki the talks, according to official reports, 'proceed in a serious and business-like manner'.

Already it seems the two sides have agreed to hold the substantive top-level negotiations on arms limitation early next year.

TV profit drop

AFTER-TAX profits of Tyne-Tees Television dropped to £9,931 in the six months from March to October of this year, compared with £161,181 for the same period last year.

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